

# The Red Devil Digest

www.red-devil.org

The 508<sup>th</sup> Airborne Chapter Newsletter

**Fury From The Sky** 



Vol. 5 No. 2

March - April 2001

# All American Week - 2001

#### **AAW - Reunion**



Chapter Social
The reason the
newsletter was
late was due to
the uncertainties
concerning the
availability of
McKellers Lodge
for the Chapter
Social on

Tuesday evening, 22 May. You may recall, Bob Murray and Jack Damron traveled to Fort Bragg last October to make arrangements for the reunion. We were informed the Lodge would open on 30 November. In early January we found out that the Lodge was still not opened and it finally opened for business on 1 April. We then found out that the most seating available would be 120 while we were initially given a figure of 150. We currently have 140 attendees - it seems to fluctuate from day to day. In any case, we were fortunate enough to get space in the Fort Bragg Officers' Club. We are working on the menu as of press time but we are shooting for a good one needless to say. The social will consist of a cocktail hour from 6:30pm to 7:30pm and dinner from 7:30pm till approximately 9:00pm. Coat (tie optional) for gentlemen and appropriate dress for the ladies. Transportation to and from the Officers' Club will be available at Moon Hall at 5:45pm and will depart at 6:00pm.

#### **Chapter Breakfast**

The Chapter Breakfast will be held at the Main NCO Club from 8:00am to 10:00am. This is a working affair for Chapter members only. The NCO Club is within walking distance from Moon and Hardy Halls.

#### Check In

If you have reservations at Moon or Hardy Hall you must check in at Moon Hall to receive your room key. The 82<sup>nd</sup> Abn Div Assn will have a check in desk in the lobby of one of the halls which will furnish you with a packet of information, tickets to any function you paid for and a name tag.

The Chapter will have a Hospitality Suite in Hardy Hall. Room number will be posted in the lobby of both Moon and Hardy Halls. We will have a registration desk in the Hospitality Suite to furnish you with a packet of information should there be any changes after publication of this newsletter. You will receive a Chapter name tag to insert in the Assn plastic name tag along with other items. Hours of operation of the Hospitality Suite will be posted at the door. The Suite will not be opened during major events such as the parade, jump, Assn Social, etc.

As indicated in the Paraglide, the Division will furnish transportation to all of the functions such as the museum, Assn Social, Division parade and jump. Bus transportation for these functions always leaves from in front of Moon Hall and returns to Moon Hall after the function is completed.

Continued on page 2.

It is recommended that if you are traveling to Fayetteville by air you notify Bob Murray at the address/telephone number indicated else where in this publication. We will attempt to have bus at the airport to pick you up in a timely manner. Be advised you may have as much as an hours wait from past experience.

#### HELP!

The Chapter will need a few volunteers to assist in manning the Registration Desk, unofficial bartender, transportation coordinator and general handyman in assisting in stocking the Suite. If you are interested, contact Jack Damron ASAP so he can plan his activities. Remember, only two people have been trying to put this together and now we need some help!

#### **Red Devils Found**



Thanks to Rodger Jacobson, the Chapter's "Road Running Recruiter", the following Red Devil Troopers have been found in the past two months. If you know any of these troopers, and

want to contact them let your Secretary, Jack Damron, know and he will send you their address etc. Each individual has received a complimentary copy of a past newsletter and an information sheet concerning the Chapter. It doesn't hurt for our Chapter members to contact their old buddies and bring them into the Chapter. We need your help too!

Adamczyk, Edward (D/51-54); Anweiler, Robert (G/54-56); Bitner, Billy H. (SPT/51-53); Black, Larry E. (Unit UNK/51-53); Blankenship, Bobby R. (B/51-53); Brock, Leavey (K/51-54); Cassidy, Edward J. (B/51-53); Casteel, Clarence J. (B/519/51-53); Chayan, Manuel (A/51-53); Conklin, Ralph L. (A/54-56); Csarmogusky, James F. (519/51-56); Dahlstrom, William L. (519/53-55); Driewer, Stewart W. (HQ1/51-56); Dunn, Roland J. (B/51-53); Emzor, Elddren W. (A/51-54); Endean, Fred K. (M/51-53); Erbeck, Fred C. (M/51-53); Falardrau, Richard W. (K/55-56); Finke, Delbert J. (K52-56); Frank, Roger A. (K/54-56); Fromme, William J. (MED/51-53); Fryslie, Michael (K/53-56); Gardini, John L. (519/52-55); Garland, Adrian E. (K/51-54); Garry, Ronald P. (K/55-56); Gleason, Rhett W.

(M/54-56); Goulet, Romeo H. (SPT/51-55); Grauel, Millard L. (D/51-54); Green, Jack A. (C/54-55); Grenier, John L. (K/55-56); Grimsley, Edwin E. (MED/51-53); Harvey, Perce P. (HQ3/54-56); Headland, Thomas N. (L/55-56); Hicks, Tommie O. (C/53-56); Hill, Carroll R. (MED/51-55); Infield, Gail E. (F/51-53); Kleinlein, Glen (D/51-53); Lehman, James (Co. UNK/55-56); Lehmann, Loren A. (L/55-56); Leister, J. L. (M/53-55); Lord, William L. (SPT/51-53); Nasi, Nilo W. (SVC/53-55); Oxendine, Bn J. (K/53-56); Orth, Alfred M. (B/51-53); Patschull, Leo (K/54-56); Pearl, Horace R. (K/51-54); Pohl, Irwin R. (MED/51-54); Pratt, Richard E. (K/54-56); Raines, Vernon E. (Co. UNK/51-53); Rankin, Kenneth P. (MED/55-56); Reshke, John (K/55-56); Schroder, Ronald H. (K/53-56); Scramuzza, Joseph J. (M/51-54); Sipe, Fred L. (A/51-53); Smiley, Glenn (K/54-55); Sowers, Galon (H/51-54); Southwick, Gary P. (K/55-56); Spence, James R. (D/53-54); Starleper, Samuel F. (Co. UNK/51-54); Starrett, David C. (HQ3/51-53); Steinmetz, Rolnald A. (MED/51-53); Stevens, Mervin E. (M/51-53); Stubbs, Ivan E. (598/51-54: Sumner, Carl M. (M/53-55); Temesvary, Tibor (K/53-56); Terwilliger, Bruce E. (M/53-54); Thomas, James A. (HQ2/53-54); Thompson, Robert (SVC/53-56); Tobey, J. C. (SVC/51-54); Turiss (SVC/51-53); Vacante, Samuel J. (I/51-54); Van Every, Peter (K/53-56); Vittorelli, Joseph J. (598/53-55); Vrtis, Charles (B/320/51-54); Warnkin, Delbert J. (I/51-54) and Witherington, John (K/54-56).

# **New Chapter Members**



Welcome to our newest Chapter members who just dropped in or changed their status to All Americans (Life) members. They are: **Edwin F. Armfield**, Sious Falls, SD (519/53-56); **Roy Barbosa**, Houston, TX (SPT/51-53); **Bobby R. Blankenship**, Berwick, LA (C/51-53); **James** 

**E. Findley**, Ottumwa, IA (K/55-56); **Tommie O. Hicks**, Gay, WV (510/52-56); **John W. Hughes**, Elizabethton, TN (HHC1/64-66); **Joseph G. Kilcoin**, Mann's Choice, PA (SPT/54-55); Continued on page 3

William L. Lawrence, Banning, CA (A/53-56); Terry V. Lee, Lincoln, NE (A3/65-66); Scott, A.

Long, Vanceboro, NC (CSC2/81-85) Charles R. McGurk, Camden, NJ (MED/55-56); Jacob H. Panzer, Brooklyn, NY (HQ1/51-53); Henry Perkins, Harlingen, TX (I/54-56) and Gordon Schmauch, Tacoma, WA (B2/71-83).

#### New All Americans (Life)

**Daniel M. Heller**, Concord, NH (I/508/68-69); **Joseph H. Maio**, Colorado Springs, CO (L/54-56); **Claude L Morse**, Chelmsford, MA (MED/55-56); **Warren R. Wilkins**, West Islip, NY (C/51-53) and **Ronnie H. Wilson**, Haleyville, AL (HQ3/55-56).

# **Taps**



**MSG** (**R**) **Frank Toledo,** Clarksville, TN (H/51-52). 15 February 2001.

**Dale Titler**, Middletown, DE (M/51-53). No further information is available.

# **Chapter Boosters**



320<sup>th</sup> Airborne Field Artillery Association; James Adams (598/54-56); David M. Bell (D/51-56); Norman l. Beneke (L/51-54); Bill J. Bidleman (E/51-53); Aristeo Blanco (C/51-54); Bobby R. Blankenship (B/51-53); Charles Bostic (H&H/51-54); John F. Brown (E/51-54); David H. Burns (H/51-54); H. Ray Caldwell (HQ3/55-56); Anthony Cantillo, Jr. (F/51-54); Joseph B. Catey (A1/66-68); Leslie Crocker (L/51-54); Herbert L. Cronin (C/51-54); Jack K. Damron (HQ1/54-57); LTC (R) James K. Damron; Marvin Darby ((L/51-

54); Joseph L. Davis (B/51-56); Willie F. Davis (G/54-56); Marvin Darby (M/51-54); Roy E. Dickison (L/51-52; Milton Embree (D/51-54); Alexander R. Elliot (SPT/55-56); Robert Figueredo (D/51-53); Don C. Fjoslein (519/52-54); Samuel D. Gillespie (L/54-56); Richard H. Glass (E/67-68); Kenneth L. Glynn (L/51-54); Richard S. Gohl (C/54-55); Jerry T. Grubbs (A/51-54);

Daniel Hogan (598/52-53); Armando C. Juarez (I/51-54); Leamon Kendrick (HQ1/55-56); CSM (R) Arthur Kilgore (SVC/51-53); James J. Lammle (MED/55-56); Thomas R. Lane (A/51-52); Lino Laruz

(C/42-44); Terry V. Lee (A3/65-66); Joseph Lesniak (C/51-52); MG (R) Thomas P. Lynch (H&H/51-52); Dr. Duane Mabeus (G/52-54); William J. Mehling (HQ2/51-52); George W. McClain (SVC/50-53); William F. Moran (I/45-46); Robert T. Murray (B/51-53); George A. *Nichols* (A/51-54); *Lawrence F. O'Connor* (A/51-52); Ralph N. Pelliccio (SPT/51-54); Lee Perttu (E/54-56); Matthew A. Pisano (C/51-53); Peter Pisanti (HQ1/51-52); *Carl Porter* (D/45-46); *Peter Radash* (HH1/63-64); Armando M. Reyes (HQ1/51-53); Steve W. Roberts (70-71); Harry Roll (H/44-46); Theodore Schonhans (519/51-54); Hal L. Scott (SVC/54-57); Roy Shaw (HQ2/51-53); Frank Seif (M/53-55); Curtis R. Sherrill (H/51-52); Walter O. Stacey (HQ2/51-52); Keith R. Stevens (B/54-55); George I. Stoeckert (42-46); Tom J. Stolfi (B3/65-66); Robert D. Taylor (E/51-53); Jerry R. Umlor (B/52-54); Walter VanCoppenolle (HQ1/51-53); Alan R. Vittori (A2/72-74); Walter B. Welton (H&H/51-53); Jack F. Wheeler (HQ2/51-55); Robert W. Wright (598/55-56); Raymond Wujcik (C320/51-52) and Richard Yates (HQ320/51-52).

# **Treasurers Report (Year 2000)**

Balance as of Dec. 31, 1999	\$2805.84
Income for 2000	11,561.16*
Totals for 2000	\$14,367.00

Disbursements for 2000 \$9881.57\*\*

New worth as of 31 Dec. 2000 \$4,485.43+

- + Chapter new worth increased \$1,679.59 from 1999.
- \* Income was from the following sources: Dues, rebate from National, Chapter sales, checking account interest, prizes and donations.
- \*\* Disbursements included: Dues to National, costs of sales items, convention delegates, donations, office expenses (supplies, phone, postage, newsletter and web site).

# Chapter Changes - Please Read!

Effective with receipt of this newsletter several changes will be made in the operations of your Chapter. The new mailing address for the Chapter is: Continue on page 4

508<sup>th</sup> Airborne Chapter 26164 Waterfowl Lane Punta Gorda, FL 33983-6231

The telephone number is: (941) 629-7653

This change of address is reflected on the front cover of this newsletter as well as in the instructions for mailing an application for membership. The previous address was a personal mail box in Tucson and the mail box will be cancelled.

A change of address has been made in ordering Chapter memorabilia. That address is now:

The 508<sup>th</sup> Airborne Chapter 3680 West Mesa Ridge Trail Tucson, AZ 85742-8841.

Chairman Bob Murray can also be reached at the above address.

Why the changes? It will bring the processing of membership applications (and renewals) directly to the Chapter Secretary who is responsible for maintaining the Chapter Data Base. He will closely check submitted applications to insure <u>ALL</u> items contained in the application are completed.

Applications with incomplete data will be returned to the sender. We have been receiving quite a bit of flack from National concerning incomplete applications. National needs all of the data for their program. Effective August 2001 (the start of the 2002 recruiting year), the Chapter will require a completed application for all annual members. This includes new annual and affiliate memberships, renewals and AAM (Life Memberships). Prior to the start of the membership drive for the year 2002, which starts immediately after the National Convention in August, you will again be reminded of the requirement for a completed application form.

# **Down Memory Lane**

508th PIR — March - April 1944

On March 14 the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 508<sup>th</sup> loaded into C-47s for a training drop and problem to keep their skills honed.

During the drop one C-47 threw a propeller for its right engine and began to lose altitude. The troopers quickly exited the aircraft while the pilot desperately tried to keep this aircraft above the jumpers in the air. Chute after chute was plucked from the air by wings and tail as the aircraft plunged earthward. Seven members of the 508<sup>th</sup> and four crew members were killed in this tragic accident.

On April 4 the long attachment of the 508<sup>th</sup> to the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division came to an end. The Regiment was placed under the direct control of the First Allied Airborne Army. Immediately the Regiment packed up and moved by truck to the railroad station at Laon. Once again boarding the 40-and-8s the troopers were moved across France, arriving the next day at Chartres, southwest of Paris. Here the Regimental CP was established and the Regiment went to nearby airfields, prepared to jump on forty-eight hours notice to liberate prisoner of war camps if the Germans resorted to atrocities.

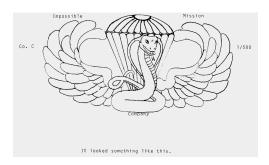
#### 508th ARCT — April, 1954

On 8 April 1954 the Regimental Combat Team was reorganized at Fort Campbell, KY as a General Reserve Class 1 unit. The Regiment received additional troops and began intensive training.

#### Cobra Co. 1/508 - Vietnam

In a round about way we received a letter from The Vietnam Veterans Group, San Quentin. The letter came to us via Baltimore Md, back to California, then to Arizona, and finally to the Editor.

Tom Northrop writes requesting information concerning the C Company, 1/508th emblem adopted by the Company while in Vietnam. If anyone has a photo, please let your editor know. It looks similar to the drawing below.



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# 320th AFA Assn Reunion - Clarksville, TN - Sept. 27 - 29

The 320<sup>th</sup> Airborne Field Artillery Association will hold its reunion at the Quality Inn, Clarksville, TN. Room rates have been negotiated at \$45.00 per day plus appropriate taxes. As usual the reunion is open to all 320<sup>th</sup> troopers and troopers from the 508<sup>th</sup> ARCT. For those of you who have never attend this function, you don't want to miss it.

Thursday, September 27. Check in and hospitality room. Free time.

Friday, September 28. Check in, general membership meeting and hors d'oeuvres for lunch.

Saturday, 29 September. Picnic at noon, hospitality room and evening banquet. Active duty guests will attend.

	n. Make check payable to the 320 <sup>th</sup> AFA	A and remit with registration form printed
below.	CUT	
	ld Artillery Association, 62 Belair Blvd	
	•	,
Name		
Address		
Telephone N0	Email Address	
Guest Name		
Guest Name		
Guest Name		
Number of Person X \$50.00		
that you are with the 320 <sup>th</sup> AFA 23. All rooms must be guarante only be guaranteed by credit can	Assn. You can also complete the form led with a credit card number or check by cd. King and double rooms are \$45.00 pl	(913) 645-9048. Inform the Desk Clerk below and send to the motel NLT August y August 23. After August 23, rooms can lus tax (1 or 2 people).
Quality In	nn Downtown, 803 North Second St., C	Clarksville, TN 37040
Name	Telephone No	
Address		
Arrival Date	Departure Date	
Room type requested		
Credit Card Name	Card No	Exp. Date

This room is requested for attendance at the 320th Airborne Field Artillery Association Reunion

#### **News From National**

#### **National Airborne Day**

The effort continues and we need the assistance of all members to make this well deserved resolution a reality. We did it in 1999 and 2000, and we must do it again this year; practice makes perfection. Please write or email your senators asking them to sponsor Senate Resolution (SR16) as introduced by Senator Strom Thurmond for SC on 31 January 2001. Let's make it happened in the old Airborne fashion!

### **Paraglide Editor**

Six applicants applied for the position. After a thorough review of all, Mrs Doneva Wolf of Reva, VA was selected for the job on an interim basis. She is the daughter of one of our AAM members, Don De Grand Pre-Washington DC Chapter. The interim appointment was made by President Beekman pending final approval by the Board of Directors during All American Week. She and her husband Dale will attend All American Week. Letters expressing our thanks and appreciation were dispatched to the other five applicants.

# **Membership Letters**

**Robert H. Cooper** (C/51-54) writes: Here is my \$100.00 lifetime membership fee.

The following is info regarding the Guinea Pig Platoon of 1951, of which I was one of the 50 so called "volunteers." (See Red Devil Digest Sep - Oct 2000).

Our daily routine was to arise at 3:30 or 4:00am, provide a urine and blood sample and receive a syringe of a milky liquid in the amount of the blood drawn. One of the Doctors told me the liquid was Sodium Salicylate (aspirin). During training hours the Doctors were always close by, asking questions and making notes. We would sometimes receive other types of injections during the day. Once we were given a shot in the shoulder and was told it was adrenalin - we almost immediately began to shake violently.

I do not know what this thing was all about, but I am certain it was not for the reasons given. At the time I had my suspicions, and even more so when after leaving the Army in 1954 I found my blood type had changed from type B Neg. to B Pos.

Doctors here are at a loss to explain how this happened?

# **Army Serial Number (ASN)**

Our Vice Chair Rodger Jacobson is still seeking Army Serial Numbers of those persons who served during the draft years. He would like to know all of you who served as <u>enlisted men</u>, and had the prefix RA or US, to contact him and supply your name, Army Serial Number (to include prefix), city and state you entered the service from. If you sent in this information before disregard this request.

# **Chapter Officers**

# Chairman/TreasurerVice ChairmanRobert T. MurrayRodger Jacobson3680 West Mesa Ridge TrailBox 14Tucson, AZ 85742-8841Hazel Green, WI 53811Tel. (520) 881-8657Tel. (608) 854-2317E-mail:E-mail:rtm508@aol.comreddevil508@hotmail.com

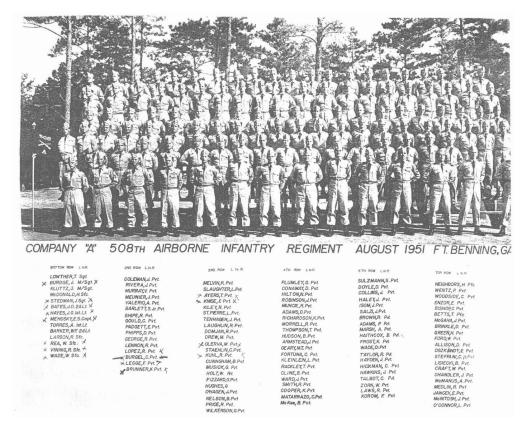
#### **Secretary**

Jack K. Damron 26164 Waterfowl Lane Punta Gorda, FL 33983 Tel. (941) 629-7653 E-mail: Jdamron@red-devils.org

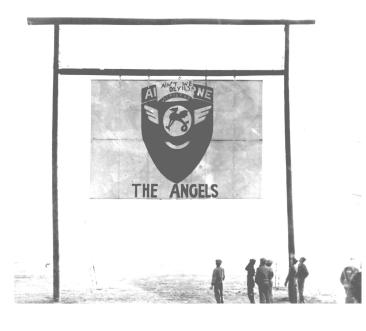
Moving? Let Us Know!		
Name		
New Add	dress	
City, Sta	ite, Zip+4	
New Te	l. #	
Perm	Temp	Dates
	nail address	
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Due to the amount of space taken up by displaying the front page (address) and back page (Sales and Application Forms) of the newsletter, the Chapter is discontinuing the display these pages. The eleven color logos on the address page takes up a great deal of space and causes an inordinate amount of time to download the newsletter. This is especially true for those of you who do not have the most up to date computer or are not on a fiber optic network. The sales and application forms can still be down loaded from the web site. Any picture(s) printed on the bottom of the hard copy address page will be displayed as the last page of the web page newsletter so those of you who access the web page will miss nothing..



Submitted by Charles M. Burgel (A/51-53) Jan. - Feb. 2001 Issue



The picture to the left will bring back memories to the Red Devils stationed at Fort Campbell, Ky prior to the ARCT's departure to Japan in July, 1955. The 11<sup>th</sup> Abn Div banner was located to the right of the road leading into the Fort from the main gate off of US 41. One dark evening unidentified Red Devils superimposed the 508<sup>th</sup> ARCT shoulder patch over the 11<sup>th</sup> Abn Div patch. In lieu of the AIRBORNE TAB, the unknown Red Devils had printed the words "Ain't we Devils." As those of you who were there, you know there was an intense rivalry in all fields between the "Angels" and the "Red Devils." As an unbiased Red Devil, your Secretary can say we beat their butts!

Picture submitted by James J. Carbonel (L/55-56) Mar.- Apr. 2001 Issue

Submitted by James J Carbonel (L/55-56)