

84th Railsplitters Association

Bugler



President's Message

Happy Holidays Fellow 84th Railsplitters,

As we close out and say Goodbye to 2018 and begin to prepare for 2019, I want to wish you and your family a very joyous Christmas and Happy New Year. May 2019 be a healthy and happy year for everyone.

Looking back to 2018, I thank you all for your participation in making it a very successful year. Both the Valentine Dinner and the Dining Out were well attended and a good time was had by all. Our annual meeting was held at the War Memorial which gave everyone an opportunity to see all the improvements and upgrades that have been implemented at the Center. It is truly a beautiful building. Bring your children and grandchildren for a visit and share some of our country's history with them. The Steak Fry in September raised money for the Association which is contributed to various Veteran organizations such as the Fischer House, the Milwaukee County War Memorial Center, The Stars and Stripes Honor Flights and The Homeless Veterans Organization. I want to thank everyone for their generosity at this event. You make it possible for us to help support these groups.

We have started on our 2019 event schedule so you can mark your calendar to attend our Valentine Dinner, which will be held on February 9, 2019 at the Western Racquet Club. We are in the process of booking entertainment for that evening as well. Your invitation is enclosed in this edition of the Bugler. "Get your response in early".

The Dining Out will be held on May 11, 2019 at the Western Racquet Club. Again, entertainment will be provided that evening. Invitations to come out in the new year. And the annual meeting will be held in June.

Now that the elections are over and we have a number of new politicians in office, we should pay close attention to what new topics will be under consideration for discussion. Although I personally have not heard about any discussion regarding changes to Tricare, I have been apprised that there are some Wisconsin politicians that are pursuing legislation which would result in the elimination of Tricare, which most 84th Division types and probably all Veterans would oppose. This is just an FYI to alert you to stay informed and updated on this issue to be sure this important health care coverage does not get voted out. We earned this benefit. Let your voice be heard and exercise your right to vote.

Have a happy and safe New Year. I look forward to seeing you at our next event.
Let there be Peace on Earth

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



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Upcoming Special Events

- Valentine's Dinner 9 Feb 2019
- Dining Out 11 May 2019
- Annual Meeting—TBD June 2019

84th Railsplitters' Charitable Giving

Cudworth-Stenz-Griesell-Smith American Legion Post 449

Home of the 84th Railsplitters

The American Legion Post 449 is located at 3245 North 124th Street in Brookfield, Wisconsin. Many of you have been there for our events; but since it's also the home of the 84th Railsplitters Association, we encourage you and yours to support the post and experience some of the many ongoing activities at Post #449.

There are many activities such as Dartball, Cards (Sheepshead), Thursday nights is cook-in, burgers, brats and hot dogs, with all the "fixins". Friday Night Fish Fry with live music from 5:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. On Saturday's, there's food and raffles with live music from 8:00 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. featuring classic rock, oldies, country and jazz. They participate in the following activities which helps to reach out to our deserving Veterans and their families through our support/outreach programs: Visiting the V.A. Hospital (Zablocki) to bring them Bingo and smiling faces and they invite the Veterans at the hospital out to the Post for Holiday Parties and Breakfast buffets.

They have an Honor Guard with a Firing Detail for Holidays, Parades and Funerals. Each year the Post sponsors 13 High School Juniors to Badger Boys State.

They award six scholarships to High School Seniors continuing their education through the Post Scholarship Program.

They visit local schools instilling the values of Americanism. The Auxiliary provides invaluable support activities to the Veterans from hosting parties to fundraising. The Sons of the American Legion Squadron provides additional support to our fundraising activities as well as honoring their Heritage to the family member who has honorably served in any branch of service. By visiting the Post and supporting the activities, you help them with all of their support programs.

As a member, there are additional benefits such as access to their cabins located in American Legion State Forest on Little Tomahawk lake in northern Oneida County.

When you participate, you are showing Veterans you care.



84th Valentine's Dinner

Mark your calendar and see the invitation to the 84th Railsplitters Association Annual Valentine's Dinner.

Make sure your red outfit is back from the cleaners!

Saturday, February 9, 2019
at the Western Racquet Club.



Not Just Any Old Song

"Taps" is a bugle call played at dusk, during flag ceremonies, and at military funerals by the United States Armed Forces. The official military version is played by a single bugle or trumpet, although other versions of the tune may be played in other contexts. It is also performed often at Boy Scout, Girl Scout, and Girl Guide meetings and camps. The tune is also sometimes known as "Butterfield's Lullaby", or by the first line of the lyric, "Day Is Done".

"Taps" originates from the Dutch taptoe, meaning "close the (beer) taps (and send the troops back to camp)". An alternative explanation, however, is that it carried over from a term already in use before the American Civil War. Three single, slow drum beats were struck after the sounding of the Tattoo or "Extinguish Lights". This signal was known as the "Drum Taps", "The Taps", or simply as "Taps" in soldier's slang. The tune is a variation of an earlier bugle call known as the "Scott Tattoo", which was used in the U.S. from 1835 until 1860, and was arranged in its present form by the Union Army Brigadier General Daniel Butterfield, an American Civil War general and Medal of Honor recipient

There are several legends concerning the origin of "Taps". The most widely circulated one states that a Union Army infantry officer, whose name often is given as Captain Robert Ellicombe, first ordered "Taps" performed at the funeral of his son, a Confederate soldier killed during the Peninsula Campaign. This story claims that Ellicombe found the tune in the pocket of his son's clothing and performed it to honor his memory, but there is no record of any man named Robert Ellicombe holding a commission as captain in the Army of the Potomac during the Peninsula Campaign.

Another, perhaps more historically verifiable, account of "Taps" first being used in the context of a military funeral involves John C. Tidball, a Union artillery captain who during a break in fighting ordered the tune sounded for a deceased soldier in lieu of the more traditional—and much less discreet—three volley tribute. During the Peninsula Campaign in 1862, a soldier of Tidball's Battery A of the 2nd Artillery was buried at a time when the battery occupied an advanced position concealed in the woods. It was not safe to fire the customary three volleys over the grave, on account of the proximity of the enemy, and it occurred to Capt. Tidball that the sounding of Taps would be the most appropriate ceremony that could be substituted.

Although primarily used within the military, several local or special variations of the tune are performed, primarily by organizations such as the Boy Scouts of America or American military schools. It is also played all over the world in remembrance of the dead.

Winston Churchill had "Taps" and "Reveille" played at his own funeral. Churchill requested this because he believed that death is not allowed to have the last word: God always has something else to say.

Adapted from Wikipedia



OPERATION "REMEMBER"

If you have not visited our website, www.84thrailsplitters.com in the last couple of months, request you do. LTC (Ret) Ron Moe has been busy updating our "TAPS" page with Railsplitters who have passed on. We know this list is not inclusive, so your help is necessary. Request you go to your personal files or your memory bank and provide death notices of our fellow Railsplitters. If you don't have a memorial or obituary, that's okay, we would still like to keep our membership informed and current on those we have lost. Please send to MSG (Ret) Goldie Schuh, goldgrl123@hotmail.com or LTC (Ret) Ron Moe, moe@remdem.com





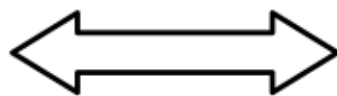
Memories



Please send your pictures to railsplitters84th@yahoo.com.



There's an unconfirmed rumor that this picture was in her promotion packet.



Milwaukee to the UK (and back)

By Jerry and Lisa Wold

To avoid the summer families in leave status, we and two other couples took a September Milwaukee KC135 tanker to Prestwick International Airport, Scotland. After arrival and a brief stop at customs, we used a cash machine to get British Pounds; at the time, the exchange rate was approximately one pound to \$1.27. Note - when you have a chance, get some coins, as some public rest rooms in the UK charge for use!



After an hour by train, we arrived at the large Glasgow Train Station where we then hiked to the main bus terminal. While the National Express (think Greyhound) is the major bus service in the UK, we opted for a lower price competitor, Mega Bus, which operates in the US. We stayed overnight in Manchester, UK, which was about half way to London.

In London, we lodged at a bed and breakfast in the Westminster area, near the Victoria Bus and Train Stations. We paid for a one-day "London Pass", a site seeing tour, which included a hop on, hop off double decker bus feature to visit sites such as the Tower of London (the crown jewels), boat ride, and other venues. We took the underground tube to Saint Paul's Cathedral. Note: with trains and subways, you need to scan your ticket/pass both when you enter and leave the stop. Lisa's note: when the tube bell rings, make sure you are in the same place as your spouse. We weren't.

After taking the tube back to our B&B, we took a National Bus (the first time we were not on a double decker bus) to the village of Mildenhall. From there, we took a taxi to Mildenhall Air Base. The taxis were inexpensive, costing the two of us about 10 pounds to be dropped off at the Base Lodging office. At the time, we were only able to get two nights in a suite, which was a block away from the office. Mildenhall AB is the main entry point for US flights. It hosts special operations tilt rotor and C130 aircraft, with limited base services. Six miles away is Lakenheath Air Base, which hosts a fighter wing and has more base facilities. (Mildenhall may close down; if it does, base operations would move to Lakenheath AB.)

The next morning, we taxied back to the village and caught a National Express bus to Cambridge, 40 minutes away. It looked as if it might rain (take your umbrella or a poncho), and later it did rain as we strolled through the city. Cambridge is noted for its colleges and a free splendid Museum. We also took a narrated 45 minute poled "punt" (think big wooden duck gondola) past many of the historic colleges. At Kings College, we toured the beautiful Kings Chapel, second in size to the one at the Vatican. After a long day of sightseeing, we hit the pub when we got back to Mildenhall. Luckily, we were able to book two more nights in the TLF (family lodging).

There were two KC135 flights scheduled to leave Friday for the US! Fortunately, one was headed back to Milwaukee, with a stay over in Gander, Newfoundland. The flight left late afternoon, after waiting for four F16 aircraft, which were transiting from Europe and bound for Michigan. Our flight met up with the fighters over the UK, and our boom operator refueled each of them at least five times. In the distance, Lisa took a picture of another tanker refueling more fighters (cool!). After landing at Gander, the FBO lady called the hotel where the crew was staying and got us a suite. She then took us through customs and drove us a mile to the hotel. Note - Gander has approximately 7,000 residents. On and immediately after 9/11, they had 4,000 airline guests. They did an amazing job in taking care of everyone after the twin towers came down.

The next morning, we were again picked up by the FBO to await our flight (they let us wait in the crew lounge - very nice!). A few hours later, we were back at Mitchell Field and driving to our home. One couple that travelled with us returned to the States via the *Queen Mary 2* from South Hampton to New York; the other couple flew home with us. Over the course of the journey, we shared experiences, suggestions, and travel tips. She had been an Army Nurse, and he is a retired MSG, and retired State County Veterans Service Officer for Grant County. He is friends with a good friend of ours, John Dutcher, who many of you from the 84th know.

Traveling the world,
Jerry and Lisa



Thoughts and prayers for:

The family of BG Robert Cocroft.

BG Cocroft passed away September 12, 2018

1SG Lynn C "Todd" Thompson's Family June 28, 1943 – September 5, 2018

Send your encouragement to:

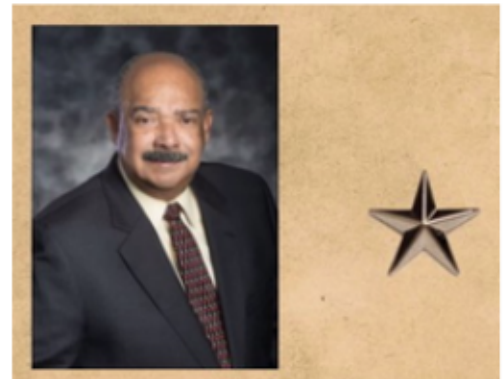
Linda Krieger as she continues to recover.

CW4 David Cash who is in failing health.

Pat Cottrell who is recovering from surgery

Remember to send any information, or correspondence for Get Well, Encouragement, Sympathy, etc. to Mary Orley at 414-425-0256 or email maryo44@yahoo.com

Remembering BG Robert Crocroft



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Please support:

Cudworth-Stenz-Griesell-Smith American Legion

Post 449

Home of the 84th Railsplitters Association

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Fun by all at the
Annual Steak & Chicken Cook Out

