



2010 Calendar

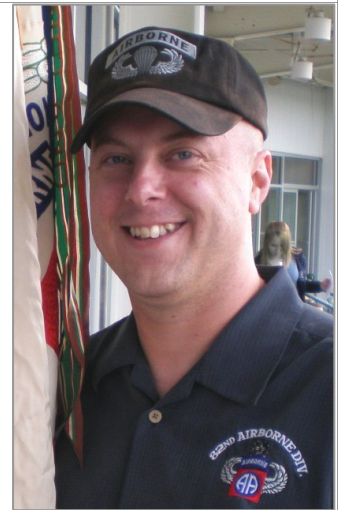
- January
 - 10 Membership meeting
 - 15 Winter Paraglide mailings
- February
 - 14 Membership meeting
 - 15 President's Day
- March
 - 14 Membership meeting
 - 26-28 Installation Banquet
- April
 - 4 Easter
 - 11 Membership meeting
 - 15 Spring Paraglide mailings
- May
 - 2 Membership meeting
 - 9 Mother's Day
 - 15 Armed Forces Day
 - 31 Memorial Day
 - Naperville, IL parade
- June
 - 13 Membership meeting
 - 14 Flag Day
 - 20 Father's Day
- July
 - 4 Independence Day
 - Parade in Niles, IL
 - 11 Summer Picnic
 - 15 Summer Paraglide
- August
 - 8 Membership meeting
 - 16 National Airborne Day
 - 18-21 64th Annual Convention
- September
 - 6 Labor Day
 - 12 Membership meeting
- October
 - 10 Membership meeting
 - 15 Fall Paraglide mailings begin
- November
 - 1 S: Assoc. Education Fund apps
 - 10 S: "Early Bird" apps to Chapter
- Chapter
 - 11 Veterans Day
 - 14 Membership meeting
 - 15 S: "Early Bird" apps to National
- National
 - 25 Thanksgiving
- December
 - 12 Member Mtg/Holiday party
 - 25 Christmas
 - 31 New Year's Eve
 - S: 2011 Annual renewals

Chairman's Message

Hello Chicago Chapter! We are very excited to publish our first newsletter of 2010. Following up on terrific monthly meetings in December and January, we are all hard at work on organizing this year's Installation Banquet. This is one of our biggest events of the year, so we hope that you will join us on March 26 and 27 in Orland Park, IL. The banquet is a terrific opportunity to socialize with fellow troopers and meet new friends. So hope to see you there!

Also, it's with great sorrow that we say goodbye to an old friend in Manny DeJesus, who passed away on February 2. He followed up his exemplary military service with years of dedication and leadership to the Association as Executive Director. We'll miss you, Manny!

All The Way!
Mark Christianson, Chairman



2010 Installation Banquet

This year's event will be held over March 26-27 at the Homewood Suites in Orland Park, IL. Our Hospitality Room will offer travelers and locals alike a chance to enjoy the company of old friends and new. The Installation Banquet will be held Saturday evening and feature dinner, dancing, raffles and other prizes, and a healthy dose of Airborne fun. One highlight of the evening will be formal installation of our 2010 chapter officers.

Banquet invitation packets have been sent to members and friends of the Chicago Chapter. If you did not receive one, need another, or have any questions, please contact Mark Mueller at (630) 561-2139 or markmueller@ameritech.net.



Farewell, Manual "Manny" DeJesus

On February 2, 2010, the 82nd Airborne Division Association lost a dear friend; recently retired Executive Director Manuel DeJesus lost his battle with cancer.

Most recently, Manny served as Executive Director of the 82nd Airborne Division Association. During his 27-year military career, Manny earned the Bronze Star, the Legion of Merit, Army Parachutist Badge, and other awards and decorations. He held numerous leadership positions in the 18th Airborne Corps and 82nd Airborne Division, to include seven years as the G-1 SGM of the 82nd Airborne Division.



"America's Guard of Honor"

AFRICA SICILY FRANCE THE NETHERLANDS BELGIUM GERMANY DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
VIETNAM GRENADA PANAMA PERSIAN GULF AFGHANISTAN IRAQ



2010 Chapter Officers

Chairman
Mark Christianson

Vice Chairman
Mark Mueller

Secretary
Rafael Calderon

Treasurer
Glenn Granat

Sergeant at Arms
Ken Sullivan

Chaplain
Ed Caldario

Trustee
Chester Aszklar

Trustee
Matt Wojtaszek

Trustee
Tony Vallos

Paraglide/Publicity
Marge Mazik

Service Officer
Ralph Calderon

CHICAGO CHAPTER HEADLINES

Membership Data

Current headcount is 160, comprised of 144 All-American Life Members and 16 Annual Members

2010 Renewals

Annual members who have yet to renew for 2010 are encouraged to contact Mark Mueller at (630) 561-2139 or markmueller@ameritech.net for a renewal application. Annual dues remain at just \$15 per year.

New/Renewing Members

- Tim Connolly of Elmhurst, IL renewed as an All-American Member
- Stan Pieklielny of Downers Grove, IL renewed for 2010
- Aaron Pylinski transferred into Chicago
- Stanley Gryga of Norridge, IL joined the Association
- Tony DeMichael of Niles, IL joined the Association
- Rudy Acevedo of Chicago, IL joined the Association
- Jay Siler of Naperville, IL renewed for 2010

Michael Marcukaitis, new All-American Member

We recently received notice from National regarding new All-American Member Michael Marcukaitis of Bourbonnais, IL. Michael served with the 505th PIR in 1967.

Brian O'Sullivan, new All-American Member



Chicago Chapter member Brian O'Sullivan of Romeoville, IL recently renewed as an All-American Member. Brian is a former Captain in the 82nd Airborne Division, serving from 1993-98. Above, Brian receives his AAM certificate from Chairman Mark Christianson.

Chicago Member Updates

- Paul Siegfried moved to Bollingbrook, IL
- Chris Getz moved to Raeford, NC

Notes from the January meeting

In case you missed our January meeting, here are some highlights:

- 24 attendees
- Looking to raise \$1,500 to replace our aging chapter flags
- The new Fisher House is scheduled to be completed in March 2010
- Key topics of discussion were the Installation Banquet, veterans benefits, and future meeting locations

Way to Go, Jersey Joe!

At the January meeting at The Ram restaurant Tim Connolly formally recognized Joe "Jersey Joe" Scherer for sending care packages to Tim's son while he was stationed in Afghanistan. Pictured below are Tim and his wife Marilyn presenting a "thanks you" flag to "Jersey Joe" Scherer on behalf of Tim's son.

To mention, Jersey Joe has been sending care packages to deployed troops for years. Anyone who knows Joe isn't surprised - Joe is a patriotic guy and a true humanitarian.



Favorite Links

U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs
www.va.gov

IL Dept. of Veterans Affairs
veterans.illinois.gov

82nd Airborne Division
www.bragg.army.mil/82dv

82nd Airborne Div Association
www.82ndassociation.org

Paratrooper.net
www.paratrooper.net

Pritzker Military Library
www.pritzkermilitarylibrary.org

Chapter Pins in Stock

Our popular Chicago Chapter pins are back in stock and available for purchase (image shown at right). Pins are available at any meeting or by contacting a chapter officer. The price is \$5 each or 5 for \$20. Wear them everywhere and carry an extra for a new friend.





Upcoming Chapter Meetings

February 14

14:00 to 16:00

Rock Bottom Restaurant & Brewery
28265 Diehl Road
Warrenville, IL 60555
(Across from the AMC
Cantera theater)

Meet us in the 2nd floor loft!

March 14

14:00 to 16:00

The Ram Restaurant
9520 West Higgins Road
Rosemont, IL 60018

Meet us in the private room.



82nd & Association Merchandise

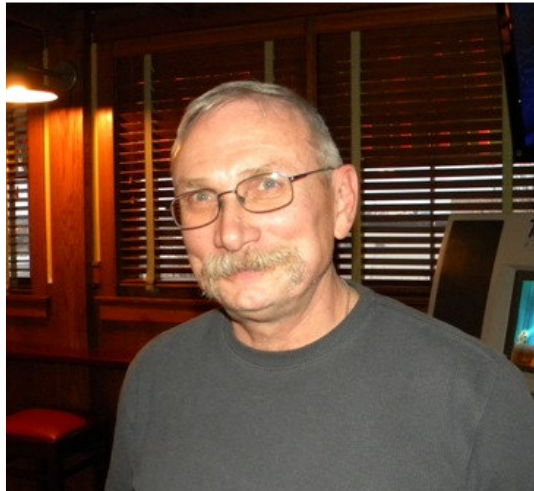
Association members and friends looking for Association or 82nd Airborne Division merchandise have a number of good options, including:

Association Sales: Each issue of The Paraglide offers a merchandise catalog found at the last couple of pages. Orders are accepted by mail only.

Museum Website: The 82nd Museum Gift Shop offers merchandise online. Visit 82ndairbornedivisionmuseum.com/cube.

Photos from the December Meeting

Our December meeting/holiday party at Rock Bottom brought a number of new members and first-timers. Below are a few of them.



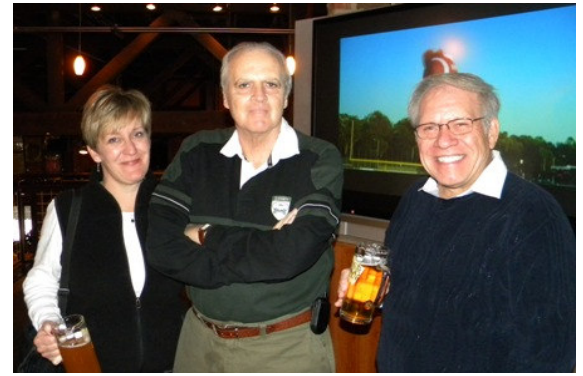
Stan Piekilny attends his first meeting



AAM's Aaron Pylinski and Maureen "Mo" Bak attend their first meeting



Stan Gryga and Tony DeMichael attend their first meeting – these two are long-time friends who entered the service together and served in the 82nd Airborne Division from 1942-45



Ken Sullivan & wife Karen joke with Hank Mazik

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION HEADLINES

National Convention

The 64th Annual 82nd Airborne Division (National) Convention will be held August 18-21, 2010 in Charleston, WV. The event is sponsored by the West Virginia All-Airborne Chapter. For more information, write to Airborne 2010, 5459 Northcutt Place, Dayton, OH 45414; or e-mail srgabn@aol.com; or call 937-898-5977.

LOCAL INTEREST HEADLINES

Legal Advice for Veterans

John Marshall Law School in Chicago offers free legal services for veterans through their Veterans Legal Support Center. According to their website, "the VLSC assists veterans filing VA benefit claims and provides representation for veterans during the appeals process. The clinic refers qualified veterans to private legal counsel through our statewide network of Pro Bono attorneys. These attorneys are dedicated individuals who have donated their time to assisting veterans with their claims." Visit the VLSC online at www.jmls.edu/veterans.

New Veterans' Cash Lottery Tickets

Illinois Gov. Quinn continues a statewide launch of the newest Veterans' Cash scratch-off lottery ticket, the Stars & Stripes ticket. The ticket's net proceeds benefit rehabilitative programs and services for Illinois Veterans.

Since its inception in 2006, Veterans Cash has awarded more than \$7 million to more than 75 organizations supporting Veterans throughout the state. Stars & Stripes is currently available at Illinois Lottery retail locations throughout the state. Each ticket costs \$2 and has a top prize of \$20,000.



Mailing Address:

Chicago Chapter
82nd Airborne Division Assoc.
c/o Mark Mueller
521 W. Gartner Road
Naperville, IL 60540

Phone:
(630) 561-2139

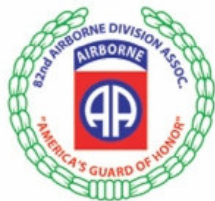
E-mail :
markmueller@ameritech.net

ABOUT THE CHICAGO CHAPTER

The Chicago Chapter is the oldest Chapter in the Association and officially organized as the Illinois State Chapter on 25 March 1946. On 15 April 1948, the Chapter reorganized to make room for more Illinois paratroopers and received its charter as the Chicago Chapter of the 82nd Airborne Division Association.

The 82nd Airborne Division Association was honored on 5 November 1990 by The United States Congress in receiving a Congressional Charter.

Today, the Chicago Chapter is more than 150 members strong and very active in social and service activities.



More photos from the December party
(Rock Bottom Restaurant, Warrenville, IL)



Gerald Morrow & wife Barbara attend their first meeting



Chairman Christianson welcomes new AAM Rudy Acevedo of Chicago, IL

CHICAGO CHAPTER
82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION ASSOCIATION
C/O MARK MUELLER, VICE CHAIRMAN
521 W. GARTNER ROAD
NAPERVILLE, IL 60540
