

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

Mar 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!!!*
- Upcoming Events
- Rental of WAVA Facilities
- **President's Message**
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- Dues/Membership Application
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WASHINGTON ARTILLERY VETERANS ASSOCIATION



WAVA NEWS



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No. 05-2 To perpetuate the spirit of the Washington Artillery (The 1/141st FA BN under many numerical designations). March 2005

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

WAVA OFFICERS

TERM EXPIRES DECEMBER 2005

Joe Centanni (Lupe)	733-1141
Bill Guarino (Rita)	682-2885
Henry L. Pepper Jr. (Marilyn)	271-0634
Norvin Schexnauldre (Loyce)	889-0837
Dennis Showalter (Jan)	254-0809
Vacant	

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jay Hotard (Betty)	488-3121
Russel R. Mader, Jr. (Melissa)	831-8062
Anthony Pizzolatto (Monica)	467-7036

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

WAVA MEETINGS/SPECIAL EVENTS 2nd /3rd Quarter 2005

April 19 th	Board Meeting
May 17 th	General Membership Mtg./Crawfish Boil
June 21 st	General Membership Meeting
July 19 th	Board Meeting
August 16 th	General Membership Meeting
September 20 th	General Membership Mtg./Barbecue

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.

ANNUAL DUES

Please check your name label for the status of your dues.
ANNUAL DUES ARE DELINQUENT FOR 2004 & 2005 FOR THOSE WHO ARE NOT MEMBERS IN PERPETUIY. Membership/dues form is at page four.

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.

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST WAVA MEMBERS

Terrance Donelon, Member in Perpetuity.
Fred Muhs, Robert Hildebrandt, Loubet McKinney, Anthony Stipelcovich, John Kuchler, Lynn Bergeron, Thomas West III, Ben Morris, Jim Ledet, Bill Bliss, Anthony Radosti, Gerald Robertson, Max Landry, Gerald Daussin and Robert Lauer who are active members. And, Beverly Hildebrandt and John Fleming, 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 am really excited as we start the new year of this administration. New members are coming on board, dues payments are coming in and we have lined up our programs for several general meetings. Thanks to Rolla Schwartz, our Program Chairman, Ken Abney, a local C. P. A. provided very informative information on Federal and State taxes at the last meeting. We had over 30 members present and, as usual, Bill Guarino prepared an excellent meal. Thanks to the ladies, we had an outstanding array of deserts.

Our guest speaker at the June 21st meeting will be Stan Amerski, curator of the Jackson Barracks Museum. He will discuss "Enhancements with Armor in Iraq." Please make every effort to attend and please, if you do plan to attend, call our Food and Beverage Chairman Bill Guarino or our cochairman Ed Harrell. Their phone numbers are listed in the bulletin.

Our "Kids for Kids" program is off to a great start. Donations from all over the country are coming in. A Company located in North Carolina shipped cases of school supplies to WAVA. The Sunday, February 27th edition of the Times Picayune had a great article about this program on the Military News page. It provided the Web Site and all the information on the program. Another article submitted by Norvin Schexnaildre provided additional information and was printed on that same page on March 6th. Thanks to the efforts of the Battalion Washington Artillery in Iraq, we know that this program will be a huge success. Chairman Norvin Schexnaildre, assisted by Roger Bacon, is heading up this program.

First Vice President Nelson Ardoin is the social Chairman for this year. He is planning a Crayfish and Seafood party for Tuesday, May 17 at the WAVA Home. A registration form is included in this newsletter. Please get your reservations in early as we are limited by space to 150 people. Guests, especially prospective members, are invited and encouraged. Cost will be \$15.00 per person which includes an open bar for the entire night.

Our Building Management Chairman Rene Jacques is at the WAVA building just about every Saturday morning. On a recent Saturday we had

an electrician wire the side wall of the building near the serving area with two 220 volt and two 110 volt outlets. Our four-section food warmer, microwaves and the electric oven are now fully operational. We still need volunteers to help on Saturday mornings. Please let Rene or I know if you plan to come out on Saturday(s). Our phone numbers are listed in this bulletin.

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY
Russell A. Mayeur

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.

CORRECTION: In the January 2005 newsletter we inadvertently gave the wrong location of Camp Victory, the headquarters of the 1/141st FA BN. They are located within Baghdad, not near Baghdad. This area is among the most active and dangerous areas in the country. They are doing an outstanding job helping secure the country and played a significant role in making the recent election possible.

SPECIAL THANKS FOR DONATIONS
KIDS FOR KIDS PROGRAM

Mr. Jim Taylor, \$200. Herbert W. Christenberry, Attorney at Law, COL & Mrs. Russell Mayeur, and SGM & Mrs. Norvin Schexnaildre \$100 each. Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Waguespack in memory of their son Christopher, Noel J. Bunol IV, and CMSgt Charles Smith, \$25 each. Roy Palmer, \$15. Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Sanders, daughter Sarah and her third grade class at Bonne Ecole School in Slidell collected thirteen boxes of clothing, school supplies, toys, blankets, pillows and tooth brushes. Ms. Tara Roberts donated clothing, basketballs, school backpacks, school supplies and a microscope set. COL and Mrs. Roger Bacon, two boxes of school supplies, toys and shipment costs. Misc. items in various quantities were also received from Jim McIlvain, Peter Anderson, Marion Crocker, Shirley Meaux, Audrey Kafkallides, and Mrs. A. J. Wallace.

TAPS: The Last Camp
Richard Joseph Barbaro, a Member in Perpetuity, died on January 30, 2005

Bill Seckel, died in July, 2004

I/WE WILL
ATTEND _____

(Member/Spouse Names & Number of Guests)

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

KIDS FOR KIDS PROGRAM: We need your help to support this outstanding effort by the Battalion Washington Artillery. If you have items to donate, call Norvin Schexnaildre at 504-889-0837 (home) or 504-666-2838. If you can afford a monetary donation, please send it to WAVA, P.O. Box 7584, Metairie, LA 70010.

WAVA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND DUES FORM

NAME _____
SEND APPLICATION TO:

ADDRESS _____
SECRETARY: WAVA

P. O. Box 7584, Metairie, LA 70010

CHECK AS APPROPRIATE

PHONE _____
(Home) (Business)

ANNUAL DUES (\$15.00) _____

SPOUSE'S NAME _____

NEW MEMBER (\$15.00) _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

ASSOCIATE MEMBER (\$15.00)

DATES OF SERVICE _____

MEMBER IN PERPETUITY

(\$150) _____

UNIT (BN) _____ BTRY(S) _____

CHANGE OF ADDRESS _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____

RECOMMENDED BY: _____
DATE _____ CHECK NUMBER _____

FOR MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE ONLY

APPLICATION
REVIEWED _____ APP
ROVED _____ DISAPPROVED _____

CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE _____

COMMENTS: