

ACADIANA CHAPTER DISPATCH



ACADIANA CHAPTER 82<sup>ND</sup> AIRBORNE DIVISION  
ASSOCIATION

CHAPTER MEETS AT HOLY CROSS CHURCH, 415 ROBLEY DR. LAF, LA  
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:  
(337) 684-6175 or Cell (337) 288-2730  
2424 Pierre Matte Road, Branch, LA 70516

**ACADIANA CHAPTER'S  
DECEMBER MEETING  
WILL BE HELD  
SATURDAY DECEMBER  
3<sup>RD</sup> 2016 AT THE HOLY  
CROSS CHURCH AT 415  
ROBLEY DRIVE IN  
LAFAYETTE, MEETING TO  
START AT 1030 HRS IN  
BLD D. WE WILL EAT AT  
A RESTAURANT  
AFTERWARDS.**

**CHRISTMAS TIME IN THE  
ARMY.**

I know that all of you spent a number of Christmas's in the Army. Some of you may have been overseas in a combat zone and others were either stateside or in Europe or perhaps somewhere else. The units and Mess Sergeants usually went all out to make the holiday meals special. This was (and is) true to this day. The same for Thanksgiving, which we just celebrated.

The unit commanders and Mess Sergeants made a major effort (and I am sure they still do) to make it a festive time. This went to the extent of printing out very nice menu's and even printed napkins with unit names, emblems and logos

on them. These meals were memorable and helped with being away from home. Please come to our December meeting this Saturday. We will have business to take care of, but then we will enjoy each other's company at lunch.

**36<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
BANQUET FOR THE  
CHAPTER. JAN 21, 2017**

Please sign up now and send in your money to attend our 36<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banquet on Saturday September 21, 2017. Our guest speaker will be the JRTC and Fort Polk **Command Sergeant Major, Jeremiah Inman**. A meal form is going out with this newsletter. The prices are the same as last year. A meal form is attached to the e-mail or in your newsletter if you receive it by mail. **Please fill this out as soon as possible and send it in with your funds. January 16<sup>th</sup> 2017 is the cutoff date.**

Come join in for a great evening of "Airborne" camaraderie and fellowship. with fellow Paratroopers. You will have a great time!

**2017 SOUTHWEST  
MEMORIAL AIRBORNE  
DAYS JUNE 9-11, 2017**

This is a regional (for that matter a national) event. We last did this in 2014 and also in 1987, 1989 and 1993.

Our Acadiana Chapter will be hosting a multi-Chapter event (All Texas Chapter's) plus the Mississippi Chapter (and everyone else who cares to come). Our host hotel is the Ramada Inn in Lafayette, LA at 2032 SW Evangeline Thruway, Lafayette, LA 70501. Our Chapter will again make all of our visitors welcome and as we say in South Louisiana "Show them a good time." Les le bon temps roule, or Let the good times roll. A registration form will be attached to this e-mail (or mailed for those receiving this by USPS. I ask all Chapter members to make a real effort to attend and call your "Airborne" buddies and invite them. You can have a mini-reunion within the framework of this regional Airborne confab. Last time I had friends from Massachusetts and Illinois come to Louisiana. They had a great time. I hope they and other of my

Airborne comrades will come. We don't have a speaker yet, but I know we will secure an excellent one. I have a couple of things going right now.

**82<sup>ND</sup> ABN DIVISION'S CONVENTION, ORLANDO, FL. AUG 9-13, 2017**

This year's Convention celebrates the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Division. The registration fee will be \$100.00 per person. This will include two formal dinners plus food and drink in the hospitality rooms. The hotel is the Rosen Center hotel at 9840 International Dr, in Orlando, FL. This is in the locale of many vacation spots in Orlando. If anyone wants a copy of the registration call, me and I will send it.

**82<sup>ND</sup> ABN DIV ASSN'S ALUMNI BOOK**

We received information from Fayetteville that the 82<sup>nd</sup> Alumni Book that you may have paid for (I did) is being held up, but that it will be produced and shipped. For information from them, you can check their website: [customerservice@publishingconcepts.com](mailto:customerservice@publishingconcepts.com) or you can call: 1-800-982-1590.

**VISIT THE 82<sup>ND</sup> AIRBORNE DIVISION ASSOCIATION'S WEB PAGE**

This can be found at: <http://www.82ndairborneassociation.org/> Once you are

**there you can view the quarterly "Paraglide" magazine, which is only available on the Internet.**

We hope that at some time in the future it can again be available in a hard copy.

An article for the Fall issue has been sent to them. Look for it.

**ACADIANA CHAPTER WEBSITE:**

Check out our website at: [www.acadianairborne.org/](http://www.acadianairborne.org/)

**RENEWING MEMBERS:**

**Ralland Boone** – Lives in Breaux Bridge, LA. He served with the 101<sup>st</sup> Abn Div in the early 1960's. Thanks for renewing!

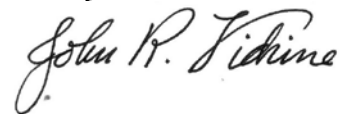
**Terrence O'Connor** – Lives in Lafayette, LA. He served with the 82<sup>nd</sup> and with the 187<sup>th</sup> in Europe. He was deployed to Lebanon in 1958.

**Wayne N. Katsura** – Lives in Morgan City, LA. Wayne served with HHC 2/504 May 1973-1976 Left USAR in 1985 as SFC. I served with Wayne in the USAR and appreciate him as a friend.

**RECRUITING NEW MEMBERS.**

We ask you to keep a copy of the application form and recruit new members! If you want, application forms call me. If you need me to mail, you an application form please contact me.

Thanks and "Airborne All The Way!"



John R. "Randy" Vidrine  
HHC 2/325<sup>th</sup> Dom Rep 1965  
Chapter Chairman Acadiana  
Chapter 82<sup>nd</sup> Abn Div Association  
2424 Pierre Matte Road  
Branch, LA 70516-3631  
Home Ph (337) 684-6175  
Cell Ph (337) 288-2730  
E-mail: [jvidrine@aol.com](mailto:jvidrine@aol.com)

