



### 2012 Calendar

- January  
08: Chapter meeting
- February  
12: Chapter meeting
- March  
11: Chapter meeting
- April  
01: Chapter meeting
- May  
06: Chapter meeting  
28: Memorial Day Parade
- June  
10: Chapter meeting  
14: Flag Day; US Army Birthday
- July  
04: 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade, Niles  
08: John Steele Summer Picnic
- August  
08-12 66<sup>th</sup> National Convention  
10-19: Beer Tent, IL State Fair  
16: National Airborne Day  
19 : Chapter meeting
- September  
16: Airborne Day Picnic
- October  
14: Chapter meeting
- November  
01: Educ. Fund apps deadline  
11: Chapter meeting  
11: Veterans Day
- December  
09: Chapter Holiday party  
31: 2012 Renewal Deadline

Download an updated 2012 calendar from our website at [www.chicagoairborne.com](http://www.chicagoairborne.com)

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

### Chairman's Message

Happy New Year, Chicago Chapter!

I hope everyone enjoyed the Holidays and is off to a great start in 2012. First, let's welcome Christopher Israel as our new Sergeant At Arms and welcome back Glenn Granat as Vice Chairman and Brian O'Sullivan as Secretary. These guys just continue to make things happen for our chapter and we're lucky to have them.



Next, let's reflect on a terrific 2011 that featured our Installation Banquet in March, a few exciting parades in Naperville, Niles and Streamwood, the return of All American Week last May, the Association's 65<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention in Reno, raising funds at the beer tent at the State of Illinois Fair, our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Airborne Day Picnic on 9/11, a really nice Holiday party last month, and also the welcome addition of nearly two dozen new members to our chapter. Additionally, we said a final farewell to a few members and good friends who will each be missed but not forgotten.

Lastly, let's look forward to what lies ahead in 2012: monthly meetings with comrades, parades, The John Steele summer picnic, the 66<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention in Pittsburgh, our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Airborne Day BBQ, more fund raising, and a myriad of other reasons to enjoy the company of some of the finest veteran paratroopers and glider men around.

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

Airborne, All The Way!  
Mark Mueller, Chairman and Treasurer

### Celebrating the Holidays

Our Chicago Chapter celebrated the Holidays in Airborne style on 11 December in the private room at The Ram Restaurant & Brewery in Rosemont, IL. The event was attended by more than 60 members, family and friends, who enjoyed a complimentary luncheon and great company. Highlights included 2012 officer installation, raffles, and recognitions.

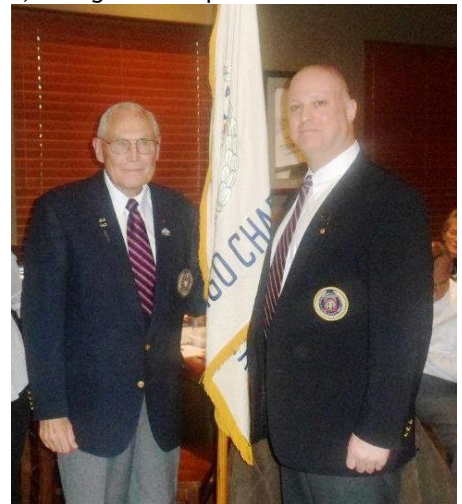
The 2012 Officer installation was performed by past Chairman Don Strazer. Raffle items were donated by Mark Mueller, Glenn Granat, Stan Gryja, Tom Carter, and Tony DeMichael, and included items such as Airborne gear, Brookfield Zoo tickets, a bottle of wine, handmade Holiday crafts, and a \$100 Amazon.com gift card.



2012 Officers are sworn in: (L-R) Christopher Israel, Brian O'Sullivan, Glenn Granat, Mark Mueller

### Retired Chapter Colors Raffled

In mid-2011, we purchased a long overdue new set of flags (National & Chicago Chapter) along with poles, cases, and parade harnesses. The chapter colors had run their course over the decades, so we held a special raffle at the Holiday party in order to raise funds for the organization and ensure they found a good home. The raffle winner was past chairman Don Strazer, a long-time chapter member and officer.



Don Strazer (L) receives his raffle prize from Chairman Mark Mueller



### "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  
Mark Mueller

Secretary  
Brian O'Sullivan

Sergeant at Arms  
Christopher Israel

## On The Web

82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Div Association  
[www.82ndassociation.org](http://www.82ndassociation.org)

82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division  
[www.bragg.army.mil/82dv](http://www.bragg.army.mil/82dv)

U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs  
[www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov)

IL Dept. of Veterans Affairs  
[veterans.illinois.gov](http://veterans.illinois.gov)

Pritzker Military Library  
[www.pritzkermilitarylibrary.org](http://www.pritzkermilitarylibrary.org)

Honor Flight Chicago  
[www.honorflightchicago.org](http://www.honorflightchicago.org)

Operation Support our Troops  
[www.osotamerica.org](http://www.osotamerica.org)

## CHICAGO CHAPTER HEADLINES

### New Members

Welcome our newest Chicago Chapter members:

#### Annual Members:

Diane M. Craig of Yorkville, IL (HHC 82<sup>nd</sup> Abn Div)  
Donald E. Maas of Chicago, IL (501 PIR)

#### All-American Life Members:

Kenneth H. Negley of Naperville, IL (504 PIR)  
James Kraustrunk, Lockport, IL (505 PIR, 11 ABN)  
Thomas C. Harts of Mokena, IL (HHB DIVARTY)  
Christo G. Hernandez of Rockford (82 STB)  
Christopher M. Israel of Chicago, IL (82 AVN)

### Annual Renewals

The following Chicago Chapter members have already renewed for 2012:

Alan M. Bold of Schaumburg, IL  
Anthony DeMichael of Niles, IL  
Gerald Morrow of Aurora, IL  
John D. Biggs of Monmouth, IL  
Julius G. Siler IV of Naperville, IL  
Stanley Gryja of Norridge, IL  
Terrence M. Owens of LaGrange, IL  
Thomas F. White of Manhattan, IL  
Timothy Guinan of Springfield, IL

### Celebrating The Big Nine-O

On 27 January 2012 Charter Member Matthew Wojtaszek will celebrate his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. Matt is a WWII Glider Rider with the 319<sup>th</sup> AFAR who participated in combat campaigns in Sicily, mainland Italy, Normandy (including a D-Day glide), Holland and Belgium. Matt is currently enjoying retirement after 44 years with the USPS. Join us in wishing Matt a very Happy Airborne Birthday and many more!



*Matt Wojtaszek, now and then*

### Taps: Kenneth G. Doumel, 78

On 26 October 2011 we lost Chicago Chapter Life Member Kenneth Doumel, a 187<sup>th</sup> Airborne (Rakasan!) veteran who served in Korea from 1953-55. Our chapter attended Ken's funeral service and performed an Airborne Farewell ceremony. Ken is interred at Queen of Heaven Cemetary in Hillside, IL.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Airborne Day Picnic

Our chapter hosted the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Airborne Day picnic on 9/11 at the Judd Kendall VFW Post in Naperville, IL. The highlight of the event was a pig roast, once again handled by our good friend Chet Phillips from our neighbor John Steele Chapter (see photo below).

More than one hundred people attended the event this year that also included full picnic fare, raffles, a militaria static display, a couple of T-10 parachutes and demonstrations, and a dog-tag making station hosted by Chicago Chapter Life Member and US Army Recruiter Jeremy Hetrick.



*Celebrity chef Chet Phillips can really roast a pig!*



*Jay Siler (L) prepares to JMPI Chris Israel*

### Annual Members

If you haven't yet renewed for 2012, please do so ASAP. The cost is just \$20. Contact Mark Mueller for a renewal form. AATW!



## Upcoming Chapter Meetings

**JANUARY 8**  
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 (elevator accessible)

**FEBRUARY 12**  
14:00 to 16:00

The Ram Restaurant & Brewery  
9520 West Higgins Road  
Rosemont, IL 60018

Meet us in the private room.



## 82<sup>nd</sup> & 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 82<sup>nd</sup> Museum Gift Shop offers merchandise online. Visit [82ndairbornedivisionmuseum.com/cube](http://82ndairbornedivisionmuseum.com/cube).

## Please Update Us

In an effort to keep our membership database accurate, please keep us updated regarding any changes in your contract information (name, address, phone numbers, email addresses), employment, marital status, and such. Email changes to [info@chicagoairborne.com](mailto:info@chicagoairborne.com) or contact Mark Mueller directly. If your address changes, we'll need to notify National HQ to ensure your Paraglide magazines and other correspondence find you.

## Donate To Your Chicago Chapter

The Chicago Chapter welcomes any/all monetary donations to help us grow, meet our goals and help others. Donations can come from private individuals, from other organizations, or from businesses. Note that, unfortunately, while the Chicago Chapter is a registered 501(c)(4) nonprofit, we are not a tax deductible donation like a 501(c)(3) would be. Please contact Chairman Mark Mueller at [chairman@chicagoairborne.com](mailto:chairman@chicagoairborne.com) or (630) 561-2139. You may also donate securely and confidently via PayPal on our chapter website at <http://www.chicagoairborne.com/about/donate-to-the-chicago-chapter/>.

## CHICAGO CHAPTER MERCHANDISE

The below items are available at any meeting or by contacting Chairman Mark Mueller at (630) 561-2139 or send an email to [merchandise@chicagoairborne.com](mailto:merchandise@chicagoairborne.com).

## Chapter Challenge Coins

Chapter challenge coins are available for \$10 each. These high quality, 2" coins were designed by Mike Dooley.



## Chapter Pins

Chicago Chapter pins (image at right) are available for \$5 each or 5 for \$20. Wear them everywhere and carry an extra for a new friend.



## NATIONAL ASSOCIATION HEADLINES

### Incoming National President

Past President Bill Eberle has handed over the reins to incoming President Fredrick L. Spaulding (Indianapolis, IN) effective 01 January 2012.

### 66<sup>th</sup> National Convention

The 66<sup>th</sup> annual 82nd Airborne Division Association Convention will be held in Monroeville, PA (just outside of Pittsburgh) over August 8-11, 2012 and hosted by the 1SG Leonard A. Funk MOH Western PA Chapter. The base HQ will be the Doubletree Hotel. Please make reservations asap. The Convention Chairman is Vince Kimberland at (412) 417-3353 or [vnkimberland0@gmail.com](mailto:vnkimberland0@gmail.com).

Chicago Chapter delegates will be selected during the April chapter meeting. All Chicago Chapter members are encouraged to attend the convention - it's a great opportunity to reconnect with the Airborne friends.

### Taps: PP James M. Campillo, 88

National Past President Jimmy Campillo passed away on 16 November 2011 in South Florida. AATW!

### Taps: Vernon Gregory, 81

We lost a good friend recently with the passing of Vernon Gregory. Vern was the chairman of our neighboring John Steele Chapter and the host of the picnic we attend each July. Chicago Chapter Chairman Mark Mueller attended the funeral service in Ottawa, IL, on 10 November 2011. Vern is interred at Ottawa Avenue Cemetery in Ottawa, IL.

### All-American Week 2012: No Go

It was disclosed at the 2011 Convention that there would be no All-American Week held at Fort Bragg in 2012 due to Divisional commitments. We'll let you know if this changes.

## LOCAL INTEREST HEADLINES

### Paratrooper License Plates

Just a reminder that the State of Illinois offers Paratrooper license plates to qualified drivers. 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  
82<sup>ND</sup> AIRBORNE DIVISION ASSOCIATION  
C/O MARK MUELLER, CHAIRMAN  
816 BRODHEAD DRIVE  
AURORA, IL 60504



**Photo Gallery**

More photos from the 2011 Airborne Day Picnic



*Some of our WWII Veterans – looking good, men!*



*Jersey Joe Scherer (R) surprised us with a visit. Glenn Granat at Left. See...504 and 325 guys CAN get along.*