508th Parachute Infantry Regiment Association



NEWS LETTER

MARCH 1981 ISSUE 17

DAYTONA BEACH
1981

Last call for Daytona Beach and "fun in the sun in 81". We are to gather there June 25, 26, 27 and 28th, 1981, at the Plaza Hotel.

If you've never had the experience of visiting with a war time buddy after 35 years while your wives talk children and grandchildren, you havent lived! Who would have ever believed it possible back in those days.

Our hotel is right on the beautiful, sandy beach. It is newly redecorated. The Plaza has individually controlled air conditioned rooms with TV. It's features are endless: king size pool, sun bathing, shuffleboard, game room, tennis, basketball and a bus stop for all of the Central Florida attractions.

Come early and stay late. Daytona Beach is 60 minutes or less away from Disneyworld, Marineland, St. Augustine, Sea World, Cape Kennedy, Cypress Gardens and Silver Springs. Take a bus to these spots or rent a car.

The hotel itself has a nice restaurant and coffee shop. If you want variety, other restaurants of all specialties are nearby. You will be able to take meals in the Regimental CP too.

The CP is a giant bar reserved for our special use.

If you come by car, they have free, indoor parking facilities. The airport is 15 minutes away for those flying.

The registration fee this year is unchanged at $45.00 per person. You can send that to our treasurer now with the registration form on Page 3. The rooms don't have to be paid until you check out. Rooms are $30.00 and suites are $40.00. A suite is a bedroom plus living room. These very economical prices are in effect for us 2 weeks before and 2 weeks after the reunion. It's a bargain rate so take advantage of it now. To be assured of a room and these special rates reservations must be in by June 1st. The hotel takes all credit cards.

Come on along and join us. Mike Wargo and the Florida gators have the welcome mat out. Everything is informal and relaxed. We're old buddies. If you have room, you may want to pack something more dress up for the dinner dance. Some people do, but the byword is relax and have a good time.

Remember to bring your 508th jackets.

1981 REUNION SCHEDULE

June 25 (Thursday) - Registration & Early Bird Party
June 26 (Friday) - Registration. Welcoming Breakfast. Business Meeting.
June 27 (Saturday) - Registration Evening Dinner Dance
June 28 (Sunday) - Memorial Luncheon and goodbye until next year.

A Salute to the 30th and our Wives

A letter from Harry Street, D, was so good it had to be quoted. Harry was talking about looking forward to the next reunion and the good times shared by all when he set down these enthusiastic paragraphs and heartfelt thoughts.

"Sure am looking forward to our reunion. We are starting to stare at planes flying overhead and counting the days. I wish it were tomorrow!

"I'm sure there is no other organization that enfolds you with so much warmth and love as ours does. Our reunions seem to cleanse me of all doubts, worries and frustrations that dog me through the year. We spend the whole year looking forward to meeting, once again, our beloved friends even though it's such a short, short time.

"Even though our joints are creaking and we're short of wind, I feel (Iknow) if one of us were in trouble and Yelled 'Geronimo' all hell would break loose.

"I didn't intend to write this much but my feelings got the best of me.

"But I really would be amiss if I ended this letter without mentioning our beloved wives.

"I can't help but believe we all picked real winners. We're really lucky!

"They are really a part of the cement that bonds us together. Their support, enthusiasm and friendliness adi a great plus to the warmth of our reunions. God love them! They really are an integral part of our organization. I honestly believe they are not given enough credit for the success we have achieved.

"It's remarkable, when you consider they don't have the bonds of service that we have, but yet when they come together, originally as complete strangers, they mesh so greatly and support so enthusiastically all our crazy doings.

"Besides, they're all beautiful --inside and out."

Memorials Update

The Beek and Arlington Memorials to the 30th are both progressing well. Ray Costanzo (I)and Bob Chisolm (I), who are handling the Arlington Memorial, say they will have artist and landscape sketches for us to see at the reunion in June. Arlington is to be finished in 1982.

The Beek project will be dedicated Sept.17,1981,by our tour group. It is well underway and fully supported by the people of Beek in the Netherlands. They are matching our contributions to this memorial dollar for dollar. They also suffered and lost friends during the war.

Remember,that as well as both projects are moving, we need your financial support to complete them. Whatever amount you can send will be useful and will make you a part of the project. Both of these memorials will be impressive and inspiring. Your children and grandchildren can see them and know they are for you. Send your contribution to our treasurer; Jim Smith, 1403 Valencia Dr. Fayetteville, NC 28303

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1981 REUNION SCHEDULE

June 25 (Thursday)	- Early Bird registration and party
June 26 (Friday)	- Welcoming Breakfast Registration.
June 27 (Saturday)	- Business meeting Evening Dinner Dance Registration
June 28 (Sunday)	- Memorial Luncheon. Farewell until next year

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MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS

We are unable to assign membership numbers because the master list disappeared at a convention some years ago. Any reconstruction of the list would be a loser.

508th P.I.R. ASSOCIATION - - - 1981 REUNION PRE-REGISTRATION

NAME: AT _____ LIFE _____ DO _____

ADDRESS: NUMBER & STREET _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

I WILL HAVE _____ GUESTS, AND THE NAMES FOR THEIR NAME TAGS ARE:

NAMES _____

REGISTRATION FEE IS $45.00 PER PERSON

ENCLOSED IS $ _____ REGISTRATION FEE FOR _____ PEOPLE.

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HOTEL RESERVATION INFORMATION -No advance payment needed

PLEASE RESERVE _____ DOUBLE ROOM, _____ SINGLE ROOM, _____ SUITE.

WE WILL ARRIVE ON (DATE) _____ IN THE _____ AM _____ PM

WE WILL CHECK OUT ON (DATE) _____

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MAKE ALL CHECKS OR MONEY ORDERS PAYABLE TO 508th PIR ASSOCIATION

SEND NO MONEY FOR THE HOTEL.

SEND ALL PRE-REGISTRATION FORMS, CHECKS OR OTHER FORM OF PAYMENT, WITH THE HOTEL RESERVATION INFORMATION TO:
JIM SMITH, 1403 VALENCIA DRIVE, FAYETTEVILLE, N.C. 28303



508th PIR DUES FOR 1981

RENEWAL ☐ ☐ NEW MEMBER

Make check payable to: 508th PIR Association.
Mail to ; Jim Smith, 1403 Valencia Drive,
Fayetteville, N.C. 28303, our Treasurer.

Paratrooper _____ Wife _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Company _____ Rank/Rate _____ MOS _____

ASN _____ Dates served _____

Campaigns _____

Occupation _____

Hobbies/Interests _____

Assn.No. _____ Signature _____

Here's your opportunity to start off the new year on the right foot. Pay your 508th dues. We ask for only $5.00, but accept whatever you can afford. The money goes for this News Letter, our monthly column in Static Line, and to support correspondence necessary to find new members and keep the organization going. No one in the organization is paid. The work is all done voluntarily, so that our income can be used to find and keep us together.

508th 1981 MEMORIAL TOUR TO EUROPE

Here's another opportunity to visit the scenes of our European experiences. This one features the Netherlands, Belgium and Germany with an extension to England. We'll dedicate a memorial to the 508th in Beek, visit Nijmegen, Wyler and other battle sites. Travel to Belgium and find places there of importance to us: LaGlieze, Werbomont, Vielsam, Stavelot, etc. Along the way we'll visit WWII cemeteries where some of our buddies lie. Liege and Frankfurt are also included.

There is plenty of time allowed for visiting on this trip. Most meals are included.

The optional extension to England adds 6 days to the tour and visits to Nottingham, London, Stratford-on Avon, etc.

To sign up or for information write Galaxy Tours .(OVER)

'alaxy Tours - 508 PIR
P. O. Box 45
King of Prussia, PA 19406
Telephone: 215-265-2778

RESERVATION APPLICATION

Sounds Great! Please make ____ reservations for our 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment Tour. Enclosed is $____ representing $200 per person deposit for the ☐ Main Tour; ☐ Main Tour plus Extension to England.

My name _____

Names of persons traveling with me and their relationship: _____

Address _____

City, State and Zip Code _____

Telephone: Area Code _____ – Home _____ Office _____

I desire: [ ] single room at additional cost; [ ] 2 in a room, roommate if other than spouse _____

Please make checks payable to 'Galaxy Tours - 508PIR.' Signature _____

MAIL BAG

Gordon "Doc" Cullings, Med Det, is retired from Civil Service. He lives on a farm with his wife Phoebe near Dillsburg, PA. He's had an interesting life with the government, working on missile submarines. From up in the air to under the water is quite a varied experience.

Fr. Dunne was one of our Catholic Chaplains. He stayed in the service through Korea, where he was wounded. He is now a Monsignor and a Chaplain with the New York Police Department. He holds the rank of inspector and is noted for his work in counseling for alcoholism and gambling.

Heard from Pat Casanova, E. He and Jim Convy, Hq 3rd, and Joe Kissane, G, belong to the Old Timers C-47 Club in the N.Y.-N.J.area. They jump regularly. Pat took first place last summer.

Claude Arnold, B, has been transferred to Hawaii to work at the Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, as Director of the Punch-Bowl. He says that any of us going over there is welcome to stop in for a visit.

Jim Draper was one of our footballers in Frankfurt. He married our "Doughnut Queen" Kay, and lives with her and six children in Groton, Mass.

George May, B & Svc. has retired in Harrisburg, PA. He wants Marlyn to retire now so they can spend the winters in Florida fishing.

John Lattimer, Med, is a professor of medicine at Columbia University in New York City. His book, Kennedy and Lincon: Medical and Ballistic Comparisons of Their Assassinations, Has just been published by HBJ.

Tom Keating, Hq 3rd, is retired from the printing business. He lives in Milford, Ct., with his wife Jo. He has more than 25 years to his credit in the Army and National Guard. He's busy now with painting, acting and sports, and is a volunteer with the police.

503rd INVITATION

The 503rd is having a Corregidor Dinner and All Airborne weekend on Feb.19,20,21 & 22,1981. They invite all troopers who have served in airborne units to attend and enjoy the brotherhood of the airborne. It will be at the Ramada Inn in Berkley, W. VA. Write- Col.John Davis, USA Rtd. P.O.Box 53962, Fayetteville, NC 28305 for information.

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MISSING TROOPERS

When we made the last mailing there were five News Letters returned with no forwarding address. That's a shame because we want to keep in touch with our old buddies. Also, someone went to a lot of trouble to find them. If you know the whereabouts of these troopers, please let me know. They are; Brian Beaudin, Med, East Greenwich, RI; Melvin Beets, Lompoc, CA; James Davidson, Austin, TX; Don Green, Bloomington, CA; and Nathan Horton, C, Hopewell, VA.

Also, when you move or change your address, remember to notify me. We don't want to lose you too. Besides, when the army calls back all its old troopers to save the world, we want to find you with no delay.

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ROSTERS

I have a good supply of 1980-81 rosters, with everyon's name and address. If you would like one, let me know.

Jim Allardyce

JIM ALLARDYCE
335 ARDUSSI ST
FRANKENMUTH, MI 48734

SECRETARY