

1SG Leonard A. Funk Chapter



Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

November, 2010

Tom Thompson – Chairman

Kirk Fellabom – Editor (temp)

LAF82nd News@aol.com

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

CHAPTER MEETING:
November 17, 2010 at 7:00pm
 Come early for dinner
 at the
ROYAL PLACE
 2660 Library Road
 Pittsburgh, PA 15234
 412-882-8000
 (Always the third Wednesday)



Walter Reed Hospital

What is this about????????????

CHRISTMAS PARTY
DECEMBER 15, 2010
DINNER: 6:00 pm
ROYAL PLACE
 2660 Library Road
 Pittsburgh, PA 15234
 412-882-8000

It's hard to believe that it's almost time for Thanksgiving again. It's also hard to believe that Yours truly is once again doing this newsletter. Our Chapter secretary, Vince Kimberland, is having some health issues and won't be able to do the newsletter this month or next. I'm happy to pick up the slack. That's what paratroopers do for each other and I know that Vince would do the same. Many good wishes from me to you, Vince, and from all members of this Chapter.

Looking ahead to our meeting on November 17, 2010, we will hold elections for Chapter officers. The nominations are as follows:

Chairman	Tom Thompson
Vice Chairman	Kirk Fellabom
Secretary	Lenny Gorzynski
Treasurer	Tom Jensen
Public Relations	Dave Park
Recruiting/Retention Officer	Monte Griffith
Auxiliary Chair	Marge Kessler
Sgt. At Arms	Gus Drake
Deputy Sgt at Arms	Bill McCartney
Trustee	Mel Kessler

Nominations are closed for all positions. Looks like we have lots of great candidates even if there is only one for each position. Come to the meeting – vote early and often – Chicago Style.

In this issue:

- Notes from the Board and Chapter meetings from October.
- Challenge Coin Design – as promised
- Vets 'n Vettes – National Corvette Museum, another chance to help Wounded Warriors.
- Christmas Party sign on sheet
- 2012 National Convention Name
- New position for Recruiting and Retention
- New Quartermaster for our Chapter – Bob Eakin
- Newsletter publication for 2011

I'll probably add something else but that's the way I see it at this time. There are two items that need addressing on the front page. **MEMBERSHIP** and **FUND RAISING**. PLEASE renew your membership to this Chapter. The form is in the newsletter. If you are behind with your dues just renew for 2011 NOW and you are considered current. Thank you in advance. Note the **Chapter Booster List** in this issue. The Chapter **WOULD NOT RUN** without these people. Consider placing your name on this list for all to see by giving "A little extra" to your Chapter. If you have a **PA 82nd Airborne Division Association License Plate** you must be current in your dues or return your Plate to the State. If you are an **ALL AMERICAN MEMBER**, paid for life, you do not need to worry about any of this. It's really the way to go. **HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL OF YOU.**

The Board Meeting was held on October 6, 2010. These are held usually once per month and attended by most of the officers. ANYONE is welcome to attend. Ask one of the officers for the date, time and location as they change from month to month. The Chapter meeting was held on October 20, 2010. The following are the items discussed and acted on at these meetings with some items from September’s meeting.

- 1- The name for our 2012 National Convention will be: “PARACHUTES OVER PITTSBURGH”
This, agreed to reluctantly as the City of Pittsburgh wasn’t as helpful as it could have been in securing the Convention within the city limits. As you know the Convention will be held in Monroeville, PA.
- 2- Vince passed out the list of the committee chairs for the Convention. They are as follows:

Convention Chair/Entertainment	Vince Kimberland
Registration/Rooms/Tours ...	Marge Kessler
Transportation	Glenn Ribblett
Public Affairs	Dave Park
Hospitality Room/ Refreshments	Monte Griffith
Drop Zone	Tom Thompson
	Bill McCartney
Finance	Tom Jensen
Master of Ceremonies	Kirk Fellabom
Coordination	Tom Riley
Convention Challenge Coins .	Kirk Fellabom

There will be much more that Vince will need help with. Feel free to contact Vince if you feel that you can contribute to our Convention.
- 3- Chapter Name change. Kirk Fellabom suggested changing the name of our Chapter to more completely encompass the area which we serve. Monte Griffith suggested adding “MOH” after the Name Funk. The change was approved by our Chapter at the September meeting and sent to Fayetteville for the National Directors to act upon. The New name if approved will be:
1SG LEONARD A. FUNK MOH, WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER
- 4- A new board position, **Recruiting and Retention**, was suggested by Chairman Tom Thompson. This was approved by the membership and will become effective January 1, 2011.
- 5- Newsletter – Will be published Bi-Monthly beginning in 2001. This will save printing and mailing costs.
- 6- Veteran’s Day Parade – Vince was set to handle this but could not follow through with it due to his illness. Get well Vince – We need you!

- 7- Tom Thompson suggested naming a section of a highway after 1SG Funk.. Anyone with suggestions or ideas please bring them to attention of Tom and we’ll see if we can get this done. It’s a project worthy of your consideration.
- 8- We discussed asking the National Directors to attend our Christmas Party and preside over the swearing in of our 2011 Officers. It was agreed that we’d handle this with our people here.
- 9- Vince Kimberland will try to get info out to corporations and groups in an effort to get additional funding for Wounded Warriors.
- 10- Our Chapter agreed to donate \$100.00 to the 82nd Airborne Educational Fund.
- 11- A moment of silence was held in remembrance of Walter A. Achibald who passed away.
- 12- Bob Eakin agreed to take care of the “Sales Department” For the time being. Thanks, Bob. Bob also made a beautiful wooden item that he gave away with the 50/50 raffle.
- 13- Treasurer’s Report ending 9/30/2010– Tom Jensen:

Beginning balance	\$6697.55
Dues	15.00
Sales	60.00
Coins	25.00
Wounded Warrior Fund ..	55.00
War Chest	25.00
Disbursements	198.81
Ending Balance	\$6678.74
- 14- Check out our Chapter website:
www.82airbornepitt.org
Check out our Chapter FaceBook Page
- 15- Coins sold 122 |
- Pa 82nd Airborne Plates sold 231 |
- 16- Kirk Fellabom will run for a National Director position in 2011. This was approved at the September membership meeting and the notice was sent to Fayetteville for consideration.
- 17- CHAPTER PICNIC – JUNE 5, 2011. As Vince says – plan your events around the Picnic, not the other way around.

Hopefully that’s all or most of the items that were acted upon. If anything was missed, please let me know so we can get it out next month.

Christmas Party
December 15, 2010

CHAPTER INFORMATION**Directors:**

Tom Thompson – Chairman
82paratrooper@comcast.net
 1605 Amity Ridge Road
 Washington, PA 15301
 724-206-0290

Kirk Fellabom - Vice Chairman
CaptKirkPA@aol.com
 356 Hellen School Road
 Acme, PA 15610
 412-445-2601

Vince Kimberland – Secretary
vnkimberland0@gmail.com
 1610 Glenn Street
 McDonald, PA 15057
 724-926-2670

Tom Jensen – Treasurer
mtmpitt@verizon.net
 3335 Altherton Drive
 Bethel Park, PA 15102
 412-851-1229

Public Relations:
Dave Park
 412-885-3977

Officers:

Gus Drake - SGT at Arms
Jim Aker – Deputy SGT at Arms
Mel Kessler – Trustee
SHELBY82ndG@aol.com
Tom Riley – Trustee
TRiley5054@aol.com
Monte Griffith - Trustee
Cag248@Comcast.net
Chapter Auxiliary
Marge Kessler
 412.279.7221

REMEMBER YOU CAN HELP YOUR CHAPTER SAVE MONEY BY OPTING TO RECEIVE YOUR NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL. And it will come in COLOR! Send a note to LAF82ndNEWS@aol.com and we'll set it up that way. Thanks to all who have done so.

The members of our Chapter thank the people listed here for contributing to the financial well being of the chapter. We could not make this work without **ALL** of you. AIRBORNE!

Tommy & Susanne Thompson
Kirk Fellabom
Vince & Ginny Kimberland
Tom & Margaret Jensen
Bill McCartney
Dennis Dunegan
Cindy Fellabom
Col. Peter Guevara
Arthur Cocolin
Walter Rogers
Russ Trovato
Leo Stepansky
Chris Ryan
Glenn & Phyllis Ribblett
Joseph Painter
Dave & Kathy Park
Monty & Desire Griffith
Larry & Pat Morris
Mike & Barb Grubesky
Mel & Marje Kessler

Donna Fellabom DeBerardinis
David Moon
John Stockman
Lenny & Ann Gorzynski
Ed Moore
Ray Mitchell
John L. Price
Ron & Patti Smith
Bill & Judy Colbert
Frank & Jeanne Bedekovich
Santiago & Jeanne Tijerina
James A Pearson
Tom & Bette Jean Riley
Don Jones, Bob & Delores Eakin,
Mickey McMullen,
Neal Riley,
Charles L. McKee,
Joe Martindill,
Jim Strutt,
Dean Labby

82nd Airborne Division Association PA License Plates – If you want one contact Kirk Fellabom @ PAPlate82@aol.com or 412-445-2601 and we'll fix you up. Remember any regular member current with their dues and Chapter Auxiliary members may purchase these plates. Applications are also available at the Chapter meetings.



Thank you,

VETERANS

82nd Airborne Division America's Guard of Honor

Africa Sicily France The Netherlands Belgium Germany Dominican Republic
 Vietnam Granada Panama Persian Gulf Afghanistan Iraq



1SG Leonard A. Funk Chapter Challenge Coin



Our Chapter Challenge Coins are the result of the directors deciding to have them made and sold as a fundraiser.

The design came to be as follows: As our Chapter is a part of the 82nd Airborne Division Association it was felt to be necessary to have the Association Logo in our coin. That logo is on the front of the coin surrounded by a circle in maroon with our Chapter name and location in it. The maroon color is because of the Airborne Beret. The Jump Wings and Glider wings are imposed over the Association Logo and our Chapter circle tying the two together.

The back of the coin has a 3D likeness of the City of Pittsburgh as the center. The American Flag speaks for itself. The Medal of Honor represents the award presented to our Chapter namesake, 1SG Leonard A. Funk for his actions in WWII. We are proud to associate his name with the Medal of Honor whenever we can. Below the medal is a scroll with the number in the order the coin was manufactured starting with 001 and going to 300. Each number is followed by the letters ABN, for Airborne. The blue in the circle was used as compliment to the blue in the Medal of Honor Ribbon. All coins from the United States have "In God We Trust" on them and we liked it on ours too. AIRBORNE ALL THE WAY – Gee, where have we heard that before? On the outside edge there are words showing our pride in our Airborne service and our loyalty to our Country. The six stars on the blue circle have a meaning too. Does anybody know what that meaning is? The coin was designed with the input of many Chapter members over several months in 2009.

These coins are available as mail order and they will be at all Chapter Meetings, including the Christmas Party. We are still looking for someone to be a tremendous booster for the Chapter by buying coin Number 1. Numbers 11, 13 and 18 are available also. Each of these four coins come with a nice display case and would look GREAT in your home.

ORDER FORM FOR 1SG LEONARD A. FUNK CHAPTER CHALLENGE COIN

Name, First _____ Last _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone (_____) _____

Regular coins ordered @ \$20.00 each _____

Special coins ordered: (001 @ \$500.00 each) _____

Special coins ordered: (11,13,18 @ \$100.00 each) _____

I will call you upon receiving your order and you may pick your number.

Make checks payable to: 82nd Airborne Division Association.

Mail to: 82nd Airborne Challenge Coin No. of coins ordered _____

C/O Kirk Fellabom Cost of coins _____

356 Hellen School Road Shipping _____ \$7.50

Acme, PA 15610 Total enclosed _____

CHRISTMAS PARTY 2010

As my friend Neil Diamond says: "Pack up the babies and grab the old ladies and EVERYONE GOES!"

Where ROYAL PLACE (Regular meeting place)
When December 15, 2010 at 6:00 pm (Dinner will start at 6:00 PM)

Menu:

Buffet with:

Stuffed chicken breasts
Baked ham
Roast beef
Roasted red potatoes
Scalloped potatoes
Green beans w/almonds
Pasta w/ sauce
Salad
Rolls and butter
Cake

Wine for a toast is included

Coffee, tea, soft drinks also included

Cost: \$20.00 per person, \$10.00 for kids under 10 years old.
(That price includes tip so there's nothing else to buy)

Alcohol is the only extra.

Door prizes and a raffle will be included.

This is always a good time so please try to come out for this. We'd love to see YOU! And your wife or a friend!

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM BELOW AND ENCLOSE YOUR CHECK FOR THE PROPER AMOUNT

Marge Kessler asks that each lady attending bring 2 dozen cookies.

1SG Leonard A. Funk Chapter Christmas Party 2010

Name: _____

Guests name(s) _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____

Phone number _____

Enclosed: \$ _____ for _____ Adults
\$ _____ for _____ Children under 10 years

Total: \$ _____

Mail to: Tom Jensen
3335 Altherton Drive
Bethel Park, PA 15102

82nd Airborne Division Association Membership Application



New members must fill out completely
 Phone _____ Email _____



Renewal ___ Reinstatement ___ New Member ___ Transfer to 1SG Leonard A. Funk Chapter ___
ALL AIRBORNE (Signature required to transfer _____)

Enclosed: _____ \$ **20.00** dues for the year _____ including PARAGLIDE Subscription.
 _____ \$ **100.00** for Lifetime Membership if over 50 years of age. DOB ____/____/_____
 _____ \$ **150.00** for Lifetime Membership if under 50 years of age.

Name _____ Address _____
 City _____ State ____ ZIP _____
 ASN/SSN _____ Airborne Service dates _____ to _____
 Airborne Unit(s) (be specific) _____

Present Occupation _____ Single ___ Married ___ Spouse's name _____ No. of Children ___

Chapter: 1SG Leonard A. Funk, Pittsburgh, PA

Make check payable to: 82nd Airborne Division Association. Mail to : **Tom Jensen**
3335 Altherton Drive
Bethel Park, PA 15102
412-851-1229

JOIN THE AIRBORNE, AGAIN!
(It's a hell of a lot easier this time)

Proof of Airborne service or time with the 82nd is necessary. (DD-214 preferred) **Recommending Member** _____

Use this application to sign new members, become a LIFETIME MEMBER, or REINSTATE YOUR OWN MEMBERSHIP by paying for this year. Do it today! We need you back!

IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR YEARLY MEMBERSHIP!

Better yet, become an ALL AMERICAN MEMBER. Simply select that on the application below and send in the correct amount. You will get a beautiful certificate for your friends and family to see. It really helps YOUR Chapter if you do it that way.



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Vets 'n Vettes

By Kirk Fellabom

Bowling Green, KY is home to a wonderful place called The National Corvette Museum, (NCM). The Director, Wendell Strode is a good man, a Vietnam Veteran, and is proud to have his C.I.B. hanging on a plaque in his office. This Museum started in a corner store front in a local strip mall in the early 1990's and has grown to a HUGE building housing some of the finest Corvettes in the world. I have had the chance to participate in several of their Corvette events over the past 15 or so years so when they came up with an event for Veterans and their Corvettes, **Vets 'n Vettes**, I jumped at the chance to attend. Actually this was the third year for this event but the first that I could go.

Chapter member Ray Mitchell, his lovely wife Lorraine, and I got into our Corvettes on November 3rd and went to Bowling Green for this event. On the way there and after 3 cups of coffee it was time for a good AIRBORNE ----. As Ray and I were discussing the depth and temperature of the water in the men's room, (Ladies – ask your men about that one), Ray said there was an Airborne monument outside.



Airborne Monument at a westbound rest stop on I-79 about 45-50 miles east of Charleston, WV.

At the Corvette Museum we met up with about 50 other Vets in Vettes from all over the country. My friend Carol Guthrie met us there for the weekend. On Thursday we had a tour of an Air Force Reserve Wing in Nashville. We found ourselves inside of a C-130. I had to ask the loadmaster if he would open one of the side doors. He did and I was able to stand in the door of a C-130 for the first time in over 44 years. I gotta tell you – that brought back memories. Even from the ground.

Friday was spent with SFC Scott Motes, 101st Airborne Division liaison to Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, DC; Lt Col Richard (Bull) Webster, a C-130 pilot and Corvette owner from Wright-Patterson AFB, April Kauffman of the American Red Cross, and Wendell Strode of the NCM.

These four people are going to bring WOUNDED WARRIORS from Walter Reed Hospital to the National Corvette Museum on March 21 and 22 of 2011. They will have at least 50 Warriors, and a caregiver for each one, board a C-130(s) at Andrews AFB and fly to Fort Campbell, KY. Legion Riders and The Patriot Guard and First Responders will escort the Soldiers from there to Bowling Green, KY. They will get a complete tour of the National Corvette Museum, rides in Corvettes, an over night stay at local hotels, and a banquet celebrating their time away from the hospital. I don't know yet how many of these Warriors will be from the 82nd Airborne. There will be some. I plan to be at the Museum for these two days with the Warriors.

I need some help from our Chapter members. I'd like to take some funds to help their visit be comfortable, to buy gift cards so that they may have what they might want from the Museum Gift Shop, give them our Chapter Challenge Coins, in general make the trip more memorable for them. ALL CORVETTES that were ever made were made in AMERICA! (Since 1982 they have been made in Bowling Green, KY and the Warriors will get to tour the Assembly Plant and see them as they are made). These men and women are as AMERICAN as it gets. I have been assured that any funds from our Chapter will go to 82nd Airborne Troopers unless there is a need for it to be shared. I'll be there to hand out the gift cards, coins, something from our sales department, etc. I plan to have a card for each person from our Chapter signed by as many people that would like to sign them.

If you can help, kindly make a check to:
82nd Airborne Division Association and send it to:

82nd Airborne Division Association
C/O Kirk Fellabom
356 Hellen School Road
Acme, PA 15610

Questions – call me at 412.445.2601

THANK YOU!

(Mark something like “Corvette Warriors” on your check)
HELP ME HELP THESE KIDS!



Lorraine and Ray Mitchell, Carol Guthrie, Kirk Fellabom at the Bowling Green, KY Veteran's Day Parade, November 6, 2010

Saturday was a very interesting day. It started out with about 100 Corvettes leaving the Museum and going to downtown Bowling Green for it's Veteran's Day Parade. There is something special about seeing two rows of Vettes for many city blocks ahead and behind you.

Following the parade all of the Corvettes went on a road tour of the rolling hills of Kentucky for about 40 miles. We stopped at a country store on a farm for sandwiches and ice cream. The ice cream was great but the best of the trip was yet to come.

Saturday evening the Museum held a banquet for all of the Veterans that took part in the weekend Vets 'n Vettes program. There had been a fellow in the mix over the past days who was awarded the Medal of Honor in Vietnam. I shook his hand several years ago but never really talked with him. Well, at the banquet Mr. Don Jenkins sat at our table. As we were talking with him, (He had a shirt with all of his ribbons in it), I got confused about one of the ribbons. I told Carol that I think he also has a Silver Star. I finally asked Don about it and he said the Silver Star ribbon was in the center. The one on the left that I asked about is the Distinguished Service Cross. He's a real nice guy. Kinda reminds one of another real nice guy. He said that he comes to PA once a year. It would be great if we could get him here for a meeting or something else.

The weekend was very fulfilling. I'm always honored to be in the company of Veterans and friends.