



84th Railsplitters Bugler

Newsletter of the 84th Railsplitters Association, LTD
December 2017



Upcoming Special Events

- 17 Feb 2018 Valentine's Dinner (Saturday)
- 19 May 2018 Dining Out (Saturday)
- 14 Jun 2018? Annual Meeting (Thursday)
- 07 Sep 2018 RAD-Fort McCoy (Friday)
- 15 Sep 2018? Steak Fry Cookout (Saturday)
- 11 Nov 2018 Veterans Day (Sunday)



September Steak Cookout

On September 16, 2017, the Association held its now famous Steak/Chicken Cookout at the Cudworth-Stenz-Griesell-Smith American Legion Post 449 in Brookfield, WI. This is also our fundraiser for yearly activities. The event has been fortunate to see good weather for many years. If you can join us in the future, you are sure to have a great day of fellowship.

84th RAILSPLITTERS ASSOCIATION, LTD WEBSITE

Have you visited our new website, www.84thrailsplitters.com? If not, you are missing out. If it's been awhile since you've visited there have been changes! The website has had a complete makeover and address change. You will not be redirected from the former site 84thdivalumni.com. LTC (Ret) Ron Moe offered his talents as webmaster to make the site more appealing and user friendly. He is open to suggestions on how to improve the site. Recommendations can be sent to MSG (Ret) Goldie Schuh, goldgrl123@hotmail.com or LTC (Ret) Ron Moe, moe@remdem.com.

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- 3 New Tax Bill Effects / Our Travel Adventures



84th Railsplitters Association Sunshine Club

Mary Orley is our volunteer who graciously continues to maintain this supportive function by sending out sympathy and get well cards. Please forward any information, or correspondence for Get Well, Encouragement, Sympathy, etc. to Mary Orley, either at her home phone number: 414-425-0256 or to her email address: maryo_44@yahoo.com.

Those who have passed away:

- MG Donald Brown (former CG of the 84th)
- COL Philip Freund
- LTC William Whitehouse
- SGM Roy Schlagenhaft
- SFC Sandy Jenkins
- SFC Jack Woller

New 84th Railsplitters Members

It's great to see our membership continues to grow. Please welcome our new members:

- CSM Edward Prucha WI
- CSM Robert Reynolds WI

OPERATION "REMEMBER"

We are looking for your help to build on omissions we regarding Railsplitters we have lost. On our "TAPS" page, we would like to acknowledge those Railsplitters. If you have access to memorials or obituaries of members who have passed on, please send to MSG (Ret) Goldie Schuh, goldgrl123@hotmail.com or LTC (Ret) Ron Moe, moe@remdem.com.

"Don't wait for the last judgment - it takes place every day." Albert Camus

From the President's Desk



December 2017

Greetings Fellow Railsplitters,

I can't believe we will be closing out 2017 soon. What a year. Just seems it goes by way too fast these days. We had some fun events and I hope you had the opportunity to attend some of them.

Our first event scheduled for 2018 will be the annual Valentine's Dinner on Saturday evening February 17, 2018, at the Western Racquet Club. Again this year the entertainment will be provided by Janice Marie and Joe Scheibinger. If you missed this duo last year, please attend this year's dinner, as you are in for a real treat. This duo not only plays good music but are very entertaining. A must see. Your invitation is included in this edition of the Bugler.

In May, we will be holding our annual Dining Out. Please mark May 19, 2018, on your calendar for this event. It will be held at the Western Racquet Club. Notices will be sent out next year in early March.

Our annual meeting will be held sometime in June. Watch for the notice. Finally our Steak Fry will be held in September 2018. This is always a fun event and an opportunity for everyone to renew old acquaintances and get caught up with the news.

So how many of you have visited our website lately? Just go to www.84thrailsplitters.com. This website has our mission statement, the latest events, and some history about our organization and under TAPS a listing of those who served proudly so we can continue to do what we do today. Thanks Ron Moe, excellent job.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Gerald Wold for his outstanding service as the editor of our Bugler for the last nine years. Jerry has devoted many long hours creating our newsletter with quality, informative and interesting articles to keep our members apprised of what is happening in the Army arena. In addition to being the world travelers that he and his wife Lisa are, he has gone to many interesting places courtesy of Space Available Travel and showed us where to stay and what to see.

Jerry will be retiring at the end of the year and turning over the editor duties to Mary Oppliger. Please give Mary your support as she takes on these new responsibilities.

You will receive a survey with this edition of the Bugler. **PLEASE** take time to fill this out and return to us. We **need** your help and appreciate your feedback. Tell us what we can do better and what kind of events you would like to see us put in place. What about the places where these events are being held? **Suggestions** or do you like where they currently are. What would you attend? Please fill these out and return to us so we can serve you better.

Wishing you and your family a very Merry Christmas
and a prosperous New Year.
Peace – Joy – Hope

Dean P. Orley, COL USA Retired
President, 84th Railsplitters Association, LTD

New Secretary of the Army

The U. S. Senate has confirmed Mark T. Esper, a retired Army combat veteran and business executive, to become the 23rd Secretary of the Army. Counting his time at the U.S. Military Academy, from which he graduated in 1986, Esper had 25 years of experience in uniform.

His experience extends beyond the Army. He was a congressional aide working on national security issues for the House and Senate, and served as deputy assistant defense secretary for policy. He also worked for a defense-related think tank and, most recently, at Raytheon, a top defense contractor. *AUSA*

Air Force picks Truax Field as one of two Air National Guard F-35 bases

MADISON, Wis. — Gov. Scott Walker announced today at a press conference that the Air Force selected the Wisconsin Air National Guard's 115th Fighter Wing to receive the F-35A Lightning II.

The 115th is expected to begin receiving F-35A Lightning fighter jets at Truax Field in early 2023, pending the results of an environmental impact analysis.

"This is outstanding news for the state of Wisconsin," Walker said. "I commend the Air Force's decision to select Truax Air National Guard Station as the next home for the F-35A Lightning II and the vital mission that the U.S. Air Force's most advanced fighter aircraft will perform. The Air Force recognized Truax's unrivaled capabilities, meeting or exceeding all the

necessary requirements for the mission, and the broad community support for the Wisconsin Air National Guard from the State of Wisconsin, the City of Madison and Dane County in making their announcement."

Written by Wisconsin National Guard Public Affairs Office

"The hardest thing in the world to understand is the income tax." Albert Einstein

How the new tax law will affect military families

WASHINGTON — The sweeping tax reform measure passed by Republican lawmakers this week includes few items specific to service members, but significant repercussions for military families in years to come. At the least, troops will see a host of new tax brackets and rules when they file taxes next year. The tax reform package drops rates for most taxpayers who make more than \$10,000 annually, and supporters estimate that about three-quarters of Americans would get a tax cut under the plan. Kelly Hruska, government relations director for the National Military Family Association, said most of the issues she has seen with the tax changes involve changes in child tax credits, income rate changes and state tax issues — items that affect all taxpayers, not military members specifically.

Lawmakers raised the standard deduction for single filers from \$6,500 to \$12,000, but also reduced the amount of personal deductions in the reform bill. As a result, some individuals with more unusual financial situations will see their taxes rise slightly, as those exemptions disappear. In addition, Congress put a cap on state and local tax deductions of \$10,000 annually.

Military Times

(This is probably one of many calculators on estimating a family's 2018 tax liability-try it) www.taxplancalculator.com

Editor's Note

For the past nine years, I have had the privilege to host the 84th Railsplitters "Bulger". Prior to me, Ed Marynik, 1SG USA Retired (Armor), served many years as the Newsletter Editor and board member. I've known Ed since our boys were in "Tiger" Cubs Scouts and elementary school together. Ed retired not only from the Army Reserve, but from the Milwaukee

Police Department. As with all of you, he exemplifies what it means to be a "citizen soldier". Thanks Ed.

Mary Oppliger, MAJ USA Retired, will be taking over the Newsletter starting with the spring edition. I've known Mary since we were both in the 84th Reception Battalion at the beginning of our Army Reserve careers. Thanks Mary.

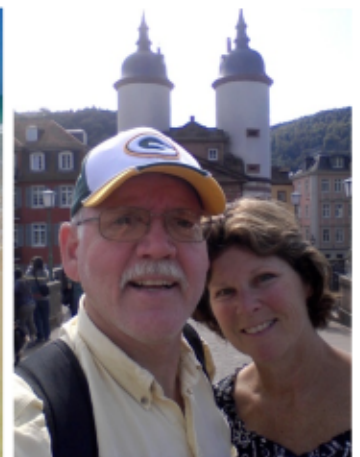
I have to give a special thank you to the love of my life, Lisa. Her proof reading many of these posts have helped avoid having you suffer through numerous punctuation mistakes.

"Any man who is under 30, and is not a liberal, has no heart; and any man who is over 30, and is not a conservative, has no brains." Winston Churchill

ADVENTURES IN TRAVEL



Bellow AFS Beach, Hawaii 2014



Heidelberg Bridge, Germany 2014

Lisa has been a trooper in our airplane, train, auto, boat, and foot travels. Looking back at all of our travels during our marriage, we have visited over 60 active duty joint bases, forts, bases, stations, not to include reserve, and guard locations. *(Look for future trip reports)*

Happy Traveling!

Jerry and Lisa

As Tiny Tim would say, "GOD bless us, everyone".



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Please support:

Cudworth-Stenz-Griesell-Smith American Legion Post 449

Home of the 84th Railsplitters Association



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