

THE POWDER BAG

“THE CAMDEN LIGHT ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION INC.” NEWLETTER

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“The willingness with which our young people are likely to serve in any war, no matter how justified, shall be directly proportional to how they perceive the veterans of earlier wars were treated and appreciated by their nation.

George Washington

“Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn’t do than by the things you did”

Mark Twain

ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

Commander: COL (RET) Tony Radice
Executive Officer: 1SG (RET) Ed Powell
Adjutant: 1SG (RET) Joe Scioli
Finance Officer: CW4 (RET) Jack Elberson
Logistics Officer: CPT (RET) Marc Kantor

THE CAMDEN LIGHT ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION

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COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

A recent survey, mailed to the membership, regarding the future of the Camden Light Artillery, revealed an overwhelming desire that we continue our efforts despite the fact that many members are restricted by health and distance to attend the monthly meetings. I believe the new commander will consider scaling down somewhat, but not at the expense of complete elimination. As any previous commander of this association will attest to, after four years, you have just about exhausted all of your thinking efforts towards keeping events interesting and informative. It's time this commander "CSMO" with no regrets. I am privileged to have served and thank everyone for their support.

Col (Ret) Tony Radice

SUMMARY OF THE DECEMBER 7TH, 2011 MEETING

The annual Christmas dinner meeting was held on December 7th in the old Officers clubroom at 6:00 PM. Thanks to the wives who, as usual, always makes it a point to run this event without a flaw, again turned out to be as successful as in all of our past years. We had a record turnout.

Our next meeting is *January 4th, 2012*. **HAVE A HAPPY, HEALTHY AND BLESSED NEW YEAR!**

A SOLDIER DIED TODAY

It is with the deepest regrets that I inform the membership of the loss of the former Battalion Commander of the 1st Battalion 112th Field Artillery LTC John H. Ford. John's dedication and love of the artillery and the Battalion were always obvious when you talked with him. He has answered his final roll call and now retires to the traditional brotherhood of stonehurlers, archers, catapulters, rocketeers and gunners. John may have fired his last round but his sound will always be heard as long as there are pictures of him in the museum and men alive who have served with and for him to tell the stories. May he rest in peace.

*He joins the ranks of those who left, who once were by our side;
We bow our heads this moment for a friend who passed away;
Proud to have been with him through part of yesterday*

MILITARY EVENTS IN DECEMBER

- 1636 – Birthday of the National Guard.**
- 1775 – Cavalry Branch established/Birthday of the Armor Branch.**
- 1814 – Treaty of Ghent signed, ending War of 1812.**
- 1941 – Japanese aircraft attack Pearl Harbor, HI.**
 - U.S. declares war on Japan.**
 - U.S. declares war on Germany and Italy.**
- 1989 – Operation Just Cause (Panama) begins.**

IF YOU MARRY A JERSEY GIRL

Three friends married women from different parts of the country.

The first man married a woman from Utah. He told her that she was to do the dishes and house cleaning. It took a couple of days, but on the third day, he came home to see a clean house and dishes washed and put away.

The second man married a woman from Louisiana. He gave his wife orders that she was to do all the cleaning, dishes and cooking. The first day, he didn't see any results, but the next day he saw it was better. By the third day he saw his house was clean, the dishes were done and there was a huge dinner on the table.

The third man married a girl from New Jersey. He ordered her to keep the house clean, dishes washed, lawn mowed, laundry washed and hot meals on the table for every meal. He said the first day he didn't see anything, the second day he didn't see anything, but the third day, some of the swelling had gone down and he could see a little out of his left eye, and his arm was healed enough that he could fix himself a sandwich and load the dishwasher. He still has some difficulties when he pees though.

WEDDING DRESS

A son asked his mother the following question, "Mom, why are wedding dresses white?" The mother looked at her son and replied, "Son, this shows your friends and relatives that your bride is pure." The son thanked his Mom and goes off to double-check with his father.

"Dad, why are wedding dresses white?" The father looked at his son and replied, "Son, all household appliances come in white."



FAMILY SUPPORT REMINDER

It is important to remember that we still have soldiers on Active Duty in a combat zone and those that have returned who have not been able to forget they were there. It's also appropriate to remember the families they left behind.

OLD GOATS

Groups of Americans were traveling by tour bus through Holland. As they stopped at a cheese farm, a young guide led them through the process of cheese making, explaining that goat's milk was used. She showed the group a lovely hillside where many goats were grazing. "These," she explained, "are the older goats put out to pasture when they no longer produce." She then asked, "What do you do in America with your old goats?"

A spry old gentleman answered, "They send us on bus tours!"

THE VIETNAM WAR

(This is the tenth of a twelve part set of short comments on Wars fought beginning with the American Revolution through the Iraq War)

The last US ground troops left Vietnam in August 1972, following a stand-down ceremony at Da Nang air base. More than 40,000 airmen and support personnel remained in the country, and heavy bombing continued intermittently prior to Jan. 27th of the following year, when representatives of North and South Vietnam signed the Paris Peace Agreements. This treaty ostensibly marked the end of the war, though in reality it merely provided the opportunity for the United States to extricate itself from hostilities that had been going on for decades. America's failure to bring the war to a successful conclusion shattered glib notions of its military invincibility and led to both a reexamination of the American ethos and a reorganization of its military structure. Opinion remains divided as to whether America's involvement in Southeast Asia was a misguided, unwinnable endeavor from the start, a chronicle of military incompetence on the strategic level, or a noble cause undermined by a lack of national resolve.

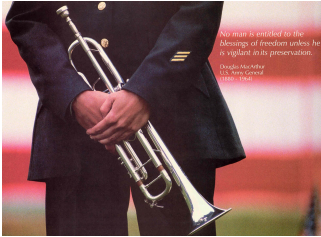
NEVER FORGET THAT

A Veteran – whether Active Duty, Retired, National Guard or Reserve – is someone who, at one point in his life, wrote a blank check made payable to the United States of America for an amount of “up to and including my life.”

“No one should pass an American in uniform without saying, “Thank you, we are grateful.” Always mindful that they are prepared to risk all of their dreams so that all of us can reach ours.”

Former Secretary of Defense William Cohen

TO ALL OF OUR FALLEN COMRADES



Each of us has a bank. Its name is TIME. Every morning, it credits you with 86,400 seconds. Every night it writes off, as lost, whatever of this you have failed to invest to good purpose. It carries over no balance. It allows no overdraft.

Each day it opens a new account for you. Each night it burns the remains of the day. If you fail to use the day’s deposits, the loss is yours. There is no going back. There is no drawing against the “tomorrow.” You must live in the present on today’s deposits. Invest it so as to get from it the utmost in health, happiness and success!

REQUEST YOUR INPUT

I would like to remind you that this is your newsletter. You are cordially invited to submit any information you think appropriate for the good of the command to the Commander (e-mail address on the first page of this newsletter) to be edited for inclusion in the following month’s publication.

I WAS A SOLDIER – I AM A SOLDIER – I WILL ALWAYS BE A SOLDIER

Your membership expiration date is on your mailing label (just like a magazine subscription). It’s your reminder to pay your dues. Dues are \$20 per year. Send checks to:

**Camden Light Artillery Association, Inc.
National Guard Armory
2001 Park Boulevard
Cherry Hill, NJ 08002-2778**



OUR MISSION

- To promote close association, friendship, understanding and cooperation between all member of the association.
- To foster and preserve the spirit, traditions and solidarity of the Field Artillery
- To provide various communicative means for keeping all members aware and involved in association developments.
- To conduct such social activities as may provide for a continuing close relationship and camaraderie among the membership
- To develop and maintain historical records on the lineage of the 1st Battalion 112th Field Artillery ancestors and it successors.
- To promote and support the provisions of the constitution of the United States of America.
- To provide community service to local civilian and military communities in time of need.

WEB SITE

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FACEBOOK PAGE

our name on Facebook is

CAMDEN LIGHT ARTILLERY

