

AFGHANISTAN DONOR EFFORTS



DEVILS



DIGEST



September 2012

www.red-devils.org

Vol. 7 No. 3

AFGHANISTAN DONOR EFFORTS

By Ken Hamill

On 16 July 2012 I received the following Email: Ken, I just got another 4 boxes from you and will get them pushed out. I would not send any more boxes past about 5 August. I will head back about 10 August. I'll call you then and give you more details. If you would like to contribute, we should probably discuss with CSM Forro, about getting the 508 Chapter involved with the formal event when we get back. Ken, you have all been really great towards us. We appreciate all the items sent, and they have slowly been sent out to the 508 Paratroopers all over our area. They have put everything to good use, and recognize all the work that has been done. Thank you again. SGM William B Halbrook

The 2012 O'Neal Fund to Support our 508 Parachute Infantry Regiment Troops in Afghanistan has ended.

I sent our last four bushel apple boxes on 1 August. We owe a huge thank you to SGM Wm B. Halbrook, the 508 PIR Operations Sergeant Major for receiving and distributing our gifts to all the units. I had two names and addresses when starting this effort, the SGM and our wounded warrior of C 1-508. I sent 3 boxes to each, but our warrior was wounded again & sent to Bragg before receiving those first 3 boxes.

Thank you 508th Chapter Members and friends for donating to our O'Neal Fund to assist our 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment troopers serving in Afghanistan. Donor names follow with most recent donors shown in bold print:

Adams, William F.;	Beckwith, Walter M.;
Boring, Ronald R.;	Brown, Eric I.;
Brown, John F.;	Busiere, Albert Jr.;
Christy, JE Earl;	Cobb, Albert T. Jr.;
Coulter, William T.;	Davis, Willie F. Jr.;
Drew, Norman G.;	Ducharme, Walter J.;
Duncan, William H.;	Eckenrode, Mark;

Ehlinger, Thomas F. Sr.;	Eisentrou, William E.;
Ferranti, Delfo J.;	Flynn, Thomas F.;
Garcia, Rodolfo 187 Rakkasan Condor Chapter;	
Geilfuss, Edward H.;	Glynn, Kenneth L.;
Gomez, Vincent H.;	Gonzales, Franklin D.;
Gorder, Larry K.;	Grael, Millard L.;
Gravelle, Roger R.;	Hagans, Robert L.;
Hague, Douglas T.;	Hamill, Ken;
Haverkost, Gerald R.;	Hodge, Clifton A.;
Holland, Donald A.;	Jackson, Bobby J.;
Johnson, Donald R.;	Kelly, William D.;
Kimball, John E.;	LaBelle, Albert E.;
Lammle, James J.;	Larson, Allen F. Sr.;
Lewis, Edward E. Jr.;	Lux, Russell J. Jr.;
Mann, Robert S.;	Marsh, Robert J.;
McCants, John R. Jr.;	McCarthy, Patrick J.;
McClung, Orlan R.;	McCluskey, Clarence T.;
McHugh, John D. II;	McHugh, John D. II;
Measles, Tom;	Mehling, William J.;
Moore, James F.;	Nichols, George A.;
Norman, Robert A. Sr.;	O'Neal, Jared P.;
O'Neal, Thomas L.;	Peralta, Antonio;
Perttu, Leonard L.;	Rohrbaugh, Roy W.;
Seif, Frank;	Shaw, Roy;
Sicari, Frank P.;	Slocum, Edward A.;
Spurling, William H.;	Strickland, James A.;
Strickland, Jerry L.;	Synakowski, Joseph A.;
Support Company 508th ARCT Association;	
Synakowski, Joseph A.;	Thomas, Reese D.;
Thomas, Reese D.;	Vanderhoof, James H.;
Warzyn, Kenneth J.;	Watson, Allen D.;
Wheeler, Charles M.;	Yaiko, Leonard;
Younes, Raymond J.;	Younes, Raymond J.

The 76 individuals and 2 organizations that donated are listed above. They sent \$3916.00 to date. Our chapter will match these donations bringing the O'Neal Fund up to \$7832.00.

A hearty thank you: my Dentist Doctor Kowan, the Fort Benning Commissary, PX, Eyeglass World and Piggly Wiggly Supermarkets for supporting our Troops in Afghanistan with us.

NATIONAL CONVENTION 2012

By James A. Strickland

On August 8, 2012, about 850 paratroopers came together for the 82nd Airborne Division Association's 66th National Convention. The place was Monroeville / Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and it was called "Parachutes over Pittsburgh". The designated place for the assembly point was The Double Tree Hilton Hotel with two other points designated for overflow. I was one of those paratroopers and would be a delegate to the 82nd Airborne Division Association". We would spend four days there in fun and fellowship.

There was a very active convention schedule with meetings, sightseeing, river cruise, baseball game, visiting the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial, Casino, horse racing, golf, and numerous other activities. When not participating in any of these, there were numerous Hospitality Rooms available with free drinks of any type and food. The fifteenth floor of the hotel had a hospitality room from each Brigade Combat Team and the Division Association had a very large hospitality room on the first floor. The second floor of the hotel had a room for the Division Museum with a limited display. On this floor the Division Association, the Museum Gift Shop, and the Western Pennsylvania Chapter all had sales of airborne type items such as paratrooper wings, crest, all types of t-shirts, and many other items.

There were 360 veterans in attendance, with representatives from every hostility from WWII to the present. I had the opportunity to talk with old-timers with as many as five combat jumps, glidermen who participated in WWII invasions, and veterans of each war or conflict up to the present. We had approximately 500 active duty soldiers who were all very friendly and eager to tell us their stories and hear ours. They had some to tell since even the lower ranks had at least one combat tour and many of them had two or more. So they learned of the old army and we learned of the current army. The soldiers that we had these conversations with ranged in grade from privates and Non-Commissioned Officers up to Command Sergeants Major and Lieutenant to Lt. Colonel...

...This range of people gave you a feeling of the current leadership in today's Army. This is truly "THE" highlight of being able to participate in an event such as this, the coming together of the past and present and the immediate camaraderie that you feel.

One of the major events of the Convention was the Wounded Warriors Luncheon. This is normally closed to the general membership but the room that it was held in was large enough, that there were a number of vacant seats so an invitation was extended to fill those seats, to other personnel. The meeting was very inspirational and the keynote speaker was Rocky Bleier of the Pittsburgh Steelers. Rocky was a Vietnam Wounded Warrior and overcame his injuries to play football for the Pittsburgh Steelers in the National Football League which won the Super Bowl four times during his tenure. Rocky Bleier delivered a very inspiring message to us.

It was an honor to represent the "508th Airborne Chapter" as a delegate and it allowed me to see a different side of the Convention. It was disappointing that I met very few members from our Chapter; most of you don't realize what you are missing. The camaraderie, fellowship, and the coming together of the old and the new is a real experience. You see some old friends and make some new friends. You share information with active duty soldiers of all ranks, they learn of our Army and we learn of theirs, more specifically, the current 82nd Airborne Division. Join us next year and be a part of something great!!! Jim Strickland



Three Rivers and the City of Pittsburgh, PA



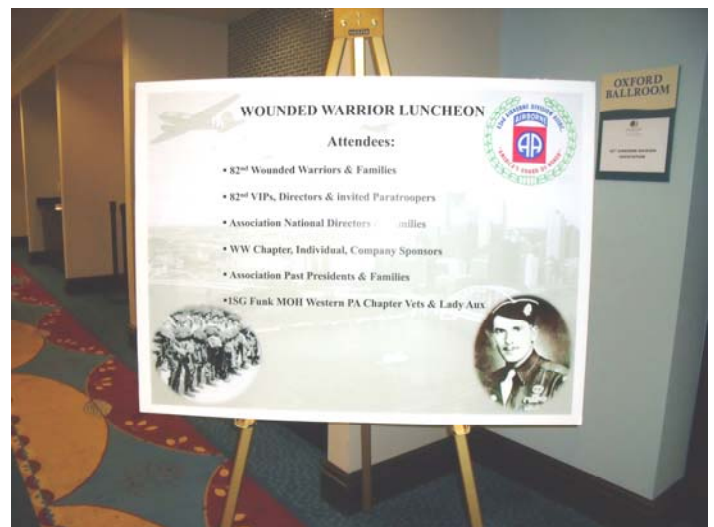
The Double Tree Hotel hosted the Convention



SGT Lauren Clodfelter & Jim Strickland



Jim & Jerry Strickland center near Color Guard



Wounded Warrior Luncheon advertisement



Three Rivers Stadium, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania



Duquesne Incline tour with great view of Pittsburgh

SUPPORT COMPANY 508 ARCT ASSN

By Ken Hamill

The Support Company, 508 Airborne Regimental Combat Team Association held their 10th annual reunion in Huntsville, AL 19-22 September, 2012. We arrived in early afternoon, unpacked and found the hospitality room. Goody bags were given to each individual or couple. We met first time attendees Paul & Shirley Jones and Norm & Bonnie Tracy. We knew everyone else and had a nice social hour until we broke for dinner. Most people ate at the Lone Star Restaurant next door.

Thursday, we had the host hotel free breakfast of bacon, sausage, scrambled eggs, toast, pastry and coffee between 7:00 and 8:00 AM. We boarded our chartered bus at 8:00. A lovely Redstone Arsenal employee gave a running account of Huntsville and Redstone Arsenal enroute. Three great presentations were offered starting with a professional briefing by the Army Second Recruiting Brigade. Unmanned Army aircraft systems were then explained and shown on slides and videos by a retired First Sergeant who was a savvy man. Actual smaller aircraft were on display for us to handle. Defense Intelligence Agency and Missile Intelligence people displayed numerous enemy missiles including SA-2, SA-3, SA-5, SA-7 and the Scud missiles used by Saddam against the U.S. and Israel. It was a very informative morning and we were treated like royalty by very intelligent and patriotic Americans. Our bus took us to the U.S. Space & Rocket Center. We were escorted to the Mars Cafe for lunch and then enjoyed a guided tour of their many space shot missiles and capsules. We met in our hospitality room at 5:30 then went to dinner at the Macaroni Grill.

Friday, following breakfast, we met for the Support Company, 508 ARCT Association meeting. Bill Fernandez read the minutes of the last meeting and briefed us. Bill also commented that the organization was supported mainly by donations and was doing well. Next year's reunion is scheduled for the second weekend of September will take place in the Clarksville / Nashville / Fort Campbell...

...area. 508 Chapter members will be invited on a limited basis. There may be room for 15 or 20 508 chapter members and we hope to fill up the bus. We left for the Huntsville Veterans Memorial at 9:45 AM riding with Speedy's son and daughter in law Frank and Amber Gonzales. A special ceremony was conducted by the Vietnam Veterans of Huntsville with the support of other military associations and the city of Huntsville. Our large 508 ARCT shoulder patch was displayed up front with the Vietnam Veterans placard. Our COL Heyward and Jim Strickland sat with the VIP's and were introduced to the crowd. We, Support Company, 508 ARCT Assn members were welcomed to the ceremony. Photos were taken and two speakers honored us and other vets. The Support Company Assn presented a wreath and purchased a brick to be laid in their veteran's walkway near the downtown Veterans Memorial – a truly beautiful place. We next visited the Veterans Memorial Museum. The museum is chock full of military items of all kinds – from Pith helmets to aircraft and tanks representing all branches of service. Our group of approximately 25 people was escorted by a lovely young lady who briefed us continually and answered any questions we might have. We made a fast photo stop at the Buffalo Soldiers Monument on our way back to the hotel. The Company Banquet was very well done. A memorial service honoring military who made the ultimate sacrifice and Company Association members who passed on this past year included the lighting of candles as the names were announced. The awards given to members present were nice and the recognition ceremonies were very well done. The buffet banquet was as good as it gets with plenty of choices. We were honored by the presence of City Administrator Rex Reynolds who was the guest speaker. Chairman Nero Tucker and his wife Carol of the Vulcan Chapter were guests. Barry Simpson of the Vulcan Chapter also attended. President Jim Strickland ran a good show. COL Heyward and Bill Fernandez made presentations and spoke briefly. We took photos and had a good time.

On Saturday we headed home after breakfast.

Sent: Sunday, June 24, 2012 2:28 AM
To: "Ken Hamill" <hamillk@knology.net>
Subject: 508 Packages Ken, We got the other boxes and they were shipped to Companies. Again, many thanks goes out to you and all of the people helping you. The items are helpful to the Soldiers out on the Combat Outposts that basically sleep and live in the dirt every day. The weather is getting hot, easily 105 and higher during the day, every day, and the fellas are getting after it. We work hard every day to ensure we are training the Afghan National Army, the Afghan Local Police, and the Afghan Uniformed Police to clear and secure their local regions from Taliban and Insurgent fighters to maintain security for their people. Tell everyone the 508th sends best regards and appreciates all they do for our Soldiers. Fury from the Sky, All the Way! SGM William B Halbrook

The second box of three boxes sent to 1SG Brasher of C Co, 1-508 PIR on 23 April was returned to my home on 30 June 2010. The large size (12" X 12" X 6") USPS Priority flat rate box was beat up and contained water flavoring and various shelf stable snacks. I ate one strawberry Nutri Grain cereal bar and it was good. I discarded some Nekot peanut butter cookie packs which had crumbled. Everything was carefully repacked into a bushel apple box and sent back to SGM Halbrook on 3 July.

Thank you **Joe Synakowski, Reese Thomas and Ray Younes** for donating a second time to the O'Neal Fund in 2012. Joe Synakowski of C Company, 508 PIR 1946 and Grand Island New York said "for the guys that can't give" and sent his best to "C" Company, 508 PIR. Reese Thomas of C Co & HQ 3-508 Panama 1966-67 and Las Vegas, NV gave twice without comment. Ray Younes of 519 QM Company, 508 ARCT 1951-52 and Oxnard, CA simply said "Just thought we should do it again".

Reese Thomas of C Co and HQ 3-508 1966-67 and Las Vegas, Nevada sent a story he heard that happened during the Panamanian riots of 1963. SGT Charlie Barkman had been selected as a designated marksman to counter the enemy snipers that initially controlled the area...

...A company First Sergeant had been killed by small arms fire during the first hours of the conflict. Charlie had been keeping his eye on an enemy sniper who would pop up at a building window about 800 meters distance at regular intervals and fire a round or two. SGT Barkman watched and timed the guy until he was able to anticipate his return to the window. He squeezed off a round at the empty window a fraction of a second before the sniper popped up for what would be his last time. *Editor's Note: I knew Charlie Barkman, he was a big man. Charlie went out on the roof during contact to get a wounded lieutenant and was shot in the butt. Charlie took a lot of razzing and friendly grief for getting shot in the sturdiest part of his body.*

I heard from **Al Vittori** of A Company, 2-508 1972-74 and Kenosha, Wisconsin. Al has retired because of Parkinson's. Al relates to his military training – if you are still breathing, then your ass better be moving. Al escorted his Dad, who served from Normandy to the Rhine on an Honor Flight in October 2011. They saw much of the Arlington National Cemetery including the WWII and Iwo Jima Memorials.

A returned June Devils Digest informed us that **Warren R. Wilkins** of C Company, 508 ARCT 1951-53 has moved to the Berkshire Nursing Home, West Babylon, NY. We wish only the best for our old friend and fellow paratrooper Warren Wilkins at his new residence.

Please take a moment to reflect on the loss of Jim Lutes. Jim was a special man who gave generously of his time and resources to the 508 Chapter and the Support Company, 508 ARCT Association. Jim was 508 Chapter Secretary from January 2004 to December 2008. Jim was quick to volunteer his help when Hurricane Charlie raised havoc with Chairman Jack Damron's home. Jim was responsible for Chapter correspondence, the Microsoft Access database and our newsletter, the Devils Digest. Jim Lutes was easy to work with as he taught me the ropes. Jim Lutes was a fine man with a great family. He will be missed – May he Rest in Peace.



The Redstone Arsenal briefings about to begin



Joe & Barbara Bednarz / Paul & Shirley Jones



Army Unmanned Aircraft Systems Briefing



U.S. Space and Rocket Center



U.S. Space and Rocket Center



U.S. Space and Rocket Center



Norm & Bonnie Tracy



Ken Hamill & Almeda Medlin



U.S. Space and Rocket Center



Nelson and Bill Fernandez



Alex & Ikuko Elliott



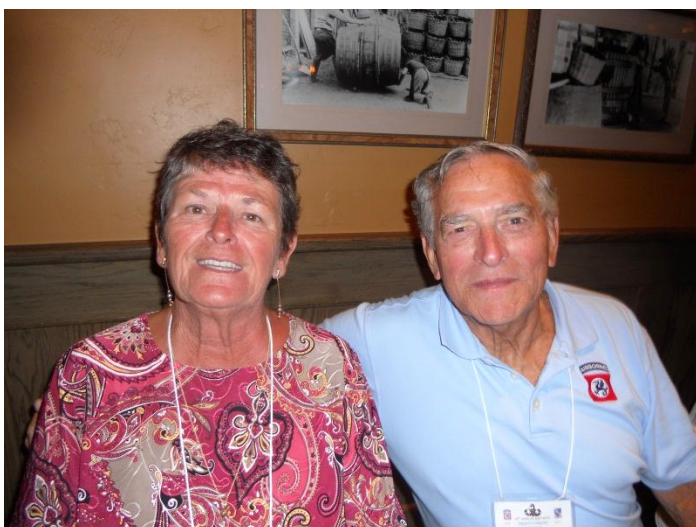
Paul & Shirley Jones



Joe & Barbara Bednarz



Keith & Reece Fernandez



Judy Francis & Jim Strickland



Bill & Rita Fernandez



Frank & Amber Gonzales



Almeda Medlin & Ken Hamill



Earle Christy & Jerry Strickland



Jim & Paulette Grimes



Jud & Sandra Haverkost



Support Company Association Meeting



Support Company Association Meeting



Support Company Association Meeting

[illegible]

Huntsville Veterans Memorial Park



Huntsville Veterans Memorial Museum



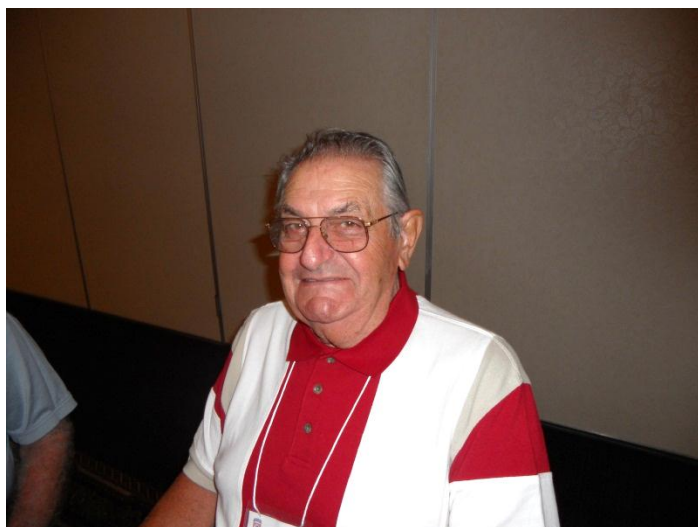
Huntsville Veterans Memorial Museum



Nero & Carol Tucker



Del & Lillian Ferrante



Bob Capalbo



Frank & Amber Gonzales



Barry Simpson of the Vulcan Chapter



Jim & Willie Mae Heyward



Alex & Ikuko Elliott



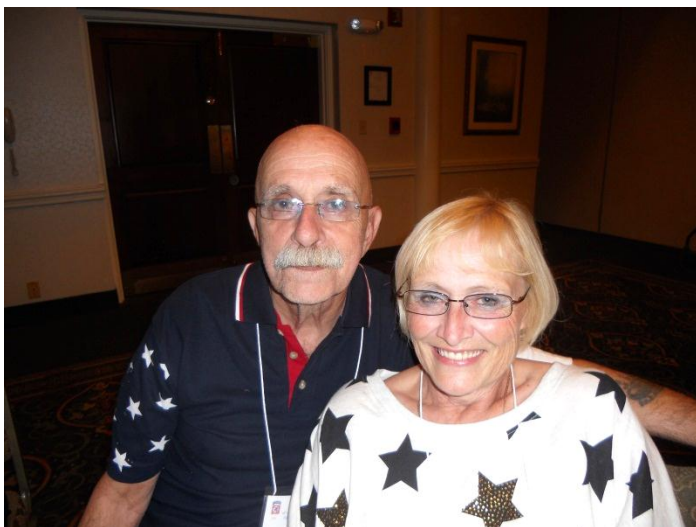
Huntsville Administrator Rex Reynolds



Paul & Shirley Jones



Indy Francis



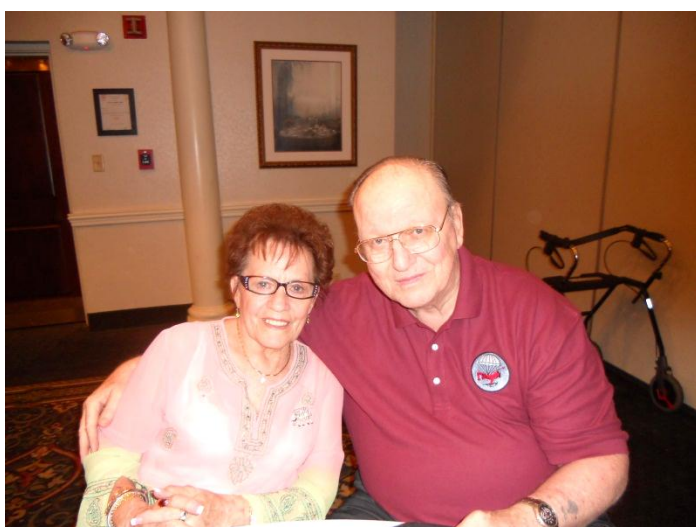
Norm & Bonnie Tracy



Keith & Reece Fernandez



Bill & Nelson Fernandez



Bill & Rita Fernandez



Jud & Sandra Haverkost



Jerry Strickland



President Jim Strickland leading the Banquet



James "Earl" Christy



Del Ferranti displays Paratrooper Award



Earl Christy lighting memorial candles



Jim Strickland receiving gift from Jim Heyward



Frank Gonzales receiving Award



Saturday Banquet



Saturday Banquet



Saturday Banquet



Saturday Banquet



Saturday Banquet



Saturday Banquet

5k



L-R: Paulette Grimes, Ikuko Elliott, Sandra Haverkost, Lillian Ferranti, Almeda Medlin, Willie Mae Heyward, Rita Fernandez & Shirley Jones



**Page 51, L-R Standing: Sandra Haverkost, Paulette Grimes, Amber Gonzales, Bonnie Tracy, Almeda Medlin.
Sitting: Ikuko Elliott, Carol Tucker, Lillian Ferrante, Willie Mae Heyward, Rita Fernandez, Barbara Jones, and Judy Francis.**



LR Stand: Alex Elliott, Jud Haverkost, Jerry Strickland, Nero Tucker, Sandra Haverkost, Jim & Paulette Grimes, Del Ferrante, Jim Heyward, Bonnie & Norm Tracy, Paul Jones, Almeda Medlin, Ken Hamill, Earl Christy, Bob Capalbo, Bill & Nelson Fernandez. Sitting: Jim Strickland, Ikuko Elliott, Carol Tucker, Lillian Ferrante, Willie Mae Heyward, Judy Francis, Barbara Jones, Rita & Bill Fernandez.



Page 5n, L-R Standing: Frank Gonzales, Nero Tucker, Jim Grimes, Norm Tracy, Ken Hamill, Bob Capalbo, Bill Fernandez & Nelson Fernandez
L- R Sitting: Jim Strickland, Jerry Strickland, Jud Haverkost, Del Ferrante, Jim Heyward, Paul Jones, Earl Christy & Bill Fernandez

MEMORIES OF A PARATROOPER #2

By Ed Carbery

Our boots were shined better, our uniforms were neater and tailored, and we had an air of confidence. High standards were always required in the barracks area, and if you failed to reach those standards serious consequences would arise. I heard a student left a penny in his foot locker, and he received the following demerits, 1) "trying to bribe an officer", 2) "the bribe offered was too small", 3) "the penny was not polished, 4) "President Lincoln needed a shave", 5) an "unauthorized object, the penny, was left in the foot locker", and 6) "the penny did not have the correct date on it". The need to follow **all** the rules was reinforced by the following experience. One night, one of the troopers informed us that he had his car parked just outside our bivouac area, and he had a motel room nearby. The three other troopers, two from the 82nd and one from the 11th decided to leave the bivouac area and drive to the motel to shower and clean their weapons. I refused to go with them. I was the only Airborne member left in the area. At about 0230 - 0300 there was a lot of yelling and screaming, and we were ordered to stand in front of our tents while roll call was taken. Needless to say, three troopers were gone, thereby being declared AWOL and dismissed from school. Fortunately, I had a bad feeling about leaving the bivouac and remained there. The instructors grilled me fairly hard as to the whereabouts of the other troopers, but I was asleep when they left the area. I know that there were a couple of instructors that were happy to see the Airborne soldiers dismissed because we stood out among the "straight legs". While at the school, I received my Sergeant's stripes. I gave two dollars to an overweight badly tailored instructor, a Corporal. He asked what it was for, so I told him to tailor his baggy shirt and look like a soldier who could lead! He did not like me, but he did tailor his shirt. He also did not like calling me Sergeant after that, but he made a point of singling me out from the first day of school. *[Editor's Note] All American friend Paul Cole of Shelbyville, IN. had attended the Army Infantry Leadership School in 1953 or 54 and validated some of Ed's memories....*

...High standards required in the barracks area. There were no wall lockers. A wood shelf and clothing display area was attached to the wall adjacent to each bunk. Headgear, cartridge belts etc were displayed on the shelf. Uniforms hung on hangers just below the shelf. Alignment laterally was important. Most men straightened out a wire hanger, cut out a stitch in their left shoulder unit patch and ran the straight wire through all the shirt patches to insure all uniforms hung very straight. Soldiers used cardboard to keep a sharp press in their shirt sleeves and trousers as they hung. The foot locker display was required every duty day. A clean towel was placed in the tray of the foot locker. Toilet articles were displayed on top of the towel, maybe on the right side. Socks were rolled and blocked with cardboard, then lined up neatly on the opposite side of the tray. For inspections the foot locker remained open with the tray moved into the rear portion of the foot locker top, thereby exposing a few inches of items stored in the bottom of the foot locker. T-shirts and shorts were rolled neatly over cardboard for a straight and level display. A small bible and some personal items were displayed near the socks in the top tray. Back to Ed Carbery - Overall the experiences I had at the school helped me tremendously, even in civilian life. Some of the leadership qualities I learned helped me to "get the job done" in all aspects of my life. People are different, but if you are on a team, you have to be a team player to have success. A good leader can help the team to win. Often situations are difficult in life, but what we learned at the Leadership School will always be beneficial to me. Leaving the school to return to Item Company, 508, Lt Thomas shook my hand and gave me a copy of a letter of appreciation he sent to my Commanding Officer. That letter helped me to get another stripe making me Sergeant First Class soon afterwards. The letter was dated April 10, 1953. I was discharged on January 23, 1954. I stay in touch with Gene Capozzi and Ed Keebler, both from Item Company during my era. It is fair to say that some of the best people I have ever had the privilege of meeting and knowing in my life were and are Airborne!

All the way! **EDWIN C. CARBERY**



**508 AIRBORNE
CHAPTER CHAIRMAN
Ken Hamill
2207 Coventry Drive
Columbus, GA 31904-5034
Telephone: 706.327.3207
E: khamill@knology.net**

TAPS - 508th PARATROOPERS RECENTLY DECEASED

**Engl, Albert C., Niagara Frontier Chapter
HHC 508 ARCT 1953-55, 10 May 2012**

**Fairfull, Thomas M., Golden Brigade Chapter
1-508 Vietnam 65-66, 10 Apr 2012**

**Gilmore, Tommy G., Fayetteville Chapter
1-508 1968-69, 82 Abn Div. 11 Jun 2012**

**Lallier, Jarrod A., KIA Afghanistan
B Co, 1-508 PIR, 82 Abn Div, 18 Jun 2012**

**Lutes, James T., Ormond Beach, FL
Support Co. 508 ARCT 1955-56, 14 Aug 2012
Mitchell, Robert J., Washington DC Chapter
508 ARCT 1952-53, 25 Jan 2012**

**Murphy, J. Patrick, COL Tucker Chapter
HHC 2-508, 82 Abn Div 1971-74, 7 Jul 2011
SPC Olivas, Nicholas H., KIA Afghanistan
4/73 Cav 4th BCT, 82 Abn Div, 30 May 2012**

**SSG Smith, Tyler J., KIA Afghanistan
2-508 PIR 82 Abn Div, 3 Apr 2012**

**SPC Taylor, David W., KIA Afghanistan
D Co.2-508 PIR 82 Abn Div, 29 Mar 2012**

**Warpechowski, Henry J., Campbell Chapter
E 508 PIR 1944-46, 24 Feb 2012**

**SPC Watts, Samuel T., KIA Afghanistan
B Co.1-508 PIR 82 Abn Div, 19 May 2012**

**Wilkins, Claude E., North Syracuse, NY
M Co. 508 ARCT 1951-52, 2011**

**Youpee, Allen F., Montana Chapter
HHC 1-508, 82 Abn 1963-66, 29 Mar 2012**



Annual Members ...45
Affiliate Members...12
All Americans.....308
Total Members.....365

September 2012 Treasurers Report

Printing expense June 2012:	\$141.69
Chapter Convention Advertisement:	\$100.00
Chapter Delegate Registration	\$82.00
500 Forever Stamps	\$225.00
September Newsletter Envelopes	\$30.87

O'Neal Funds Expended April – August 2012

Commissary \$327.17;	CVS \$14.39
Dollar Tree \$139.10;	Dr. Kowan \$85.00
Hobby Lobby \$66.81;	Lowes \$1.14
PX \$1546.66;	Sam's \$2645.83
USPS \$904.91;	Walmart \$585.59
Total O'Neal Funds Spent: \$6316.60	

O'Neal Fund Donations	\$3916.00
Chapter Matching Funds	\$3916.00
Total O'Neal Funds	\$7832.00
O'Neal Funds Expended	\$6316.60
Remaining O'Neal Funds	\$1515.40

Chapter Bank Account 31 Aug 2012: \$3628.16

The O'Neal fund money \$1515.40 will remain in our chapter account to be used to assist our 508 PIR in the future.

The O'Neal Fund purchases are displayed on our website www.red-devils.org Click on the News / Events Page. Purchases are listed by months April, May, June, July, August and receipts are attached to the lists.

Money is getting tighter in the 82nd Airborne Division Association. Rebates comprised the majority of our Chapter income in the past, but will not be paid to Chapters in 2012. Effective 1 January 2013, the new membership rates go into effect. All American (life) applicants over age 50 will pay \$175; Chapters keep \$25 and send \$150 to National. All American (life) Veteran dues under age fifty will pay \$250; Chapters keep \$50 and send \$200 to National. Annual Veteran dues will cost \$35 per year; Chapters keep \$8 and send \$27 to National. The complete Bylaws Ratification can be read on the Association Website www.82ndairborneassociation.org by clicking on the hyperlink "Bulletins"



If you are the least bit thrifty, the message is clear – become an All American (life) member now. All American (life) dues are currently \$100 for veteran members over the age of 50. The dues change on 1 January.



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 508 CHAPTER, 82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION ASSOCIATION, INC.

FORMAL NAME (No Nicknames)_____ DATE OF BIRTH _____

STREET_____ CITY_____ STATE_____

9-DIGIT Zip_____ ASN_____ (or) SSAN (Last 4)_____

MARITAL STATUS_____ SPOUSE'S NAME _____ NUMBER OF CHILDREN_____

OCCUPATION_____ HOME #: (_____) _____ CELL #: (_____) _____

EMAIL_____ SIGNATURE_____ DATE_____

____ ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FOR YR _____ \$20.00 OR _____ \$21.00 (= \$1.00 DONATION TO ED FUND)

____ LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP (\$150.00 FOR 49 YEARS AND UNDER OR \$100.00 FOR 50 YEARS +) \$ _____

____ ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY, RESERVE, NAT. GD – Current Rank and Date of Rank: _____

____ RETIRED MILITARY – Retired Rank and Date Departed Active Military Service _____

____ MILITARY VETERAN – Rank and Date Departed Military Service _____

508 UNIT: Co____: Bn____: Location_____ FROM MO/YR_____ TO MO/YR_____

Combat Tour Location: _____ FROM MO/YR_____ TO MO/YR_____

NEW MEMBERS MUST INCLUDE PROOF OF AIRBORNE QUALIFICATION

MAIL TO: KEN HAMILL; 2207 Coventry Drive; Columbus, GA 31904-5034

Jim Strickland, President of the Support Company, 508 ARCT Association and resident of Kannapolis, NC needs help with his local Military Museum and asks the following: We have a small but very impressive Museum locally, it has been created by the dedication and sweat of one individual. A few of us old paratroopers have acquired a T-10 parachute and a reserve for the museum. We would like to get a manikin and display it to be a fully dressed paratrooper ready to jump. At present we have the chute, a pair of old styled field trousers and a field jacket. We need a steel helmet w/liner, a weapons container, a shelter half to make a horse shoe roll, one of the old style packs that the roll goes on, a pair of old jump boots and a heavy duty manikin. If you have any of these items and are willing to donate them, it would be very much appreciated. Any other old items that you might wish to see preserved would also be appreciated. This museum is located in a old school building which the county leases to the curator for \$1.00 a year. For more info go to www.priceoffreedom.us or contact me at: 704-932-0973 or jstrickland002@windstream.net

I spent a week in western North Carolina and met several very nice people including – **Andy & Tina Vaitkus**, pictured below, at Harrah's Casino in Cherokee, NC. Andy is a chip off the old block (Son) of Al and Myrga Vaitkus of Support Company, 508 ARCT and Mission Viejo, California. Andy served as an Army Ranger and with the U.S. Secret Service.



Andy & Tina Vaitkus of Cherokee, North Carolina