



82nd Airborne Division Association, Inc.

Chartered by
The United States Congress

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JUNE 2020 BULLETIN NO. 694

PLEASE DISSEMINATE THE BULLETIN TO AS MANY MEMBERS AS POSSIBLE TO KEEP THEM INFORMED

1. 74th ANNUAL CONVENTION: CANCELLED!

The Board of Directors made one of the toughest decisions since I have been Executive Director and voted to cancel the 2020 Convention. It was not a decision that was made easily or lightly. We looked at many aspects for and against, but as was the case with the All American Week cancellation, it came down to what is best for the health and well-being of the Members of the Association.

Also, of concern, was the projected low attendance of the convention, as shown by the low number of registration and our concern that it may cause a large financial loss to the host Chapter if there was a small attendance number. By looking at the registration numbers currently being extremely low, as compared to past Conventions, we saw attendance as being very low. We believe this to be because of concerns for traveling, meeting in large numbers in small areas, and possibly financial hardships caused by the losses of jobs or slowing of businesses caused by the pandemic.

Anyone who has registered, and there have only been 25 registrations probably due to the ongoing pandemic, will be contacted in the next few days concerning your refund. The Houston, TX Chapter will still be the host for the 2021 Convention, and all functions that were to be held this year will be moved to 2020. We do understand that many of our Members are as saddened by this cancellation as we are, but I am sure that you can understand our concerns and reasoning for the cancellation.

We will keep you informed of any additional changes within the Association and look forward to we can again resume normal operation. Thank you for all you do for the Association and we ask that you please stay safe.

- 2. NATIONAL DIRECTOR NOMINATIONS:** The 1 Jun 2020 deadline for director nominations has past, and the National Office has received 6 nominations for the position of National Director. As a correction to our last bulletin where it stated there were 5 positions open, even though there were 6 names of positions that were opening, there are 6 positions opening. The following 6 names have been submitted for the 2021 National Board of Directors:

Joe Steen (Kentucky Airborne Chapter)

Andrew Ritter (Central Ohio All Airborne Chapter)

Larry Stewart (Texas Lone Star Chapter)

Director Cletus Slabach (Toledo Chapter)

Gary Covey (Tillman E. Beikes Indianapolis All Airborne Chapter)

Director Randall Johnson (Greater Daytona All Airborne Chapter)

“America’s Guard of Honor”

AFRICA SICILY ITALY FRANCE THE NETHERLANDS BELGIUM GERMANY
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC VIETNAM GRENADA PANAMA PERSIAN GULF AFGHANISTAN IRAQ



3. **ASSOCIATION AWARDS COMMITTEE:** The 2020 Awards Committee Chairman is Past President/Director Richard Becker, and he accepted nominations for All American of the Year up to 1 May 2020. Nominations for All American of the Year are now closed. Submissions for the Communications and Public Relations Award can be sent to Past President Richard Becker at becker@82ndairborneassociation.org, and must be received by him by 1 July 2020.
4. **BOARD OF DIRECTOR AND CHAPTER DELEGATES TO 2020 MEETINGS:** With the cancellation of AAW, the Association conducted our BOD and Delegates' meetings differently this year. The Delegates' Meeting was held on 1 June 2020, and had only 12 attendees. On 2 June 2020, the delegates joined the BOD at their meeting to address the issues raised at the Delegate meeting. The BOD meeting went well and the minutes will be approved by the Association President and then posted to our website.

There will also be a Delegates, Board of Directors, and Membership Meeting in August 2020, via Zoom. These are the meeting normally held during the Annual Convention. There will be further information to follow.

5. **2021 ASSOCIATION ALUMNI PUBLICATION:** The Association will be sponsoring a 2021 Alumni book that will begin preparation and sales in June 2020. The book will be similar to the 2016 Alumni book with Members being able to have their entries published in the book free of charge. There will be no charge unless the Member wishes to purchase the book. The collection of Member data and sale of the book will begin on 3 July 2020. There will be an example of the postcard mailed to Members and the email that will be sent to Members posted on the Association website, mailed to the Chapter emails, and posted to the Association Facebook page, so Members can see an example of the official mailings that are going to be sent. There will be more information sent to Chapters and Members as this project moves forward.
6. **ASSOCIATION ALL AMERICAN WEEK COIN:** The 82nd Airborne Division Association coin has



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come in and is now being mailed to Members who have preordered the coin. Attached is an example of the coin. Coins are available at the following link:
<https://www.82ndairborneassociation.org/shop.html>



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7. **OPERATION BOURBON:** The 82nd Airborne Division Association has designed and sponsored an 82nd Airborne Division bourbon bottle. It is now in its final stages and should be available through Boundary Oak Distillery by July 2020. The Association will not be selling the bottle. It will only be available through Boundary Oak Distillery. It is an awesome dedication to the Division and we will



notify Members when it is available. We will also post images of the bottle on our Facebook page with links to how to purchase the bottle. We have seen a lot of interest for the bottle already and we believe when Members actually see the bottle there will be even greater interest. Boundary Oak Distillery also made a bottle for the 3ID in the past and they have stated that there has already been more interest in the 82nd Bottle than has ever been shown in the 3ID bottle. Image that. I, for one, am not at all surprised.

8. **ATTENDANCE OF NATIONAL OFFICERS:** Due to the Corona Virus pandemic until further notice Directors will not be attending any events.
9. **PAYMENT OF CHAPTER PORTION OF MEMBERSHIP DUES (CHAPTER REFUNDS):** The portion of membership dues received directly at the National Office, and are to be paid to the Chapter selected by the member upon registration, as per the Association by-laws, Article II-Membership, Section 1, Paragraph E, Subparagraph 1, Items a-c, for the period July - December 2019, have been sent via mass payment on PayPal. PayPal will send an email to the Chapter email address to notify you of this payment so that you may insure your payment is directed to your Chapter bank account. Any Chapter who has not yet set up their PayPal account must do so within 30 days of receiving the payment or the payment will be returned to the National office account. All monies returned to the National Office account will be held for the Chapter until such time as the Chapter has set up their PayPal account and can receive their payment.
10. **CURRENT PROJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION:** This is a list of some of the Projects the Association has approved for working on in 2020:
 - a. **Support for Families of 82nd Airborne Division KIAs, and WIAs:** Provide assistance for the 82nd Airborne Division Association Wounded Warrior Fund through direct response to needs of Families immediately following the loss or injury of an 82nd Trooper.
 - b. **Recognition of the Jumpmaster, NCO, and Trooper of the Year:** Every year our Association recognizes the accomplishments of the 82nd Airborne Divisions Jumpmaster, Non-Commissioned Officer, and Trooper of the Year at our annual dinner during All American Week (AAW). On the final evening of AAW, the Leadership and Troopers of the 82nd Airborne Division join the 82nd Airborne Division Association Members as we present these outstanding Troopers with awards to recognize their accomplishments (accomplished through Association and corporate donations). Due to the cancellation of All American Week, we are working with Division for another time and method to recognize the accomplishments of the 82nd Airborne Division's Jumpmaster, Non-Commissioned Officer and Trooper of the Year.
 - c. **Support for deployed Troopers of the 82nd Airborne Division:** Currently supporting redeployed Troopers placed in quarantine at Ft Bragg by arranging liquid refreshments to the Troops. Our Association stands ready to provide support to our Deployed Troopers as they



protect our Nation. The more donations we receive, the more we can do to support our Troopers while they are deployed. Help us to show these Troopers our gratitude for their sacrifices.

d. 3rd Annual All American Adventure 2020: (POSTPONED DUE TO CORONA VIRUS)



All American Adventure 2019

Plan is to send twenty 82nd Airborne Division Troopers on a 4-day resiliency trip to the Catskill Mountains for fishing, hiking, biking and numerous other activities. Aimed at helping Troopers in reintegration after deployment, this project uses donations from Association Members and Chapters, and Corporate sponsorship to accomplish this project. This trip will take place in June 2020, provided we are able to secure funding for our Troopers. Help us in providing an avenue to assist our 82nd Troopers in their resiliency during their redeployment process.

e. Holiday Troop Support 2020: This year will be our 5th Annual “Holiday Troop Support” and we will again provide over 1000 meals to young Troopers and their Families over the Thanksgiving and Holiday Season to insure the Families of young 82nd Troopers have bountiful Holiday meals over the Holiday Season.



11. DONATIONS TO GENERAL FUND: We are asking for help from our Members in working through the cancellation of our Association events. These cancellations will cause the Association the loss of fund-raising opportunities, and we are asking for your help, through donations, in making up for these losses. Please donate any amount to insure we have the funding to continue our Association projects next year. We need your help. If we are expecting the Association to do more to help the Troopers of the 82nd Airborne Division it will take your help. If you think that someone else will do it, you’re wrong. Hardly anyone within the Association is supporting our mission. With a Membership of over 35,000 Members, we receive less than 100 donations annually from our Members. This is sad. We do appreciate those great All Americans that support us annually, but we need more Membership to support. With 35,000 members we should be able to do so much more for our Troopers with even \$5 donations from our Members. We must stop the “why I don’t give” excuses, and look at all the projects the Association does and ask “why wouldn’t I support our Troopers”. Time to act now. We need your help. Please step up and support with anything you can.

12. ASSOCIATION 501(c)3 STATUS: The Association is continuing to contact the IRS for the status of the Chapter 501(c)3 status, but have not received word of the determination yet. We will notify Chapters as soon as we receive any information on the status.

13. ONLINE SUPPORT DOCUMENTS: The National office has posted documents on our webpage in the Quick Links / Forms & Resources folder on our website to assist the Chapters. These include forms for Chapter Continuity and Chapter Startup. Please look over these forms and use them as needed.



14. 2019 CHAPTER FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: The completed 2019 Chapter Financial Statements, which are required to be furnished by all Association Chapters for inclusion in the Association Group Federal Income Tax Return, were due by **10 May 2020 due to the IRS change in Tax submission dates**. The statements were emailed to your Chapter email address, between 22-23 January 2020, and must be completed and returned to the National Office by **10 MAY 2020**. There are still Chapters that have not sent their statements to the National Office. Please do so IMMEDIATELY. If you do not allow the National Office to file your tax return with our Group Income Tax Return, the Chapter will have to file their Tax Return separately, at the cost of the Chapter. If your Chapter files separately, you must notify the National Office on Chapter letterhead signed by the Chapter Chairman, stating that the Chapter has filed their taxes separately from the Association. The following chapters have submitted their Financial Report for 2019 – Thank you:

Badger State	Central Ohio AA	Central Pennsylvania
Don Lassen/Atlanta AA	Evergreen State	James Etherton-Detroit
Kentucky Airborne	North Central Florida AA	North Jersey
North Texas	Northeastern Pennsylvania	Oklahoma AA
San Joaquin Valley	Tampa Bay AA	Tillman Beikes-Indianapolis
Washington DC	St. Michael’s AA	1SG Leonard Funk MOH
Chicago	CPL Edward Slavin	Greater Daytona AA
Hampton Roads All Services	Low Country AA	Lozado-Rubio-Conde PR
Rocky Mountain	South Texas	Texas Lone Star
Greater Hartford	Central New York	COL Reuben H Tucker
Dan Campbell AA	Gateway	John Towle-MOH Cleveland
Lehigh Valley	Lew Millet MOH	LTG James Gavin
Mid-America	New York	Niagara Frontier
Northern Michigan AA	Cohort	Rocky Mountain
Acadiana	Akron	Greater Rochester NY AA
John Steele	San Diego AA	SGT Pusateri AA
Southern Arizona	Southern Wisconsin	Virginia State
Vulcan Chapter	Ben Vandervoort/Savannah/HHI	GEN Via AA Signal
Walter Hughes/TriState/Mid-Hudson		

15. ASSOCIATION SUSPENSES/DEADLINES: Please note the following Association deadlines (all information should be sent to the Executive Director, unless otherwise noted):

- a. **10 May 2020-** Chapter Financial Report due
- b. **31 April 2020-** 2019 Chapter report and 2020 Chapter Officers and Schedule due (Suspense date extended)
- c. **1 July 2020-** Communication & Public Relations Award Program entries must comply with the Communications and Public Awards Program SOP and are due 1 July 2020 to



Chairman/Director Richard Becker. Nominations can be sent to the National office and will be forwarded to Director Becker.

16. **82d AIRBORNE ASSOCIATION USAA CREDIT CARD:** Check out the 82nd Airborne Division Association's co-branded cards. These cards display a Paratrooper under the silk on the front. It's a very nice card to have. To get a co-branded Association card, please call 855-755-8263 or go to www.usaa.com/82nd . If you use a credit card, please choose the card that supports the Association.
17. **E-NEWS BULLETIN:** *Get Army and Airborne related news directly to your emails!* Members who insure they shared their email address with the Association will receive our E-news bulletin which contains informative articles about the 82nd Airborne Division, the Airborne community, the Military, Veterans issues, and even Association related articles, and links to our Bulletins, the Paraglide Magazine, and Fliers and Registration forms for Association Event. If you are not receiving the E-news bulletin to your email just send us your email address and we will add you to the list. Although we have had requests, we are only offering this benefit to our Association members. Sign up today and keep up to date on Airborne issues!
18. **WITHIN THE DIVISION AND FORT BRAGG:** Please visit the following 82d Airborne Division websites to find out what is happening within the Division and sign up for our E-News bulletin: <http://www.dvidshub.net/image> and <http://www.bragg.army.mil/82nd/pages/default.aspx>. Also, don't forget to check out the Division's Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/82ndAirborneDivision>
19. **ASSOCIATION UPCOMING EVENTS:** *Support our Chapters!* Please announce the following upcoming regional events at Chapter meetings, via the Chapter newsletter and website. Registration and information on these events were published in the Paraglide and/or on the Association's website at the following link www.82ndairborneassociation.org/events.html. If you would like to have the Association President or Executive Director attend your event, please send an invitation to the National office in enough time for us to plan and we will do our best to attend.
 - a. 2020 Airborne Awards Festival, 22-25 April 2020 **(POSTPONED DUE TO CORONA VIRUS)** in Columbus, GA is hosted by the Don Lassen/Atlanta All Airborne Chapter. The host hotel is the Hilton DoubleTree, 5351 Sidney Simons Blvd, Columbus, GA. Hotel Reservations are 706-327-6868. The POC is Maggie Peppers at 410-300-8902. For more information, go to www.82nd-atlanta.com
 - b. 2021 Sun City "All Airborne" Fiesta VIII, 30 June – 4 July 2021 in El Paso, TX is hosted by the Benavidez-Patterson "All Airborne" Chapter. The host hotel is Doubletree Hotel by Hilton, 600 N. El Paso Street, El Paso, TX 79901. Hotel reservations 800-445-8667, reservation code ADA.. The POC is John Ceballos, 2608 Fort Blvd, El Paso, TX 79930-2116. For more information, go to <https://www.bp82eptx.org/> **The 2020 Event has been postponed due to the corona virus. These are the new dates!**
20. **6th ANNUAL ASSOCIATION 50/50 RAFFLE:** The raffle will be held this year. Let's make our 6th Annual 50/50 Raffle even more successful than the previous years. The drawing will be held on



Saturday, 9 August 2020. We will notify all winners. Raffle tickets can be found on our website under Events and can be mailed to the National Office. Please mail in your raffle tickets.

21. FACEBOOK PAGE: 'Like Us' at <https://www.facebook.com/82ndAssociation/> *This is the ONLY official Facebook page of the Association. We have no affiliation with any other sites that are using the Association's name!* We would love to receive pictures or information from the Chapters of events that they have hosted to share with our members!

President Rezabek, together with the Past Presidents, Officers and Directors of the Association and their wish every father a Happy Father's Day. Please remember to take this time to thank all fathers for everything they do.



We also wish to thank all our members for their service and helping the Association have another successful year. Our success would not be possible without the support and assistance of our members! In addition, we ask that you continue to keep our Troopers and their families in your prayers. At any given time, there are those of our Armed Forces deployed to secure our freedom and to help those in need. We wish them a safe return.

Gary Rezabek
National President

OFFICIAL:
Bill Bauer
Executive Director