

CLARKSVILLE, TENNESSEE REUNION



DEVILS



DIGEST



December 2009

www.red-devils.org

Vol. 4 No. 4

CLARKSVILLE REUNION

By Ken Hamill

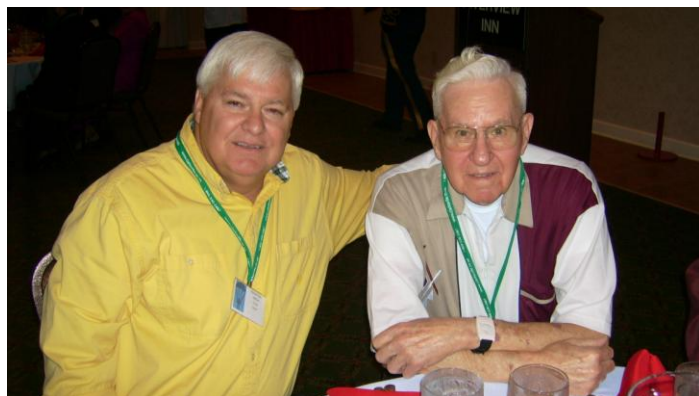
I arrived at the Riverview Hotel in Clarksville, TN in late afternoon Thursday. It was a fine place, clean rooms, good price and a five minute walk from downtown restaurants and a micro brewery. Rodger and Leone Jacobson did their normal great job of greeting and registering all of us. Their list of people attending shows 118 folks total, 92 were 320th FA vets and their guests, 26 were 508 ARCT vets and their guests. I was assured that our 508 Colors would be safe, so they were hung next to the 320th Red Pennant in the hospitality room. A Fort Campbell tour had been arranged by the Support Company Association for Friday. They had room on the bus and invited everyone to join them. Two soldiers escorted us, acting as driver and tour guide. We visited an indoor electronic range, the Post Museum and had lunch with the troops. We shot service rifles and light machine guns, spent a couple of hours at the Museum and had a steak dinner with all the trimmings for \$4.25. A very nice day indeed. A

508 Meeting and Election was advertised and took place Friday at 5:00 PM. Members present were Jean Ashcraft, Claude Brown, James Christy, Walt Ducharme, Alex Elliott, Bennie Estes, Bill Fernandez, Delfo Ferranti, Speedy Gonzales, Ken Hamill, Judd Haverkost, Rodger Jacobson, Jim Lammle, Cary Peel, Tony Robles, James Strickland, Lyle Taylor and AC York. The minutes of the September 2007 meeting were read and accepted. The treasurer's report was read and approved. Members were reminded that Joe Montoya dropped his Chairmanship of the 508 Chapter and Frank Seif, our treasurer volunteered to fill that Chair rather than let the Chapter flounder, but did not want to remain Chairman. Ken Hamill was nominated for Chairman and was voted in without opposition. There were no nominations or interest in the Vice Chair or Secretary positions. Lyle Taylor became an All American Member of our Chapter during the meeting. Business meetings were held by the 320th FA Assn and Support Company on Saturday morning. . Support Company decided they will visit Fort Benning for their next annual gathering September 2010. Most of us attended the picnic arranged by Rodger at the Kentucky-Tennessee Chapter of the 101 Abn Div Assn Clubhouse. They served hamburgers, hot dogs, potato salad, beans and cole slaw. Shannon Cash came dressed in his reenactor uniform and gave an interesting talk about his skydiving club. David Smith, the 320th Chair did a nice job as the Banquet Master of Ceremonies. The banquet food was very good. The 508 was allowed time on the podium. I read the names of eleven people with 508 connections who attended the Clarksville Reunion in 2007, but have since, passed on – Tom Archibald, Jack Damron, Tom Francis, Jack Greene, Paul Lavendar, Joe Montoya, Fred Rapp, Vernon Rentfro, Ted Thompson, Toney Trent and...



Bill Fernandez & Alex Elliott at 11th Airborne Division Monument, Fort Campbell Museum

...Bruce Tyler. I recognized Rodger Jacobson, Cary Peel and Jim Strickland for their Chapter efforts and the crowd joined in the applause. Hooaaah to Bill Fernandez and Speedy Gonzales for being awarded "The Honorable Order of St. Barbara" thanks to Rodger Jacobson. The 320th FA Association conducted a very good reunion. Many of their staff and members are Vietnam era vets. A large group of even younger vets who served in Berlin were present and two were elected to staff. Good job 320th. The people attending, young and old, 320th and 508th mixed and enjoyed each other's company. I did hear a negative comment about all the welcome signs being directed to 320th Vets and no signs of welcome for the 508 Vets. Reminder - The 508 does not plan or conduct the Reunion. We are guests of the 320th FA Assn. I was a little miffed, when at the Banquet our 508 Colors were held up and the question was asked - Who does this belong to? But overall, it was another pleasant gathering of old soldiers, some blue & some red legs, Airborne!!!!



Richard & Bennie Estes



Andy & Peggy Woolsey



Bill Fernandez, Speedy Gonzales, Alex Elliott, Bennie Estes, James Christy & Jim Strickland



Ray & Ludmilla Calvez, Jean & Jane Ashcraft, Pat & AC York



Jim Strickland, Jerry Strickland and James Christy



Jim Lammle & Jack Harkins



Ikuko Elliott & Rita Fernandez



Ray & Linda Fitch



SPC Mussorin & SGT Roberts Tour Guides



Dewey & Cary Peel



Leone Jacobson & Joan Ducharme



Frank Gonzales



Pat & AC York



Bill & Rita Fernandez



Walt & Joan Ducharme



Alex & Ikuko Elliott



Tony Robles & Eugene Belkiewicz



Rodger Jacobson & Walt Ducharme



Jeff Hale of Museum & Martin Crain Donator



Bobbie Messer & Jan Yuhas



Hank & Mary Lou Groat



Speedy, Frank & Amber Gonzales



Sue & Laurie Montoya



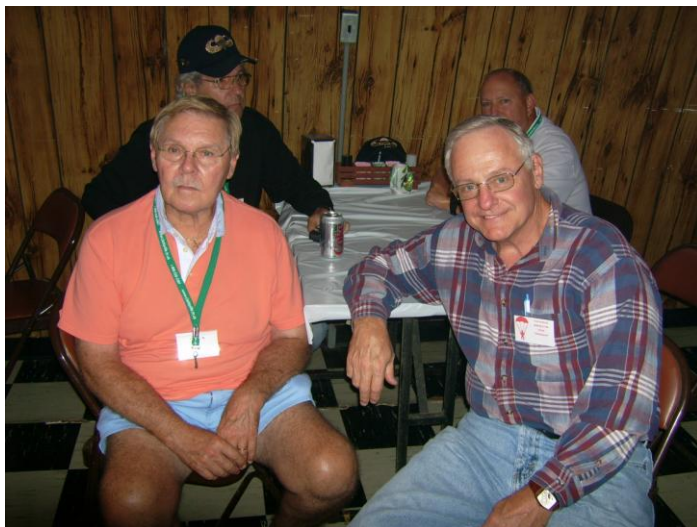
Cary Peel & Latham Wells



Dorothy Griffith & Emma Miller



Leone Jacobson, Ken Hamill & Ludmilla Calvez



Bill McCreedy & Tom Walinski



America & Sharon Chiesa



Sandra Tennill & Mike Birthelmer

FLORIDA ALL AIRBORNE DAYS

By Ken Hamill

The Waterfront Inn was great. My room had a mini fridge, was clean and beautiful at a cost of \$89 plus tax. The Hospitality Room had snacks, hot dogs, Swedish meatballs, beer, booze and soft drinks. The Central Florida host chapter had plenty of good volunteers to welcome and serve us. The hotel bar area was loud and jovial when I passed by around 7:30 PM. I had a western omelet Friday in the hotel restaurant for \$7.40 with coffee. I took a few pictures of incoming folks at the hotel entry. The hospitality room had two dozen or more people there. Several of us took the bus tour of the Villages which was fun and very informative. Three of us walked around the square that evening looking at all the stores and restaurants. There was live music and dancing in the square. There was also karaoke at some of the pubs. We ate at a middle class restaurant, good food and a reasonable price. We ate ice cream on a back porch facing the Lake. There were no bugs out. It was supposed to rain, but it stayed dry for us. Saturday morning I went to the hospitality room around 8:30 and had coffee with pastry. Meeting started at 9:30, It was too crowded... Steve Frazer, Manny De Jesus and Don Van Alstyne spoke. Most attendees were from Florida except the Association staff, President, Past Presidents plus two from the Gavin Chapter and me. Next year's Florida All Airborne Reunion will be held in Orlando, Steve Leonard, Ken Glynn and Neil Parkin will be primary hosts I'm told. The meeting was over by mid morning. I called friends who lived in the Villages. They picked me up and took me on an extended tour. Had lunch at Five Guys, a famous burger place down there. I went to the banquet room around 6:00 PM and got my new camera ready. The banquet went well. Good food and pleasant people. Don Van Alstyne MC'd. Speakers were Executive Director Manny De Jesus, President Steve Frazer, Incoming President Bill Eberle, PP Rich Becker and PP Tom Graham. All were interesting and brief. Hats off to the Central Florida Chapter for a very nice reunion. I look forward to the 2010 All Airborne Florida Reunion.



Don & Cecelia Van Alstyne at The Villages, Florida



Rich Bacon & Jim Taylor at The Villages, Florida



Helen & Ken Glynn at The Villages, Florida



Jack & Lorraine Cimino at The Villages, Florida



Tom Leonard, Judy & Steve Leonard - The Villages



Dominic DiVito & Joe DiSanto - The Villages



Carl White & Carole Layne at The Villages



Chris & Mike Brownridge at The Villages



Fred & Judy Breen at The Villages



Ed Britt & Karen Blair at The Villages



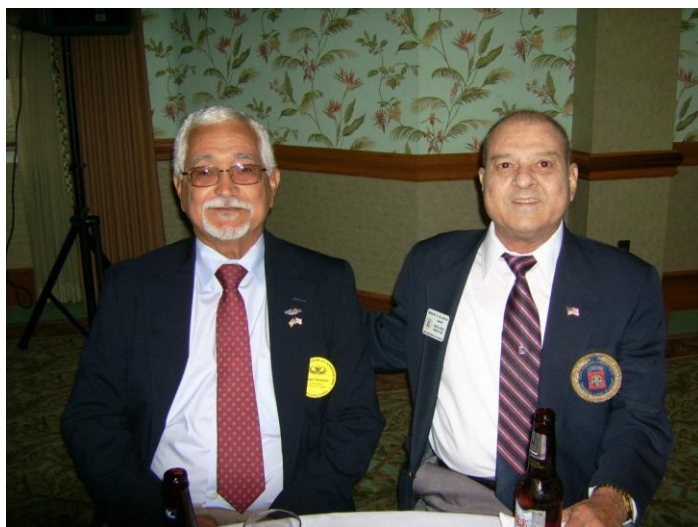
Barbara Eberle & Maggie De Jesus – The Villages



Fred & Dorothy Strohm at The Villages



French & Marie Shannon at The Villages



Angel Vasquez & Manny De Jesus at The Villages



Hiram Diaz Gonzales & Sly Sulton – The Villages



Susan & Bill McNeil



Len & Marcie Fulm



George Zablocki & Ed Kory



Carman Rodriguez & Cecelia Van Alstyne



Regis & Molly Rossa



Julius Eisner & Eileen Broadnell



Rich Becker & Tom Graham



Wayne & Cindy Steffen



Felix Diaz Rosa & Jose Perez Ortiz



Irene & Willie Rivera



Robert & Helga Buffington



Mary Ann & Jack Flinn

VETERANS DAYS AT ARLINGTON

By Ken Hamill

I Arrived at the Hampton Inn, Alexandria, VA about 2:00 PM on Sunday, 8, November. I had a room in 5 minutes and unloaded quickly. The room was attractive, clean and had a microwave and fridge. The hospitality room was serving by 4:00 PM. Hard and soft beverages with pretzels and chips were served every day by the Washington, D.C. Chapter volunteers. Paul De Vries of the Tucker Chapter coordinated the event. Bob Farver of the Tucker Chapter coordinated the purchase and delivery of the floral wreaths. Our 82nd National Office paid for food and beverages used in the hospitality room. The chef hired to cater the event served a nice lunch and dinner to us on Monday and Tuesday. The Hampton had a very nice free breakfast. We were limited to ten vehicles to convoy through the beautiful cemetery while honoring the various units and gravesites and it worked fine. On Monday morning the 82nd Abn Div Assn wreath was laid at the tomb of the unknowns, preceded by a change of guard ceremony. The 508th PIR monument was next. About 50 people were present while I briefed them on 508 history at the site. Then the wreath was uncovered and we all saluted the colors while taps was played. A very sharp color guard and bugler were provided by the 82nd Airborne Division. Similar ceremonies followed at the gravesites of 1SG Leonard Funk, General Roscoe Robinson and General Matthew Ridgway. Ceremonies were also conducted at memorials to the 82nd Abn Div; 187 ARCT, 555 PIB and 11th Abn Div. The weather was beautiful again on Tuesday when we bestowed honors at the Memorials to Women in the Military Service, 505 PIR, 17th Abn Div, 13th Abn Div, 173rd Abn Bde, 325th GIR, Golden Bde, Team 162 Red Hats, 551 PIB, and the 504 PIR. Wreaths were laid on Wednesday at the WWII, Korean and Viet Nam Veterans memorials in extremely wet weather. The crowd was half that of last year making it easy to find a parking place within 500 yards of the National Mall. I had reservations at Quantico and left D.C. at noon.



**Tomb Guard and US Army Band Bugler Laying
82nd Abn Div Association Wreath**



**Steve Frazer, Santiago Tejerina (New Executive
Director) and Tomb SGT of Guard Laying Wreath**



Ken Hamill briefing at the 508 PIR Memorial



Group at 13th Airborne Division Memorial



Group at 325 GIR Memorial



Doug Dillard briefs at the 551 PIB Memorial



Salutes at Golden Brigade Memorial



Karen Sinkovitz at the Red Hat Team 162 Memorial



US & VN Group at MACV Team 162 Site



Paul De Vries & Santiago Tejerina at Hampton Inn



Ron Rath & Paul De Vries at 504 PIR Memorial



Jack Schlegel 508 PIR WWII, Santiago Tejerina and Assn President Steve Frazer at WWII Memorial



Saluting Colors at Korean War Memorial



Steve Frazer briefs with Ogy Sniedze & Chufi Giaffo at Korean War Memorial



The Vietnam War Wall Memorial prior to the Ceremonies



Bob Farver & Michael Lester



Paul De Vries briefing at 82nd Abn Div Memorial



Sandy & Charlie Wagner



Women's Memorial Looking Out Main Entry



Ray Hilgart & Dick Yates



John Kormann & Del Townsend at 17th Abn Div Memorial



Michael Lester briefing at Leonard Funk Gravesite



BG Wilma L. Vaught speaks at Women's Memorial



SPC Gilbert, SSG Pugh, SPC McClellan, SPC Rasler, SPC Battle

OUR QUARTERMASTER KEN GLYNN

Our Quartermaster Ken Glynn recently had an opportunity to help out the widow of a 508 veteran. The following edited thank you letter tells the story – “My wife put all the stuff you sent me in a shadow box, with the wings dead center on top of a small flag, then the patch and lapel pin under that”. “It was really neat!” “The military rites went off real well, when I went to present the folded flag to the widow and said my statement, I slipped the shadow box up from under the flag and presented it to her also, she broke out in a big sob, no one knew why etc, etc” “She started to show everyone the wings etc...It was great”. “She told me later on she had given up hope that I would find any etc”. “I have been telling everyone at AMVETS that I stayed up all night trying to find some wings and found the 508th web page”. “I was so excited that I called your home and forgot it was 3 AM in Florida”. “Thank you so much”. “Tom Hagarty, Cedar Falls, Iowa”. Hooaaaah to Ken Glynn.

Winter Weekend Hilton Head Marriott

Marriott Resort Tel #888.511.5086, \$100 per day, 25 – 28 February 2010. Hosted by Vandervoort Chapter. Registration Fee of \$75.00 covers banquet, hospitality room, airport /Museum/Parris Island transportation and entrance fees. Mail check to Bill Eberle, 22 Big Woods Drive, Hilton Head, SC 29926 (843) 253-7964 or airborneben@hargray.com Registration form is available on our website News / Events or thru 508 Chairman if you don't have email.



This beautiful Support Company, 508th ARCT Association Challenge Coin was provided by Bill Fernandez. The 508 Chapter will have a challenge coin if the membership wants a coin and a suitable design is provided. Send idea's to Chairman.

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS 508 AIRBORNE CHAPTER



CHAIRMAN

Ken Hamill
2207 Coventry Drive
Columbus, GA 31904-5034
Telephone: 706.327.3207
E: khamill@mchsi.com



TREASURER

Frank Seif
PO Box 1462
Sun City, AZ 85372-1462
Telephone: 623.875.9016
E-Mail: fes508@cox.net



QUARTERMASTER

Ken Glynn
836 Glendale Street
Lakeland, FL 33803
Telephone: 863.682.3382
kglynn1@tampabay.rr.com

TAPS - 508th PARATROOPERS RECENTLY DECEASED

Regis T. Beattie, Pittsburgh, PA
How Co. 508 ARCT 1954-56, 3 Oct 2009

Harold Eby, Mount Joy, PA
C Co. 508 ARCT 1951-53, 7 Oct 2009

Patrick R. Guaydacan, Verdugo Chapter
320 AFAR 508 ARCT 1952-56, 4 Sep 2009

Richard Jimenez, Verdugo Chapter
3-508 1966-68, 25 Jun 2009

Charles E. Langille, Gavin Chapter
508 PIR 1946, 30 Jul 2009

Raymond J. Luscuskie, C. Jersey Chapter
E Co. 508 PIR 1946, 8 May 2008

Joseph L. Montoya, Clarksville, TN
320 AFAR 508 ARCT 1952-56, 11 Sep 2009

Gordon K. Smith, Alamo Chapter
508 PIR 1945?, 21 Sep 2009

TAPS - 508th PARATROOPERS CONTINUED

John F. Whipple, Olean, New York
Easy Co. 508 ARCT 1951-54, 25 Sep 2009

NEW MEMBER CORRECTION

James R. Beebe of Durand, MI
E & HQ2 Companies, 508 ARCT 1951-54

NEW ALL AMERICAN LIFE MEMBERS

Lyle O. Taylor of Beardstown, Illinois
Support Company 508 ARCT 1954-56
William V. Wright of Augusta, Georgia
Love Company, 508 ARCT 1955-56



Annual Members...50
Affiliate Members.. 17
All Americans.....302
Total Members.....369

TREASURERS REPORT 3rd Quarter

Opening Balance Checking.....	\$2036.24
Opening Balance Money Market.....	\$7735.95
Opening Balance 7/1/2009.....	\$9772.19
Receipts.....	\$2710.24
Expenses.....	\$3089.16
Ending Balance Checking.....	\$3393.27
Ending Balance CD.....	\$6000.00
Ending Balance 9/30/2009.....	\$9393.27

The John W. and Betty L. Carpenter Family sent a Thank You card for the Sympathy Card that they received from our 508 Airborne Chapter.

Annual Memberships expire on 31 December 2009. You are asked to send your dues to our Treasurer, PO Box 1462, Sun City, AZ 85372-1462. Why stay an annual member? All American Membership will cost \$100.00 if you are 50 years of age or older. All American Membership is good for life in the 508th Chapter and the 82nd Abn. Div. Assn. Membership Application on page 8.

Movers and Snow Birds are reminded to send your Change of Address to Chapter or National. The next Paraglide will be mailed out on January 15, 2009. Save our Assn 50¢

Name: _____ Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Quartermaster Sales Form----(Members Only)

Complete this form and mail your check payable to Kenneth Glynn along with your name and address in the box above to:
 Ken Glynn, 836 Glendale St., Lakeland, FL. 33803-4122

Please include shipping and handling charges in the amount column to the right of each item ordered.

ITEM/DESCRIPTION	QTY	SIZE (CIRCLE)	COST	SHIPPING/HANDLING	AMOUNT
Hat, White, Maroon Bill, Chap Logo, Embroidered		One Size Fits All	\$14.50	\$1.50 Each	
Hat, White, Maroon Bill, Chap Logo, Screened		One Size Fits All	\$12.00	\$1.50 Each	
Sweatshirt, Grey, Chapter Logo, Screened		M L XL *XXL *XXXL	\$22.00	\$3.50 + \$2 Each Additional	
Sweatshirt, White, Chapter Logo, Screened		M L XL *XXL *XXXL	\$22.00	\$3.50 + \$2 Each Additional	
Shirt, T, White, Chapter Logo, Screened		M L XL *XXL *XXXL	\$12.00	\$2.00 Each	
Shirt, Polo, Abn Maroon, Chap Logo Embroidered		M L XL *XXL *XXXL	\$22.00	\$3.50 + \$1.00 Each Additional	
Patch, 508th Abn Chapter (See 1, Below)			\$5.50	\$1.00 Each (3/\$1.50)	
Patch, 508th ARCT (See 1, Below)			\$5.50	\$1.00 Each (3/\$1.50)	
Patch, Para Red Devil (See 1, Below)			\$5.50	\$1.00 Each (3/\$1.50)	
Patch, 320th Abn FA Bn.			\$5.50	\$1.00 Each (3/\$1.50)	
Pin, 508th ARCT			\$3.00	No Charge	
Pin, Para Red Devil			\$3.00	No Charge	
*= Add an additional \$2.00 for each X above XL (XXXL size is a special order) 1= All patches can be purchased 3 for \$15.00 + Shipping and Handling. PLEASE ALLOW 2-4 WEEKS FOR DELIVERY				TOTAL \$	

WIL CHARETTE HONORED

The Golden Knights Monument, left, was dedicated at the Golden Knights Headquarters, Fort Bragg North Carolina on 22 August 2009. 508 Chapter and All American Member Wil Charette was a Charter Member of the Golden Knights. The names of the original 19 Golden Knights are engraved on the side of the monument. See photo below and note the name – “Charette, Wilfred J.A. (Squeak)”. Wil Charette was a Squad Leader in 2nd Platoon of Easy Company, 508 ARCT, Camp Chickamauga, Beppu, Japan and his Rifle Squad won the ATT's in 1956. Hooaaah Wil !!!!!



508 WARRIOR SFC JAMES BRASHER

I heard from our Chapter Warrior James Brasher He continues to work on his physical therapy and stays very busy. He was recently assigned a tasking that will keep him occupied for the next several weeks. James sent a great photo, see below of his Second Platoon, A Company 1-508 in Afghanistan. He is standing on the center Hum - V in the photo below. Hooaaaaah!!!



2nd Plat, A Co, 1 – 508 PIR Afghanistan

I spoke to Delton Plunkett of Corinth, MS and Baker Company, 508th ARCT 1953-56. Delton was fine and wanted info about Clarksville.



Ken Hamill, Chairman
508 Airborne Chapter
2207 Coventry Drive
Columbus, GA 31904-5034



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION (PLEASE PRINT)

508th Airborne Chapter, 82nd Airborne Division Association

☐ All American ☐ Renewal ☐ New Member ☐ Reinstatement

Enclosed \$15.00 for my annual dues for the year _____ which includes Paraglide subscription.

Name: _____ Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone Number: _____ E-Mail: _____

Last Rank Held: _____ Serial Number: _____

508th Unit (Fill In) Company: _____ Battery: _____ Battalion: _____

Major Unit (Select One) 2nd Abn Inf Bde: _____ 82nd Abn Div: _____ 508th ARCT: _____

193rd Inf Bde: _____ Golden Bde: _____ SETAF: _____ 173rd Abn Bde: _____

Dates of 508th Service: From: Month: _____ Year: _____ To: Month: _____ Year: _____

Present Spouse's # of

Occupation: _____ Single: _____ Married: _____ Name: _____ Children: _____

PLEASE MAIL TO: 508th Airborne Chapter, P. O. Box 1462, Sun City, AZ 85372-1462

**National Association requires rank, serial number and copy of DD214 or orders
indicating the award of the Parachutist Badge from initial applicants.**

*** \$8 Affiliate Members Only: I am presently a member of the _____ Chapter

I do / do not want to transfer to the 508 Chapter. Signature: _____