



THE POWDER BAG

THE CAMDEN LIGHT ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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June/July 2014



"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*

ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

Commander:	1SG Ed Powell (USA Retired)
Executive Officer:	MAJ Richard Tomasso (USA Retired)
Adjutant:	SFC Richard Zacamy (USA Retired)
Finance Officer:	CPT Marc Kantor (USA Retired)
Logistics Officer:	1SG Ed McCarty (USA Retired)

THE CAMDEN LIGHT ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION

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COMMADERS COMMENTS

First of all I want to wish everyone a Happy Father's Day in June and hope that everyone had a safe and fun-filled 4th of July. Looking forward to seeing everyone at the August 6, 2014 meeting at 7:00pm.

I extend our 'Thanks' Brian Strecker for placing flowers at the grave site of Jack Elberson on behalf of the Camden Light Artillery. Jack is interred at the B G Doyle Military Cemetery at Ft Dix, NJ; location P-2443.

Have a safe, healthy and happy summer. See you in August.

SUMMARY OF THE 4 JUNE 2014 MEETING

The meeting was called to order by the Adjutant at 1905 hours with a quorum present and followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and an opening prayer. Roll call all officers were present and/or accounted for. Guest attending the meeting was Bill Brewster. Motion was made and accepted to approve the minutes of the May meeting. The financial report was accepted and approved. Commander Powell thanked everyone who attended and helped with the Memorial for Jack Elberson. Jack was cremated and his urn was placed at the General Doyle's Cemetery which is located outside of Ft. Dix, NJ. Armed Forces Day Brunch at the Lamp Post Diner which was held on May 17th and 25 members attended. The next Brunch is scheduled at the same place on Saturday, 13 September at 9:00 am for Patriot's Day. Warren Strumpfer will chair the committee to select a name for the Artillery Museum honoring Jack Elberson. An initial list of names was placed into consideration, but you may put forward your own idea. Please email your suggestions to 112FA.CLA@gmail.com. Three names will be picked to be voted on by the members. A possible trip was suggested to the Viet Nam Memorial in Holmdel, NJ. Marc Kantor has backed up records of all the operations of the unit onto an external hard drive for easy transfer in the future. As of 1 January 2015, all membership dues will be payable for the year. If you haven't paid your 2014 dues, you can do it now. Mail your check to the unit at the Cherry Hill Armory at the address found on the front page of this newsletter. Because we cannot access all the records pertaining to the finances of the unit, it is imperative that we begin anew in January, 2015 and we must hear from all members who have not yet paid in 2014. Thank you for understanding the reason for this change. There is no meeting in July, 2014 – the next meeting will be Wednesday, 6 August 2014 at 7:00pm. The Commander's Award was given to Al DeMasi and Bob Constantine for service above and beyond supporting our unit. Adjournment at 1957 hours was approved and followed by refreshments.



ACTIVITIES

112FA SPORTS CLUB 1SGT Ed McCarty, Chairman

As reported by the news outlets: On July 3rd, New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie vetoed a gun-control bill that would have cut the maximum allowable size for an ammunition magazine from 15 to 10 rounds, urging lawmakers to focus instead on mental illness to reduce violence. This bill directly affected the 112FA Sports Club, since our members may have needed to make changes to their equipment accordingly.

The Asbury Park Press reported: Christie proposes to amend current law to require a person who has been involuntarily committed to mental health treatment to provide adequate medical evidence to a court to obtain a firearms purchaser identification card or handgun purchase permit. He also called for a new standard for involuntary commitment to a treatment program and new training for first responders for de-escalating a situation, among other changes.

The fall Sports Club outing is tentatively expected to be held at Range 14 at Ft Dix on Saturday, October 18th, 2014, mark your calendars. Below is a picture from the Spring Outing in June.





328MP COMPANY, CHERRY HILL, NJ

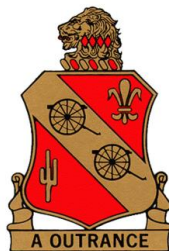
**CPT Matt Neamand
Commanding Officer**

Hello all, my name is CPT Matthew Neamand and am currently the Commander of the 328th Military Police Company. We currently share the Cherry Hill Armory with your organization. I wanted to inform everyone about our unit.

We are a Military Police Combat Support Company which is manned by 170 Soldiers. Our unit is capable of performing any one of the five military police functions. We are scheduled to conduct Annual Training on 21 July 2014 - 2 August 2014 at Fort Dix, NJ. We will be training on the following tasks: Combat Lifesaver, Armored Security Vehicle (ASV), Drivers training & weapons fire and pre-mobilization briefings and classes.

We are projected to deploy to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, to conduct detainee operations in April 2015.

We will be hosting a 328th MP Company golf outing this October. I will be sure to post the details during next month's issue. Please let me know if you are interested in attending once details are published. Thank you.



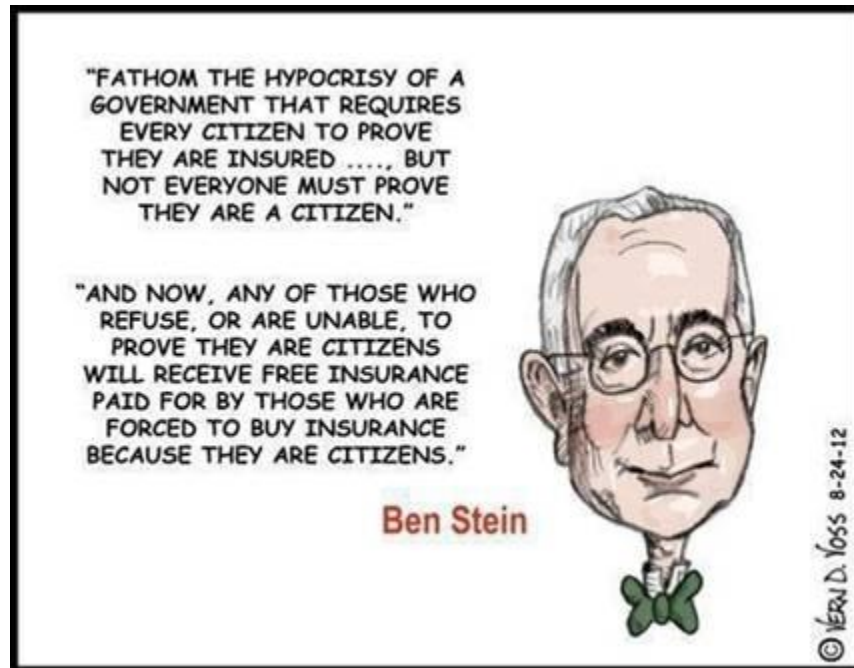
3-112FA MORRISTOWN, NJ

**LTC Robert Hughes
Commanding Officer**

The 3-112FA, stationed in Morristown, NJ, recently completed their Annual Training. During that time, they conducted training with 2-315FA and Marine Aviation Unit HMH772 to perform the first ever NJ NG field artillery air mobile operation. Their guns, M119's, were picked up from one firing point, flown to another, put the guns into action and performed live fired exercises. Needless to say, unit morale might have been at an all-time high after that! These are a few of the pictures from that exercise.



QUOTE OF THE MONTH



STORIES OF INTEREST

This article was taken from the Courier Post on June 29, 2014 and I thought the facts in this article would be interesting for our members to read:

- Q:** Why has New Jersey been described as the “Crossroads of the Revolution?”
- A:** Much of the fighting in the first two years of the war was in the Middle-Atlantic and often in New Jersey. The British identified New Jersey, along with New York and Pennsylvania, as Colonists with enough loyalists support that they could make inroads there. Had patriots in states like New Jersey not proven them wrong, the Revolution could easily have failed as early as the first few months of 1777.
- Q:** How many representatives from New Jersey signed the Declaration of Independence?
- A:** New Jersey had five signers of the Declaration of Independence – Abraham Clark, Richard Stockton, Francis Hopkins, John Witherspoon, and John Hart. Richard Stockton is the only person to have signed the Declaration of Independence and then later signed a loyalty oath to George III, the King of England.
- Q:** How widespread was the fighting, and did it affect everyday life?
- A:** From 1776 through 1778 the fighting was quite widespread, and New Jersey remained a theater of war thereafter. The initial British strategy was to conquer the Middle

Atlantic, so New Jersey was at the heart of that strategy. It had a clear impact on everyday life. The war was disastrous for the economy and it was especially hard on those who were loyalists.

Q: What were the death and casualty tolls of the Revolutionary War?

A: The war was in fact, quite destructive. It took a tremendous toll on life. It was estimated that about 2.5% of the white male population died in the war. Compared to the 20th and 21st centuries, that would be roughly about 3 million men in 2014.

Q: What percentage of Colonists remained loyal to the King of England and how did these percentages change over the course of the Revolutionary War?

A: Twenty percent shrunk over time. Many loyalist left or learned to stay quiet. New Jersey played a huge role in that. As the British rolled through New Jersey in the second half of 1776, it looked like it was all over, and thousands signed loyalty oaths. When the Americans won the battles of Trenton and Princeton, the British decided to pull back to New York City for the early winter months of 1777. Many who had shown support for the crown found life so unpleasant in New Jersey after the British Army vacated, that they became the first mass exodus of loyalists from New Jersey.

Q: Was the Battle of Saratoga the most important turning point in the War?

A: It was the first major battle that the Colonists had won and was influential in convincing the French to join the Colony side. The battles of Trenton and Princeton were equally important. They could be viewed as the most important battles in the history of the United States. By December of 1776, the Colonial Army was so demoralized that it shrunk from around 19,000 at Bunker Hill to 6,000. The reason Washington crossed the Delaware to attack Trenton was to show the Army that there was a reason to keep fighting and they could still win battles after months of disastrous retreat from New York City across New Jersey and into Pennsylvania.



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 months' publication.

Dues are \$20 per year and are payable 1 January of each year. 2014 dues should be sent now 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

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E-MAIL ADDRESS

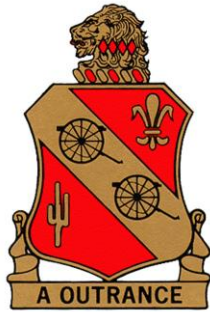
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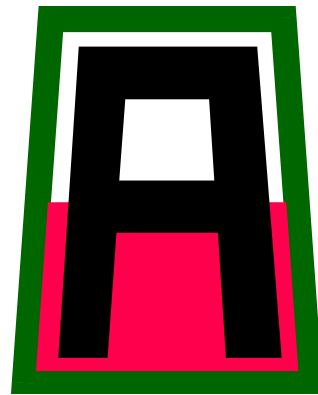
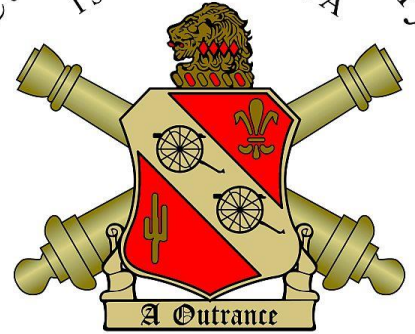
our name on Facebook is

CAMDEN LIGHT ARTILLERY





Camden Light Artillery
1st BN 112th FA





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