

82nd AIRBORNE DIVISION ASSOCIATION, INC.

2020 NATIONAL DIRECTOR NOMINEES

BECKER, Richard (North Central Florida) – An AAM since 1994 (he joined the Association as an AAM). He has served with the 82nd ABN Div., 11th ABN Div. and 24th ABN BDE. He has held numerous positions both locally and nationally. He has been a Chapter Chairman, Vice Chairman, Newsletter Editor and Event Chairman. He has also been a National President (2 terms), National Secretary (2 terms), a National Director and has had numerous committee assignment on a National level. He was a teacher in the NY State Public School system for 20 years and an Administrator for 6 years. He was an Assistant Professor/Administrator in Vassar College for 10 years. He has stimulated Chapter activities and promotes the recruitment of any paratrooper to the Association.

BELL, William (GEN Dennis L. Via All Airborne Signal Chapter) – An AAM since 1981 (he joined the Association as an AAM). He has served as Provisional Chairman and is currently the Charter Chairman of his Chapter. He has implemented an aggressive recruitment and membership program, resulting in starting the Chapter with 65 members and has increased Chapter membership to 74. He spearheaded the first Signal Memorial Ceremony honoring all fallen All American Signalers who lost their lives in combat since 1917; co-hosted a Friends and Family picnic with the Retired Signal Soldiers Association; and conducts visits with in-residents former 82nd Airborne Veterans at the Fayetteville VA Medical Center. He will continue to utilize his organizational, motivational and networking skills to continue to grow the Association. His past experience as president of 2 non-profit Veterans organizations brings a proven record of successful fundraising, publications and attracting Veterans to organizations he supports.

COPENING, Steven P. (Central Pennsylvania Chapter) – An AAM since 1992 (he joined the Association in 1992), he currently has held the position of National Director. He has held numerous Chapter positions in to include Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Treasurer and Judge Advocate. He has always displayed good judgment and a willingness to work on Chapter activities and a willingness to promote his Chapter within his local community. If elected, he will continue to provide a voice on the National Board for the Members of the Association.

PEPPERS, Maggie (Atlanta All Airborne/Don Lassen Memorial Chapter) – An AAM of the Association, she has served as a representative and Delegate for the Chapter in 2018 and 2019. She has played a major role in the Airborne Awards Festival planning for 4 years, as well as Airborne Awards Festival Staff for 4 years. She has participated in Airborne heritage activities, researching former Airborne training and staging areas, and participated in World War II Heritage Days representing the Chapter in 2019. She will continue to utilize her networking skills, as well as her organizational and motivational skills, to continue to grow the Association. With her past experience in Airborne heritage programs and outreach to other Associations, she brings strong leadership, public relations and attracts Veterans to organizations she supports.

TUCKER, Nero (Vulcan Chapter) – An AAM since 2002 (he joined the Association as an AAM). He has served as a National Director, 7 years as Chairman and Vice Chairman for 1 year, of his Chapter. He has represented his Chapter as a Delegate at the Annual Convention and has become well-known and

respected among fellow Troopers. He served three tours with the 782nd Maintenance BN and retired as a warrant office in 1996 out of Fort Bragg. He retired from civil service as the Fleet Manger of the UH-72 Helicopter Project Office, US Army, Aviation and Missile Command in 2016.

WALLER, William (Kentucky Airborne Chapter) – An AAM since 2017 (he joined the Association in 2016). He served as Chairman, Treasurer and Membership Chairman of his Chapter. He served 4 years on jump status, with 2 of those years being with 3rd BN 73rd Armor Regiment. He has served in the Regular Army, Army Reserves and Army National Guard for a total of 32 years. While serving in the Reserves and National Guard, he worked for 10 years in the financial sector where he gained knowledge and experience he transferred to both his military career and his many volunteer activities. These volunteer activities included the American Legion, the American Legion Riders, VFW, Veterans Affairs Hospitals, and the Boy Scouts, to name a few. If elected, he would use his knowledge and experience to help the Association reach out not only to veteran membership but to recent veterans who have not joined. These are the people who will carry the Association into the future, without them, there is no future.