

THE POWDER BAG

THE CAMDEN LIGHT ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION, INC. NEWSLETTER

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November 2013



“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

***“WE MAKE A LIVING BY WHAT WE GET,
BUT WE MAKE A LIFE BY WHAT WE GIVE”***

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

First of all, I am looking forward to seeing a lot of our members at the upcoming **Christmas Covered Dish Dinner on Wednesday, December 4th at 6:00pm.** Our ladies will be calling you to find out how many people will be attending and what dish they will be bringing. If you have not responded or have not been contacted, please let Ronnie or myself know ASAP. We need to know if you are attending. Thank you to all the ladies who have been working on the calls and also thank you to everyone who has brought refreshments to the meetings. It really makes a difference.

There has been a steady but slow response to the Ads for the Ad Book for the Dining Out. It is important that we have a good number of ads in order to have a successful Dining Out. Please contact me at the next meeting, if you need the forms for the Ad Book or let me know if you want one sent to you.

The Cherry Hill Armory has had a few renovations in the kitchen area including all new stoves. Some of our members have been working to fix up the meeting room – covers on the radiators, and new molding. Also, cleaning of the rug. Thank You to Jack, Joe and Lou.

Ronnie and I want to wish everyone a very Happy and Safe Thanksgiving Holiday and also a Happy Hanukkah.

SUMMARY OF THE 6 NOVEMBER 2013 MEETING

The meeting was called to order by the Adjutant at 1903 hours. The CO led the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance. The Chaplain led us in prayer. Roll call for all officers – all present and accounted for. Sick call – it was reported that Pat Minchin was recovering nicely and doing well. Leo Solomon is in a care facility. Motion was made and passed to accept the minutes of the last meeting. New Attendees were two members from the West Jersey Artillery Group to talk about using the armory for their training of new members in February and March, 2014. This group will again attend our Dining Out in March 1, 2014. Treasurer's report showed a balance of \$3,235.61. Ad Book forms are now available at our meetings. If you are in need of one, contact Ed Powell. No report from the Gun Club and the next shoot will be announced.

Nominations for Commander and Adjutant are still open. If anyone is interested in running or knows of someone please contact Warren Strumpfer. Christmas Covered Dish Dinner will be at our next meeting on Wednesday, December 4th at 6:00pm. Phone calls will be made by the ladies in the next couple of weeks. Let Ginny or Barbara know tonight if you will be attending and what you want to bring. Ladies received new phone lists. We still have some blankets for sale from last Dining Out - \$20.00 each.

No report from the Executive Officer.

No report from the Adjutant.

Logistics Officer – Ed McCarty reported that he will need a few people to help set up for the Christmas Dinner.

No report from the Corresponding Officer.

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 1940 hours. Refreshments followed.

I'VE LEARNED

That we should be glad God doesn't give us everything we ask for.

That money doesn't buy class.

That it's those small daily happenings that make life so spectacular.

That under everyone's hard shell is someone who wants to be appreciated and loved.

That the Lord didn't do it all in one day. What makes me think I can?

That to ignore the facts does not change the facts.

That the less time I have to work, the more things I get done.

REMEMBER THE FIVE SIMPLE RULES TO BE HAPPY:

1. Free your heart from hatred.
2. Free your mind from worries.
3. Live simply.
4. Give more.
5. Expect less.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

Handle every stressful situation like a dog; if you can't eat it or play with it, Pee on it and walk away.

FAMILY ASSISTANCE CENTERS

New Jersey National Guard Family Assistance Centers or FAC's are established in times of contingency call-up, mobilization, and large scaled deployment to provide support and assistance to service members and their families. The primary mission of a FAC is to inform and support families before, during and after a deployment so service members can perform their mission. During times of activation, the FAC is designed to be a focal point for families to obtain information and assistance with referral to the appropriate service agencies and meet the needs that are associated with the deployment.

In addition, FACs can assist service members, veterans, retirees, and families from all seven branches of service; Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine, Coast Guard, National Guard, and Reserves. The FACs can provide assistance with ID Cards, TRICARE, TRICARE Dental, US Family Health Plan, benefits and entitlements. Contact your local FAC by calling 1-888-859-0352

AND THEN IT IS WINTER

You know...time has a way of moving quickly and catching you unaware of the passing years. It seems just yesterday that I was young, just married and embarking on my new life with my mate. Yet in a way, it seems like eons ago, and I wonder where all the years went. I know that I lived them all. I have glimpses of how it was back then and of all my hopes and dreams. But, here it is...the winter of my life and it catches me by surprise...How did I get here so fast? Where did the years go and where did my youth go?

I remember well seeing older people through the years and thinking that those older people were years away from me and that winter was so far off that I could not fathom it or imagine fully what it would be like. But, here it is...my friends are retired and getting grey...they move slower and I see an older person now. Some are in better and some worse shape than me...but, I see the great change...Not like the ones that I remember who were young...but, like me, their age is beginning to show and we are now those older folks that we used to see and never thought we'd be.

Each day now, I find that just getting a shower is a real target for the day! And taking a nap is not a treat anymore...it's mandatory! Cause if I don't on my own free will...I just fall asleep where I sit! And so...now I enter into this new season of my life unprepared for all the aches and pains and the loss of strength and agility to go and do things that I wish I had done but never did!

But, at least I know, that though the winter has come, and I'm not sure how long it will last... this I know, that when it's over on this earth...it's NOT over. A new adventure will begin!

Yes, I have regrets. There are things I wish I hadn't done...things I should have done, but indeed, there are many things I'm happy to have done. It's all in a lifetime. So, if you're not in your winter yet... let me remind you, that it will be here faster than you think. So, whatever you would like to accomplish in your life please do it quickly! Don't put things off too long!

Life goes by quickly. So, do what you can today, as you can never be sure whether this is your winter or not! You have no promise that you will see all the seasons of your life...so, live for today and say all the things that you want your loved ones to remember...and hope that they appreciate and love you for all the things that you have done for them in all the years past!



ED AND NANCY

Ed and Nancy met while on a singles cruise and Ed fell head over heels for her. When they discovered they lived in the same city only a few miles apart Ed was ecstatic. He immediately started asking her out when they got home.

Within a couple of weeks, Ed had taken Nancy to dance clubs, restaurants, concerts, movies, and museums. Ed became convinced that Nancy was indeed his soul mate and true love. Every date seemed better than the last.

On the one-month anniversary of their first dinner on the cruise ship, Ed took Nancy to a fine restaurant. While having cocktails and waiting for their salad, Ed said, "I guess you can tell I'm very much in love with you. I'd like a little serious talk before our relationship continues to the next stage. So, before I get a box out of my jacket and ask you for a life changing question, it's only fair to warn you. I'm a total golf nut. I play golf..I read about golf..I watch golf on TV. In short, I eat, sleep, and breathe golf. If that's going to be a problem for us, you'd better say so now!"

Nancy took a deep breath and responded, "Ed, that certainly won't be a problem. I love you as you are and I love golf too; but, since we're being totally honest with each other, you need to know that for the last five years I've been a hooker."

Ed replies, "I bet it's because you're not keeping your wrist straight when you hit the ball."

LITTLE JOHNNY CRYING

Little Johnny comes downstairs crying. His mother asked, "What's the matter now?"

"Dad was hanging pictures, and just hit his thumb with a hammer," said little Johnny through his tears.

"That's not so serious," soothed his mother. "I know you're upset, but a big boy like you shouldn't cry at something like that. Why didn't you just laugh?"

"I did!" sobbed Johnny.

PRAYER FOR THE AGED

Lord, grant me the senility to forget the people I never liked, the good fortune to remember the ones I do, and the eyesight to tell the difference.

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.

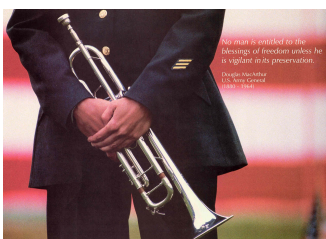
NEVER FORGET THAT

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!

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

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.

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**



QUOTE OF THE MONTH

GENERAL GEORGE S. PATTON

"Battle is the most magnificent competition in which a human being can indulge. It brings out all that is best; it removes all that is base. All men are afraid in battle. The coward is the one who lets his fear overcome his sense of duty. Duty is the essence of manhood."

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

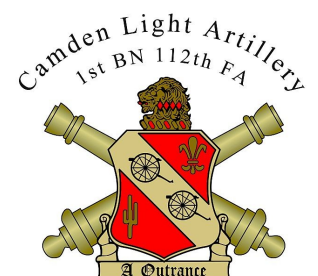
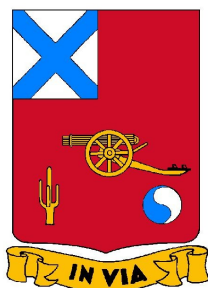
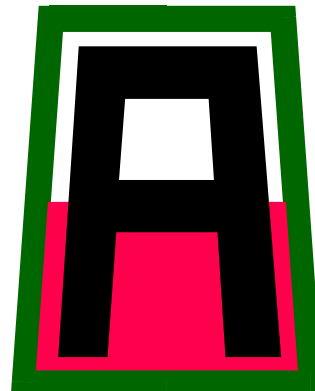
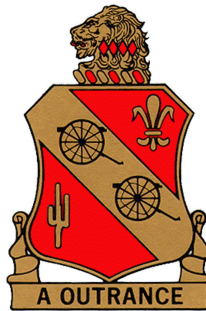
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FACEBOOK PAGE

our name on Facebook is

CAMDEN LIGHT ARTILLERY







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