

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:  
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2424 Pierre Matte Road, Branch, LA 70516

**ACADIANA CHAPTER'S JULY MEETING WILL BE HELD SATURDAY JULY 9th, 2016 AT HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH AT 415 ROBLEY DRIVE IN LAFAYETTE, LA, AT 1030 HRS (10:30 A.M) WE WILL EAT LUNCH AT A NEARBY RESTAURANT AFTERWARDS THE MEETING WILL AS ALWAYS BE HELD TO ONE 1 HR IN LENGTH.**

**INFORMATION FROM THE JUNE MEETING**

The members present, voted to plan to host a multi-Chapter (LA, TX and MS) gathering, "Southwest Memorial Airborne Days" in June 2017 on the weekend closest to June 6<sup>th</sup> (D-Day). We did this in 2013 and it was very successful. **IF (and that is a big if),** we have enough energetic members willing to work to pull this off, we will not only be able to do it, we will again, be successful. This will be a Friday, Saturday (ending Sunday morning) event.

We also voted to check into purchasing a paving stone that will be placed in Fayetteville, N.C. at the

Airborne and Special Operations museum. This would be a simple marble stone with our Chapter's name and location. The cost for the smallest one (which would be sufficient) is \$500.00. Mark Melancon will be contacting them to check on this. We will update the Chapter as we have news.

We also voted to conduct our July meeting on the second Saturday (July 9<sup>th</sup> because of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend.)

**JULY MEETING SATURDAY JULY 9<sup>th</sup> 2016 AT HOLY CROSS CHURCH**

Please attend our July meeting to help us plan on what needs to be accomplished in order to pull off a three-day Chapter event in Lafayette, LA. We will need people to volunteer to solicit (1) Door prizes, (2) Food, and drink (soft and beer) for the hospitality suite. (3) People to work with registration during the event (registration beginning Thursday evening). (4) A person or persons who will solicit food for a hospitality meal on Saturday at noon. We did

this the last time. (5) Volunteer(s) to help organize a swamp tour at Henderson Swamp, and for those who wish a tour of "The Acadian Village" here in Lafayette. Attendees will have a choice of one or the other. We will have a closing banquet on Saturday evening and a breakfast with a Ft. Polk, Chaplain who will conduct a short "Airborne" Chapel service on Sunday morning. (6) We need a committee to solicit ads for a Booklet, which will be produced and handed out to those who attend. We will have examples from the 2013 event at the meeting for everyone to see. The registration fee (to be determined) will have to cover all of this and hopefully make a profit. The last time we came out quite well.

**82<sup>nd</sup> AIRBORNE DIVISION ASSOCIATION CONVENTION**

The 70<sup>th</sup> Convention is going to be hosted by the Kentucky Chapter in Louisville, KY. It will be held August 10-13, 2016 at the Crowne Plaza Louisville Airport hotel. The hotel

room rate is \$99.82 per night including tax. This rate is good from 7 August through 17 August 2016. To make hotel reservations call 888-233-9527 and request the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division rate when calling.

The registration for the convention is \$90.00 per person until July 20<sup>th</sup> after which it will be \$110.00. A number of members have indicated an interest in attending and I may if circumstances allow. You can find the registration form on the "Paraglide" website or contact me and I can send you one.

## AIRBORNE HISTORY!

If anyone has the opportunity to travel to Arizona, I would highly recommend visiting the Pima Air and Space Museum. It is located in Tucson, Arizona, and is one of the world's largest non-government funded aerospace museums. The museum features a display of nearly 300 aircraft spread out over 80 acres on a campus occupying 127 acres.

Over the past forty years, the museum has grown immensely and today encompasses five indoor exhibit hangars (two dedicated to WWII). Guided Docent-led walking tours and museum ground Tram Tours are offered daily. The museum is the exclusive offeror of bus tours of the 2,600-acre "Aircraft Boneyard"/U.S. military and government aircraft storage

facility, Monday-Friday, non-federal holidays only.

**Address:** 6000 E Valencia Rd, Tucson, AZ 85706

**Opened:** May 1976

**Hours:** 9AM-5PM

**Phone:** (520) 574-0462.

If you get a chance to go, you will find it very worthwhile. You will see aircraft from WWII to present to include every jump aircraft used by the US Army. This includes the C-47, C-46, C-119, C-123, C-124 (Globemaster), C-130's. You will also see President Eisenhower's Air Force One, which was a DC-7. When I went, you could actually go through the aircraft.

## ACADIANA CHAPTER WEBSITE:

Please check out our Chapter website setup by Matthew Lane for setting up our new website. It is located at:

[www.acadianairborne.org/](http://www.acadianairborne.org/)

Please bookmark this site on your computer for quick reference. Matthew has placed our Chapter Newsletters there along with a Chapter application form for the 82<sup>nd</sup> Association and Chapter membership. You can print a copy of the application form from the website. If you would, please go there to print out copies to keep available to help recruit new members.

## NEW AND RENEWING CHAPTER MEMBERS

### NEW MEMBERS

**Randolph Bascle** from Bourg, LA has joined. He served with Co A. 82nd Signal Battalion from 3/59 to 06/60; then 2nd ABG 503rd ABN Inf Okinawa from 06/60 to 09/61. We welcome he and his wife Kathie to our Chapter. Randolph attended the 2016 82<sup>nd</sup> ABN "All American Week." He and his friends had a great time together.

**Robert Tujaque** from Lafayette, LA has recently joined. He is from Lafayette, LA and he served in the 82<sup>nd</sup> with HHB 80th Abn AA Bn. From 5-53 to 5-55. Robert is a retired banker and we welcome he and his wife Betty to our Chapter.

**Brian W. Fladmo** – from Hammond recently joined and attended our June Meeting with his wife Kelley and their daughter. Brian served with Served in 250th Med. Det. (Surg) (ABN) Ft. Lewis, WA April 97 to March 1998. We thank 1SG (R.) Malcolm Anderson from Hammond for running him down and giving him an application, which he used. Brian, Thanks and thanks to Malcolm too.

### RENEWALS

We thank the following members for their recent renewal with us. They are:

**Ronald Stratton** from West Monroe, LA

**Hector R. Ponton** Col. (R.) is from Lake Charles, LA

**Vernon Blanchard** MAJ (R.) lives in Breaux Bridge, LA.

**Albert J. Taylor** is from Opelousas, LA.

**Ralph J. Gaudet** lives in Lafayette, LA.

**Earl LaCombe** CSM (R.) is from Rayne, LA.

**Donny R. Rogers** lives in Baton Rouge, LA.

**Alvin C. York** from Cave City, Arkansas (thanks to Al Spinks).

**Terrence O'Connor** lives in Lafayette, LA.

**Ralland Boone** lives in Breaux Bridge, LA.

We thank each one of you for renewing with our Chapter.

#### **ACADIANA CHAPTER FACEBOOK PAGE:**

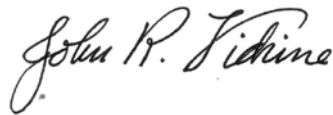
The Chapter has and has a Facebook page. The link is long, but worth bookmarking on your computer to check on it.

**[www.facebook.com/pages/Acadiana-Chapter-82nd-Airborne-Division-Association/174739489213482?fref=ts](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Acadiana-Chapter-82nd-Airborne-Division-Association/174739489213482?fref=ts)**

#### **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!"



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