

ACADIANA CHAPTER DISPATCH



ACADIANA CHAPTER 82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION
ASSOCIATION

CHAPTER MEETS IN SCOTT, LA AT AMERICAN RED CROSS BUILDING

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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The May 2017 meeting will be held on Saturday May 6th 2017 at Holy Cross Church at 415 Robley Dr. Lafayette LA at 1030 hours. We will eat at a local restaurant after our one hour meeting. We are working on plans for Southwest Memorial Airborne Days in June. We need your input and help! PLEASE COME!

THIS WILL BE OUR LAST MEETING BEFORE OUR JUNE 9-11 2017 REUNION!

Please come to this very important meeting on Saturday May 6th at Holy Cross Church Building D.

There will not be a June Meeting so this is the last meeting before our June 9-11th Southwest Memorial Airborne Days event. We are asking **ALL** of you who are planning on attending, to **PLEASE** send in your registration form with payment **NOW!** We need to know how many are coming as soon as possible to help in our planning. Presently,

we have registrations from as far away as Ohio, and we have a good number from Texas and Mississippi. We ask that you send in yours now. We want to thank our members and OTHERS outside the Chapter who have paid for advertisements in our event program. Our intention is to put on the **BEST REGIONAL Airborne reunion ever.**

I would like to especially thank our Chapter Trustee (and former Chairman) Roosevelt Solomon for acquiring a good number of Advertisements. Thanks Roosevelt!

Also to gain honorable mention is Chapter member Marcus "Mark" Melancon who has gained a number of advertisements but has also worked up a very nice flyer that he has been putting up at business places. I am attaching a copy of the registration form to this e-mail and to the hard copy USPS newsletter's we send out. I hope that you can all come on down to Lafayette to enjoy a great "Airborne" get together. You can choose a "**swamp**" tour on Saturday (or you can go to

the tour of Vermillionville (the original name for Lafayette). This is an authentic gathering of old Acadian houses, a school house and a Catholic Church that date back, to the 1800's some to the late 1700's.

There will be a hospitality room open on Friday and Saturday with munchies and drinks (water, soda and beer).

We will have a lunch as part of your registration on **Friday** and **Saturday** and a **Banquet** on Saturday evening and a great breakfast after a field style Chapel service (short) conducted by an Airborne Chaplain from Ft. Polk, LA.

Call the ph # **(337) 233-6815** on the Registration Form to book your room with the Ramada Inn at the stated rate. I'm checking in on Thursday evening June 8, 2017.

ALL AMERICAN WEEK 2017

"All-American Week (AAW) at Ft. Bragg, NC is set for May 22-25. This is a great opportunity to visit with the current day Great American paratroopers of the 82nd Airborne Division and

meeting with your old comrades. Plan to attend. If you have any questions, please call me. Delores and I are going. Presently Al Spinks, Jim Kober, Mark Melancon and Roosevelt and Octavia Solomon are also going. If you have any questions about this, please call me. If anybody else is going please let me know so we can link up there. Call me if you need a registration form (which I mailed out earlier).

2017 NATIONAL CONVENTION:

Planning continues for the 71st National Convention August 9-13, 2017 in Orlando, FL as well as for celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the formation of the 82nd Division. Registration is \$100 per person, which includes 2 formal dinners and food and drink in the hospitality rooms. The host hotel will again be the Rosen Centre, 9840 International Drive, Orlando, FL, just minutes from many of the Orlando vacations attractions. The rooms are \$85 per standard room. Bring your family and take advantage of the great rates at a world class hotel in one of our Nation's premier vacation spots. Please go to the following link for more information and to register today!

<http://www.paratrooperdz.com/2017-national-convention/>
Check out the 2017 82nd Airborne Division Association 71st Annual Convention –ORLANDO

Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/groups/479575888817905/?ref-tf-ts>

I sent out forms to attend earlier. IF YOU NEED ONE CONTACT ME.

THE INFANTRY'S MISSION

“The mission of the Infantry is to close with the enemy by means of fire and maneuver to defeat or capture him, or to repel his assault by fire, close combat and counter-attack. FM 7-8 (FM 3-21.8)

“You may fly over a land forever; you may bomb it, and wipe it clean of life! – but if you desire to defeat it; protect it and keep it for civilization, you must do this on the ground, the way the Roman Legions did by putting your young men in the mud.” **T.R. Fehrenback 1963, author of “This Kind of War – Korea.”**

AIRBORNE AIRCRAFT – C-46 AIR COMMANDO

Like the C-47 aircraft, the C-46 Curtiss Commando came into service as a transport from its planned service as a high altitude commercial airliner. The Curtiss **CW-20**, was designed in 1937 by George A. Page Jr., the chief aircraft designer at Curtiss-Wright. It was adopted for use in the U.S. Army Air Forces as a troop transport and cargo aircraft with an order of 46 aircraft. These were followed by 200 ordered in two batches and

then 1208 aircraft for a total of 1454 aircraft. The last planes were delivered in 1946 which brought the total produced to 3,140 aircraft. These planes had two large jump doors as opposed to the one on the C-47. The C-46 was used as an air transport aircraft, but was used as a drop aircraft only once during WWII for Operation Varsity on 24 March 1945 when the 17th Airborne and British 6th Airborne Division dropped troops into Wessel Germany. This was to ensure the success of the Rhine River crossing. The C-46 did not have self sealing fuel tanks like the C-47 and a number of them went down in flames on that mission. These aircraft could carry and drop 30 loaded paratroopers from 2 doors simultaneously. The C-46's next combat paratroop use was in the Korean War when they were used to drop the 187th ARCT in their two combat jumps (October 1950 and March 1951). In addition to the C-46, the C-47 and C-82 aircraft (smaller version of the C-119 Flying Boxcar) were also used. It was last used in the Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba.



WELCOME:

NEW TRANSFERRING LIFE MEMBER:

I met retired 1SG **Dennis Quinn** at the Lafayette, LA VA Clinic on Thursday April 27, 2017. He is a Life Member and we have sent his transfer application in to National 82nd Association Hqs., in Fayetteville. He served with 82nd Aviation and other units with multiple tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. Ret. 1SG served with HHT/1-17 Cav, 12/05 to 7/11. Afghanistan 4/09 to 4/10; HHC 2/82 AVN 6/02 to 12/05 Iraq also tour Iraq 4/04 - 4/05; Afghanistan 6/02-3/03. HHC 2-82 AVN (ASSLT) 8/93 to 6/99 Come welcome him into the Chapter Saturday May 6th.

RECRUITING NEW MEMBERS.

Keep your antennae tuned for "Airborne" veterans. Keep a copy of the Chapter's application form handy to give to anyone you meet who tells you they are a paratrooper. Be sure to tell them that we **must have a copy of their DD 214** showing the award of the Parachutist Badge **or a copy of their Jump School Certificate,** or any other official document showing issuance of jump wings. We also must have proof of **Honorable Discharge** which will be on the DD214 or by copy of an Honorable Discharge. Wear your

Airborne cap to identify yourself as an aid in recruiting members. Remember, without some identification, no one knows you were "Airborne."

Thanks and "Airborne All The Way!"



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