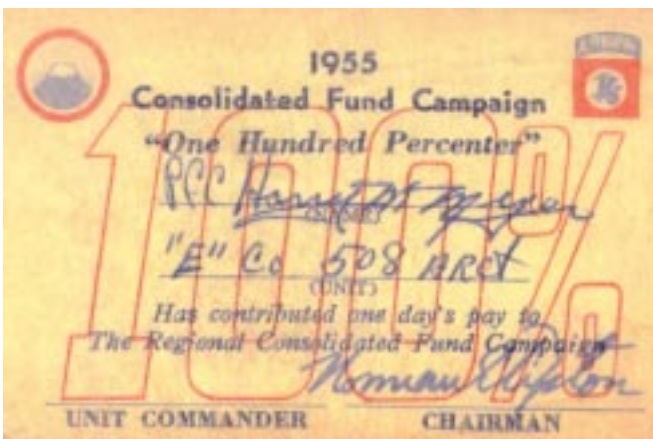




508th Airborne Chapter  
 82nd Airborne Division Assn.  
 4072 E. 22nd St. PMB #187  
 Tucson, AZ 85711-5334



Submitted by Harry Meyer



Submitted by Mel Echelberger

Ed's note: An obviously used Zippo. I'm not sure that such a dangerous weapon as this would be allowed in one's possession in today's politically correct Army!



# The Red Devil Digest

The 508<sup>th</sup> Airborne Chapter Newsletter Fury From The Sky

[www.red-devils.org](http://www.red-devils.org)



Vol. 4 No. 5

September - October 2000

## No Jump For Operation Blue Grass

### Operation Blue Grass

August 16 saw the members of 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division Association descend upon the Drawbridge Inn, Ft Mitchell, KY, the site of the Associations 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention. The parachute jump scheduled at the Lunken Airport for 0930 hours on August 17 was canceled by an official of the FAA on the late afternoon or evening of August 16. While the Division was notified of this action, no one notified the Association. As a result, conventioners boarded buses and descended on Lunken Airport only to watch 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division troopers aircraft land at Lunken Airport. What was a great disappointment was partially saved by the appearance of the 82d's Chorus who, as usual, rendered a great performance.

Despite the above SNAFU, The General Ridgeway Chapter did an outstanding job in setting up and operating the convention. With the exception of the no jump, attendees had a great time once again meeting old friends and making new friends.

Ben Beekman, 2000 Association President, was reelected for the year 2001. Directors election results may be obtained in the Fall issue of the Paraglide or at the Chapters Web Site (News & Events).

One of the more interesting results of the convention was the vote to implement a new rebate plan for All American Members. Previous to this change, Chapters received a \$4.00 rebate from National for the \$12.50 annual dues for regular members. The rebate for All American Members (Life) was \$3.50. The new rebate for All American Members is now \$4.50, an increase of \$1.00 for Chapters. More on this later on in the newsletter.

Unfortunately, your editor misplaced the list of attendees from the Chapter, so he has searched his

feeble mind and attempted to inform all as to who represented the Chapter at the Convention. If I forgot anyone, it was not intentional. Ron Behrens (M/51-53); Jack Damron (HQ1/54-57); Mr. & Mrs. Joe Govenettio (HQ1/53-54); Steve Helms (B2/63-66); Mr. & Mrs. Bobbie Henson (E/51-53); Mr. & Mrs. Carson Johnson (B/45); Josef Kocsis (A320/55-56); Donald Kopp (598/51-53); Tino Madrid (B/70-71); Bob Murray (B/51-53); Carl Porter (D/45-46); Mr. & Mrs. Harry Roll (H/44-46) and Mr. & Mrs. James Swindler (C/55-56). In addition Mr. & Mrs. Jean Ashcraft (HQ3/55-56) stopped in to say hello to all of the 508<sup>th</sup> Red Devils in attendance.

We received several inquiries as to why the Chapter did not have a dinner or "get together" at the conference. The reason was simple. We have to know who (and how many) will show up to be able to plan something. We only knew of 5 members who would be there. Your chapter has stated on numerous occasions that we would like to have a dinner on the Wednesday evening of the Convention as the 504<sup>th</sup> Chapter does. To do this, we must have the support of the membership. We do thank those who responded to our inquiries over the past several years and trust you understand why we cannot plan on supporting a chapter function until we have enough membership interest to do so.

### 508<sup>th</sup> AIR 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion



Interest continues to grow in support of a reunion at Fort Bragg, NC during All American Week in May 2001. This is reflected in the Chapters notification by 72 members that they are ready, willing, and able to attend the reunion along with family members or friends for a total of 127 attendees. Keep up the interest and lets top 90 members for this gala occasion!

Continued on page 2.

Your chairman and secretary met with Association officials and Bob O'Brien, Chairman of the Fayetteville Chapter, to get a feel for support for the Chapter and made arrangements to visit with them again at Fort Bragg in October to finalize arrangements so we can present the entire program to you in the November - December 2000 newsletter.

For planning purposes, block off the week of 21-27 May, 2001 for the reunion. We have made arrangements to "block schedule" chapter members in either Hardy or Moon Hall at Fort Bragg. This will allow us to concentrate our membership in close proximity to each other and also secure a hospitality suite in the same building. Checks for various functions of AAW will be sent to the Chapter. We will be responsible for making reservations in block. The thinking at the present time is to have our 508<sup>th</sup> Dinner at the NCO Club or McKellers Lodge (if rebuilt) on Tuesday of AAW week.

Other arrangements include having the Chapter lead the veterans march in the Division Revue immediately after the Association Officers. We already have an original 508<sup>th</sup> Company Guideon ready and waiting for "eyes right." We will also have golf shirts or T-shirts and hats made up specifically for this reunion and they can be ordered at the same time as reservations are made for the reunion. They will be available at the reunion hospitality suite.

For those of you who still have their copy of the Winter 1999-2000 Paraglide you can check the list of activities scheduled during All American Week. For those of you who don't, the highlights are listed below:

*Wednesday* - Registration and McKellers Lodge.

*Thursday* - Division Review; Museum, Fayetteville Chapter No-Host get together and Assn Social.

*Friday* - Joint Training Readiness Exercise, Sicily DZ, Fayetteville Chapter Picnic.

*Saturday* - PX/Clothing Sales Store, Assn/Delegates meetings and Fayetteville Chapter Social at NCO Club.

*Sunday* - Church service(s) and Breakfast/Farewell at the Fayetteville Chapter Clubhouse.

The above is a small portion of the events held during All American Week but will give those of you who do not have an old Paraglide or have never been there some idea of what will be offered.

We are sure that most of you will agree that undertaking this effort requires a great deal of support by the membership. Bob Murray and Jack Damron are traveling to Bragg at their own expense but they cannot be expected to be every place at the same time during the reunion. We will need Red Devils to help man the hospitality suite for example. We ask that you consider helping in this effort and let us know when we pin down the final arrangements and ask for specific help to assist your Chapter in this endeavor.

Listed below are those chapter members who have thus far indicated their interest in attending the reunion: **James Adams** (598/54-56); **Jean D. Ashcraft** (HQ3/55-56); **Ron Behrens** (M-51-54); **Bill Bidleman** (E/51-53); **Aristoe Blanco** (C/51-54); **John F. Brown** (E/51-54); **David H. Burns** (HQ2/51-54); **Bobbie S. Bush** (HQ3/55-56); **Richard Carlson** (B/51-54); **Robert H. Cooper** (C/51-54); **William T. Coulter** (L/51-53); **Frank Cowdrey** (SPT/51-52); **Herb Cronin** (C/51-54); **Jerry Curren** (M/51); **Jack K. Damron** (B-HQ1/54-57); **Jack J. Doyle** (D/51-53); **Walter Ducharme** (HQ320/55-56); **Warren S. Eichelberger** (MED/55-56); **Milton Embree** (D/51-54); **Augie Fernandes** (L/51-54); **Robert Figueredo** ((D/51-54); **Charles J. Fortuna** (A/51-54); **Bob Giles** (B/51-52); **Kenneth L. Glynn** (L/51-54); **Jerry Grubbs** (A/51-54); **Dave Hathaway** (D/51-53); **Steve Helms** (B2/63-66); **Don Holland** (HQ2/55-56); **Jimmie F. Huey** (320/54-56); **Rodger Jacobson** (HQ320/55-56); **Arthur D. Kidder** (D/51-54); **Ed Kuziel** (H&H/51-54); **Jim Lammle** (MED/55-56); **Anthony LaJudice** (MED/55-56); **Gene Leonard** (H&H/52-53); **Joe Lesniak** (L/51-52); **Duane Mabeus** (G-SVC/52-54); **Ray Malley** (B/51-53); **Orlan R. McClung** HQ3/51-54); **Clarence T. McCluskey** (L/51-53); **Leo B. McCullough** (B/51-54); **Robert Medlin** (A/51-54); **William J. Mehling** (HQ2/51-52); **Harry M. Meyer, Sr.** (E-55-57); **Robert T., Murray** (B/51-53); **Gerald L. Nadeau** (HQ2/51-53); **Arthur R. Nagel** (E/51-52); **Robert A. Norman** (HQ1/51-54); **George O'Connor** (H/51-53); **Lawrence O'Connor** (A-598/51-56); **John Ortado** (B/51-53); **(Harry Paul** HQ3/51-53); **Jerry Payne** (H&H/54-56); **Peter Pisani** (HQ1/51-52);  
Continued on page 3

**Armando Reyes** (HQ1/51-53); **Luis R. (Rudy) Reza** (C/54-56); **Ramiro (Tony) Robles**; (HQ320/55-56); **Robert Rukamp** (MED/55-56); **Raymond F. Sabatella** (C/51-52); **Hal L. Scott** (SVC-MED/54-57); **Frank Seif** (M/53-55); **Ed Slocum** (HQ3/55-56); **Walt Stacey** (HQ2/51-52); **Roy E. Stelzer** (K/51-53); **Robert Taylor** (D/51-53); **Bruce M. Tyler** (A320/55-56); **Stanley F. Victor** (M/51-54); **Kenneth J. Warzyn** (D/54-56); **Charles M. Weaver** (K/51-54); **Charles Wheeler** (K51-54) and **Jack Wheeler** (HQ2/51-55).

For those of you who have not yet responded, complete the form below and send it to your chapter ASAP. You may also E-mail Bob Murray or Jack Damron (E-mail addresses on page 8).

YES, I am interested in attending the 508<sup>th</sup> AIR Anniversary Reunion

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit/Yr \_\_\_\_\_

Number Attending \_\_\_\_\_

## Chairman's Message



On August 15 we completed our tenth year as a Chapter of the 82d Airborne Division Association. Of the 93 veteran chapters in the Association we were number four in total membership with 334! We exceeded the totals of some Chapters that were perennially in the top ten. Atta way to go guys. We won two second prize awards in the Associations Communications Awards program, one for our newsletter and the other from promotional materials.

It amazes me that we do not win first place each year. I am not the only one who feels that way, last years winner could not understand how we lost. The promotional award was pretty much for our Web Page, another Jack Damron Production. Jack puts a hell of a lot of time, energy and money into providing us with info, news and items of interest. He really likes Miller Lite too!

We do hope that everybody will seriously consider being at Bragg next May. That is an event that you should attend at least once! What better time to do so

than at the fiftieth anniversary of the reactivation of the Red Devils Regiment.

Who knew that the 508<sup>th</sup> AIR had a Band? In WW II it was a separate unit. Maybe you troopers from that era can tell us about it. Now we have just heard that one was formed in '52 and one of our members was in it. He was given a clarinet and never got to play it. Then someone else mentioned there was a band. Let's hear some more about it from you who were a part of it.

We have been very fortunate in having an excellent supplier of pins for the WWII Red Devil patch, the 508<sup>th</sup> ARCT shoulder patch and the 320<sup>th</sup> Abn FA Bn insignia. All American Chapter member Bob Henson provides them and they have been an excellent source of income for our chapter.

A couple of members, who prefer we do not name them, pay a years membership dues for former Red Devils they had served with and recently located.

Unselfish acts like the two above and the generosity of our "Boosters" are what makes this such a great organization.

## New Chapter Members



A big welcome to our newest members who just dropped in: **Robert C. Bryant**, Lakewood, CO (H&H/51); **Garland F. Drewry**, Emmett, ID (A/44-45); **Charles L. Dunn**, (B/53-55); **Lino Laruz**, New Harmony, UT (C-42-44); **Matthew A. Pisano**,

Hurley, NY (C/51-53); **Frank P. Sicari**, APO AE (H&H/55-56); **Joseph A. Turley**, Chandler, AZ (A1/90-91); **Alan Vittori**, Kenosha, WI (A2/72-74) and **Edward A. Wapen**, Cape Vincent, NY (C/45-46).

**New All American (Life) Members:** **William F. Adams**, Sarasota, FL (C-1/71-75); **Bernard P. Patton**, Bordentown, NJ (K/55-56); **Charles B. Gordon**, Clayton, NC (G/51-54); **Patrick St. Amour**, Newayco, MI (H&H/55-56); **COL(R) Billy Tabb**, Panama City, FL (H&H/55-56) and **Robert W. Wright**, Mount Juliet, TN (598/55-56).

## 2001 Dues

More from our Chairman Bob. IT'S TIME TO RENEW! I hate to say that word. Once I start it seems I have to repeat it over and over. We had twenty-two annual members from '99 who did not renew for '00 and we lost four from '00 who have made their last exit.

The chapter will receive **one dollar** for each member that has his \$12.50 dues for '01 in our hot little checking account by November 10, 2000. He will be an Early Bird and his name will appear in the winter issue of the Paraglide! Plus, our chapter needs the dough, especially when we are planning our fiftieth anniversary in May.

Please, after you read this, write out your **check**, put it in an **envelope** addressed to the chapter, place a **stamp** on the envelope and most of all **MAIL** it now!!!

A better idea would be to become an All American Member (AAM). No annual dues to worry about or forget and no more gentle reminders from your chapter. Most of our members are over 50 years old and qualify for All American Membership for \$100.00. That's a bargain!

**Operation Red Devil.** Your chapter realizes that some members may not be able to make a payment of \$100.00 or more at one time. Your chapter will pay your AAM dues and allow you to repay the chapter in four equal consecutive monthly installments. For most of you this will amount to \$25.00 a month. Once your full payment is made, your AAM Card and Certificate will be forwarded to you. If you want to avail yourself of this offer, send in your application for AAM with your 1<sup>st</sup> months payment along with a short note mentioning Operation Red Devil.



And now a word from your friendly Secretary.

**“Let's get with it troopers, reup now and reup All American!”**

If you are not sure what your membership status is, check your mailing label. The information in the first line will indicate the year you are paid up for. Remember, the Association membership year is from January 1 to December 31. If your address label reads “2000”, your membership expires on December 31 of this year. AAM labels will read “Life”.

## Membership Letters

**Norm McLeod** (HQ1/51-54) writes: Chairman Murray, I was one of the men who formed the 1<sup>st</sup> Bn that reactivated the 508<sup>th</sup> ARCT. We were assigned to the 82d Abn Div, 504, at Ft. Bragg for Basic Training. That was Jan. and Feb. of 1951. Then we stayed right there (no leave given) for Advanced Individual Training during Mar. and Apr. of 1951. Then were shipped down to Ft. Benning (no leave given) for Jump School. Col. Cleland, who would be the Commanding Officer of the reactivated 508<sup>th</sup> ARCT joined us there. He jumped with us every day. Once he was a stick leader on a plane from which I was jumping. We got our wings on June 1, 1951 and finally got a furlough.

When we got back from leave we reported to Sand Hill. After we had all returned (about two weeks later, Col. Cleland resided over the official reactivating of the 508<sup>th</sup> and during this ceremony he handed each of us the 508<sup>th</sup> background for our wings. It was black with a white border. Then we settled down to an intensive training schedule; we were sure we would be going overseas soon. They had us in the field most of the time, long marches and jumps every three or four weeks. Boy, did we feel we were ready. Well, we never went anywhere. Just stayed right there on Sand Hill. Pretty soon the draftees were discharged, things didn't seem the same after they went home. When the war in Korea ended I transferred to the Airborne Department at the Infantry School at Ft. Benning and spent the remainder of my enlistment helping to run the Jump School.

While I was assigned to the Airborne Department, I was part of an Honor Guard that stood in review for Major General Cleland. He was by then the Commanding General of the 18<sup>th</sup> Airborne Corps at Ft. Bragg.

Continued on page 5.

Chairman Murray, I would like to become an affiliate member of the 508<sup>th</sup> Chapter and have enclosed a check for my dues.

**John Brown** (E/51-54) writes: Hi Bob, I have a couple of items that might be worth mentioning. Number One: A scheme only the brass could have dreamed up. In '52 or '53, I don't recall the year, upon hearing the Marine Corps had revived their regimental bands, were marched to a warehouse where musical instruments were handed out willy-nilly. Our photo was taken in band formation. It was published in the Army paper and captioned "The 508<sup>th</sup> is ready to play." I never did learn how to play the trombone.

Number Two: I'm not sure if too many people are aware of this but the officer that led the raid on Iran to free the hostages was once a platoon leader in Easy Co. The nicest officer I ever met, very down to earth, Lt. Charles Beckwith.

Regarding Gerald Nadeau's memory of the cadre sergeant in basic, his name was Kilgore.

**Ken Glynn** (L/51-54) writes: Hi Bob, I am returning the check and you can use the money for your newsletter.

AA Week was great as usual but all the guys want to know where Murray is. It's been 2 years since they have seen you.

I really don't know how many '08 were there. I sent a picture of the 4 from L Co. to Jack. Maybe it can get in the newsletter. (Ed. Note: I put it in the last issue and seven are pictured below). As you can see Duke had a ball your flower girl had a good time at all the events.

We will definitely be at Bragg next year and have the Rakasan next to Duke in the picture with us. He did the Munsani jump in Korea.

Smitty from Conn. was one of the riggers that dropped the bridge to the Marines in Korea so they could get out of the trap they got caught in. He was in L Co. for a while in '51.

See you somewhere sometime in the year to come. Airborne. Ken & Helen



The "Magnificent Seven" at All American Week -2000

**Dan Hogan** (598/52-53) writes: Jack, please find a few pages of the names and pictures of the men that served in the "08" right after the reactivation at Benning.

These are from the book we bought. It has every name, company and support groups that were attached to the 508<sup>th</sup> ARCT from the start in late 1951 to 1953.

I am an Early Bird associate member and always send in extra money for expenses. (Ed's note: Thanks Dan for the pics and the support!)

**Aristeo Blanco, Jr** (C/51-54) writes: Hello, Thanks for the T-shirts. Hope this will cover it. If not, let me know.

Thank you for the article in the newsletter. Many people called and wrote to check on my wife. Therapy has helped her a lot but it will take a long time. She can walk without a cane now, but very slowly.

I talked to Bobby Henson about the upcoming 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion. Please count on us coming - we plan to drive to Ft. Bragg and arrive one day ahead to stay for the whole week. If you need help, let us know. The Henson's and us can help you at that time. I ran into a trooper at the Gun Show who was wearing a 508<sup>th</sup> T-shirt (a different one).

Continued on page 6.

I had never seen this one before. He said he just came from Vicenza, Italy and that he belongs to the 508<sup>th</sup> Chapter. He wanted to join the Reno Chapter as well.

I told him he could do it as an associate member if he is already a member of the 508<sup>th</sup> Chapter.

Again we will be in Laughlin, NV in February 2001 for the Min-Winter Conference. It's only six hundred miles from Reno. Maybe you can make it. Murray makes this one since it's close to Tucson.

Again, let us know about registration for next year at Ft. Bragg so I can send in fees right away. I don't want to miss this one (maybe the last hurrah for some of us!!!). Airborne, Blanco

**Rudy Reza** (C/54-56) writes: Hi Jack, Hope everything is OK with you and yours. Had a great time at the 320th/508th Reunion at Clarksville. **Joe Montoya** (HQ320/55-56) puts on one hell of a program!

Hope to see a lot of 508<sup>th</sup> folks at Fort Bragg. See you then. Airborne, Rudy

**Bill Mehling** (HQ2/51-52) wrote to Bob Murray sometime ago and attached the article in an unknown publication written by Lee Slaughter, Front Royal, VA. Is anyone out there familiar with this story? Let us know.

Title: **We Were the Airborne Guinea Pig Platoon** (In 1951, these paratroopers were subjected to some unusual tests. Would they be able to cut it?)

It was 100 degrees that day in July of 1951 at Fort Benning, Georgia. I was among 30 recently arrived privates randomly selected and ordered to become what I called the "Guinea Pig Platoon."

The Army was spending \$15,000 on each soldier in jump school, and the drop-out rate was an unacceptable 30%. So six white-coated doctors had been assigned to see if there was a way to pre-judge who would fail, thereby saving the Army money.

We'd all just completed 14 weeks of infantry basic training and 2 weeks of pre-jump school physical

conditioning, so we were in good shape. We weren't however, quite prepared to give blood samples daily or receive injections of a mysterious clear liquid that gave me instant stomach cramps.

**They Fooled 'Em!** Those 3 weeks were the hottest of the summer, yet we double-timed everywhere, even to the latrine and through the cold-water showers every 2 hours (in uniform)!

At every training station, we were met by a doctor who commanded, "Count backward by 3, starting at 367," or some other random number. I was hit with that backward number test on the day of our first jump.

I was to be the first man out in my "stick." As I stood in the doorway with a 112-mph wind disfiguring my mouth, the doctor shouted, "Count backward by 3, starting at 766." I did...all the way to the ground.



Lee Slaughter

Well, the Guinea Pig Platoon fooled the white-coats in the end—28 of us graduated! We were each promised a citation and a medal, but I was soon on my way to Korea and received neither. I've always wondered about those injections but could never find out what they were. But to this day, I'm great at counting backward by 3!

## Proud Plates



Clarence T. McCluskey, Oxford, CT (L/51-52)



Rodger Jacobson, Hazel Green, WI  
(HQ320/55-56)

## Boosters



We had fifty nine boosters listed in our July - August Newsletter. Today, we are adding ten more names to bring the total number of chapter members to sixty nine who have so generously contributed to the chapter to keep the newsletter and web site going. We can't thank you enough!

*320<sup>th</sup> Airborne Field Artillery Assn.*  
*James Adams* (598/54-56); *Jean D. Ashcraft* (HQ3/55-56); *Joseph Ballaro* (D/51-53); *Lou Belleau* (SPT/51-52); *LTC (R) Lloyd Bender* (F/52-53); *Bill J.*

*Bidleman* (E/51-53); *Aristeo Blanco* (C/51-54); *Charles Bostic* (H&H/51-54); *John F. Brown* (E/51-54); *David H. Burns* (H/51-54); *Bobbie J. Bush* (HQ3/55-56); *Anthony Cantillo, Jr.* (F/51-54); *Joseph B. Catey* (A1/66-68); *Robert Chisholm* (I/43-46); *John H. Christopher* (HQ3/55-56); *James A. Convy* (HQ3/44-45); *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); *MG (R) William H. Duncan* (A/52-53); *Marvin Darby* (M/51-54); *DuWayne L. Erdmann* (598/51-54); *Augie Fernandes* (L/51-54); *Donald C. Fjoslein* (519/52-54); *Daniel T. Furlong* (H/42-45); *Richard S. Gohl* (C/54-55); *LTC (R) Charles L. Hale* (K/52-56); *Cyril D. Hixon* (46); *Daniel Hogan* (598/52-53); *CSM (R) Arthur Kilgore* (SVC/51-53); *Thomas R. Lane* (A/51-52); *Lino Laruz* (C/42-44); *Frank Mahmet* (E/54-56); *George W. McClain* (SVC/50-53); *Clarence T. McCluskey* (L/51-53); *William J. Mehling* (HQ2/51-52); *William F. Moran* (I/45-46); *Robert T. Murray* (B/51-53); *Arthur D. Nagle* (E/51-52); *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); *Leo Quinn* (L/51-54); *Raul M. Ramos* (C/51-54); *Luis (Rudy) R. Reza* (C/54-56); *Kenneth G. Rilea* (G/51-54); *Steve W. Roberts* (70-71);

*Ramiro (Tony) Robles* (HQ320/55-56); *Hal L. Scott* (SVC/54-57); *LTC (R) Gordon K. Smith* (HQ1/54/55); *Roy Shaw* (HQ2/51-53); *Walter O. Stacey* (HQ2/51-52); *Keith R. Stevens* (B/54-55); *George I. Stoeckert* (42-46); *Robert D. Taylor* (E/51-53); *Robert Thompson* (HQ3/46); *Stan Victor* (M/51-54); *Alan R. Vittori* (A2/72-74); *Walter B. Welton* (H&H/51-53); *Robert W. Wright* (598/55-56) and *Jack E. Yelverton* (HQ2/53-55).

The chapter initiated the Booster Column starting with the January - February 2000 issue. We plan on removing all names from the Booster Column effective with the January 2001 issue. We will retain those individual names who so generously donated funds to the chapter after the new Association recruitment year commenced in August 2000. Thereafter the Booster Column will be maintained in sync with the start of the Association recruiting year which commences after the National Convention in August of each year. Again, we wish to commend those of you who supported the chapter this past year and trust your generosity will continue into the future.

## Taps



We are sad to report the passing of the following Chapter members:

**Elbert F. Croom, Jr** (L/55-56). May 29, 2000. Survived by his sister Yvonne.

**Daniel L. Rowsey** (MED/55-56), Huntington, WV., April, 2000. Survived by his wife Norma, children Daniel, Jr., Deborah, Kathryn, Scott and six grand children.

**Steve D. Uchrin** (H&H/42-45). No details available.

## Thanks

To Aristeo Blanco, Dan Hogan, Dick Truslow, Don Wesley-Brown, Stan Philbin, Harry Meyer and Melvin Echelberger who have sent us articles or pictures or both. I'm sure there are many more I have not mentioned. I try and use the information as time and circumstances allow. It never ceases to amaze me what pops up from our members. See a few examples on bottom of the cover page.



**News From National**

**2002 Convention Site:** The 2002 Convention was awarded to the Hampton Roads All Services Chapter for Norfolk, VA. Registration fee has been established at \$75.00 per person and the Convention will be held during 18 - 23 August 2002. Congratulations to the Chapter. Membership must be aware of these dates so they can start planning.

**2001 Convention Reminder:** The Low Country All Airborne Chapter will host the 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention during the week of 6 - 11 August 2001. (Convention officially starts on 8 August with Early Birds Hospitality Suite). Registration fee is \$70.00 and room rate is \$82.00 plus 12% sales tax (up to four per room) + \$91.84 total.

Reservations can be made at The Radison Hotel Charleston, 170 Lockwood Drive, Charleston, SC 29403. Room Reservations: (843) 723-3000

**Association Visa Cards:** Members are encouraged to obtain one and utilize it. The Association receives a royalty for each time one is utilized. (Ed's Note: If you are interested in obtaining an application for this credit card, contact me and I will send you one).

**Veteran's Service Reports:** A. The Republic of Korea will provide U.S. Korean War veterans or their surviving next of kin a Korean War Service Medal at no cost. The veteran must have: (1) served between the outbreak of hostilities, June 25, 1950 and the date the armistice was signed, July 27, 1953; (2) been on permanent assignment or temporary duty for 30 consecutive days or 60 non-consecutive days; and (3) performed duty within the territorial limits of Korea, in the waters immediately adjacent thereto or in aerial flight over Korea participating in actual combat operations or in support of combat operations.

To apply, veteran or claimant must provide a copy of the veterans discharge paper and a brief statement requesting the Korean War Service Medal. Also listed should be the veteran's Social Security Number, Military Service Number and /or Foreign Service Number. Relationship to the veteran should be given if the veteran is deceased.

Send the packet to: HQ AFPC/DPPRK, 550 C St. W. Ste 12, Randolph AFB, TX 78150-4714

B. U.S. House Representative, Robert E. "Bud" Cramer, JR., Dem., AL, has proposed legislation introduced July 20, 2000 (House Resolution 4909), that military retirees receiving VA compensation who have been awarded the Purple Heart (combat wounded veterans) will receive concurrently both military retirement pay and VA compensation. This is less that the complete repeal of concurrent receipt rules that require the waiver of military retirement benefits dollar-for-dollar for receipt of VA compensation benefits.

**Chapter Officers**

**Chairman/Treasurer**  
Robert T. Murray  
4072 E. 22<sup>nd</sup> St. PMB #187  
Tucson, AZ 85711  
Tel. (520) 881-8657  
E-mail:  
[RTM508@aol.com](mailto:RTM508@aol.com)

**Vice Chairman**  
Frank Seif  
2442 N. Sahuara Ave.  
Tucson, AZ 85712  
Tel. (520) 290-9235  
E-mail:  
[fseif@bookmans.com](mailto:fseif@bookmans.com)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chairman**  
Rodger Jacobson  
Box 14  
Hazel Green, WI 53811  
Tel. (608) 854-2317

**Secretary**  
Jack K. Damron  
26164 Waterfowl Lane  
Punta Gorda, FL 33983  
Tel. (941) 629-7653  
E-mail:  
[reddevil@peganet.com](mailto:reddevil@peganet.com)

**Moving? Let Us Know!**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
New Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip+4 \_\_\_\_\_  
New Tel. # \_\_\_\_\_  
Perm. \_\_\_ Temp. \_\_\_ Dates \_\_\_\_\_  
New E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

**Forget Something? Mail your dues now. Be a Proud AAM!!**

## Order Form for Chapter Memorabilia

Complete this form and mail your check along with your name and complete address to: The 508th Airborne Chapter, 4072 E. 22nd St., PMB #187, Tucson, AZ 85711-5334. Price includes shipping and handling charge except where indicated below for selected items, *but a little extra to help defray expenses is appreciated.*

ITEM/ DESCRIPTION	COST (Ea.)	QTY.	SIZE	AMOUNT
Hat, white, w\red bill	\$14.50		N/A	
Sweatshirt, ash grey w\ screened Chapter logo	\$22.00 + \$3.20 S&H		M, L, XL, *XXL, *XXXL	
Shirt, T, Grey or White w/ Chapter Logo screened	\$12.00		M, L, XL, XXL	
Shirt, T, White w/ screened Chapter Web Site Logo	\$12.00		M, L, XL, XXL	
Shirt, Polo, Abn Maroon, w/ Chap Logo embroidered	\$22.00 + \$3.20 S&H		M, L, XL, **XXL, ***XXXL	
Patch, 508th Abn Chapter	\$ 5.50 or 3/\$15		N/A	
Patch, 508th ARCT	\$ 5.50 or 3/\$15		N/A	
Patch, 508th Para Red Devil	\$ 5.50 or 3/\$15		N/A	
Patch, 320th Abn FA Bn	\$ 5.50 or 3/\$15		N/A	
Pin, 508th ARCT	\$ 3.00		N/A	
Pin, Para Red Devil	\$ 3.00		N/A	
Wrap, Can Cooler w/Chap Logo	\$ 3.00		N/A	
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT</b>				\$ _____

**\*Add an additional \$2 for each X above XL**

**\*\*\$24.00    \*\*\*\$26.00 (XXXL size is special order)**

### ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

508th Abn Chapter, 82nd Abn Div. Assn., Inc.

All American   
  Renewal   
  New Member   
  Reinstatement

**PLEASE PRINT**

Enclosed is \$12.50 for my annual membership dues for the year \_\_\_\_\_ to include a subscription to the PARAGLIDE.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Street or R.F.D. \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Tel. # \_\_\_\_\_

Rank (Active) \_\_\_\_\_ ASN \_\_\_\_\_ or SSN \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

508th Unit (Circle one) Co. \_\_\_\_ Bn. \_\_\_\_ 508th; Btry. \_\_\_\_ 320th AFA; 427th; 519th QM Co.; 598th Engr. Co.

Date of 508th service: From Mo. \_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_ to Mo. \_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_

Present Occupation \_\_\_\_\_ Single \_\_ Married \_\_ Spouses's Name \_\_\_\_\_ # of Children \_\_\_\_

(PLEASE FILL IN APPLICATION COMPLETELY)

I presently am a member of the \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter, 82nd Abn Assn. Enclosed are my reduced dues of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(\$6 min.) I do \_\_ do not \_\_ wish to transfer my membership from the \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter to the 508th

Airborne Chapter. Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL TO:** Chairman, 508th Airborne Chapter, 4072 E. 22nd St., PMB #187, Tucson, AZ 85711-5334

### LIFE MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

You can become an **All American** (Life Member) and avoid the hassle of paying annual dues.

25\* years continuous Association membership - \$60.00

On active duty with the 82nd Airborne Division - \$82.00

20\* years continuous Association membership - \$90.00

50 years of age or older - \$100.00

49 years of age or younger - \$150.00

\* Must be verified by Executive Director, 82nd Airborne Division Association.

**You will receive a permanent plastic membership card and a certificate suitable for framing**