

ACADIANA CHAPTER DISPATCH



ACADIANA CHAPTER 82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION
ASSOCIATION

CHAPTER MEETS AT HOLY CROSS CHURCH, 415 ROBLEY DR. LAF, LA
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**ACADIANA CHAPTER'S
36TH ANNIVERSARY
BANQUET IS SCHEDULED
FOR SATURDAY EVENING
JANUARY 21ST 2017 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 36th Anniversary of the Acadiana Chapter of the 82nd 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 **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 16th 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!

**OUR FEBRUARY 2017
MEETING WILL BE HELD
THE FIRST SATURDAY IN
FEBRUARY, FEB 4TH, 2017**

The meeting will be held at Holy Cross Church at 415 Robley Dr. in Lafayette, LA. on Saturday January 4th, 2017. Our meeting will begin at 11:00 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 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 (we are inviting the Post CG from Ft. Polk, LA) but I am not sure at this time if he will be able to

attend. Please make your reservations with the hotel as soon as possible and please send in your registration. We need 90 room nights at the hotel to meet our agreement which ensures the rates we have.

AIRBORNE HISTORY!

All of us have heard the term "**stick**" in reference to paratroopers jumping from an aircraft. The term goes back to WWII when the term was first used. Initially the bomber forces used the term "stick" to describe a group of bombs arranged in a bomb bay to fall at intervals on a target. It was natural that when Airborne (parachute) forces were organized that the jumpers jumping from aircraft were referred to as a "stick" of paratroopers. The size of a stick depends upon the load of troopers jumping from a particular aircraft. In WWII, a stick could also refer to the number of troopers jumping from one (or in the case of the C-46 2 doors) in one run over a drop zone. A C-47's jumpers all exited from one door (left door) of the aircraft, so all of the jumpers constituted a "stick." On the other hand, the C-46 "Commando" had two (2) doors and therefore two sticks of jumpers.

Another term used since WWII is "Chalk." The Chalk refers to chalk marking on the aircraft to identify them. This is all part of the means to keep track of aircraft and jumpers during operations.

As an aside, if any of you ever jumped the C-124 Globemaster in service from 1950 to 1974, it was in my opinion a TERRIBLE aircraft to jump. If you were unlucky enough to be on the second (upper) deck, you had to go forward toward the cockpit, descend steep stairs turn 180 degrees and they hook your snap link on the anchor cable on the run. The doors were 6' wide so you could not get a good door position to jump. If any of you jumped this beast, call me.

ACADIANA CHAPTER WEBSITE:

Again, thanks go to our Chapter Member Matthew Lane for setting up our new website. It is located at: 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 82nd Association and Chapter membership. A copy of the application form can be printed from the website. If you would, please go there to print out copies to keep available to help recruit new members. If you run up on a "qualified" veteran, that is a person who has earned the parachutist badge, please get their information and get it to me for follow up.

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?ref=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. I will have some at the meeting on Saturday Feb 4th 2017. Be sure to ask me about this if you want to have a copy handy. I keep some in my vehicles. If you need me to mail, you an application form please contact me.

Thanks and "Airborne All The Way!"



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