

WASHINGTON ARTILLERY
VETERANS ASSOCIATION
POST OFFICE BOX 7584
METAIRIE, LA 70010

ON PROFIT
ORGN
UNS POSTAGE
PAID
METAIRIE, LA
PERMIT NO. 46

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

DON'T FORGET, YOUR ANNUAL DUES WERE PAYABLE BY JANUARY 2005
CONSIDER BECOMING A MEMBER IN PERPETUITY

Jul 05



The Washington Artillery

WAVA NEWS

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS FOR 2005

Active Battalion: Norvin Schexnaildre (504) 889-0837
Audit: Bill Guarino (504) 682-2885
Donald Burgess (504) 682-6441
Awards: Russell Mayeur (288) 255-7689
Budget: Norvin Schexnaildre (504) 889-0837
Building Management: Rene Jacques (504) 282-8307
Dennis Showalter (504) 251-0669
Building Rental: Bill Guarino (504) 682-2885
Jay Hotard (504) 488-3121
Ed Benezech, Jr. (504) 271-5150
Bulletin: Roger Bacon (504) 421-6358
Charter & By-Laws: Henry Pepper (504) 271-0634

Financial Advisor: Rene Jacques (504) 282-8307
Food/Beverage: Bill Guarino (504) 682-2885
Ed Harrell (504) 454-7738
Fraternal: Mel Hibbets (504) 283-6733
Historical: Glen Cangelosi (504) 391-1174
Legal: John Gniady (504) 454-1515
Membership: Anthony Pizzolato & Bd. (504) 467-7036
Parliamentarian: Henry Pepper (504) 271-0634
Programs: Rolla Schwartz (504) 488-8338
Publicity: Russel Madere (504) 831-8062
Social: Nelson Ardoin (504) 738-9634
Telephone: Joseph Centanni & Board (504) 733-1141

- ***What's Inside!!!***
- Special Events/Socials
- Dues/Membership Application
- SGT Godbolt's Memorial
- President's Message
- Kids for Kids Program
- WA Reunion/WAVA 40th Anniversary

|

WASHINGTON ARTILLERY VETERANS ASSOCIATION



WAVA NEWS



Page 2

No. 05-3 To perpetuate the spirit of the Washington Artillery (The 1/141st FA BN under many numerical designations).

July 2005

Russell A. Mayeur, Sr.	President
Nelson Ardoin, Jr.	1 st Vice President
Dennis Showalter	2 nd Vice President
Donald Burgess	Secretary
Norvin Schexnaildre	Treasurer

WAVA MEETINGS/SPECIAL EVENTS 3rd/4th Quarters 2005

July 19 th	Board Meeting
August 16 th	General Membership Meeting
September 20 th	General Membership Mtg./Barbecue
October 18 th	Board Meeting
November 15 th	WA Reunion/WAVA 40 th Anniversary
December 5 th	Annual Meeting/Board Election
December 20 th	Board Meeting/Election of Officers

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR ALL MEETINGS AND EVENTS FOR 2005. All meetings and events will be held at the WAVA building, 9037 W. Judge Perez in Chalmette.

TERM EXPIRES DECEMBER 2006	WAVA OFFICERS	
Jodi		41
Bill		85
Helen		34
Norvin Schexnaildre (Loyce)		889-0837
Dennis Showalter (Jan)		254-0809
Vacant		

ANNUAL DUES

Please check your name label for the status of your dues. ANNUAL DUES ARE DELINQUENT FOR 2004 & 2005. CONSIDER BECOMING A MEMBER IN PERPETUIY, A ONE-TIME INVESTMENT. Delinquent members will be dropped from the database. Membership/dues form is at page four.

TERM EXPIRES DECEMBER 2006

Nelson Ardoin, Jr. (Charlene)	738-9634
Rodney	474-2187
Do	
Jay	
Ru	
Anthony Pizzolatto (Monica)	467-/036

ANNUAL REUNION/ANNIVERSARY

The third annual Washington Artillery Reunion and 40th anniversary of WAVA celebration will be held on Tuesday, November 15th. Please contact former members of the Washington Artillery and encourage them to attend. Every member is asked to locate at least two former WA members and urge them to become a member of WAVA. Please give their names, addresses and phone numbers to Roger Bacon at 421-6358 and they will be sent a written invitation.

TERM EXPIRES DECEMBER 2007

Ed. P. Benezech, Jr. (Katherine)	271-5150
Ed Harrell	454-7738
Melvin L. Hibbets (Helen)	283-6733
Rene' C. Jacques	282-8307
Russell A. Mayeur Sr. (Eloise)	(228) 255-7689
Rolla Schwartz	488-8338

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST WAVA MEMBERS

Brian Champagne, Sidney Rome, Robert Stiefvater, Pat, Eric and Pat Tyrell III, Members in Perpetuity. Don Duplantier, Johnny Graves, Cecil Haskins, Donald Mauger, Michael McDow, John Roger and Elliott Smith, active members. Jodi Hunt and Kerri Rotolo, associate members.

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

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.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I wish to thank Nelson and Charlene Ardoin and their committee for a job well done for the WAVA crawfish party. We had a total was 154 members and guests, a record, with standing room only. The "mudbugs" were delicious as were the fried fish and jambalaya. Many thanks to the ladies who prepared the delicious deserts.

Please mark your calendar for the next social, a Barbecue Feast catered by Corky's. They have been consistent over the last few years, providing tasty food in ample quantities. A form for the social is at page 4. Please send it in as soon as you have verified the number in your party as space is limited.

Our meeting attendance has been growing. Rolla Schwartz deserves much credit for developing a speaker program. Mr. Stanley Amerski, Curator, Jackson Barracks Military Museum, brought an interesting artifact and provided information on the impact of our brigade troops in Iraq. Mr. Amerski needs volunteers to help with tours, displays, etc. Members are invited to attend all meetings, including board meetings. The Board welcomes your suggestions and comments on how to improve our organization. Thanks to the volunteers who prepare the meals for our meetings. Our building now has warming facilities.

The speaker for the 16 August meeting will be Edward O. Gross, Jr., President and Regional Director of the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge. His subject will include information on the history, work, projects and goals of his organization.

Plans are bring made to welcome our soldiers back from Iraq. The time frame for the various events is October and November. You will be notified via a special mailing since all events, locations and dates are tentative at this time. We need to have as many members as possible attend the homecoming events. Bring your flags, banners, guests and anything else you would like to display as a way of showing our appreciation for the outstanding job and sacrifice they have made in defending our country and securing a better way of life for the Iraqi people. Activities being planned include a parade downtown, celebration at Lafreniere Park and our annual memorial at Metairie Cemetery.

WAVA is also preparing for etching an Iraqi Freedom memorial on the Washington Artillery Monument. The etching will include the name of Washington Artillery member(s) who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Considered at the April board meeting was a motion to amend Article IV, paragraph 4, and Article VI,

paragraph 3a, of the WAVA by-laws. In effect, the Board approved an amendment which provides that Board members and Officers of the association who are "involuntarily" called to active duty will have the option of maintaining their position(s) or voluntarily resigning.

We need everyone's help in locating and inviting former members of the Washington Artillery, including those units which evolved into the current active battalion, to our 3rd Annual Reunion on 15 November. There is no cost or obligation to attend. Take the time to look up your comrades in arms and invite them personally. We will also send a written invitation if you will provide names and addresses.

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

Russell A. Mayeur

KIDS FOR KIDS PROGRAM: This program, administered by Norvin Schexnaildre, has been quite successful. We have had 150 donors and received \$11,300 in cash. WAVA shipped 160 boxes weighing 8,900 lbs. at a cost of \$4,500. The largest cash contributor was St. Marks Episcopal Church in Harvey--\$5,800. The largest school contributor was Bonne Ecole School, Slidell, which shipped 67 boxes weighing 1,000 lbs. The largest corporate contributor was MeadeWestVaco which contributed 3,500 lbs. of school paper products. The largest organizational contribution, 1300 pairs of shoes, was made by Gamma Beta Phi of Southeastern Louisiana University at Hammond. Our largest one-time shipment was 35 boxes which contained 400 school backpacks filled with school supplies which were purchased with the St. Marks contribution. In addition, the program generated numerous direct shipments to Iraq. SSG Shaun Warren and SGT Keith Bonnet, 1/141st FA Bn, developed and conducted the program in Iraq. They are doing a great job and are commended for their humanitarian work.

FRATERNAL: Please keep Mel Hibbets informed of members who may be sick, hospitalized or deceased. We appreciate any and all information about the health of our members.

WAVA BUILDING RENTAL: Contact Bill Guarino at 682-2885 if you need a facility for a party, shower, wedding or any other event as long as you are

willing to act as the sponsor. Rates are quite reasonable.

**BARBECUE FEAST
20 SEPTEMBER 2005**

COST: \$15.00 PER PERSON. TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS ATTENDING _____

TOTAL AMOUNT: _____ CHECK NO. _____ (MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO **WAVA**)

I/WE WILL ATTEND _____
(Member/Spouse's Name & Number of Additional Guests)

MAIL TO: Nelson Ardoin Phone No. 1-504-738-9634 after 7:00 P.M.
10130 Suzanne Drive
River Ridge, LA 70123

WAVA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND DUES FORM

NAME _____

SEND APPLICATION TO:

ADDRESS _____

SECRETARY: WAVA
P. O. Box 7584, Metairie, LA 70010

PHONE _____
(Home) (Business)

CHECK AS APPROPRIATE

SPOUSE'S NAME _____

ANNUAL DUES (\$15.00) _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

NEW MEMBER (\$15.00) _____

DATES OF SERVICE _____

ASSOCIATE MEMBER (\$15.00) _____

UNIT (BN) _____ BTRY(S) _____

MEMBER IN PERPETUITY (\$150) _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____

CHANGE OF ADDRESS _____

RECOMMENDED BY: _____

DATE _____ CHECK NUMBER _____

FOR MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE ONLY

APPLICATION REVIEWED _____ APPROVED _____ DISAPPROVED _____

CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE _____ COMMENTS: _____