

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

DON'T FORGET, YOUR ANNUAL DUES WERE PAYABLE BY JANUARY 2006
CONSIDER BECOMING A MEMBER IN PERPETUITY

Oct 06



The Washington Artillery

WAVA NEWS

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS FOR 2006

Active Battalion: John DiMartini (504) 738-7472
Audit: Nelson Ardoin (504) 738-9634
Awards: Russell Mayeur (288) 255-7689
Jay Hotard (504) 339-3121
Budget: Norvin Schexnaildre (504) 889-0837
Building Management: Rene Jacques (504) 598-7200
Dennis Showalter (985) 863-0552
Bulletin: Roger Bacon (504) 421-6358
Charter & By-Laws: Henry Pepper (985) 693-4834
Financial Advisor: Rene Jacques (504) 598-7200

Food/Beverage: Ed Harrell (504) 756-6805
Jim Ledet 504) 887-2910
Fraternal: Ronald Besson (504) 347-5026
Historical: Terry Donelon (504) 738-5682
Legal: John Gniady (504) 454-1515
Membership: Anthony Pizzolato & Bd. (504) 733-1141
Parliamentarian: Henry Pepper (985) 693-4834
Programs/Publicity: Rolla Schwartz (985) 340-7101
Social: Nelson Ardoin (504) 738-9634
Telephone: Joseph Centanni & Board (504) 733-1141

What's Inside!!!

Annual Reunion
Dues/Membership Application
President's Message
Ladies' Auxiliary
Officers and Board Members
Taps
Election of Board Members

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

The annual reunion of the Washington Artillery Veterans Association will be held on Monday, November 20, 2006, at the Holy Rosary Church cafeteria located at 3368 Esplanade Ave. in New Orleans. This is a change to the date published in the last newsletter as there was a conflict in scheduling. At our last reunion in 2004 (The 2005 reunion was canceled due to Katrina.) we met a lot of former members of the battalion who have since become members of WAVA. Phone your buddies that you served with in the Washington Artillery and invite them to attend. We will have plenty of refreshments and "Corky's Bar-B-Que" will handle the catering. Spouses are invited and encouraged to participate. To help plan the food we need for you to send in the registration form located on the back page. Please include the number of members and former members of your unit that you have invited to attend. Please reply by Wednesday, November 15th.

The Annual meeting of WAVA will be on Monday, December 4, 2006, at the Delta Lions Home, 1725 Hickory Ave., Harahan. Six members will be elected to the Board of Directors. There is a proxy form on the last page that lists the present nominees. Please check your choice of candidates next to their names. If you wish to nominate someone other than the ones listed, enter the name in the space marked "Other."

Our membership continues to grow thanks to the efforts of the active members of the battalion. Our attendance at the monthly meetings is also increasing. At our August meeting The Adjutant General, MG Bennett C. Landreneau, and members of his staff briefed us on the rebuilding of Jackson Barracks. There will be "Twin" Armories," one located on St. Claude Ave. to house the 61st Troop Command and the other on Claiborne Ave. to be home the 1-141st Field Artillery (Paladin), The Washington Artillery. The new building should be completed in 2008.

Our home in Chalmette has been gutted and a new roof has been installed. At our last board meeting we concluded that to put the building back in pre-Katrina condition would cost more than we received from the insurance. In addition, the cost of maintaining the building, particularly insurance, utilities and air conditioner work, have been increasing every year. The board voted to put the building on the market. A 4' x 14' banner has been ordered and will be erected on the front of the building. The contact phone number should be easily read from Judge Perez Ave. The building is still structurally sound and the right buyer will have numerous options on how it might be used. We are in a position to reduce some of our annual costs. By selling the building we will be able to shop around for one that would meet our needs and reduce comparative operating costs. The building contains well over 10,000 square feet. The second floor is relatively in good shape. If you know of anyone interested in purchasing the building, please let me know. We can make someone a great deal on a fine building at a convenient location.

WAVA participated in the annual memorial at the WAVA monument located in Metairie Cemetery on Saturday, September 16th. Every available member of the active battalion was present. While this is an annual memorial, this year took on more significant meaning. The name of SGT Lee Myles Godbolt who died in combat in Iraq was added to the front, center of the monument. This is the first member of the Washington Artillery killed in the line of duty in over sixty years. We sincerely hope it will be the last. If our count is correct, his is the two hundred forty-ninth name to be inscribed thereon since the Washington Artillery was first organized. A separate wreath was laid in his memory. WAVA presented to the battalion a framed and matted color copy of the memorial WAVA included in its July, 2005 newsletter. It will be displayed in a prominent place in their temporary armory and later in their new home.

On Sunday, September 17th, WAVA members attended the annual review which was held at Lafreniere Park in Metairie. The battalion used the occasion to present awards, conduct an inspection of troops and to conduct a pass in review. The battalion, as always, looked great and performed in the finest tradition of the Washington Artillery. A reception followed the review and a Welcome Home Heroes celebration for the members and families immediately followed. It is estimated that counting WAVA members, vendors and volunteers that there were approximately twelve hundred present. The food and drink were excellent and more than ample. This may become an annual event.

Norvin Schexnauldre was the point man for WAVA and a principal player in the development and execution of this event. He also volunteered to handle the catfish preparation which was exceptional. He is to be commended for a job well done, as always.

There are some major changes in the battalion. I have invited the Battalion Commander to give us an update at our annual meeting on November 20.

WASHINGTON ARTILLERY VETERANS ASSOCIATION



WAVA NEWS



Page 2

No. 06-3 To perpetuate the spirit of the Washington Artillery (The 1/141ST FA BN under many numerical designations). Oct 2006

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

TERM EXPIRES DECEMBER 2006

Ronald Besson (Barbara)	347-5026
Joe Centanni (Lupe)	733-1141
Jim Ledet (Susan)	887-2910

He	834
No	37
Den	35

WAVA OFFICERS

TERM EXPIRES DECEMBER 2007

Nelson Ardoin, Jr. (Charlene)	738-9634
Roger A. Bacon (Betty)	454-3481
Terry Donelon (Catherine)	738-5682
Jay Hotard (Betty)	488-3121

Jac	3
Ar	5

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<u>TER</u>	
Ed. P. Benezech, Jr. (Katherine)	341-2223
John DiMartini (Sandra)	738-7472
Ed Harrell	756-6805
Rene' C. Jacques	(337) 842-5047
Russell A. Mayeur Sr. (Eloise)	(228) 255-7689
Rolla Schwartz (Diane)	(985) 340-7101

ANNUAL DUES

Please check your name label for the status of your dues.
ANNUAL DUES FOR 2006 WAS DUE THIS PAST JANUARY.
PAST-DUE AMOUNTS MUST BE PAID IMMEDIATELY.
CONSIDER BECOMING A MEMBER IN PERPETUIY, A
ONE-TIME INVESTMENT. Membership/dues form is on
page 4.

TAPS/THE LAST CAMP

Raul C. Favret	August 5, 2005
Otto H. Armbruster, Jr.	10 September 2006
Terrence W. Maddox	1 October 2006

WAVA MEETINGS/SPECIAL EVENTS 4th Quarter 2006/1st Quarter 2007

November 20 th (Monday)	Annual Reunion/Social
December 4 th (Monday)	Annual Mtg./Bd. Election
December 19 th	Board Meeting/Election of Officers
January 16 th	Board Meeting
February 20 th	General Membership Meeting
March 20 th	General Membership Meeting

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR ALL MEETINGS AND EVENTS. Meetings will be held at the home of the Delta Lions, 1725 Hickory Ave., Harahan.

WASHINGTON ARTILLERY REUNION

Reunion/Social will be held at 7:00 P.M. on Monday, 20 November in the cafeteria behind the Holy Rosary Catholic Church. This is the same location as the May social. It can be entered through the driveway next to 1324 Moss St. or from either side of the Holy Rosary Catholic Church in the 3300 bock of Esplanade Ave, New Orleans. We had a great turnout in 2004 and everyone is encouraged to participate this year. Katrina interrupted our plans for the 2005 reunion so this one is especially important. Now is the time to begin contacting former unit members and inviting them to the reunion. Spouses are invited and encouraged to participate. **Please complete form on page 4. If you have a name, address and/or telephone number of a former WA member please call Roger Bacon at 504-421-6358 with the information and those individuals will receive a personal invitation.**

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS: Spouses are encouraged to join as associate members. They meet at 7:00 p.m. at the Delta Lions Home 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.

WAVA MEMBERSHIP/DUES APPLICATION

NAME _____

Send to:

ADDRESS _____

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

PHONE _____

CHECK AS APPROPRIATE

(Home) (Business)

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 : _____

OFFICIAL PROXY BALLOT

To cast a proxy ballot, please detach this portion of your newsletter. After indicating your choices, print your name, and sign in the spaces provided. Mail the ballot to: WAVA, P.O. Box 7584, Metairie, LA 70010 in time for it to be received by December 1, 2006. **VOTE FOR SIX.** Unsigned mail-in ballots will not be included in the tabulation.

Ronald Besson. _____ Henry Pepper _____ Other _____

Joe Centanni _____ Norvin Schexnaildre _____

Jim Ledet _____ Dennis Showalter _____

Please mark an "X" next to the nominees selected. **SIX MUST BE CHOSEN.** If you choose to select a member or members not listed, write their name(s) in the space(s) provided. **Ballot must be signed.**

PRINT NAME _____ SIGNATURE _____

**REUNION/SOCIAL
MONDAY, 20 NOVEMBER 2006**

I/WE WILL ATTEND _____

(Member/Spouse's name)

I HAVE INVITED A TOTAL OF _____ CURRENT MEMBERS OF WAVA OR FORMER MEMBERS OF THE WASHINGTON ARTILLERY AND EXPECT THAT _____ WILL ATTEND.

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

Please mail the information requested in time to arrive at the above address not later than November 15th so we can notify the caterer of quantities required.