



Chartered by
The United States Congress

82nd Airborne Division Association, Inc.

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AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2019 BULLETIN NO. 686

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

1. **2020 CONVENTION**: Our 2019 Convention in Washington D.C. was a huge success. The D.C. Chapter put on a terrific event for the Association which included an Association ceremony at the WW II War Memorial to honor the 82nd Airborne Division Troopers from WW II, in which almost a dozen WW II Veterans were in attendance. There was also a wreath laying for the 82nd Airborne Division Association at Arlington National Cemetery with the President of the Association being joined by Major General Mingus (Current 82nd Airborne Division Commander), and Clifford Stump and CSM(R) Rock Merritt (two of our WW II Veterans). We also enjoyed a training jump of our 82nd Troopers, numerous tours of the D.C. area, and welcomed Vice President Dick Cheney to our Banquet as our guest speaker.

Next is our 2020 Convention in Houston, Texas sponsored by our Lone Star Chapter. They are already working out the planning and we will be posting the fliers and registration in the near future.

2. **ALL AMERICAN WEEK (AAW) 2020**: All American Week 2020 is also in the planning stages and we will be posting all registration and hotel registration information in our next bulletin. As you know, the Airborne Inn will be losing the Hardy Hall building of the Inn so that construction of the new Hotel can begin. Because of this we will be using not just the Airborne Inn, but also other on-post hotels to accommodate our Members during AAW. We have secured 150 rooms on-post and are working on the shuttle plan to transport members to Moon Hall for the hospitality room and dinner events. We hope to have all the planning complete by the end of September so that registrations can begin.
3. **DONATIONS TO THE "HOLIDAY TROOP SUPPORT"**: We are once again gearing up for our "Holiday Troop Support" program which will provide Holiday meals to 500 82nd Airborne Division Families for the Thanksgiving Holiday and 500 meals for the Christmas Holiday. We will work with the Division Chaplain's office to provide these meals to deserving Families of our Active Duty 82nd Airborne Division Troops. This project was a huge success over the last three years and we accomplished our goal of providing 1000 meals over the Holiday season. Our office still receives thanks from Families for last year's donations. Let's make this year as big of a success and provide the Troopers and their Families with another 1000 meals donated by the Association. Please send donations so that we can provide these meals over the Holiday Season. If donations exceed what is needed for these meals, the additional funds will be reserved for next year so that we may continue this tradition. For those who have already donated, we thank you for your kind support of the Troops. For those who

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would like to donate, please send a check with “Holiday Troop Support” marked at the bottom or you can use the donate button on our website and annotate “Holiday Troop Support” in the “Put my donation towards” line. This program has a direct impact on the lives of our Troopers. Thank you for your support.

4. **MINUTES AND DELEGATE QUESTIONS FOR 2019 ANNUAL CONVENTION:** The Minutes for the BOD meeting, and questions and answers from the delegates at the 2019 Annual Convention will be posted on our website under the “Forms and Resources” link under the Quick links tab. The minutes will be posted by 25 September 2019.
5. **NATIONAL OFFICERS FOR 2020:** The following will assume/continue office effective 1 January 2020:
 - a. President Gary Rezabek (John Towle-Cleveland Chapter) was re-elected.
 - b. Vice President Steven Copenig (Central Pennsylvania Chapter) was elected.
 - c. National Secretary Mike Oesch (Vulcan Chapter) was re-elected.
 - d. National Treasurer William Waller (Kentucky Airborne Chapter) was elected.

The General Membership meeting filled six (6) Veteran Directors vacancies. Congratulations to Richard Becker (North Central Florida Chapter), who was re-elected to the Board of Directors. Congratulations to our new members of the Board of Directors, William Bell (Gen Dennis L. Via All Airborne Signal Chapter), Steven Copenig (Central Pennsylvania Chapter), Maggie Peppers (Don Lassen Atlanta All Airborne Chapter), Nero Tucker (Vulcan Chapter), and William Waller (Kentucky Airborne Chapter).

We encourage Chapters to begin looking at prospective nominees for the 2021 Board of Directors. This is a very important position within the Association and one that will allow members to assist the Association in successfully moving forward.

6. **ATTENDANCE OF NATIONAL OFFICERS:** Act now to request the attendance of the Association President to your Chapter events. Please send invitations by mail or email and send a copy to the Executive Director. Requests for participation of National Officers in Chapter or Regional events should be coordinated with the respective Officer(s) and submitted in writing to the Executive Director of the Association. Please allow as much lead time as possible so that the Officer(s) can plan ahead. Please remember that all events can be published in the Paraglide and on the Association website (Events).
7. **CURRENT PROJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION:**
This is a list of some of the Projects the Association has approved for working on in 2019:

- a. **Funding of WW II Veterans at 73rd Annual Convention in Washington DC:** The Association sponsored the Travel, accommodations, and registrations of eight of our 82nd Airborne Division WW II Veterans at the 2019 Convention through corporate support, and fund raising by the

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Association and Washington D.C. Chapter. We are proud to have been able to sponsor these WW II Veterans.

- b. 3rd Annual All American Adventure 2020: Plan is to send 20 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. This trip will take place in June 2020, provided we are able to secure funding for our Troopers.
- c. Holiday Troop Support: We will provide 1000 meals to Troopers and their Families during the Thanksgiving and Christmas Season (will be accomplished through corporate, Chapter and individual donations).
- d. Recognition of the Jumpmaster, NCO, and Trooper of the Year: (Will be accomplished through corporate donations).
- e. Free tracked wheelchair for an 82nd Veteran with catastrophic injuries: This project provided a tracked wheelchair to Mr. Harry Shaw, an Association Member, at the 2019 Convention. Mr. Shaw is a double amputee and the tracked wheelchair will allow Mr. Shaw to navigate to portions of his land that he has previously been unable to get to. We wish Mr. Shaw many years of luck and good travels with his tracked wheelchair provided by the Independence Fund.
- f. Our Division currently has Troopers deployed to Afghanistan and the Association will be looking for ways to support them during their deployment.

8. DONATIONS TO GENERAL FUND: As you can see, the Association is working on numerous projects to better the lives of our Active Duty and Veteran Members, and our fund raising through corporate donations is going well, but we still need the support of our Local Chapters and Association Members to complete the funding on all projects and to help sponsor other projects for our Active Duty and Veteran Members. Help your Association in our efforts to continue to serve our Airborne Family by donating to the Association General Fund. Every little bit helps. We need your support for projects and to help the Association grow as we take on more projects in support of our Airborne Community. Thank you for your support.

To make a donation, PLEASE go to: <http://www.82ndairborneassociation.org/index.html> and press the donate button in the upper right corner of the Association's Homepage or mail your donation to the National office at: P.O. Box 87482, Fayetteville, NC 28304.

9. CHANGE IN CHAPTER OFFICERS: When your Chapter elects new Officers please notify the National Office so that we can update our records. Elected Chapter Officers must be members in good standing and annual members must be current. Please provide Chapter Officer (EVEN IF THERE ARE
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NO CHANGES) to National annually so that we can update our files, the Paraglide and the Association website. Please be sure to give any newly elected Chairmen access to the Chapter email account. If there are any problems with gaining access, please contact the National Office for assistance.

- 10. 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 Jan-Jun 2019, will be sent via mass payment on PayPal by 25 Sep 2019. 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. Any Chapter wishing to donate their payment to the National Office, please notify us by email prior to 25 Sep 2019.
- 11. USE OF ASSOCIATION FORMS FOR MEMBERSHIP:** Please use the membership application forms provided on our website rather than chapter specific forms. Chapter forms do not always relay the correct or changed information, and make it more difficult for processing membership. As of January 2019, we will not accept any documents other than those provided by the National office.
- 12. USE OF ASSOCIATION MEETINGS FOR POLITICAL STANCES:** The 82nd Airborne Division Association shall in no way use official communications of any type to relay political opinions. This includes, but is not limited to, correspondence using Association letterhead, email addresses, websites or any other social media. Members will not make any political statements while representing themselves as 82nd Airborne Division Association Members, nor shall any Association or Chapter meetings be used in any way to relay political opinions or party affiliations. Neither the Association nor any of its Chapters will discriminate against or support any organization solely on the grounds of their political standings. We are not in the business of politics and will not support any political organizations.
- 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. ASSOCIATION SUSPENSES/DEADLINES:** Please note the following Association deadlines (all information should be sent to the Executive Director, unless otherwise noted):
 - a. No deadlines at this time.
- 15. 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.

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- 16. E-NEWS BULLETIN:** *Get Army and Airborne related news directly to your emails!* Members who have shared their email address with the Association 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 information. If you don't already receive this important and informative bulletin, please send us your email address so that we can 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!
- 17. 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>
- 18. 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. South Florida All Airborne Chapter "Operation Market Garden Jamboree", 27-28 September 2019 in Sebring, Florida hosted by the South Florida All Airborne Chapter. The POC is Robert L. Buffington at 954-435-9174. The host hotel is Sebring Quality Inn and Suites in Sebring, Florida. Reservation 863-385-4500
 - b. 57th Annual All Ohio Days, 11-13 October 2019 in Lockburne, Ohio is hosted by the Central Ohio All Airborne Chapter. The POC is Andrew Ritter at 937-570-5603 or Tom Simmons at 910-987-7467. The host hotel is Hampton Inn & Suites Columbus at Sciota Downs in Lockburne, reservations 614-491-3800.
 - c. Hilton Head Weekend, 19-22 October 2019 in Hilton Head, South Carolina is hosted by the Ben Vandervoort Savannah/HHI All Airborne Chapter. The POC is Bill Eberle at 843-682-4171; email - airborneben@hargray.com. The host hotel is the Hilton Head Marriott Resort & Spa. HOTEL RESERVATIONS 888-511-5086, <http://cwp.marriott.com/hhhgr/82ndairborne/>
 - d. 2019 Veterans Day Activities, 9 - 11 November 2019 in Arlington, VA is hosted by the COL Reuben H Tucker Chapter, the Washington, DC Chapter and the 82nd Airborne Division Association. The POC is Bill Bauer 910-223-1182. The host hotel is Sheraton Pentagon City in Arlington, VA. Hotel Reservations 800-325-3535 (Code ADA) or <https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1559678012440&key=GRP&app=resvlink>

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- 19. COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN:** *Please help!* Chapters and Members are encouraged to contact local businesses for tax deductible donations for the 82nd Airborne Division Association Education Fund. The 82nd Airborne Division Association Educational Fund benefits our Dependent Children and young Paratroopers who have recently left the service and is a tax exempt organization under the provisions of Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue code.
- 20. 5th ANNUAL ASSOCIATION 50/50 RAFFLE WINNERS:** The winners of the 5th Annual Association Raffle held at the 2019 Convention are: 1st Prize Allen Schoppe, 2nd Prize Lisa Taylor, and 3rd Prize Michael Reedy. All three winners donated their winnings to the 82nd Airborne Division Association. Thank you very much for your generous donations.
- 21. 6th ANNUAL ASSOCIATION 50/50 RAFFLE:** Let's make our 5th Annual 50/50 Raffle even more successful than the previous years. The drawing will be held on Saturday, August 2020 at the Airborne Heritage Banquet during our 74th National Convention. You do not have to be present to win, but you do need to enter! Raffle tickets can be found on our website under Events and can be mailed to the National Office.
- 22. 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 spouses wish to thank all Members for their service and look forward to seeing you at the Veteran's Day event.

We also want to thank all our Members for their support in the success of their Chapters and the National Association. It will take a combined effort of us all to insure the success of our Association. Please, always remember our deployed Troopers and their Families. Continue to keep them in your prayers as they stand in harm's way to protect our Nation.

Gary Rezabek
National President

OFFICIAL:
Bill Bauer
Executive Director

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