

THE POWDER BAG

“THE CAMDEN LIGHT ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION INC.” NEWLETTER

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March 2011



“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

“A true friend never gets in your way unless you happen to be going down”

ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

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

THE CAMDEN LIGHT ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION

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COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

Our annual Dining Out, conducted on 26 February was a wonderful success attended by 90 members and friends. We were fortunate this year by not having to re-schedule the event, as we had to do last year, because of inclement weather. Every year, since I have been the commander, I have tried to make each year just a little different from the previous one. This year, with the help and generosity of one of our members – Matt Carroll, the difference was the display of WW II memorabilia by the 9th Division Historical Preservation Society and MP escorts from the same unit. We are changing the date for next year's event because the time line we have in effect seems to conflict with too many other activities and, of course, the ever present chance of snow. However, the weather did not affect the attendance of LTC Mike Mazarella and his wife Marci, who traveled from Missouri to be with us again, as he did last year in the midst of all that snow. It's always good to see Mike and appreciate his support. On a sad note, for the first time that I can remember, COL Minchin and his wife Pat were not in attendance due to health reasons. In my mind Jerry Minchin is Mr. Dine Out. Ever since I came to the Artillery I can remember the event was always held because Jerry made it happen and always in style. They were both seriously missed and our prayers and best wished for better health and a quick return go with them. The evening turned out to be one of the best ever Dining Outs!

This has been my last Dining Out as the Commander of the association and I can truly say that I have enjoyed the privilege of orchestrating the event and look forward to working with the new commander for next year's Dine Out.

Col (Ret) Tony Radice

SUMMARY OF THE MARCH 1st, 2011 MEETING

The meeting was called to order by the Commander at 1900 hours in the museum. The Adjutant is AWL. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a short prayer was offered by SFC Malik. We remembered the passing of LTC Joe Callahan, a former XO of the 1/112th FA Battalion. Joe will be missed. He was a fine gentleman. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the February meeting. The financial report was presented which identified a balance of \$5,880.39 in our treasury. The Tavistock Country Club cost has not been paid to date.

Commander's Report:

Museum Report (CW Elberson): Small improvements continue to be made by dedicated volunteers. A roof leak caused some minor damage and has been reported to the station armorer for repair.

The Dine Out: The AD book donations have totaled \$1,825.00; this was short by \$550.00 from last year. PFC Hank Tapken, a Korean War veteran, from the Vineland Memorial Home was our guest of honor (and even sang Karaoke for us). The Ancient Order of St. Barbara was presented to CSM Lum Harris, the Honorable Order of St. Barbara was presented to SFC Richard Zacamy and the Molly Pitcher award was presented to Barbara Rouh. Congratulations to all of our awardees. Our DJ, Vic Rubino, continues to play the kind of music that everyone seems to enjoy. Our take home memorabilia was imprinted money clips for the men and wine charms for the ladies. The presence of the 9th Infantry Historical Preservation Society added a welcome addition to our activities. The date for next year has been approved to be held on March 10th provided Tavistock can accommodate our request.

Nomination of Officers: In the interest of affecting a smooth transition for a new Commander and Adjutant, as required by the Constitution at the end of this year, LTC Bovino has been requested to head up a search committee to identify qualified and acceptable members to fill both of these positions.

Revised Constitution: Changes have been posted as required by the constitution and a vote by majority rule has passed the changes as proposed.

Financial Review: CPT Strumpfer will present his results upon completion of the review.

Armed Forces Day Brunch May 21st: CPT Strumpfer has volunteered to arrange the Armed Forces Day Brunch at the Stone Grill in Clementon at 1100 hours. Confirmation of arrangements will be published in next month's Powder Bag.

There being no more items to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 1945 hours.

PALM SUNDAY

It was Palm Sunday and, because of a sore throat, five-year-old Johnny stayed home from church with a sitter. When the family returned home, they were carrying several palm branches. The boy asked what they were for.

“People held them over Jesus’ head as He walked by.” “Wouldn’t you know it,” the boy fumed, “the one day I don’t go He shows up.”

FOURTH OF JULY GROUP TRIP

The Camden Light Artillery Association, in conjunction with Starr Bus Tours, is hosting a three day bus trip to Sturbridge, MA from 3 – 5 July 2011 at a cost of \$399.95 per person.

The trip includes a guided tour of the Mark Twain House in Hartford, CT, a self-guided tour of the Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge, MA, a backyard picnic on the Lake at the Sturbridge host hotel and a fireworks display from Old Sturbridge Village at dusk.

Anyone interested is requested to telephone Nancy Smith-Kozic at 609 587-0626, Extension 1402 or 1 800 782-7703 for reservations. When calling please mention Tony Radice’s name so that we may be grouped together.

So mark your calendars and make plans to share three days of fun and laughs with one another.

THE BLONDE AND THE THERMOS

A blonde was shopping at Target and came across a shiny silver thermos. She was quite fascinated by it, so she picked it up and took it to the clerk to ask what it was.

The clerk said, “Why, that’s a thermos, it keeps hot things hot and cold things cold.”

“Wow!” said the blonde, “that’s amazing; I’m going to buy it!” So she bought the thermos and took it to work the next day.

Her boss saw it on her desk. “What’s that?” he asked. “Why, that’s a thermos, it keeps hot things hot and cold things cold.”

Her boss inquired, “What do you have in it?” “Two popsicles and some coffee.”

MILITARY EVENTS IN MARCH

1962 – The first campaign of the Vietnam War begins.

1973 – US involvement in the Vietnam War ends.

2003 – The Iraq War begins.



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.

WORLD WAR I

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

On April 6, 1917, the United States declared war on Germany. Six weeks later Congress passed the Selective Service Act, authorizing the president to institute a draft. More than 4,000 local draft boards were hastily assembled to register all men between the ages of 21 and 30, whether native born, naturalized citizens, or aliens, and classify them according to their health, occupation, and family situation. On September 4, simultaneous draft parades were held in Manhattan, the Bronx and Brooklyn. Nearly a thousand men took part in the parade down Fifth Avenue, led by members of the exemption boards who had chosen and classified them. Many of the recruits lacked uniforms, but they all wore specially designed armbands – their ticket to the various entertainments being held later that day in their honor. The armbands also guaranteed free admission to a baseball game at the Polo Grounds.



USEFUL PHRASES AT WORK

1. The fact that no one understands you doesn't mean you're an artist.
2. Any connection between your reality and mine is purely coincidental.
3. I have plenty of talent and vision. I just don't care.
4. I will always cherish the initial misconceptions I had about you.
5. It's a thankless job, but I've got a lot of Karma to burn off.

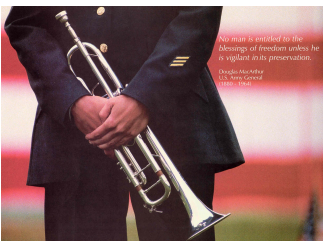
NEVER FORGET THAT

A Veteran – whether Active Duty, Retired, or 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!

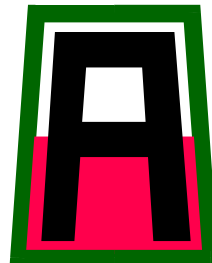
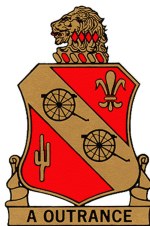
REQUEST YOUR INPUT

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 Blvd.,
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

www.112FA.org

E-MAIL ADDRESS

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