

WASHINGTON ARTILLERY  
VETERANS ASSOCIATION  
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Nelson Ardoin  
Perpetual Member  
10130 Suzanne Drive  
River Ridge LA 70123

**DON'T FORGET,  
YOUR ANNUAL DUES WERE PAYABLE BY JANUARY 2008.**

July 08

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*The Washington Artillery*

**What's Inside!!!**

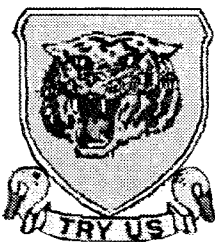
President's Message  
Commander's Message  
WAVA Website  
Officers and Board Members  
Dates of Meetings & Socials  
Dues/Membership Application  
TAPS/Last Roll Call  
Deaths in the WAVA Family

**WAVA NEWS**

**COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS FOR 2008**

Active Battalion: John DiMartini	(504) 738-7472	Historical: Jacques Walker	(985) 882-9973
Awards: Nelson Ardoin	(504) 738-9634	Glen Cangelosi	(504) 391-1174
Audit: Lloyd Alombro	(504) 621-3387	Legal: Mike Escudier	(504) 455-1939
Joe Centanni	(504) 733-1141	Peter Breslin	(504) 466-3929
Awards: Jay Hotard	(504) 339-2121	Membership: John DiMartini	(504) 738-7472
Budget/Treasurer: Norvin Schexnaildre	(504) 889-0837	Newsletter: Roger Bacon	(504) 421-6358
Building: Roger Bacon	(504) 421-6358	Parliamentarian: Henry Pepper	(985) 693-4834
Ron Besson	(504) 347-5026	Ron Besson	(504) 347-5026
Charter/Bylaws: Henry Pepper	(985) 693-4834	Programs/Publicity: Rolla Schwartz	(985) 340-7101
Terry Donelon	(504) 738-5682	Recording Secretary: Jim Ledet	(504) 887-2910
Corresponding Sect. Russell Mayeur	(228) 255-7689	Socials: Jim Ledet	(504) 887-2910
Financial Advisor: Rene Jacques	(504) 729-8155	Jay Castagnetta	(985) 630-2310
Ron Besson	(504) 347-5026	Telephone: Joe Centanni	(504) 733-1141
Jay Hotard	(504) 339-2121	Jay Hotard	(504) 339-2121
Fraternal: Ron Besson	(504) 347-5026		
Food/Beverage: Jim Ledet	(504) 887-2910		
Charlene Ardoin	(504) 738-9634		
Joe Centanni	(504) 733-1141		

# WASHINGTON ARTILLERY VETERANS ASSOCIATION



## WAVA NEWS

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No. 08-3 To perpetuate the spirit of the Washington Artillery (The 1/141<sup>st</sup> FA BN under many numerical designations).

July 2008

### WAVA OFFICERS

Nelson Ardoin, Jr.	President
Jim Ledet	1st Vice President
Jacques Walker	2nd Vice President
Russell Mayeur	Secretary
Norvin Schexnaildre	Treasurer

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### TERM EXPIRES DECEMBER 2008

Ed. P. Benezech, Jr. (Katherine)	341-2223
John DiMartini (Sandra)	738-7472
Edward Daigle	289-6965
Rene' Jacques.	729-8155
Russell A. Mayeur Sr. (Eloise)	(228) 255-7689
George Morrissey (Deborah)	(504) 362-1182

#### TERM EXPIRES DECEMBER 2009

Lloyd Alombro (Valerie)	621-3387
Ronald Besson (Barbara)	347-5026
Joe Centanni (Lupe)	733-1141
Jim Ledet (Susan)	887-2910
Henry L. Pepper Jr. (Marilyn)	(985) 693-4834
Norvin Schexnaildre (Loyce)	889-0837

#### TERM EXPIRES DECEMBER 2010

Nelson Ardoin, Jr. (Charlene)	738-9634
Roger A. Bacon (Betty)	421-6358
Jay Castagnetta (Heidi)	(985) 285-8883
Terry Donelon (Catherine)	738-5682
Jay Hotard (Betty)	488-3121
Jacques Walker (Jill)	(985) 882-9973

### ANNUAL DUES

**PLEASE CHECK YOUR LABEL FOR THE STATUS OF YOUR DUES. ANNUAL DUES FOR 2008 IS PAYABLE IMMEDIATELY. CONSIDER BECOMING A MEMBER IN PERPETUIY, A ONE-TIME INVESTMENT. Membership/dues form is on page 4.**

### WAVA MEETINGS/SPECIAL EVENTS

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Quarters 2008

July 15th	Board Meeting
August 19th	General Membership Meeting
September 16th	Social/General Membership Meeting
October 21st	Board Meeting
November 18 <sup>th</sup>	General Membership Meeting
December 1 <sup>st</sup>	<u>Reunion</u> , Annual Meeting & Board Election
December 16th	Election of Officers

**PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR ALL MEETINGS AND EVENTS.** Meetings will be held at the home of the Delta Lions, 1725 Hickory Ave., Harahan and will begin at 7:00 p.m. Social/special event locations and times are provided elsewhere in newsletter as final arrangements are made.

**BARBECUE SOCIAL: American Legion Hall, Causeway and River Rd., Metairie at 7:00 p.m. on September 16<sup>th</sup>.** See Page 4.

### NEW MEMBERS

**Members in Perpetuity:** Page Brooks, Steve Finney, Ray Hartman, Vaughn Leatherwood, Kenneth McDow, Marilyn Pepper, Keith Robertson and George Morrissey

**Annual Members:** Brian Canepa Jr., Ary "Buddy" Mire, John R. Moore and Shaun M. Warren

### TAPS/Last Roll Call

John A. March	February 16 <sup>th</sup>
Michael P. Wiggington	March 20 <sup>th</sup>
Charles M. Weiss	March 27 <sup>th</sup>
Lewis F. Bonner	April 6 <sup>th</sup>
William C. Schmidt, Jr.	April 9 <sup>th</sup>
Frank J. Fury, Jr.	April 24 <sup>th</sup>
George France	April 29 <sup>th</sup>
Patrick J. Tyrell, Jr.	June 6 <sup>th</sup>

### Deaths in the WAVA Family

Josephine St. Pierre	May 14 <sup>th</sup>
Raymond M. Bacon	May 26 <sup>th</sup>
Shirley Winkler	June 5 <sup>th</sup>

## COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

The Battalion conducted Annual Training at Camp Grayling, Michigan in June 2008. The training was focused on the fielding of the M-119A2 Howitzers (105mm towed) along with GDURs and Centaur. GDURs (gun display unit remote) are digital gun data devices that display firing data at each piece. Centaur is a hand-held device that can compute firing data much the same as the old "BUCs" system. The battalion also seized the opportunity to conduct in-depth individual weapons qualification with a focus on the new M-68 optical sights. These are essentially holographic laser scopes that are bore-sighted to the weapon system. They have increased the lethality of every Soldier in the battalion. We also conducted convoy live-fire exercises in which Soldiers engage targets from a moving vehicle with their individual weapon. This was followed up with hostile urban operations training which trained Soldiers proper room, building and neighborhood clearing techniques. The Soldiers also conducted IED (improvised explosive device) training and CLS (combat life saver) training. Training ended with a twelve mile tactical road march.

I am pleased to report that the battalion fired nearly 1,000 rounds without incident or any Soldier injuries. The New Equipment Training Team stated that the Washington Artillery set the standard for professionalism and artillery acumen. The real surprise for the Soldiers was the weather. Normally Soldiers are accustomed to the sweltering heat of the deep-south; not this year. During the first week of annual training, temperatures varied from the mid-forties to mid-fifties with a constant mist. It felt like a typical February live-fire.

The culminating event for Annual Training was the Detroit Tigers Major League Baseball game that was attended by the battalion. It was only because of the generosity and esprit-de-corps of the Washington Artillery Veterans Association that this was made possible. WAVA graciously funded the charter bus transportation to Detroit. On behalf of the Soldiers of the battalion, thank you.

While at Annual Training, that battalion also learned that it had been awarded the Meritorious Unit Citation (MUC) for its service in Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom III. We were also rewarded a "Governance" Campaign Streamer for our participation in the first democratic election in Iraq's history. We are requesting that these awards be presented to the Battalion at the Pass-in-Review in October.

As you may have heard, the Washington Artillery has received an alert order for the continued war on terrorism. According to the alert, the battalion may be mobilized in early 2010. This early warning provides the opportunity for Soldiers to prepare their families and employers in the event that we are mobilized. The battalion is focusing training on those tasks which would be utilized if the mobilization occurs.

The Soldiers of the battalion are looking forward to the next WAVA meeting where we can once again share in the unique camaraderie and esprit de corps that is the Washington Artillery.

Try Us!

LTC Brian P. Champagne, Commander

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## WAVA MEMBERSHIP/DUES APPLICATION

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

(Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Business) \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

DATES OF SERVICE \_\_\_\_\_

UNIT (BN) \_\_\_\_\_ BTRY(S) \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_

RECOMMENDED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

FOR MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE ONLY

APPLICATION REVIEWED \_\_\_\_\_ APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_ DISAPPROVED \_\_\_\_\_

CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ COMMENTS \_\_\_\_\_

Send to:

SECRETARY, WAVA

P. O. Box 7584, Metairie, LA 70010

### CHECK AS APPROPRIATE

ANNUAL DUES (\$15.00) \_\_\_\_\_

NEW MEMBER (\$15.00) \_\_\_\_\_

ASSOCIATE MEMBER (\$15.00) \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBER IN PERPETUITY (\$150) \_\_\_\_\_

CHANGE OF ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

**Washington Artillery Veterans Association Website.** The WAVA website has been updated. It's now interactive and contains the most current information available. It's updated as soon as possible when significant events occur. It also contains an accurate history of not only the Washington Artillery Veterans Association but, also the history of the **Washington Artillery, Washington Artillery Board of Managers(WABOM)** and the history of the Active Battalion. There is a calendar so you can stay abreast of current events as well as print out an RSVP form to be mailed in for upcoming social events. There is also a menu which informs you all ABOUT US: Who the Board of Directors are, who is assigned to which committee and so on. Additionally there are contact numbers and email addresses for key people. Our Charter and By-Laws are also now online. The gift shop is currently under construction (a website term) as is the photo gallery. Hopefully, these will be up and running in the near future. Please visit our website at [www.washingtonartillery.org](http://www.washingtonartillery.org) and let us know what you think.