

Washington Artillery  
 Veterans Association  
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*The Washington Artillery*

**DON'T FORGET**

**Annual Dues Are Payable By January 2014 - Please check address label for Dues Status**  
**Consider Becoming A Member In Perpetuity!**

November 2013

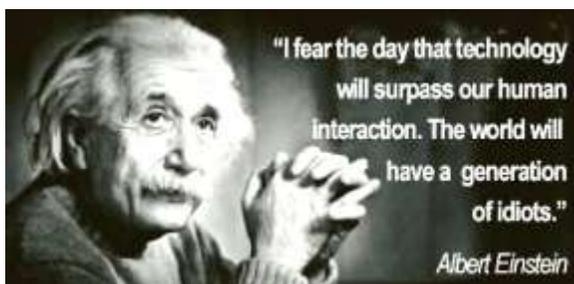
**WAVA NEWS**  
**Committee Appointments**

Active Battalion:	MAJ (P) Kenneth Baillie	(504) 715-7001
	CSM Mathew Drees	(504) 418-5704
Audit:	Rene Jacques	(504) 729-8155
	Frank Oliveri, III	(985) 893-2551
Awards/Recognition:	Norvin Schexnauldre	(504) 666-2898
	Ernest Guerra	(504) 450-1284
Budget:	Jay Castagnetta	(985) 285-8883
Contact Roster:	Fred Muhs	(504) 236-3958
Finance:	Nelson Ardoin	(504) 738-9634
	James Copeland	(504) 669-9684
	Rene Jacques	(504) 729-8155
	John DeMartini	(504) 738-7472
Fraternal:	Russell Mayeur, Jr.	(228) 586-1194
	Mike Kreutz	(985) 898-6339
Historical:	Glen Cangelosi	(504) 391-1174
	John Fleming	(504) 887-8195
Legal/By-Laws:	Joseph Taranto	(504) 834-3302
Membership:		
WAVA	Ernest Guerra – Chm.	(985) 661-1737
	Addison Thompson	(504) 279-2278
Active BN	MSG Errol Williams, Jr.	(337) 423-6118
Newsletter:	Fred Muhs	(504) 236-3958
		<a href="mailto:fmuhs@cox.net">fmuhs@cox.net</a>

**What's Inside!!!**

**New start time for Meetings, see page 2**  
 Dates of Meetings, Socials & Reunion  
 President's & Commander's Message  
 Officers and Board Members  
 Dues/Membership Application/New Members

Nominations:	Russell Mayeur, Sr., Chm.	(504) 919-8577
	Joe Centanni	(504) 400-1141
	Russell Mayeur, Jr.	(228) 586-1194
	Anthony LaNasa, III	(504) 452-0358
Parliamentarian:	Joe Taranto	(504) 834-3302
Photographer:	Eloise Mayeur	(504) 722-0378
	Fred Muhs	(504) 236-3958
Planning:	Jordan Jones, Chm.	(985) 331-2093
	James Copeland	(504) 669-9684
	Ron Besson	(504) 458-6559
	Fred Muhs	(504) 236-3958
Programs/Publicity:	John DeMartini	(504) 738-7472
Recording Secretary:	Jeffrey Bohne	(504) 975-7010
Socials:	Ray Hartman	(504) 251-0386
	Joseph Whitman	(985) 249-2255
	Renda Besson	(504) 340-2987
Telephone:	Joe Centanni	(504) 733-1141
	Norvin Schexnauldre	(504) 666-2898
	Charlene Ardoin	(504) 296-9634
Website:	Jay Castagnetta	(985) 285-8883



# Washington Artillery Veterans Association



## WAVA News



No. 13-4 To Perpetuate the Spirit of the Washington Artillery (The 1/141FA under many numeric designations) Nov. 2013

### WAVA Officers

Jay Castagnetta	President
Ronald Besson	1st Vice President
Joseph Whitman	2nd Vice President
Russell A. Mayeur, Sr.	Secretary
James Copeland	Treasurer

### Board of Directors

#### TERM EXPIRES - DECEMBER 2013

Nelson Ardoin, Jr. (Charlene)	(504) 738-9634
Jay Castagnetta (Heidi)	(985) 285-8883
COL Brian Champagne (Denise)	(504) 394-1913
Ray Hartman (Eva)	(504) 251-0386
Charlie Bauer, Jr.	(985) 809-1223
MSG Errol M. Williams, Jr.	(985) 237-4136

#### TERM EXPIRES - DECEMBER 2014

MAJ John DeMartini (Sandra)	(504) 738-7472
James Copeland	(504) 669-9684
Russell A. Mayeur, Sr. (Eloise)	(504) 919-8577
Joseph Whitman (Nancy)	(985) 249-2255
LT Anthony LaNasa, III	(504) 452-0358
Fred Muhs (Pat)	(504) 236-3958

#### TERM EXPIRES - DECEMBER 2015

Ronald Besson (Barbara)	(504) 347-5026
Michael Kreutz	(985) 898-6339
Joe Centanni (Lupe)	(504) 733-1141
Norvin Schexnaildre (Loyce)	(504) 889-0837
Ernest Guerra (Patsy)	(985) 661-1284
Russell Mayeur, Jr. (Judy)	(228) 586-1194

#### What They Said...

“God is not on the side of the big battalions, but on the side of those who shoot best.”

Voltaire

#### Annual Dues

Please check your mailing label for the status of your dues. Annual dues for 2014 and previous years are payable immediately. Consider becoming a member in perpetuity. Membership/dues form is attached herein.

#### WAVA Meetings & Special Events

4<sup>th</sup> Quarter of 2013 & 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of 2014

October 15	Board Meeting
November 19	General Membership
December 3	Annual General Membership Meeting
December 14	St. Barbara Celebration
December 17	Special Board Meeting
January 21	Board Meeting
February TBA	Live Fire at Camp Shelby
February 18	General Membership
March 18	General Membership

#### Please Mark Your Calendar for All Meetings

WAVA will hold its meetings at Jackson Barracks in the 1/141 Armory. Enter the north gate from St. Claude Avenue and drive toward, the now closed, N. Claiborne Avenue gate to get to the 1/141 Armory.

**1700 hours - WAVA Room opens for refreshments**

**1730 hours - Evening meal is served**

**1830 hours - Meeting starts**

Socials and special events will be held there also, unless noted otherwise.

#### New WAVA Members

Perpetual Member: MAJ (P) Kenneth Baillie \*

Member: Nick Acosta, Parris Andrews, Charles M. Clark

Perpetual Associate Member: Matthew Comeaux

Associate Member: \*Membership upgrade

#### Taps



Julian Eugene "Jay" Hotard

## **President's Message**

To WAVA members and associates, friends and families,

As I sit here and try to write what may be my last post as your president I thought I'd take the time to review the past year. We've accomplished so much over the past three years and I believe you should be aware of those accomplishments.

First and foremost is our membership. Without your support we would not be where we are. Since moving to the armory we've increased our ranks by more than 100. Yes that's one hundred. This year alone we've recruited more than 30 new members. Sixteen active, 7 associate, and 7 perpetual members. We've witnessed the return of members past who have left for one reason or another and heard of the great things we're doing and returned to be a part of it. We've recruited members from years gone by who have stepped up and taken leadership roles. We've even spread responsibilities to those outside of the traditional board of directors and what a job they have done. I can't begin to thank all of you enough.

By the time this address is posted we will be well into the third phase of our facility improvements with the Washington Artillery Gallery nearing completion. It is located on the second floor of the armory in the mezzanine / atrium area. Our goal is for it to be completed by the Annual General Membership Meeting in December. I know it will continue to improve over time with the addition of photographs, paintings and artifacts as they are accumulated. I don't want to describe it here. I want everyone to see it. It has been completed with dignity, style, and class. With that said we would appreciate any contributions of artifacts you may want displayed in one of the areas. The changes inside of the WAVA Room have been completed and will allow us to display more artifacts to include the ones purchased four years ago and have been under the care of Dr. Glen Cangelosi. Additional improvements have been completed which will allow more work space for the working elements of our association.

I'd like to welcome Michael Kreutz and Charles Bauer to the board of directors. They filled vacancies opened this year due to one member's resignation and the untimely passing of Jay Hotard. Welcome to the 'Rat Race', gentlemen.

I would like to take the rest of this message to acknowledge some of the individuals who have worked hard to help insure our successes. If I have forgotten to mention some please accept my deepest apologies. First, Fred Muhs. His work as our newsletter editor is unparalleled by any. Our newsletter is first class, informative, humorous, and educational and now is also distributed electronically, and in full color. Nelson Ardoin has grabbed the bull by the horns and run with our financial management strategies and is personally responsible for insuring the success of the program. His passion and skills are greatly appreciated. Ernie Guerra has given so freely of his time, without ever

being asked, to come and help with the socials and has been assisting in the gallery project currently underway. Dr. Glen Cangelosi for his untiring efforts and continued support with the presentation of our historical artifacts and memorabilia. A special thanks to Glen for the contributions of his personal properties throughout our gallery and the WAVA Room.

Rene Jacques, John Fleming, and Eddie Benezech, your counsel and friendship throughout the year have been invaluable and key to the successes of our organization. I can never thank the three of you enough.

I would be remiss if I did not mention the officers who served with me this year. Russell Mayeur and Joe Whitman have been instrumental in our successful operations. Jim Copeland has performed outstandingly as our Treasurer. Again, I thank you all for a job well done.

And finally, MAJ Ken Baillie and Ron Besson. In Ron one could not ask for a more diligent right hand. His counsel and assistance was uncompromising and ever present. Ken, what can I say? Your determination to maintain an unparalleled relationship and support of our association is evident in everything we've done this year. Your support of our socials, your support in the improvements made to our area, and your selfless giving of your valuable time afforded to me at a moment's notice is so deeply appreciated. I am humbled by the friendship the two of you have so thoughtfully provided me.

To all, we have been, and always will be friends and comrades, and I thank you for one hell of a ride.

**Try Us!**

**Jay Castagnetta**  
President, WAVA

### ***WAVA Board of Directors Election News***

The Annual General Membership meeting held on the first Tuesday in December (Dec 3rd, 2013) is when we hold our elections of board members whose term is expiring. COL Brian Champagne, MSG Errol Williams, Joe Centanni and Nelson Ardoin have decided not to run for reelection. They all feel the board would be better served with individuals who can offer more time to the responsibilities shouldered by these positions and hope younger members will show interest in filling these vacancies.

Because of having so many positions to fill in one election (a very uncommon event for WAVA) we will not publish a ballot in this newsletter. Instead we will open the floor for nominations to fill these vacancies and hold those nominations open till the December meeting.

It is our sincere hope that Active, or Active Perpetual members will step up and help fill these vacancies. If you know of someone interested please have them contact either Jay Castagnetta or Russell Mayeur prior to the November meeting or ask them to attend the November meeting to be nominated.

## Commander's Comments

Dear friends and WAVA Family,

October was an interesting month for us as a Battalion. The annual Pass in Review was rescheduled and will be held in conjunction with the wreath laying in January. As you all know, we have our annual St. Barbara celebration scheduled for December 14<sup>th</sup> at the National World War II Museum downtown. All indications are that we will have a very good turnout, and I know that we will have a great time.

Training year 2014 will be a busy one for the Active Battalion of the Washington Artillery. Our first shoot is scheduled for February 2014 at Camp Shelby, with an emphasis on continuation of our certification and qualification as well as Direct Support missions for the maneuver units of the 256<sup>th</sup> IBCT. This will mark the second step of "getting back to the basics" and will allow the Battalion to build expertise in targeting, fire planning, and coordination.

I am looking forward to another great year for the Battalion, and I can tell you without reservation that the men and women of our battalion are among the best Soldiers anywhere. I am very proud of them all, and I appreciate every one of them and what they do for our great Battalion.

In closing this month, I want to reiterate that I truly appreciate the ongoing support and friendship of WAVA and all that they do for our Battalion. I remain humbled by the awesome responsibility that has been entrusted to me, and for opportunity to be part of the Washington Artillery.

Try Us!

Kenneth T. Baillie  
MAJ, FA, LAARNG  
Commander  
1-141 Field Artillery  
Washington Artillery

(504) 715-7001  
kenneth.t.baillie.mil@mail.mil

## 5<sup>th</sup> Company Washington Artillery News

I have the honor to report an "extracurricular" activity of the 5<sup>th</sup> Company Washington Artillery on 4 July 2013 aboard the WW2 era, Fletcher Class Destroyer, USS Kidd DD-661 on the Mississippi River waterfront in Baton Rouge, LA.

Last year the 5<sup>th</sup> Company Washington Artillery was asked by the staff of the USS Kidd Veterans Memorial group to "man up", prepare live (blank) ammunition, and fire the 5"/38 cal turret guns on the USS Kidd. This was part of their annual fundraiser, "4<sup>th</sup> of July Star Spangled Celebration". The 5<sup>th</sup> Company did such a good job, they were asked to repeat their "fire for effect" this past July 4<sup>th</sup>. The 5<sup>th</sup> Company is Louisiana State Park Certified to handle

black power and kept all the firing under control and safe. WAVA members in that group with a temporary naval rank were:

Turret No. 2 Gun Captain - LT Glenn Harrison  
GM Third Class - Brian Fleming

Their actions and attention to detail received glowing endorsements from law enforcement personnel in charge of public safety and I would venture a guess that the Memorial's insurance provider was pleased also.

The Washington Artillerymen who participated in this action, through their exemplary and stringently safe performance, guaranteed the continued operation and firing of the 5" /38 guns aboard the USS Kidd for many future events to come thereby contributing to preserving history for future generations.

Brian Fleming, WAVA & 5<sup>th</sup> Company WA

## What They Said...

"A battery of field artillery is worth a thousand muskets."

General William Tecumseh Sherman

## WAVA Board Member Sworn In

August 20, 2013

In response to the death of Julian Eugene "Jay" Hotard, Charlie Bauer, Jr. was elected and sworn in to serve out the remainder of Jay Hotard's term as a member of the WAVA Board of Directors at the August meeting.



## BBQ Social “After Action Report” September 17, 2013

Once again, the BBQ Social had a great turnout and the new caterer proved to be a good choice. We had 144 adults, 6 children under 12 years old, 9 complementary guests and 7 no-shows.



Food service was deferred briefly awaiting arrival of TAG, MG Glenn Curtis, and his entourage. At the BBQ, TAG addressed the current status of the LANG in general (no pun

intended). Later, TAG was presented a certificate of Honorary Lifetime Membership in the Washington Artillery Veterans Association acknowledging his support of WAVA.

At the conclusion of the BBQ Social, Ernie Guerra walked away with a smile on his face after winning the 50/50 \$\$ to the tune of \$258.00.

## Trivia Question



What are/were these concrete arrows used for? If you know what these arrows are/were, send your answer in an e-mail to [fmuchs@cox.net](mailto:fmuchs@cox.net) (25 words or less please). There may be a prize for the correct answer but then again, there may not be a prize. Either way, correct answers will be acknowledged. As “Dirty Harry” so eloquently asked, “Are you feeling lucky?”



## WAVA Board Invited to LANG Museum Gala September 25, 2013

As recognition of WAVA’s service and continued support of the LANG Museum, all the WAVA Board was



invited to attend the LANG Museum Gala. At the Gala, we

had the opportunity to hear a message from Major General Glenn Curtis, LANG Adjutant General and also the Board President of the Friends of the LANG Museum. Those in attendance were informed about the direction the museum is headed



and several corporate sponsors were recognized. LT Gov. Jay Dardenne was the guest speaker and the renowned musician Irvin Mayfield provided entertainment. Current time line puts the completion of Final Phase IV in 2015.

## WAVA October Meeting Moved to R & C’s

Due to the untimely and short termed shut-down of the US Government and suspension of certain government services in the WAVA Room of Jackson Barracks, the October WAVA Board Meeting was moved to Rocky & Carlo’s Restaurant & Bar in Chalmette. The substitution of Rocky & Carlo’s worked very well.



Washington Artillery Veterans Association (WAVA) Membership Application and Renewal		
Name: <i>(Please print clearly)</i>		<b>Send form &amp; dues to:</b>
Street address:  city state zip		<b>WAVA - Secretary P. O. Box 7584 Metairie, LA 70010</b>
Home Phone:                      Work:                      Cell:	<b>Check as appropriate</b>	
Spouse's Name:	Annual <u>Renewal</u> Dues (\$15)	
E-Mail Address:	<u>New</u> Member (\$15)	
Unit (BN):                      BTRY (s):	<u>New Associate</u> Member (\$15)	
Service Dates:	Member in Perpetuity (\$150)	
	Associate Member in Perpetuity (\$150)	
Date of Birth:	Change of Address	
Recommended by:	Date:	Ck. No.:
<b>For Membership Committee Only</b>		
Application Reviewed:	Approved:	Disapproved:
Comments:		
Membership Chairman's Signature:		

### An American Guesser

In December 1775, "An American Guesser" anonymously wrote to the Pennsylvania Journal:

"I observed on one of the drums belonging to the marines now raising, there was painted a Rattle-Snake, with this modest motto under it, 'Don't tread on me.' As I know it is the custom to have some device on the arms of every country, I supposed this may have been intended for the arms of America."

This anonymous writer, having "nothing to do with public affairs" and "in order to divert an idle hour," speculated on why a snake might be chosen as a symbol for America.

First, it occurred to him that "the Rattle-Snake is found in no other quarter of the world besides America." The rattlesnake also has sharp eyes, and "may therefore be esteemed an emblem of vigilance." Furthermore, "She never begins an attack, nor, when once engaged, ever surrenders: She is therefore an emblem of magnanimity and true courage. ... she never wounds 'till she has generously given notice, even to her enemy, and cautioned him against the danger of treading on her."

Finally, "I confess I was wholly at a loss what to make of the rattles, 'till I went back and counted them and found them just thirteen, exactly the number of the Colonies united in America; and I recollected too that this was the only part of the Snake which increased in numbers. ..."

"'Tis curious and amazing to observe how distinct and independent of each other the rattles of this animal are, and yet how firmly they are united together, so as never to be separated but by breaking them to pieces. One of those rattles singly, is incapable of producing sound, but the ringing of thirteen together, is sufficient to alarm the boldest man living."



Many scholars now agree that this colonial "American Guesser" was Benjamin Franklin. Franklin is also known for opposing the use of an eagle - "a bird of bad moral character" - as a national symbol.

[www.gadsden.info](http://www.gadsden.info)

Perhaps, if you feel that you are being "tread on" by some group or some one, then this should be your flag to symbolize your dissatisfaction with the situation and serve as a fair warning of pending reaction to being "tread on".

*A Modern American Guesser 2013*