

# THE POWDER BAG

**“THE CAMDEN LIGHT ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION INC.” NEWLETTER**

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August 2013

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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*

*“He who has never learned to obey cannot be a good Commander.” Aristotle*

## ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

**Commander:** 1SG (RET) Ed Powell  
**Executive Officer:** MAJ (RET) Richard Tomasso  
**Adjutant:** SFC (RET) Richard Zacamy  
**Finance Officer:** CW4 (RET) Jack Elberson  
**Logistics Officer:** 1SG (RET) Ed McCarty

## THE CAMDEN LIGHT ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION

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## **THE COMMANDER'S COMMENTS**

We had a really good turnout at our last meeting with 34 members in attendance. We also welcomed three new members to the association – Ken Robertson, Jim Albertson and Brian Strecker, all of whom are former members of the 1-112FA BN. To the new members; Welcome to the Camden Light Artillery Assoc. We are pleased that our membership continues to grow and that participation at the meetings has been on the increase. Our organization is open to anyone who served in any capacity with the military no matter what branch of service. I thank everyone for their support and dedication to our Association.

I ask that all our association members please keep us informed of anyone who is sick or hospitalized as soon as you find out so that we may visit with them or send a card. Also very important, is that we be informed about anyone who has passed away.

**A Reminder!** Remember our Patriot's Day Brunch will be held on Saturday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am at Maritsa's Cuisine in Maple Shade, NJ. Please contact either me, Jack Elberson or Marc Kantor if you plan to attend. You may let us know by the next meeting September 4, 2013.

**A Reminder!** The 1/114<sup>th</sup> INF is having their "Dining Out" on Saturday, September 21, 2013 at 1630 hours at the Aquarium in Camden, NJ. You may contact Captain McAdams at 609-870-3351 if you plan to attend. They support us, we should support them!

I hope everyone had a wonderful summer and looking forward to seeing all of you at our September 4th meeting. Come join us for old memories and the formation of new ones.

### **Yes! They really did say this**

We the people are the rightful masters of both Congress and the Courts, not to overthrow the Constitution but to overthrow the men who would pervert the Constitution. – Abraham Lincoln.

I predict future happiness for Americans if they can prevent the government from wasting the labors of the people under pretense of taking care of them. – Thomas Jefferson.

When I was a boy of 14, my father was so ignorant I could hardly stand to have the old man around. But when I got to be 21, I was astonished at how much the old man had learned in seven years. – Mark Twain.



### **Proverb**

**Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day. Teach a man to fish and he will eat for a lifetime.**

### **Proverb**

#### **2013 Updated Revision**

**Give a man a welfare check, a free cell phone with unlimited free minutes, free internet, cash for his clunker, food stamps, section 8 housing, free contraceptives, Medicaid, ninety-nine weeks of unemployment, free medicine, and he will vote Democrat the rest of his life – even after he's dead.**

### **A Message from The Chief of Staff – General Raymond T. Odierno**

**Greetings Retired Soldiers and Families. You are part of a proud history of selfless service and duty to our country. Your dedication and commitment to our nation's security are what made the Army of your day successful, and the Soldiers of today benefit from your example. The quality of our Soldiers and Families got us through past challenges, and with your help, it will get us through our current challenges.**

**Fiscal reductions stemming from the 2011 Budget Control Act, coupled with the Continuing Resolution and sequestration earlier this year have caused us to make some difficult decisions. We are prioritizing our resources to support deployments to Afghanistan, Korea rotations, and the Global Response Force. As part of the 32011 Budget Control Act, we are reducing the Army end strength by 89,000 personnel through Fiscal Year 2017 and we are considering proportional reductions in our force structure, civilian workforce and across our installations.**

**Despite current conditions we will do what is required to make sure our deploying Soldiers are ready for the tasks we ask them to perform. We are not the greatest Army in the world because of our size or technology. We are the greatest because our people are competent and confident, capable of creatively solving any problem.**

**Continue to tell your story. Help the American people understand exactly what it takes to prepare for and execute our mission. Help them to appreciate the dedication, motivation and sacrifices that are made daily by Soldiers on their behalf. You are an integral member of the Army team and I thank you for all you do every day.**



## Filing Taxes

A woman walks into an accountant's office and tells him that she needs to file her taxes. The accountant says, "Before we begin, I'll need to ask you a few questions." He gets her name, address, social security number, etc. and then asks, "What is your occupation?" "I'm a prostitute," she says. The accountant is somewhat taken aback and says, "No, no, no, that won't work. Let's try to rephrase that." The woman says, "OK, I'm a high-end call girl." "No, that still won't work. Try again." They both think for a moment and then the woman says, "I'm an elite chicken farmer."

The accountant asks, "What does chicken farming have to do with being a prostitute?" "Well, I raised a thousand little peckers last year."

## Written by a 90 Year Old Guy

1. Don't compare your life to others. You have no idea what their journey is all about.
2. If a relationship has to be a secret, you shouldn't be in it.
3. The most important sex organ is the brain.
4. Frame every so-called disaster with these words "In five years will this matter?"
5. Your children get only one childhood
6. All that truly matters in the end is that you loved.
7. Envy is a waste of time. Accept what you already have, not what you need.
8. The best is yet to come.

## Recovery

*The five things you cannot recover in life are:*

**The Stone – after it's thrown.**

**The Word – after it's said.**

**The Occasion – after it's missed.**

**The Time – after it's gone.**

**The Person – after they die.**



## **The Distinguished Warfare Medal**

**Lt Col (Ret) Mark Overberg, Deputy Chief, Army Retirement Services**

**On April 15, Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel eliminated the Distinguished Warfare Medal just two months after its creation was announced by his predecessor, then Defense Secretary Leon Panetta.**

**The new medal was intended to recognize extraordinary achievement, not involving acts of valor that directly impacted combat operation or other military operations authorized by a Joint Chiefs of Staff execution order.**

**Many Veterans objected to the creation of a special medal for this purpose saying that existing peacetime medals should be used to honor service members who do not serve in combat theaters and are not subject to enemy actions or family separations.**

**“The Joint Chiefs of Staff, with the concurrence of the service secretaries, have recommended the creation of a new distinguishing device that can be affixed to existing medals to recognize the extraordinary actions of this small number of men and woman,” Hagel said in a written release.**

**“I agreed with the Joint Chiefs findings, and have directed the creation of a distinguishing device instead of a separate medal,” Hagel said. “The servicemen and women, who operate and support remotely piloted aircraft, operate in cyber, and others are critical to our military’s mission of safeguarding the nation.”**

## **Bottle of Wine**

**A woman and a man are involved in a car accident on a snowy, cold Monday morning; it’s a bad one. Both of their cars are totally demolished, but amazingly neither of them is hurt. God works in mysterious ways. After they crawl out of their cars, the man is yelling about women drivers.**

**But the woman quickly says, “Wow, just look at our cars! There’s nothing left, but we’re unhurt. This must be a sign from God that we should be friends and live in peace for the rest of our day.” Flattered, the man replies, “Oh yes, I agree completely, this must be a sign from God! But you’re still at fault...women shouldn’t be allowed to drive.”**

**The woman continues, “And look at this, here’s another miracle. My car is completely demolished but this bottle of wine didn’t break. Surely God wants us to drink this wine and celebrate our good fortune.” She hands the bottle to the man.**

**The man nods his head in agreement, opens it and drinks half the bottle and then hands it back to the woman. The woman takes the bottle, puts the cap back on and hands it back to the man. The man asks, “Aren’t you having any?”**

**The woman replies, “No, I think I’ll just wait for the police..”**

**MORAL OF THE STORY: Women are clever, evil witches. Don’t mess with them.**

## Summary of the 7 August 2013 Meeting

The meeting was called to order by the Adjutant at 1905 hrs, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance by Commander Powell. Roll call of officers showed all present and or accounted for and the Chaplin led the meeting in prayer and reported Jake Parvin and Marty Nicholas ill. Also reported that Betty White wife of CPT(Ret) White recently passed away and that Conrad Tucker is very ill. Cards were signed and sent for Jake and Marty. A suggestion was made by Chet Malik to organize a committee or group to visit anyone who may be hospitalized or ill at home. The CO mentioned that before we can do something like that we need better communication from the association regarding the people who are ill or hospitalized.

Guests at the meeting included MG(Ret) Mullin, CPT(Ret) Horace McAdams, Jim Albertson and Ken Robertson.

Motion to approve the June meeting minutes were accepted and approved.

Financial report given by Jack Elberson stated there is a total of \$5,255.38 in our association bank account. Motion made by Chet Malik and seconded by Ed McCarty to accept the financial report.

MG(Ret) Mullin and CPT(Ret) McAdams from the 1/114th INF reported on the upcoming "Dining Out" for the 1/114<sup>th</sup> INF to be held at the Aquarium in Camden, NJ on Saturday, September 21, 2013 at 1630 hours. Cost is \$45 per person. Motion was made and approved to place a full-page Ad in their Ad Book. For Dining Out response or for more information contact CPT(Ret) McAdams at 609-870-3351.

A committee, headed by Joe Scioli, looked into several organizations to which we might donate extra funds in the association's bank account. Ed McCarty, Warren Strumpfer and Larry Altersitz researched many organizations and the committee came up with two suggestions. The first one was "Home for Troops" and the other was the "Colonel Able Fund" which helps veteran troops who have returned from Iraq and Afghanistan to pay for college. Motion was made and approved.

The CO reported that he is still working on getting a representative from Tri-Care for Life to come to one of our meetings.

Al DeMasi reported that the next Gun Club Shoot will be held on Saturday, August 17<sup>th</sup> at Range 14 at Ft. Dix.

We hold two brunches a year - one for Armed Forces Day and Patriot's Day. Our Patriot's Day Brunch will be held on Saturday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am at Maritsa's Cuisine located at 106 E. Main Street, Maple Shade, NJ. We had a show of hands that 20 people are going to attend at that time. If you were not at the meeting and plan to attend please contact Commander Powell, Jack Elberson or Marc Kantor.

Nominees for the St. Barbara and Molly Pitcher Awards to be turned into the Executive Officer by October 2, 2013 meeting. Jack Elbersen is making up a guide with the information needed to properly fill out the papers for the awards which will be available at our September meeting.

The Corresponding Officer stated that he needs any new E-mails or change of E-mail addresses. Links to Tri-Care and Echos are on web-site. An offer was made to the 3/112<sup>th</sup> FA to use our resources on our web site. We are currently in the process of creating a Local Chapter of the United States Field Artillery Association at Ft. Sill, OK.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made and seconded and meeting was adjourned at 2018 hours.

### **You Know You Drink Too Much Coffee When...**

1. Your eyes stay open when you sneeze.
2. You lick your coffee pot clean.
3. You go to AA meetings just for the free coffee.
4. Instant coffee takes too long.
5. You want to be cremated just so you can spend the rest of eternity in a coffee can.
6. You get drunk just so you can sober up.
7. You introduce your spouse as your "Coffee-mate."
8. You think CPR stands for "Coffee Provides Resuscitation."
- 9.



### **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.

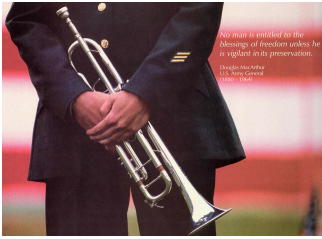
### **NEVER FORGET THAT**

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 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion 112<sup>th</sup> 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**

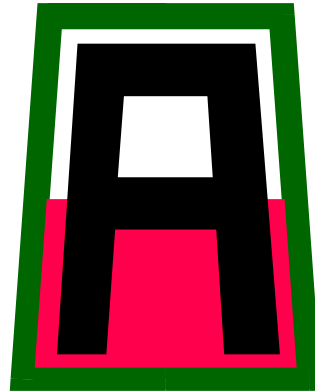
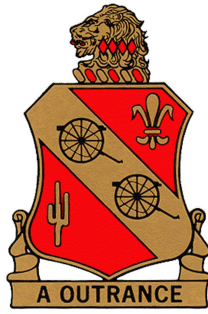
**112FA.CLA@gmail.com**

## **FACEBOOK PAGE**

our name on Facebook is

**CAMDEN LIGHT ARTILLERY**







**2010 Afghanistan - M777**  
(courtesy-SPC Gallegos via COL(Ret) George Bannon)