

Chicago Chapter of the 82nd Airborne Division Association Newsletter February 2019



Chicago Chapter Officers:

- Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary: Mark Mueller
- Vice Chairman, Sergeant at Arms, and Historian: Glenn T. Granat

Upcoming Events:

- **10 February, 2019:** Chicago Chapter monthly membership meeting at Rock Bottom Brewery and Restaurant in Warrenville, IL, 14:00-16:00.
- **10 March, 2019:** Chicago Chapter monthly membership meeting at The Ram Restaurant in Rosemont, IL, 14:00-16:00.
- **Outings and Events: LET'S GO FISHING!** Vice Chairman Granat will be hosting the Chapter's first fishing day on Saturday, 01 June 2019 from 8:00AM-2:00PM at Tampier Lake in Orland Park. We will meet on the west shore of the lake, directly adjacent to the west parking lot, (just look for the AIRBORNE flag). Tampier Lake is home to Northern Pike, Walleye, Yellow Perch, Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass, Bluegills, Punkinseed Sunfish, Yellow Bass, Gizzard Shad, Crappie, Bullhead, Channel Catfish, and the always-popular Carp! Tampier is 131 Acres, averaging 10 feet deep with the deepest spot being 13 feet deep. The lake also has abundant shore fishing as well as boats that can be rented. Please bring your lunch, beverages, and fishing tackle! There will be a very cool prize for the largest fish of the day! (A valid State of Illinois fishing license is required).
- **Chapter Meetings:** In addition to Chapter and Association updates, there is a monthly history report and static display of very cool Airborne items. There is also plenty of social time to meet and connect with other Airborne Troopers!

50/50 Raffle: Tickets are \$1ea and available at meetings or downloadable from our Facebook page or our chapter website at www.chicagoairborne.com. Winner need not be present to win.

The **2019 Airborne wall calendars** are available and can be purchased at each monthly meeting or on the Chicago Chapter web site for \$15.00 each.

250 Foot Tower

U.S. Army Airborne School, Ft. Benning Georgia



- **1940: Test Platoon:**
 - Eighteen days after forming, Lieutenant Colonel William C. Lee moved the Test Platoon to the Safe Parachute Company at Hightstown, NJ and trained them using 250 foot parachute drop towers from the 1939 New York World's Fair.
 - Impressed, the Army purchased two and erected them on what is now Eubanks Field at Fort Benning. Two more towers were purchased and three of the original four 250 foot towers are still in use today. Today's Paratroopers are connected to all Veteran Paratroopers from the last 77 years by many things including the 250 foot towers.
 - To continue to week 2/tower week, prospective troopers must pass all jump training tests as well as the standard Army Physical Fitness Test (APFT) in the 17-21 year old range, regardless of the prospective trooper's actual age. Ground week is the phase of training in which the largest number of personnel washout.



SFC Parachute Instructor, known as a "Black Hat"

Monthly Trooper Profile: Matthew F. Wojtaszek Sr. America's Greatest Generation.
Glider Rider with two combat Stars on his Glider Wings, (Normandy and Holland).
Charter Member of the 82nd Airborne Division Association.



World War II Honoree

World War II Veteran



Matthew F. Wojtaszek, Sr.
U.S. Army

HOMETOWN
Chicago, IL

HONORED BY
Matthew F. Wojtaszek



ACTIVITY DURING WWII

SERVED FROM CASABLANCA IN NORTH AFRICA TO BERLIN, GERMANY. PARTICIPATED IN SICILY, ITALY, D-DAY NORMANDY, JUNE 6, 1944 OPERATION OVERLORD, HOLLAND, OPERATION MARKET GARDEN SEPTEMBER 18, 1944. THE BULGE BASTOGNE BELGIUM DECEMBER 19, TO JANUARY 1945. OCCUPATION DUTY BERLIN, GERMANY 1945. DISCHARGED NOVEMBER 19, 1945. 82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION.