



# THE POWDER BAG

THE CAMDEN LIGHT ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER  
**1<sup>st</sup> Battalion 112<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery**

Volume 17 Issue 5

[www.112FA.org](http://www.112FA.org)

June-July 2015



"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:	Ed Powell
Executive Officer:	Richard Tomasso
Adjutant:	Richard Zacamy
Finance Officer:	Marc Kantor
Logistics Officer:	Ed McCarty

## THE CAMDEN LIGHT ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION

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## **COMMANDERS COMMENTS**

Members of our unit attended a tour of UTES at Ft. Dix on June 10<sup>th</sup>. CSM Joe Brennan, a former member of the 1-112FA and General Manager of the facility, gave us a very interesting and informed look of the entire location.

I am sad to report at this time that we have lost another member, Jack Semler. He passed away on Tuesday the 14<sup>th</sup> of July while getting his home in Cherry Hill ready to be sold. Jack has lived in Florida for quite a few years. We will post more information on the web site as soon as it is received.

Condolences go out to Lou Bovino and family and Stan Szymborski and his family who have both recently lost their sons. Also to Chet Malik who lost his daughter at the beginning of June. We often say that our children will be burying us, not we burying our children. Our thoughts and prayers go out to them and all effected by this loss.

We are looking into a visitation trip to the Vineland Veterans' Home sometime in October. Anyone interested in going, please let me know.

I hope everyone had a safe and happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July and please enjoy the rest of the summer.

See you at our August meeting on Wednesday, August 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.

## **SUMMARY OF THE 3 JUNE 2015 MEETING**

The meeting was called to order by the Adjutant at 1906 hours followed by the CO leading the Pledge of Allegiance. The invocation and sick call – Frank Martino was in the hospital. Roll call was taken and all officers were present and accounted for. Guest was Mr. Bill Klaus, C Battery. A motion was made and 2<sup>nd</sup> to approve the May minutes. A motion was made and 2<sup>nd</sup> to approve the Financial Report with a net of \$3,826.77. A discussion on raising of membership dues and changing the by-laws are in the works. We hope to have a report by the August, 2015 meeting. Renovations to the armory include a new roof, heating and air-conditioning, new electrical work and replacing windows and doors. At this time we have no idea when this work will be started. Possible visit to the Vineland Veterans Home sometime in October, 2015 is being proposed. It was reported that Cherry Hill had a great Veterans Day Remembrance with guest speaker BG Steve Ferrari. The Sports Club will meet on the 24<sup>th</sup> of June on range 14 at Ft. Dix. Comments from the floor: It was mentioned that when travelling and staying at motels pick up the soap, shampoo, etc. and we will give them to the Veterans Home, also books and puzzles. The meeting was adjourned at 1955 hours followed by refreshments.

**UTES, Ft Dix, NJ**

**CSM Joseph Brennan**, a former member of 1-112FA, General Manager of the facility, kindly took a group from CLA on a tour of the various buildings and departments. We went during a work day to see the activities within the facility in action.



## **ACTIVITIES**

### **112FA SPORTS CLUB**

**Ed McCarty, Chairman**

Our next outing to Range 14 (<http://shootnj.com/ftdixdirect.html>) at Ft Dix, NJ is scheduled for . We will meet at the Range office at  
Additional outings and events will be posted on the web site and sent to the membership via email.

### **112FA PHYSICAL FITNESS**

**Brian Strecker, Chairman**

The following is the next in a series of articles describing ways to work toward your physical fitness and maintaining your health.

This is from the National Institute on Aging at NIH (<http://go4life.nia.nih.gov/>). We will continue to bring you these important ideas.

#### **Improving Your Strength**

To strengthen your muscles, you need to lift or push weight. Even very small changes in muscle strength can make a real difference in function. Stronger muscles can make it easier to do everyday things like get up from a chair, climb stairs, carry groceries, open jars, and even play with your children or grandchildren. Lower-body strength exercises also will improve your balance.

#### **Leg Straightening**

**Targeted Muscles:** Thighs

**What You Need:** Sturdy chair



**This exercise strengthens your thighs and may reduce symptoms of arthritis of the knee.**

- 1. Sit in a sturdy chair with your back supported by the chair. Only the balls of your feet and your toes should rest on the floor. Put a rolled bath towel at the edge of the chair under thighs for support. Breathe in slowly.**
- 2. Breathe out and slowly extend one leg in front of you as straight as possible, but don't lock your knee.**
- 3. Flex foot to point toes toward the ceiling. Hold position for 1 second.**
- 4. Breathe in as you slowly lower leg back down.**
- 5. Repeat 10-15 times.**
- 6. Repeat 10-15 times with other leg.**
- 7. Repeat 10-15 more times with each leg.**

### **TRICARE FOR LIFE**

#### **WARNING!**

Numerous reports have been received from TRICARE beneficiaries regarding bogus "call center" representatives who are encouraging beneficiaries to provide personal identifying information and health information so that TRICARE can allegedly provide prescribed cream medications to the beneficiary. Be wary of unsolicited attempts by any entity asking for personal or health information, either by phone or in person. TRICARE beneficiaries receiving calls asking for personal information should immediately submit a fraud report to the pharmacy benefit contractor, ESI, via email to [TRICAREfraudtip@express-scripts.com](mailto:TRICAREfraudtip@express-scripts.com) or call toll free 866-759-6139. ESI staff can also flag profiles and reject attempts to bill for these medications. People receiving unsolicited medication in the mail should refuse delivery. (from military.com)

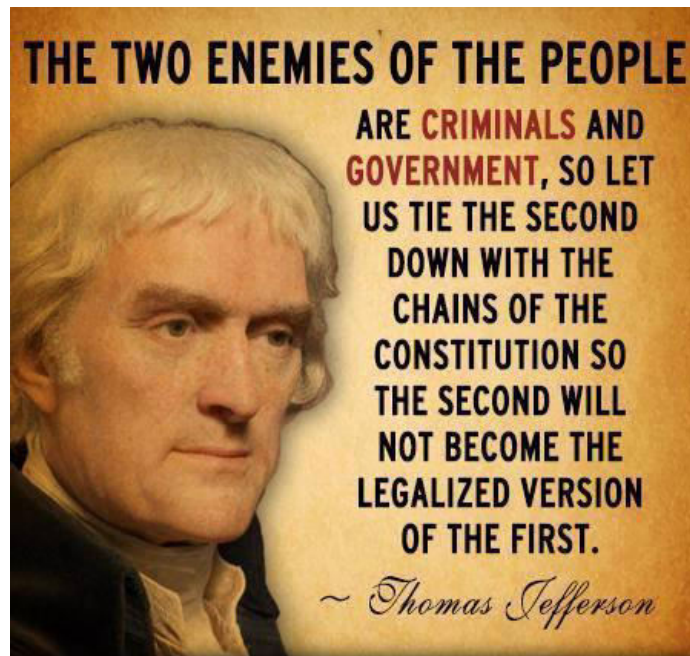
To learn more about TRICARE FOR Life, please visit their webpage at <http://www.tricare.mil/tfl>

### **QUOTE FOR THE MONTH**

( H.L. Mencken (born 1880 - died 1956) was a journalist, satirist, critic and a registered voting member of the Democrat party. He wrote the editorial below while working for the Baltimore Evening Sun, which appeared in the July 26, 1920 edition.)

**"As democracy is perfected, the office of the President represents, more and more closely, the inner soul of the people. On some great and glorious day, the plain folks of the land will reach their heart's desire at last and the White House will be occupied by a downright fool and complete narcissistic moron."**

## PICTURE OF THE MONTH



## SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

Most Americans are unaware of the fact that over two hundred years ago, the United States had declared war on Islam, and Thomas Jefferson led the charge! At the height of the eighteenth century, Muslim pirates were the terror of the Mediterranean and a large area of the North Atlantic. They attacked every ship in sight, and held the crews for exorbitant ransoms. Those taken hostage were subjected to barbaric treatment and wrote heart breaking letters home, begging their government and family members to pay whatever their Mohammedan captors demanded. These extortionists of the high seas represented the Islamic nations of Tripoli, Tunis, Morocco, and Algiers – collectively referred to as the Barbary Coast – and presented a dangerous and unprovoked threat to the new American Republic. Before the Revolutionary War, U.S. merchant ships had been under the protection of Great Britain. When the U.S. declared its independence and entered into war, the ships of the United States were protected by France. However, once the war was won, America had to protect its own fleets. Thus, the birth of the U.S. Navy. Beginning in 1784, seventeen years before he would become president, Thomas Jefferson became America's Minister to France. That same year, the U.S. Congress sought to appease its Muslim adversaries by following in the footsteps of European nations who paid bribes to the Barbary States, rather than engaging them in war. In July of 1785, Algerian pirates captured American ships, and the Dey of Algiers demanded an unheard-of ransom of \$60,000. It was a plain and simple case of extortion, and Thomas Jefferson was vehemently opposed to any further payments. Instead, he proposed to Congress the formation of a coalition of allied nations who together could force the Islamic states into peace. A disinterested Congress decided to pay the

**ransom. In 1786, Thomas Jefferson and John Adams met with Tripoli's ambassador to Great Britain to ask by what right his nation attacked American ships and enslaved American citizens, and why Muslims held so much hostility towards America, a nation with which they had no previous contacts. The two future presidents reported that Ambassador Sidi Haji Abdul Rahman Adja had answered that Islam "was founded on the Laws of their Prophet, that it was written in their Quran, that all nations who should not have acknowledged their authority were sinners, that it was their right and duty to make war upon them wherever they could be found, and to make slaves of all they could take as Prisoners, and that every Musselman (Muslim) who should be slain in Battle was sure to go to Paradise."**

**Despite this stunning admission of premeditated violence on non-Muslim nations, as well as the objections of many notable American leaders, including George Washington, who warned that caving in was both wrong and would only further embolden the enemy, for the following fifteen years, the American government paid the Muslims millions of dollars for the safe passage of American ships or the return of American hostages. The payments in ransom and tribute amounted to over twenty percent of the United States government annual revenues in 1800. Jefferson was disgusted. Shortly after his being sworn in as the third President of the United States in 1801, the Pasha of Tripoli sent him a note demanding the immediate payment of \$225,000 plus \$25,000 a year for every year forthcoming. That changed everything. Jefferson let the Pasha know, in no uncertain terms, what he could do with his demand. The Pasha responded by cutting down the flagpole at the American consulate and declared war on the United States. Tunis, Morocco, and Algiers immediately followed suit. Jefferson, until now, had been against America raising a naval force for anything beyond coastal defense, but having watched his nation be cowed by Islamic thuggery for long enough, decided that it was finally time to meet force with force. He dispatched a squadron of frigates to the Mediterranean and taught the Muslim nations of the Barbary Coast a lesson he hoped they would never forget. Congress authorized Jefferson to empower U.S. ships to seize all vessels and goods of the Pasha of Tripoli and to "cause to be done all other acts of precaution or hostility as the state of war would justify". When Algiers and Tunis, who were both accustomed to American cowardice and acquiescence, saw the newly independent United States had both the will and the might to strike back, they quickly abandoned their allegiance to Tripoli. The war with Tripoli lasted for four more years, and raged up again in 1815. The bravery of the U.S. Marine Corps in these wars led to the line "to the shores of Tripoli" in the Marine Hymn, They would forever be known as "leathernecks" for the leather collars of their uniforms, designed to prevent their heads from being cut off by the Muslim scimitars when boarding enemy ships.**

**Islam, and what its Barbary followers justified doing in the name of their prophet and their god, disturbed Jefferson quite deeply. America had a tradition of religious tolerance, the fact that Jefferson, himself, had co-authored the Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom, but fundamentalist Islam was like no other religion the world had ever seen. A religion based on**

supremacism, whose holy book not only condoned but mandated violence against unbelievers was unacceptable to him. His greatest fear was that someday this brand of Islam would return and pose an even greater threat to the United States. This should bother every American. That the muslims have brought about women-only classes and swimming times at taxpayer-funded universities and public pools; that Christians, Jews, and Hindus have been banned from serving on juries where Muslim defendants are being judged, Piggy banks and Porky Pig tissue dispensers have been banned from workplaces because they offend Islamist sensibilities. Ice cream has been discontinued at certain Burger King locations because the picture on the wrapper looks similar to the Arabic script for Allah, public schools are pulling pork from their menus, on and on in the newspapers....It's death by a thousand cuts, or inch-by-inch as some refer to it, and most Americans have no idea that this battle is being waged every day across America. By not fighting back, by allowing groups to obfuscate what is really happening, and not insisting that the Islamists adapt to our own culture, the United States is cutting its own throat with a politically correct knife, and helping to further the Islamists agenda. Sadly, it appears that today's America would rather be politically correct than victorious.



**BENJAMIN FRANKLIN QUOTE**

**"The Lord heals. The doctor sends the bill."**





**328 MP COMPANY, CHERRY HILL, NJ**

**CPT Matt Neamand  
Commanding Officer**



**The 328MP Company is on deployment at the Guantanamo Bay Facility.**





**3-112FA MORRISTOWN, NJ**

**LTC Robert Hughes  
Commanding Officer**



**B Battery has finally moved into the Flemington Armory. B Battery will have the updated M119A3 105mm towed howitzer with the latest in aiming devices. The Toms River facility is now the home of C Battery which will be receiving the M777A2 155mm towed howitzer.**

**A re-flagging ceremony was held June 13<sup>th</sup>. A Change of Responsibility ceremony will also take place, with CSM Earnest Williams moving on to be the CSM of 57<sup>th</sup> Troop Command and 1SG (P) Paul Horan will be promoted to and assume the responsibilities of BN CSM.**





**RRNCO**  
**NJARNG Recruiting and Retention Battalion**

**SFC Kevin J. Makin**  
**RRNCO, Asst. NCOIC**  
**(267) 251-7640**



**[www.njarmyguard.com](http://www.njarmyguard.com)**

**"Explore your path to honor and become a Citizen-Soldier"**



**SSG Lewis of the Recruiting & Retention BN prepares Recruit Sustainment Program soldiers for water training at the NJ National Guard Training Center, Sea Girt NJ**

## NJDMAVA Highlights

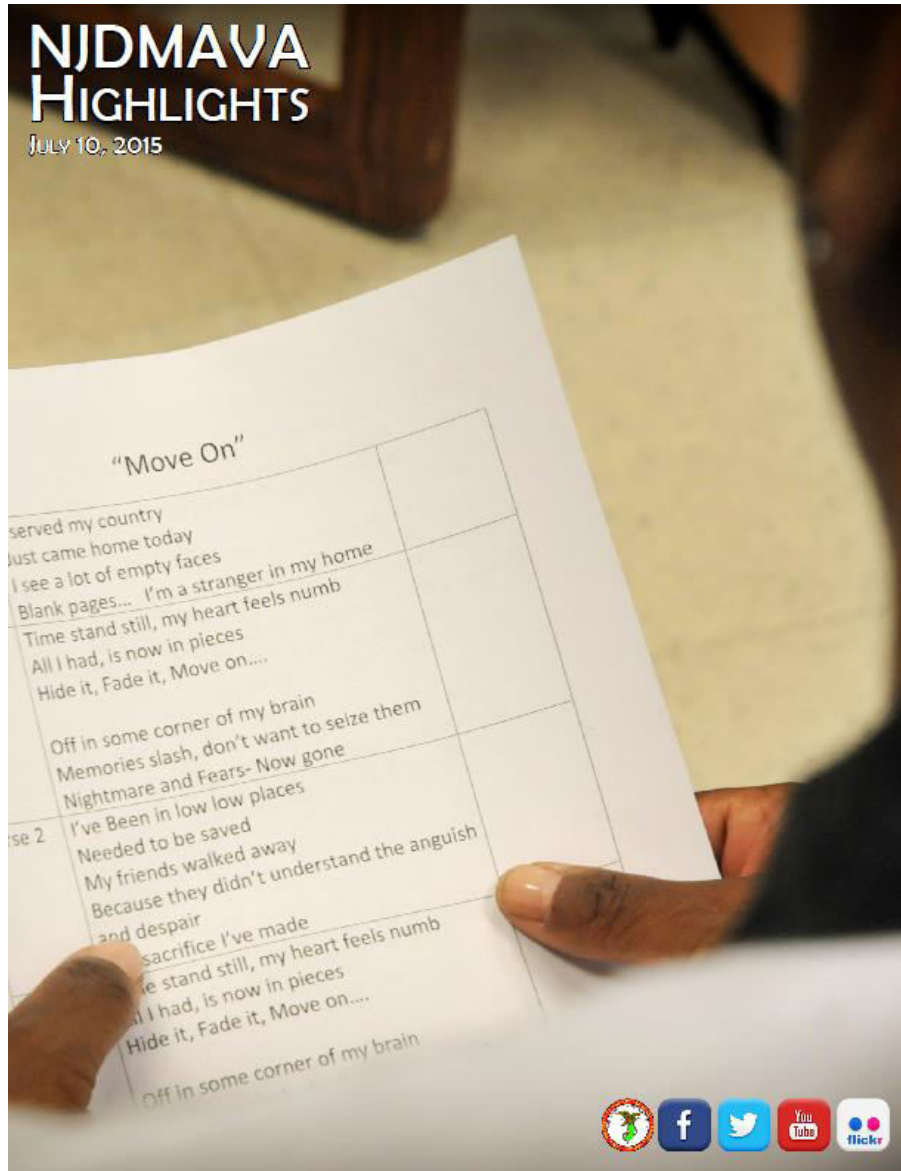
courtesy of

**BG Steven Ferrari, USARMY NG NJARNG (US)**

**MSGT Mark C. Olsen, NJDMAVA/PAO**

This is the cover of the July 10, 2015 issue. See the complete text and the newest issue at:

<https://www.dvidshub.net/publication/683/njdmava-highlights#.VQBMq-GrF c>





### **REQUEST YOUR INPUT**

**We 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 only \$20 per year and are payable 1 January of each year. Please send your dues 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 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](http://www.112FA.org)

## **E-MAIL ADDRESS**

[112FA.CLA@gmail.com](mailto:112FA.CLA@gmail.com)

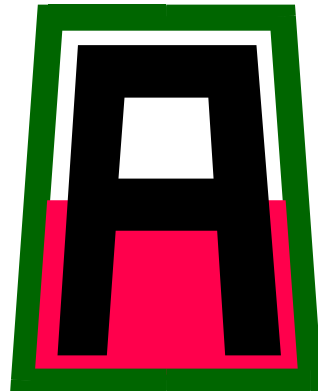
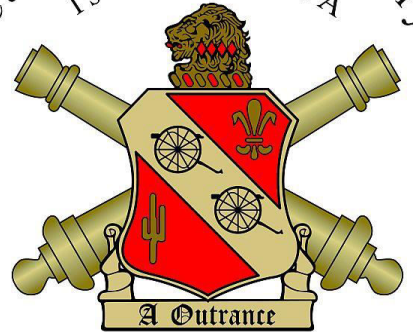
## **FACEBOOK PAGE**

our name on Facebook is  
**CAMDEN LIGHT ARTILLERY**





Camden Light Artillery  
1st BN 112th FA





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