

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON PROFIT
ORGN
US POSTAGE
PAID
METAIRIE, LA
PERMIT NO. 46

Nelson Ardoin, Jr. Perpetual
10130 Suzanne Dr.
River Ridge, LA 70123-

**DON'T FORGET,
YOUR ANNUAL DUES WERE PAYABLE BY JANUARY 2008.
CONSIDER BECOMING A MEMBER IN PERPETUITY!**

Mar 08

Page 1



The Washington Artillery

WAVA NEWS

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS FOR 2008

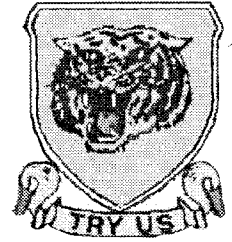
Active Battalion: John DiMartini (504) 738-7472
Awards: Nelson Ardoin (504) 738-9634
Audit: Lloyd Alombro (504) 621-3387
Joe Centanni (504) 733-1141
Awards: Jay Hotard (504) 339-2121
Budget/Treasurer: Norvin Schexnauldre (504) 889-0837
Building: Roger Bacon (504) 421-6358
Ron Besson (504) 347-5026
Charter/Bylaws: Henry Pepper (985) 693-4834
Terry Donelon (504) 738-5682
Corresponding Sect. Russell Mayeur (228) 255-7689
Financial Advisor: Rene Jacques (504) 729-8155
Ron Besson (504) 347-5026
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

Historical: Jacques Walker (985) 882-9973
Glen Cangelosi (504) 391-1174
Legal: Mike Escudier (504) 455-1939
Peter Breslin (504) 466-3929
Membership: John DiMartini (504) 738-7472
Newsletter: Roger Bacon (504) 421-6358
Parliamentarian: Henry Pepper (985) 693-4834
Ron Besson (504) 347-5026
Programs/Publicity: Rolla Schwartz (985) 340-7101
Recording Secretary: Jim Ledet (504) 887-2910
Socials: Jim Ledet (504) 887-2910
Jay Castagnetta (985) 630-2310
Telephone: Joe Centanni (504) 733-1141
Jay Hotard (504) 339-2121

What's Inside!!!

President's Message
Commander's Message
WAVA Website
Officers and Board Members
Dates of Meetings & Socials
Dues/Membership Application

WASHINGTON ARTILLERY VETERANS ASSOCIATION



WAVA NEWS

Page 2

No. 08-2 To perpetuate the spirit of the Washington Artillery (The 1/141st FA BN under many numerical designations). Mar 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
Rolla Schwartz (Diane)	(985) 340-7101

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 STATUPP 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

2nd through 4th Quarters 2008

April 15th	Board Meeting
May 20th	Social/General Membership Meeting
June 17th	General Membership Meeting
July 15th	Board Meeting
August 19th	General Membership Meeting
September 16th	Social/General Membership Meeting
October 21st	Board Meeting
November 18 th	General Membership Meeting
December 1 st	<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., Haraha and will begin at 7:00 p.m. Social/special event locations and times are provided elsewhere in newsletter as final arrangements are made.

CAJUN CRAWFISH BOIL: The Annual seafood dinner will be held at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, May 20th at the American Legion Post 267 located 3001 River Rd. (Causeway Blvd. at the river), Metairie. Menu will include boiled crawfish and shrimp, fried catfish, potato salad, jambalaya and refreshments. **Please send in the form located on page 4 as soon as possible so we can get a good count to order the food. Bring as many guests as you desire. The more the merrier.**

NEW MEMBERS

Members in Perpetuity: Jose-Daniel Chacon and Edward C. Risher Jr.
Annual Member: Shawn Martin

CONTRIBUTIONS: Correction to previous **acknowledgement.** The \$500 contribution mentioned in the previous newsletter was from the SE LA LIVING HISTORY AND REINACTMENT UNIT also known as the WASHINGTON ARTILLERY 5TH CO.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: I hope that everyone is enjoying the spring like weather we are having in the New Orleans area with azaleas starting to bloom and grass turning green. We have had two General Membership Meetings since our last newsletter and the speakers were well received and provided some interesting information to those attending.

The Annual Seafood Boil is approaching and I hope that everyone sends in their reservations in a timely manner. I am sure that there will be plenty of food and refreshments to be enjoyed by all. Mark your calendar and plan to be with us for some good food and fun. See the information and reservation form on the last sheet of the newsletter.

WAVA has been invited to several of the active battalion events and the most recent one being the retirement party held at Ye Old College Inn for Command Sergeant Major Gerald Leonick. He was thanked for his many years of service to the LAANG and was the recipient of many medals from the Dept of Army and the LAANG. CSM Leonick had over 40 yrs+ of service in various capacities and certainly contributed to the tutoring of many soldiers, who paid tribute to him. Congrats to CSM Leonick on his retirement and many more years of being involved in the Guard as Post Sgt Major @ Jackson Barracks.

I hope that you will become active in WAVA this year and support our organization by your presence and involvement. We need you and will only become stronger if our numbers begin to increase. There is strength in numbers and our numbers are declining as are many memberships. I call upon all former members of the Washington Artillery to get involved in our organization and help support WAVA. We have so much to share with these young soldiers and I know that you will enjoy seeing your old comrades. Remember the times we had in the field, smelling the smoke of the guns and the call of "FIRE MISSION". Your presence is solicited at our meetings and we hope that you will find the time to get involved.

There is going to be an event held at Ye Old College Inn on March 25, 2008. A percentage of the receipts will be given to the NCO EM Fund. We ask you to come out and support them and meet some of your friends there. The owners of Ye Old College Inn and Rock in Bowl have been so wonderful to the battalion. We need to thank them for doing so much. Thank You! Thank You!

I am sorry to report to the membership that Mr. Rolla Schwartz has submitted his resignation from the Board of Directors and as Publicity Chairman. Rolla has contributed immensely to WAVA and has done a bang up job with publicity. I would like to thank him personally for doing a good job and I will miss his participation as a Board Member. I wish him the very best and hope that he will continue to attend our meetings. Rolla----- Thanks so very much for all of your hard and dedicated work. An election will be held at our General Membership Meeting March 18, 2008 to fill this vacancy and I hope that someone will step up to the plate.

Please come out and join us for fellowship, good food, a few libations and some laughs with friends. I challenge you to get involved and hope to shake your hand in friendship and commitment to WAVA. Give us a try and see if you can make a difference. REMEMBER OUR FAMED MOTTO "TRY US." We need you and your ideas to make our organization better. See ya' soon. TRY US.

Nelson J. Ardoin, Jr., President

COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

Redlegs, it is my privilege to once again address this fine organization. The battalion continues to chart an exciting course as we prepare to conduct New Equipment Training (NET) on the M-119A2 Towed Howitzers at Camp Grayling, Michigan in June. The Soldiers are extremely excited about going to a new training facility rather than our usual destinations of Camp Shelby and Fort Polk. Simultaneously, with the howitzer training, the battalion will spend extensive time qualifying each Soldier as a Combat Lifesaver. What that means is that each Soldier will be able to administer a level of first-aid that is unprecedented. All Soldiers will be able to treat wounds, administer intravenous fluids and stabilize wounded comrades.

We will also spend a lot of time on individual weapons proficiency. The days of the 25 meter range are long gone. Our Soldiers are now required to qualify on pop-up targets at ranges up to 300 meters. We will also have them clear houses with live rounds and shoot from moving vehicles. We will also do some rappelling and a 12 mile road march. Annual Training will culminate with the battalion attending a Major League baseball game featuring the Detroit Tigers and the St. Louis Cardinals.

The weekend of April 04-06, 2008 will be the last time the battalion shoots the M-102 Howitzers. Hopefully they will be retired for good this time. Again, the battalion extends an invitation to any of you who would like to join us at Camp Shelby to once again sense the thrill of an LFX (Live Fire Exercise).

An update regarding Mr. William M. Detweiler, the guest speaker at the last WAVA meeting, and current board member of the National World War II Museum. He requested our assistance with providing an occasional color guard to the museum. We have since committed to providing a Color Guard for the ground breaking ceremony on the new addition to the museum in April as well as the Armed Forces tribute in May. Also, Mr. Martin Morgan, the Historian in Residence at the museum, is seeking a commission in the Washington Artillery. He is enamored with the great history of this battalion and wants to be a part of its traditions. He has also offered to appear as a guest speaker at one of our meetings and he will be attending the LFX (Live Fire Exercise) in April.

I am proud to be a member of WAVA and honored to have the privilege of commanding the best artillery battalion in the world. Try Us!

LTC Brian P. Champagne, Commander

CAJUN CRAWFISH BOIL
20 May 2008

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

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

I/WE WILL ATTEND:

(Member/Spouse Names)

MAIL TO: Jim Ledet
4908 Academy Dr.
Metairie, LA 70003
504-887-2910

WAVA MEMBERSHIP/DUES APPLICATION

NAME _____

Send 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 _____

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 and let us know what you think.