

WASHINGTON ARTILLERY
VETERANS ASSOCIATION
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CONSIDER BECOMING A MEMBER IN PERPETUITY**

Jul 04



The Washington Artillery

WAVA NEWS

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS FOR 2004

Audit: Bill Guarino (504) 682-2885
Awards: Pete Blackwell (504) 242-5625
Beverage: Pete Blackwell (504) 242-5625
Budget: Norvin Schexnaildre (504) 889-0837
Building Manager: Rene Jacques (504) 282-8307
Building Rental: Bill Guarino (504) 682-2885
By-Laws: Henry Pepper (504) 271-0634
Financial Advisor: Rene Jacques (504) 282-8307
Fraternal: Mel Hibbets (504) 283-6733
Historical/Americanism/Active
Bn. Liaison: Jacques Walker (985) 882-9973

Other Appointments:

Executive Secretary: Russell Mayeur (228) 255-7689

- ***What's Inside!!!***
- Upcoming Events
- Rental of WAVA Facilities
- **President's Message/Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company Visit**
- September Social/Application
- Dues/Membership Application
- Taps/The Last Camp
- Membership

Legal: John Gniady (504) 454-1515
Legislative: Donald Burgess (504) 682-6441
Meetings: Bill Guarino (504) 682-2885
Membership: Anthony Pizzolato (504) 467-7036
Dennis Showalter (504) 251-0669
Parliamentarian: Henry Pepper (504) 271-0634
Publicity/Programs: Russel Madere (504) 831-8062
Social: Russell Mayeur (228) 255-7869
Telephone: Joseph Centanni (504) 733-1141

Recording Secretary: Nelson Ardoin (504) 738-9634

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

As most of you know, the active battalion departed for Ft. Hood, TX on May 17th after an outstanding departure ceremony at Jackson Barracks. A well-attended reception was held at their armory immediately following the ceremony. Donations of \$1,000 by WAVA and \$2,600 by the Washington Artillery Board of Managers were provided to assist with the cost of the reception.

The entire brigade returned to their respective homes on leave from July 2nd through 8th due to the generosity of many individuals and companies. Training has now resumed and preparations are underway for their rotation to the National Training Center in California during August. Following this training, they will likely travel to Fort Polk for further training and preparation for their overseas mission which begins in November. Plans presently call for a twelve month rotation. We'll keep you posted.

Information was provided in the March newsletter regarding the visit of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Massachusetts. They will arrive in New Orleans in early October and have scheduled numerous events. WAVA will participate in several of their activities and they will also participate in our wreath-laying.

We need to fully support their visit with our attendance to the maximum extent possible. Mark your calendar for the period of 3-4 October. We have been invited to march with the company on Sunday, October 3rd, from the Royal Sonesta Hotel, 300 Bourbon St., to Washington Artillery Park, just across Decatur St. from Jackson Square. A short ceremony will be held and a wreath placed on location by the company. They will then march around the Square to St. Louis Cathedral for mass. Anyone desiring to attend the mass which will start at 10:30 a.m. is invited to do so. Following mass, they will join WAVA at our memorial in Metairie Cemetery around noon for a short ceremony and wreath-laying.

Next stop is the Officer's Club at Jackson Barracks for lunch. Projected cost is \$15.00 for food and drinks. The company then proceeds to the Jackson Barracks Museum for a ceremony, during which a saddle which belonged to General Beauregard will be loaned and put on display until June, 2005.

We are also invited to participate in their Monday, October 4th cruise on the Creole Queen to the Chalmette Battlefield for a wreath-laying. Departure is set for 9:30 a.m. Lunch will be served on the return trip to its dock at the Spanish Plaza. Cost will be approximately \$26.00.

The company will then visit the D-Day museum which will conclude the official part of their visit.

Our attire will be the artillery red sport coat with the WA patch on the left pocket, name tag on the right lapel and miniature medals (or the battalion crest) on the left lapel. A dress white shirt, artillery (or a red) tie, black socks, black shoes and black trousers will also be worn.

MEMBERSHIP: New Members in Perpetuity: Dennis Andras,; Joseph Arroyo, Jr. and William C. Schmidt. New Active: Donald Davidson; Darryl Cheramie and Joseph Frantz. New Associate Members: Charlene Ardoin; Betty Bacon; Chris Becker; Emily Burgess, Glen Cangelosi, M.D.; Georgia Davis; Helen Hibbets; Melissa Madere; Eloise Mayeur; Larry Lobre; Marilyn Pepper and Sylvia Schwarzenbach.

TAPS: The Last Camp

Emile "Buster" St. Pierre

May 1, 2004

May 1, 2004

Andrew J. Pizzo

July 2, 2004

Irving

Isaac

(Buddy) Berglass March 13th

DONATIONS TO 1/141 FAMILY READINESS:

Many thanks to all of you who sent a donation to the FRG. Also, thanks to Sylvia Schwarzenbach who donated her June half and half winnings.

NAME TAGS: Russell Mayeur is coordinating the purchase of WAVA name tags to be worn on special occasions. It is artillery red with a tiger crest, your name as you would like it to read, either "Member" or "Life Member" and New Orleans, LA. The cost is \$10.00. Contact Russell to order.

BABECUE FEAST: To be held on September 21st, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. A form for confirming attendance is on page four. Last year we had an outstanding turnout. We need your active participation this year. This is a good opportunity to contact your family and friends for a night out with good food and ample beverages. Due to space availability, only the first 150 paid returns can be accepted. **START NOW ON YOUR CONTACTS AND RETURN YOUR FORM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**

LADIES AUXILIARY: Meets at 7:00 p.m. at the WAVA building on August 17th. Please pass this information on and encourage your spouse to attend and become an associate member.



WAVA NEWS

No. 04-3 To perpetuate the spirit of the Washington Artillery (The 1/141st FA BN under many numerical designations). July 2004

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Roger A. Bacon | President |
| Russell A. Mayeur, Sr. | 1 st Vice President |
| Rene' C. Jacques | 2 nd Vice President |
| Nelson Ardoin, Jr. | Secretary |
| Norvin Schexnaildre | Treasurer |

WAVA OFFICERS

TERM EXPIRES DECEMBER 2004

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------------|
| Ed. P. Benezech, Jr. (Katherine) | 271-5150 |
| Melvin L. Hibbets (Helen) | 283-6733 |
| Rene' C. Jaques | 282-8307 |
| Russell A. Mayeur Sr. (Eloise) | (228) 255-7689 |
| Edgar D. Wragge Jr. | 282-5811 |
| Ray Zerino | 278-8677 |

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Henry L. Pepper Jr. (Marilyn) | 271-0634 |
| Norvin Schexnaildre (Loyce) | 889-0837 |
| Jacques Walker (Jill) | (985) 882-9973 |

TERM EXPIRES DECEMBER 2006

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| Nelson Ardoin, Jr. (Charlene) | 738-9634 |
| Roger A. Bacon (Betty) | 454-3481 |
| Donald G. Burgess (Emily) | 682-6441 |
| Jay Hotard (Betty) | 488-3121 |
| Russel R. Madere, Jr. (Melissa) | 831-8062 |
| Anthony Pizzolatto (Monica) | 467-7036 |

**WAVA MEETINGS/SPECIAL EVENTS
3rd/4th Quarter 2004**

| | |
|----------------|------------------------------------|
| August 17th | General Membership Meeting |
| September 21st | General Membership/Social |
| October 3rd | Wreath-Laying at WA Park |
| October 3rd | Wreath-Laying at Metairie Cemetery |
| October 4th | Cruise/Lunch on Creole Queen |
| October 19th | Board Meeting |
| November 16th | General Meeting/Reunion |
| December 6th | Annual Meeting/Board Election |
| December 21st | Board Meeting/Election of Officers |

ANNUAL DUES

Please check your name label for the status of your dues.
ANNUAL DUES ARE NOW PAYABLE FOR THOSE WHO ARE NOT MEMBERS IN PERPETUITY AND HAVEN'T SENT IN THEIR 2004 DUES.
 Membership/dues form is on page four.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION/AUGUST MEETING

Glen C. Cangelosi, M.D., a member of WAVA, will speak at the August 17th Meeting. Dr. Cangelosi is President of the Memorial Hall Foundation Board of Directors and Secretary of the Memorial Hall Museum. He has a wealth of information about the Washington Artillery and is currently writing a book on the subject as well as developing a web site on the Washington Artillery. He will also have various WA artifacts available for your inspection.

WASHINGTON ARTILLERY REUNION

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

The annual election for a third of our Association Board of Directors took place on December 1st. I am pleased to announce that three new board members were installed on that date: Nelson Ardoin, Donald Burgess and Russel Madere. The election was very close, with one and two votes separating the next two nominees.

The Board of Directors met On December 16th to elect officers for 2004. They are also listed on page two.

Committee assignments for 2004 are shown on page one. There are a few new committee assignments and one, the membership committee, has co-chairmen. Membership will be a high priority. We plan to be proactive in the pursuit of new membership. You can help by making contact with your former comrades and asking that they consider becoming a member of WAVA.

We are planning two socials at our home on May 18th and September 21st. Our annual reunion of active WAVA members and former and current active battalion members, is tentatively scheduled for November 16th. Please mark these and other special activity dates on your calendar without delay.

Harry McEnery III and William Crockett, new Members in Perpetuity, are being added to our plaque. Lewis Bonner and Harry Bartlett are new associate members. We welcome you to WAVA.

Please share this newsletter with your spouse or any other person you may want to sponsor to become part of a ladies' auxiliary unit of WAVA. See page two for information and page four for the information form to be sent in for planning purposes. We hope to see them at the January meeting.

For GOD and country, Roger Bacon

CHANGE IS INEVITABLE: EMBRACE IT AND SUCCESS IS YOURS by MAJ Jordan Jones, Cdr., 1/141

Since the last WAVA meeting I attended, the 1/141st FA BN has experienced a few changes that I'm sure WAVA would like to know about. As the saying goes, "the only thing constant in the Army is change." That couldn't be any truer today.

One week prior to my first drill as the new commander I learned that our plan to conduct a live-fire exercise at Camp Shelby had to be changed due to the Chief of Staff's requirement that every soldier be provided the opportunity to vote in the gubernatorial election Saturday morning. Going to the field to fire didn't make much sense considering the distance traveled, the time required to properly perform pre-combat checks (PCC) and inspections (PCI) and the reduced time actually spent firing. There were a number of other logistical factors that also needed to be considered, but ultimately, I didn't want to chance a safety violation or accident or reduce the quality of training to standard simply for the sake of pumping rounds down range. With that said, our leaders did an excellent job of immediately adjusting the training plan and executed the new one like the true professionals they are.

The December drill wasn't much different. We had to make more changes to the training schedule and in the process tasked battery leadership to prepare for a totally revised additional training assembly (ATA) format on short notice. Once again, our leaders rose to the occasion and performed very well.

So, where are we now? Our entire '04 training schedule had to be revised because, like we anticipated, our battalion will participate in a Joint Readiness Training Center (JRTC) rotation at Ft. Polk June 6-20, 2004. The entire training schedule changed because we were planning to conduct a number of live-fire exercises in preparation for annual training. Due to us going to the JRTC instead, we probably won't fire a single round until November of 2004. We will still conduct our Advanced Field Artillery Tactical Data System

(AFATDS) new equipment training (NET) at the end of August, however, that fielding doesn't require firing.

The JRTC rotation will require the entire battalion's participation. The difference is that we won't be operating in the same configuration and performing the same missions you'd expect from an FA battalion. We'll be doing what our brothers in OIF are doing, mostly infantry tactics. Bravo will go as a pure PALADIN battery and Alpha and Charlie will go as Motorized Rifle Companies. They will be riding around in up-armored HMMWVs in contrast to Paladins. We'll probably take elements of HHB and SVC battery and plus-up the firing batteries.

Since the 30 BDE isn't quite sure how they are going to accomplish their mission in the JRTC "box," and we were originally suppose to model our preparation after their example, we'll end up determining our own template via lessons learned from units in OIF and from the Center for Army Lessons Learned (CALL). More interestingly, the observer/controllers (Ocs) tasked w/evaluating the 30th's performance don't know how PALADIN Battalions are employed.

There's nothing like a good challenge, and we've got plenty. In light of all the personnel changes and major change in mission, our soldiers and leaders have demonstrated an unrepentant desire to excel and learn skills not previously available. Worse case scenario is that we'll have to use lessons learned from our JRTC rotation in the event that we'd get called to active duty in the future. The best case scenario is that we'll never have to use these soon to be newly acquired skills anywhere, but are just that much smarter and better prepared!

However the scenario unfolds, I can say without hesitation that our soldiers and leaders will rise to meet these challenges and excel with an unwavering success for which they are well known. TRY US! Thunder 6

WE HEARD FROM: John Wilkinson, a Member in Perpetuity, who has given an annual donation to WAVA for many years. This year John sent in a \$100 check. This will help in defraying rising operating costs and decreasing investment income. We thank John for his generosity.

RENTAL OF WAVA FACILITIES

The WAVA hall is available for rental with the sponsorship of an active WAVA member at extremely low rates. If you have a need for a facility for yourself or friend for a wedding, meeting, party, dinner, etc., please consider our home. In addition to the social rental, the Board of Directors has authorized a search for a permanent lease of the approximately 5,400 sq. ft. on the second floor of our building. The area is in good shape and upgrade requirements are negotiable. Point-of-contact for building scheduling is William "Bill" Guarino, (504) 682-2885.

WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL DEDICATION

On May 29, 2004, fifty-nine years after the war, the citizen soldiers of "The Greatest Generation" will finally be recognized with the dedication of the WWII Monument on the Mall in the Nation's Capitol. Some members of WAVA, including Russell Mayeur and Mel Hibbets, are planning to attend. Other official events will be on May 27th and 28th, with the dedication on the 29th. It is free and open to the public. If interested, contact either Russell at 228-255-7689 or Mel at 504-283-6733 ASAP for information on hotels and room rates.

REMINDER: Artillery red sport coats are available at The Smart Set, 536 Oakland in Metairie. Contact Beverly Hailey at 504-833-1757. The cost is \$75 plus shipping charges. Larger sizes may cost slightly more.

