



2011 Calendar

- June
 - 12: Chapter meeting
 - 14: Flag Day; US Army Birthday
- July
 - 4: 4th of July parade, Niles
 - 10: John Steele Picnic
- August
 - 3-6 National Convention
 - 12-21 Beer Tent, State Fair
 - 14 : Chapter meeting
 - 16: National Airborne Day
- September
 - 11: Airborne Day Picnic
- October
 - 9: Chapter meeting
- November
 - 1: Educ. Fund apps deadline
 - 13: Chapter meeting
- December
 - 11: Chapter Holiday party
 - 31: 2012 Renewal Deadline

Download a complete 2011 calendar from our website at www.chicagoairborne.com

The Chicago Chapter is a registered 501(c)(4) non-profit organization

Chairman's Message

Welcome back to the Chicago Chapter newsletter, which has been on hiatus but is back and here to stay. 2011 has been a great year for the chapter so far: our membership is growing, we're financially stable, and we're getting more and more involved in our local communities and also the Airborne community.

We have a few great events behind us in 2011, including the Airborne Banquet this past March and the Memorial Day parade in Naperville. Coming up, we are very excited about our 2nd Annual Airborne Day BBQ on 9/11 in Naperville. The inaugural event last year was a success with more than 150 attendees, and our expectations are even higher this year. As before, the event is free to Chicago and John Steele Chapter members and their immediate families. The public is welcome - tickets are just \$10 each - and there will be plenty of great food and drink, including a pig roast, raffles, and plenty of Airborne fun and games. Make sure this event is on your calendars!

Enjoy this newsletter and hope to see many of you at our future events.

Airborne, All The Way!
Mark Mueller, Chairman



2011 Memorial Day Parade

Unlike last year, Mother Nature cooperated with us on Memorial Day. For the fourth consecutive year, our Chicago Chapter participated in the Memorial Day parade in Naperville, IL.

The event took place Monday, May 30, amidst a beautiful 90+ degree day and thousands of patriotic, cheering spectators. Fourteen members of our Chicago Chapter marched behind our parade banner, carried proudly by WWII vets Tony Vallos and Barney Janecki, near the front of the procession that included more than 70 groups.

The Association flag was carried by Christopher Israel and the US flag was carried by chapter vice chairman Glenn Granat. Cal Roesner piloted his new Jeep, decorated, and flying a large 82nd Airborne Division flag off the back.

Following the parade, our group watched a Memorial Day ceremony that recognized the contributions of veterans past and present and included patriotic music and a guest speaker. Then, following the ceremony, our group enjoyed a complimentary lunch at the Judd Kendall VFW Post 3873 in Naperville.



"America's Guard of Honor"

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



2011 Chapter Officers

Chairman
Mark Mueller

Vice Chairman
Glenn Granat

Treasurer
Herman Leynes

Secretary
Brian O'Sullivan

Sergeant at Arms
Mike Dooley

Service Officer
Ralph Calderon

Favorite Links

82nd Airborne Div Association
www.82ndassociation.org

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

Paratrooper.net
www.paratrooper.net

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

IL Dept. of Veterans Affairs
veterans.illinois.gov

Pritzker Military Library
www.pritzkermilitarylibrary.org

Honor Flight Chicago
www.honorflightchicago.org

Operation Support our Troops
www.osotamerica.org

CHICAGO CHAPTER HEADLINES

Farewell Mary Novak, 94

It is with great sorrow that we share the news of the passing of Mary Novak of Grinnell, IA, widow of the late Chester "Chet" Novak.



Chet was a Charter (founding) member of the 82nd Airborne Division Association, past Executive Director (1950-52), past National President (1952), and also responsible for the founding and long-time success of our Chicago Chapter. His contribution to the Association was immense and Mary was with him every step of the way. In recognition of Mary's long-time contribution to the Association, she was recognized as a National Honorary Member.

John Overling Turns 100!

Chicago Chapter Life member John F. Overling of Plano, TX, celebrated his 100th birthday on June 3. John served with HHC/325th Glider Infantry Regiment, participating in all major campaigns during World War II throughout the European theater. He earned the rank of Sergeant/E-5 and two purple hearts.

2011 Annual Member Renewals

Annual members who have yet to renew for 2011 are encouraged to do so by July 1. Contact Mark Mueller at (630) 561-2139 or info@chicagoairborne.com for more information, or visit our website to download an application. Note that 2011 Annual membership dues will increase to \$20 beginning Jan 1. Life Membership dues remain unchanged at \$82 for active duty, \$100 for ages 50+, and \$150 for age under 50.

Fund Raiser: IL State Fair Beer Tent, August 12-21

Through our relationship with the IL Combined Veterans Association, the Chicago Chapter is planning as a fund raiser to volunteer at a beer tent at the Illinois State Fair in Springfield over Aug 12-21. Volunteers will earn money for our chapter and will have their hotel paid for if they volunteer for 3+ six hour shifts. Last year, we had four members volunteer more than 100 hours in total and earned the chapter more than \$700. For more information please contact Herman Leynes at treasurer@chicagoairborne.com or (312) 550-2084.

John Steele Chapter Picnic, July 10



Chicago Chap members with National Pres. Bill Eberle in 2010

For the fifth year, our Chicago Chapter has been invited to neighbor John Steele Chapter's summer picnic in Ottawa, IL. This year the event will take place on Sunday, July 10 and run from 12:00-17:00. All members, family and guests are welcome. Most food and drinks are provided; however attendees are asked to please bring a side dish or desert to share. In addition to the picnic there will be raffles and a very nice heated, in-ground pool for families to enjoy. The address is 1919 Champlain St. Ottawa, Illinois 61350.

Independence Day Parade, July 4

For the 2nd year, our Chicago Chapter will march in the Independence Day parade in Niles, IL. The event will take place on the 4th and all local chapter members are encouraged to participate in this excellent event. Army Humvees will be available to transport our mobility-challenged members. For more information, please contact Vice Chairman Glenn Granat at vicechairman@chicagoairborne.com or (630) 209-2834.

Honor Flight: Chester Aszklar

Chicago Chapter Life member Chester Aszklar, 89, of Chicago, IL, along with 94 other WWII veterans, participated in the May 11 Honor Flight to visit the WWII Memorial, Arlington National Cemetery, and other attractions in Washington DC. Below is a photo of Chester's "Welcome Home" courtesy of Chicago Chapter members.



Donate To Your Chicago Chapter

This appeal is low on the page but high on our priority list. The Chicago Chapter welcomes any/all monetary donations to help us grow and help others. Please contact Chairman Mark Mueller at chairman@chicagoairborne.com or (630) 561-2139.



Upcoming Chapter Meetings

JUNE 12

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!

JULY 10

12:00 to 17:00

1919 Champlain St.
Ottawa, IL 61350

In lieu of our July Meeting, we are once again invited to the picnic with our friends the John Steele Chapter.



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.

CHICAGO CHAPTER MERCHANDISE

NEW Chapter Challenge Coins

New for 2011 are our chapter challenge coins, fresh off the mint. These high quality coins were designed by our chapter Sergeant At Arms, Mike Dooley. We have plenty in stock and are available for sale at just \$10 each.



Chapter Pins

Our popular Chicago Chapter pins are 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.



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION HEADLINES

65th National Convention

The 65th 82nd Airborne Division Association Convention will be held in Reno, NV over August 3-6, 2011 and hosted by the Cal-Nevada All-Airborne Chapter. The base HQ will be the Silver Legacy Resort Casino in Reno. Excursions include Lake Tahoe, Virginia City, a golf outing, and Reno Aces AAA baseball, in addition to some excellent casino action. The agenda includes these highlights:

- Hospitality suites
- Active duty paratrooper jump
- Visit with Combat Wounded Warriors
- Banquets and luncheons
- Membership meeting
- 82nd and Association merchandise

Please make reservations at the Silver Legacy by July 23 to avoid a late fee. Phone is (800) 687-8733 and use event group code "82nd". Representing our Chicago Chapter as delegates will be Chairman Mark Mueller and Vice Chairman Glenn Granat. All Chicago Chapter members are encouraged to attend the convention - it's a great opportunity to reconnect with the Airborne friends.

Association Education Fund

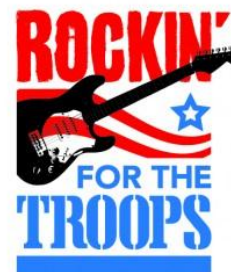
The 82nd Airborne Division Association Education Fund is made available to dependent children of Airborne veterans or Airborne veterans themselves who apply within two years of separation. The fund provides grants to those eligible and who apply and meet all requirements. The firm deadline for receipt of completed applications is November 1. Details and applications are available on the Association website at www.82ndassociation.org, or contact Chicago Chapter Chairman Mark Mueller at chairman@chicagoairborne.com or (630) 561-2139.

Also note that donations to the Education Fund are always welcome. The Fund is set up as a unique corporate entity and is an IRS recognized 501(c)(3) non-profit organization; donations are tax deductible.

LOCAL INTEREST HEADLINES

Rocking For The Troops 2011, July 16

This year's annual concert will take place on Saturday, July 16 and once again features award-winning actor Gary Sinise and his Lt. Dan band. The line-up also includes Nashville recording artist and 82nd Airborne Division veteran Rockie Lynne, Chicago based group One More Time, and Indiana based Motown tribute band The Voices.



Gates open at 12:00 with main stage entertainment beginning at 14:00. Details of the day can be found at www.rockinforthetroops.org. Tickets are \$25 and available at participating Jewel Osco stores, online at www.rockinforthetroop.org, or by phone at (800) 594-TIXX

Paratrooper License Plates

Just a reminder that the State of Illinois now offers Paratrooper license plates to vehicle owners. These plates feature basic jump wings and the word "Paratrooper" to let everyone know you've earned your wings. Visit the Cyberdrive Illinois website for more information. Proof of airborne qualification is required.





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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 180 members strong and very active in social and service activities.

CHICAGO CHAPTER
82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION ASSOCIATION
C/O MARK MUELLER, CHAIRMAN
816 BRODHEAD DRIVE
AURORA, IL 60504



Photo Gallery

Additional Photos: 2011 Memorial Day Parade



(L-R) Tony Vallos, Bob Bell, Don Strazer, Cal Roesner