

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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**THE ACADIANA  
CHAPTER'S 37<sup>th</sup>  
ANNIVERSARY BANQUET  
IS SCHEDULED FOR  
SATURDAY EVENING  
JANUARY 20<sup>th</sup> 2018 AT  
CHEF ROY'S  
RESTAURANT IN RAYNE,  
LA.**

**THE ANNIVERSARY  
BANQUET WILL BE  
HELD IN LIEU OF A  
REGULAR MEETING.**

We will be celebrating the 37<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Acadiana Chapter of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division Association. The Acadiana Chapter was organized in January 1980 in Lafayette, LA. News releases were sent to local papers announcing an organizing meeting. Thirty-three people came and 31 joined. We have celebrated this important event in our Chapter's history every January. The banquet will be held at Chef Roy's restaurant in Rayne, LA.

Our guest speaker will be the JRTC and Fort Polk Deputy Commander and Chief of Staff, Colonel Christopher S. Moretti. A meal form is going out with

this newsletter. 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 15<sup>th</sup> 2017 is the cutoff date.**

The Banquet's social Hour will begin at 1800 (6:00 PM) with the Banquet beginning at 1900 hrs (7:00 PM).

Come join in for a great evening of "Airborne" camaraderie and fellowship with fellow Paratroopers. You will have a great time! This is the largest gathering of "Airborne" veterans in the State of Louisiana. Do not miss the opportunity to come and join in communing with people of like character – fellow paratroopers.

**OUR FEBRUARY 2018  
MEETING WILL BE HELD  
THE FIRST SATURDAY IN  
FEBRUARY, FEB 3<sup>rd</sup> 2018**

The meeting will be held at Holy Cross Church at 415 Robley Dr. in Lafayette, LA. on Saturday February 3<sup>rd</sup> 2018. Our meeting will begin at 10:30 AM (1030 Hrs) and end at 11:30 P.M. We will decide on a restaurant to eat after the meeting. There are so many good ones in close

proximity to the Church we have plenty to choose from. **Come to the meeting to SUPPORT the Chapter!**

**2017 ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

The Chapter supported our fellow veterans who are residents at the Louisiana War Veterans Home in Jennings, LA on Veterans Day 2017 by visiting and handing out donuts, orange juice and coffee. The veterans who are residents at this very fine facility appreciate the visit and company from fellow veterans.

The Chapter also raised and donated **\$930.00**, which was sent in to the National 82<sup>nd</sup> Association's HQS for the 2017 Holiday Food Fund for lower ranking soldiers families of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division. We are proud to have been able to do this.

The Chapter also donated **\$500.00** to the South Louisiana Veterans Action Coalition to help in purchasing a sound system for the new Lafayette, LA VA Clinic. This sound system with speakers plays the Service Songs of the five Military Branches along with the National Anthem. This is

a fitting thing for our area veterans to have meet them as they enter the clinic.

In addition to this, our members are and have been active in various military veteran organizations.

Being a member of the Acadiana Chapter and meeting together is a benefit to each and every one of us. We all have an affinity for fellow paratroopers. No matter what age or era of service we have that common tie – we all **“put our knees in the breeze.”**

## AIRBORNE HISTORY!

### History of "All American Week" at Ft. Bragg, N.C.

The 82nd Airborne Division has celebrated its history with the Division Review for years. The present tradition of stretching this into "All American Week" was begun by 82<sup>nd</sup> Commander, Major General Jake Lindsay who was commander in **May of 1982.**

He brought the idea of honoring the Division's **veterans** at the major celebration of the Division from his time with the **French Foreign Legion** as an exchange officer. He noted when they celebrated Camarone Day (April 30<sup>th</sup>) that the FFL invited all of their veterans and made them a focal point of the celebration and that it extended for an entire week.

The first All American Week was in 24-28 May 1982. The magnitude of what he instituted is that

both the veteran and present day paratrooper's benefit from their opportunity to mix and visit with each other. The present day paratrooper is able to meet the veterans who made the Division history of yesteryear and the veteran is able to meet with the young soldiers who are now following our example. It is an excellent opportunity for everyone to get to know each other. It is very clear that everyone benefits.

This year's "All American Week" will be May 21-24, 2018. Plan on attending.

### ACADIANA CHAPTER WEBSITE:

Again, thanks go to our Chapter Member Matthew Lane for setting up our new website. It is located at:

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

Please bookmark this site on your computer for quick reference.

### ACADIANA CHAPTER FACEBOOK PAGE:

The Chapter has and has had a Facebook page, which was set up by Chapter member John Hurth's daughter. 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](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Acadiana-Chapter-82nd-Airborne-Division-Association/174739489213482?fref=ts)

Please copy and past on your browser. We have announcements and pictures frequently on the site.

## 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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