



82nd Airborne Division Association, Inc.

Chartered by
The United States Congress

P.O. Box 87482, Fayetteville, NC 28304-7482 (910) 223-1182

(844) 272-0047 Fax
www.82ndairborneassociation.org

OCTOBER 2019 BULLETIN NO. 687

PLEASE DISSEMINATE THE BULLETIN TO AS MANY MEMBERS AS POSSIBLE TO KEEP THEM INFORMED

1. **2020 CONVENTION**: Our 2020 Convention in Houston, Texas sponsored by our Lone Star Chapter. They are already working out the planning and we will be posting the fliers and registration in the near future.
2. **ALL AMERICAN WEEK (AAW) 2020**: All American Week 2020 will be from 18-21 May 2020. As you may know, the Airborne Inn will be losing the Hardy Hall building of the Inn so that construction of the new Hotel can begin. Because of this, there are not enough rooms at Moon Hall for all our guests and we have also blocked rooms at the Landmark Inn (This Hotel is also on post) at a rate of \$79.99 per night. The Hospitality room, and Wednesday Night Pig Roast dinner will remain at Moon Hall and transportation will be available to bring Members back and forth from the Landmark Inn Hotel. There will also be transportation to the Thursday Night Banquet, and buses will run from Moon Hall and the Landmark Inn to all of the Division Events for the week. The construction will continue over the next couple of years and we will adapt as needed until the new Airborne Inn is completed. We are hoping for it to be completed by AAW 2022, but there is no clear date for completion set as of yet.

The AAW festivities will still be a great event and one you will not want to miss. We will be posting the AAW 2020 flier and registration form online next week with all of the hotel information and codes available to reserve your rooms. We understand that there will be a lot of questions concerning these changes and we are working hard to make as much information as possible available.

3. **DONATIONS TO THE "HOLIDAY TROOP SUPPORT"**: We are once again gearing up for our "Holiday Troop Support" program which will provide Holiday meals to 500 82nd Airborne Division Families for the Thanksgiving Holiday and 500 meals for the Christmas Holiday. We will work with the Division Chaplain's office to provide these meals to deserving Families of our Active Duty 82nd Airborne Division Troops. This project was a huge success over the last three years and we accomplished our goal of providing 1000 meals over the Holiday season. Our office still receives thanks from Families for last year's donations. Let's make this year as big of a success and provide the Troopers and their Families with another 1000 meals donated by the Association. The Meals will be distributed by the Association, and Division Chaplains office, on 22 November for Thanksgiving, and 13 December for the Christmas Holiday Season. Please send donations so that we can provide these meals over the Holiday Season. If donations exceed what is needed for these meals, the additional funds will be reserved for next year so that we may continue this tradition. For those who have already

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donated, we thank you for your kind support of the Troops. For those who would like to donate, please send a check to our office at: P.O. Box 87482, Fayetteville, NC, 28326, or you can use the go to our donations link at: [82nd Association Donations](#) to make your donation. This program has a direct impact on the lives of our Troopers and their Families and will also provide meals to the Families of our Deployed Troopers. Thank you for your support.

4. **MINUTES AND DELEGATE QUESTIONS FOR 2019 ANNUAL CONVENTION:** The Minutes for the BOD meeting, and questions and answers from the delegates at the 2019 Annual Convention are posted on our website under the “Forms and Resources” link under the Quick Links tab, and have been emailed to all our Chapters through their Association email address.
5. **NATIONAL OFFICERS FOR 2020:** The following will assume/continue office effective 1 January 2020:
 - a. President Gary Rezabek (John Towle-Cleveland Chapter) was re-elected.
 - b. Vice President Steven Copenig (Central Pennsylvania Chapter) was elected.
 - c. National Secretary Mike Oesch (Vulcan Chapter) was re-elected.
 - d. National Treasurer William Waller (Kentucky Airborne Chapter) was elected.

The General Membership meeting filled six (6) Veteran Directors vacancies. Congratulations to Richard Becker (North Central Florida Chapter), who was re-elected to the Board of Directors. Congratulations to our new members of the Board of Directors, William Bell (Gen Dennis L. Via All Airborne Signal Chapter), Steven Copenig (Central Pennsylvania Chapter), Maggie Peppers (Don Lassen Atlanta All Airborne Chapter), Nero Tucker (Vulcan Chapter), and William Waller (Kentucky Airborne Chapter).

We encourage Chapters to begin looking at prospective nominees for the 2021 Board of Directors. This is a very important position within the Association and one that will allow members to assist the Association in successfully moving forward.

6. **ATTENDANCE OF NATIONAL OFFICERS:** Act now to request the attendance of the Association President to your Chapter events. Please send invitations by mail or email and send a copy to the Executive Director. Requests for participation of National Officers in Chapter or Regional events should be coordinated with the respective Officer(s) and submitted in writing to the Executive Director of the Association. Please allow as much lead time as possible so that the Officer(s) can plan ahead. Please remember that all events can be published in the Paraglide and on the Association website (Events).
7. **2018 82nd AIRBORNE ASSOCIATION FINANCIAL REPORT:** The 2018 Association Financial Report is posted on our website at the following link Quick Links/Forms and Resources/[2018 Financial Report](#), and has been emailed to all our Chapters through their Association email address.

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8. **CURRENT PROJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION:**

This is a list of some of the Projects the Association has approved for working on in 2019:

- a. Holiday Troop Support: We will provide 1000 meals to Troopers and their Families during the Thanksgiving and Christmas Season (will be accomplished through corporate, Chapter and individual donations).
- b. Recognition of the Jumpmaster, NCO, and Trooper of the Year: (Will be accomplished through corporate donations).
- c. 3rd Annual All American Adventure 2020: Plan is to send 20 82nd Airborne Division Troopers on a 4-day resiliency trip to the Catskill Mountains for fishing, hiking, biking and numerous other activities. Aimed at helping Troopers in reintegration after deployment, this project uses donations from Association Members and Chapters, and Corporate sponsorship. This trip will take place in June 2020, provided we are able to secure funding for our Troopers.
- d. Our Division currently has Troopers deployed to Afghanistan and the Association will be looking for ways to support them during their deployment.

9. **DONATIONS TO GENERAL FUND**: The Association is working on numerous projects, and continues to look for ways to better the lives of our Active Duty and Veteran Members. Now that we have been granted our 501(c)3 status, we will be stressing our fund raising through corporate donations, but we still need the support of our Local Chapters and Association Members to complete the funding on all projects and to help sponsor other projects for our Active Duty and Veteran Members. Our 2019 projects of sending our WW II Veterans back to Normandy and the Annual Convention at no cost to the Veteran, as well as our All American Adventure were accomplished with very little help by our Chapters and Members. These project costs were almost \$120,000 and were mainly obtained from donors who have never been in the Military and still understood the importance of these projects. It is time that our Chapters and Members stand up and support the work the Association is doing. We are asking for you to support your Airborne Brothers and Sisters by supporting our Association so that we can do more to support them. Please help your Association in our efforts to continue to serve our Airborne Family by donating to the Association General Fund. Every little bit helps. Support YOUR Association!

Thank you for your support.

To make a donation, PLEASE go to: [Donate](#) and or mail your donation to the National office at: P.O. Box 87482, Fayetteville, NC 28304. Do your part in helping the success of the Association.

10. **IRS LETTERS TO CHAPTERS OF NON TAX RETURN SUBMITTAL**: Again this year some of our Chapters are receiving letters from the IRS informing them that their Chapter tax returns have not been submitted, and again this year the National Office will clear this up. I assure you that all of the
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Association Chapters tax returns were submitted on time, and as a group tax return, as we are instructed to do. That is, all the tax returns that were submitted on time to our office.

Why does this keep happening? The best I can figure is that although our returns are sent as a group, another office that does individual returns does not seem to know that it has been done, and sends out the notices. How do we fix it? This is a good question because it has happened since I got here in 2015, and every year we speak to the IRS and never get a good answer as to why it happens, but are told it should not happen again. Again, this year, that is not the case, and the letters are going out to some of our Chapters. If you receive one of these letters, please email or mail them to our office and we will have our accountant submit all of them to the IRS with a copy of our completed group tax return, and that will fix the issue. As previously stated, all the received tax returns sent to our office were filed and are complete for 2018.

11. CURRENT IRS STATUS OF THE ASSOCIATION AND CHAPTERS: The Association received questions on the IRS Nonprofit status of the Association and Chapters and wants to insure that all the Chapters are aware of our current statuses, and how we have gotten here.

In 2016 the Association decided to request a change to our nonprofit status from a 501(c)4, which is partially tax deductible, to a fully tax deductible status. We were advised by the IRS to seek a 501(c)19 status that is fully tax deductible, and is for Veteran Military organizations. So we submitted the request for a 501(c)19 status and on 30 Mar 2017 this status was granted to us by the IRS. Since the regulations state that the parent organization must first obtain the status before requesting the sub organization to receive the same status, we were now able to request the 501(c)19 status for the chapters, and we did so. We filled out all the requests and submitted them to the IRS. During the time we were waiting for approval for the chapters, it became apparent to the Association that the 501(c)19 status was not working for us. Even though the IRS sees it as a fully tax deductible status equal to the 501(c)3 status, most organizations were rejecting our donation requests because they were setup to only give to 501(c)3 organizations, and were not willing to do the work involved to change their standards just for our organization. After several rejections, we spoke with the IRS about this situation, and all they could tell us is that the prospective donors should understand that we are the same as a 501(c)3, and had no reply to “but they don’t”. So our only option would be to request to change our status to 501(c)3. Possibly organizations will change their standards and include 501(c)19 status, but that was not helping us now. Since it was costing us \$3,000 to obtain the 501(c)19 status for the Chapters, the first thing we did was ask the IRS to stop our request for the Chapters until we obtained our (c)3 status and could resubmit for the Chapters to also receive a (c)3 status.

In October 2018, we submitted for a change to a 501(c)3 and included all the reasoning, explained here, to our reasoning for the request. As you can image, the IRS initially came back with “there is no need for a change, since they are both fully tax deductible”, but with another letter of explanations and several conversations later, we were finally granted our 501(c)3 status on 23 July, 2019. Yes, it can take that long. Once we obtained this status for the Association, we began our process of requesting our Chapters

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receive the (c)3 status also, and that is where we currently are. We are hoping it does not take as long for this change, but if we go by our past experience it can be ten months before we get approval for the change. We are hoping that we will have this all sorted out by Summer 2020.

When we do receive the approval, we will insure that all the Chapters receive their new IRS Tax Exempt Letters for their files, and we can finally put this to bed. I hope this explains how we got to where we are, and we will keep you advised of any changes.

- 12. CHANGE IN CHAPTER OFFICERS:** When your Chapter elects new Officers please notify the National Office so that we can update our records. Elected Chapter Officers must be members in good standing and annual members must be current. Please provide Chapter Officer (EVEN IF THERE ARE NO CHANGES) to National annually so that we can update our files, the Paraglide and the Association website. *Please be sure to give any newly elected Chairmen access to the Chapter email account.* If there are any problems with gaining access, please contact the National Office for assistance.
- 13. PAYMENT OF CHAPTER PORTION OF MEMBERSHIP DUES (CHAPTER REFUNDS):** The portion of membership dues received directly at the National Office, and to be paid to the Chapter selected by the member upon registration, as per the Association By-laws, Article II-Membership, Section 1, Paragraph E, Subparagraph 1, Items a-c, for the period Jan-Jun 2019. These refunds were sent to the Chapter email accounts 1 October 2019. PayPal will send an email to the Chapter email address to notify you of this payment so that you can insure your payment is directed to your Chapter bank account. Any Chapter who has not yet set up their PayPal account must do so within 30 days of receiving the payment or the payment will be returned to the National office account. Any Chapter wishing to donate their payment to the National Office, please notify us by email prior to 25 October 2019.
- 14. USE OF ASSOCIATION FORMS FOR MEMBERSHIP:** Please use the membership application forms provided on our website rather than chapter specific forms. Chapter forms do not always relay the correct or changed information, and make it more difficult for processing membership. As of January 2019, we will not accept any documents other than those provided by the National office.
- 15. USE OF ASSOCIATION MEETINGS FOR POLITICAL STANCES:** The 82nd Airborne Division Association shall in no way use official communications of any type to relay political opinions. This includes, but is not limited to, correspondence using Association letterhead, email addresses, websites or any other social media. Members will not make any political statements while representing themselves as 82nd Airborne Division Association Members, nor shall any Association or Chapter meetings be used in any way to relay political opinions or party affiliations. Neither the Association nor any of its Chapters will discriminate against or support any organization solely on the grounds of their political standings. We are not in the business of politics and will not support any political organizations.

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- 16. ONLINE SUPPORT DOCUMENTS:** The National office has posted documents on our webpage in the Quick Links / Forms & Resources folder on our website to assist the Chapters. These include forms for Chapter Continuity and Chapter Startup. Please look over these forms and use them as needed.
- 17. ASSOCIATION SUSPENSES/DEADLINES:** Please note the following Association deadlines (all information should be sent to the Executive Director, unless otherwise noted):
- a. No deadlines at this time.
- 18. 82d AIRBORNE ASSOCIATION USAA CREDIT CARD:** Check out the 82nd Airborne Division Association's co-branded cards. These cards display a Paratrooper under the silk on the front. It's a very nice card to have. To get a co-branded Association card, please call 855-755-8263 or go to www.usaa.com/82nd . If you use a credit card, please choose the card that supports the Association.
- 19. E-NEWS BULLETIN:** *Get Army and Airborne related news directly to your emails!* Members who insure they shared their email address with the Association will receive our E-news bulletin which contains informative articles about the 82nd Airborne Division, the Airborne community, the Military, Veterans issues, and even Association related articles, and links to our Bulletins, the Paraglide Magazine, and Fliers and Registration forms for Association Event. If you are not receiving the E-news bulletin to your email just send us your email address and we will add you to the list. Although we have had requests, we are only offering this benefit to our Association members. Sign up today and keep up to date on Airborne issues!
- 20. WITHIN THE DIVISION AND FORT BRAGG:** Please visit the following 82d Airborne Division websites to find out what is happening within the Division and sign up for our E-News bulletin: <http://www.dvidshub.net/image> and <http://www.bragg.army.mil/82nd/pages/default.aspx>. Also, don't forget to check out the Division's Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/82ndAirborneDivision>
- 21. ASSOCIATION UPCOMING EVENTS:** *Support our Chapters!* Please announce the following upcoming regional events at Chapter meetings, via the Chapter newsletter and website. Registration and information on these events were published in the Paraglide and/or on the Association's website at the following link www.82ndairborneassociation.org/events.html. If you would like to have the Association President or Executive Director attend your event, please send an invitation to the National office in enough time for us to plan and we will do our best to attend.
- a. 57th Annual All Ohio Days, 11-13 October 2019 in Lockburne, Ohio is hosted by the Central Ohio All Airborne Chapter. The POC is Andrew Ritter at 937-570-5603 or Tom Simmons at 910-987-7467. The host hotel is Hampton Inn & Suites Columbus at Sciota Downs in Lockburne, reservations 614-491-3800.

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- b. Hilton Head Weekend, 19-22 October 2019 in Hilton Head, South Carolina is hosted by the Ben Vandervoort Savannah/HHI All Airborne Chapter. The POC is Bill Eberle at 843-682-4171; email - airborneben@hargray.com. The host hotel is the Hilton Head Marriott Resort & Spa. HOTEL RESERVATIONS 888-511-5086, <http://cwp.marriott.com/hhhgr/82ndairborne/>
- c. 2019 Veterans Day Activities, 9 - 11 November 2019 in Arlington, VA is hosted by the COL Reuben H Tucker Chapter, the Washington, DC Chapter and the 82nd Airborne Division Association. The POC is Bill Bauer 910-223-1182. The host hotel is Sheraton Pentagon City in Arlington, VA. Hotel Reservations 800-325-3535 (Code ADA) or <https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1559678012440&key=GRP&app=resvlink>
- d. 8th Annual Airborne Reunion, 27 – 29 February 2020 in Lexington, KY is hosted by the Kentucky Airborne Chapter. The POC is Bill Waller (502)396-4770. The host hotel is the Four Points by Sheraton Lexington in Lexington, KY. Hotel reservations is (859) 259-1311.

22. COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN: *Please help!* Chapters and Members are encouraged to contact local businesses for tax deductible donations for the 82nd Airborne Division Association Education Fund. The 82nd Airborne Division Association Educational Fund benefits our Dependent Children and young Paratroopers who have recently left the service and is a tax exempt organization under the provisions of Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue code.

23. 5th ANNUAL ASSOCIATION 50/50 RAFFLE WINNERS: The winners of the 5th Annual Association Raffle held at the 2019 Convention are: 1st Prize Allen Schoppe, 2nd Prize Lisa Taylor, and 3rd Prize Michael Reedy. All three winners donated their winnings to the 82nd Airborne Division Association. Thank you very much for your generous donations.

24. 6th ANNUAL ASSOCIATION 50/50 RAFFLE: Let's make our 6th Annual 50/50 Raffle even more successful than the previous years. The drawing will be held on Saturday, August 2020 at the Airborne Heritage Banquet during our 74th National Convention. You do not have to be present to win, but you do need to enter! Raffle tickets can be found on our website under Events and can be mailed to the National Office.

25. FACEBOOK PAGE: 'Like Us' at <https://www.facebook.com/82ndAssociation/>. *This is the ONLY official Facebook page of the Association. We have no affiliation with any other sites that are using the Association's name!* We would love to receive pictures or information from the Chapters of events that they have hosted to share with our members!

President Rezabek, together with the Past Presidents, Officers and Directors of the Association and their spouses wish to thank all Members for their service and hope to see you at the Veteran's Day event or other Association and Chapter events.

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Thank you for spreading the Airborne Spirit throughout your communities, and for supporting our Association. Please, keep all of our deployed Troopers and their Families in your prayers!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gary J. Rezabek". The signature is fluid and matches the printed name below it.

Gary Rezabek
National President

OFFICIAL:
Bill Bauer
Executive Director

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