84th Railsplitters Association LTD Spring 2021

84th Railsplitters Association

Bugler

Greetings to my Fellow Railsplitters!

Spring has finally arrived with songs from the robins, blankets of green covering the ground and whispers of flowers reaching towards the sun. At long last we can say good-bye and good riddance to a long, cold winter.

2021 got off to a rocky start by having to carrel the Annual Valentine's Dinner. We are hopeful with the increased rollout of the COVID immunizations this is the last event we have to leave behind.

Planning is underway for our Annual Dining Out event; your invitation is enclosed with this edition of the Bugler. So, mark your calendar for Saturday, May 1st 2021. The Annual Dining Out will be held at the Western Racquet Club. Restaurant capacity guidelines may be enforced, so don't wait to get your RSVP in. Seating will be on a first-come first-serve basis.

Planning has begun for other events to be hosted in 2021, they are: Thursday, June 1 7, 2021 the Annual Meeting will be held at the Cudworth-Stenz-Griesell-Smith Legion Post #449. Elections will be held that evening. If you or someone you know is interested in serving on the board of directors, please contact me at goldgr1123@hotmail.com. Saturday, September 11, 2021 our Annual Steak/Chicken Fry will be held at the Cudworth-Stenz-Griesell-Smith Legion Post #449. Casual attire, jeans or shorts are the dress of the day.

History of the 84th Division dates back to World War I when it was designated the 84th Division, American Expeditionary Forces. During World War Il they were known as the 84th Infantry Division. Periodically family and friends of Soldiers who served with the Infantry Division reach out to us for assistance. In recent weeks I have been in touch with a family in Belgium who has the personal property of a Soldier who stayed with their grandmother in 1941- 1942. I happy to say that I have found a family member of PFC Frank Papa Sr. The parties are in touch and working out the details for shipment of PFC Papa's personal effects.

Thousands of Soldiers served with the 84th Division when it was headquartered in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. If you know of anyone interested in getting reacquainted with members of their military family, we'd love to have them join our ranks. Membership forms can be found at our website www.84thrailsplitters.com.

Before closing, I'd like to acknowledge the life and service of CSM (Ret) Raymond T. Franecki who died unexpectedly in January 2021. CSM Franecki dedicated his life to God, Family and his service to this country. He served over 30 years with the Milwaukee Police Department and the United States Army on active duty and the Reserve. His assignments while in the 84th Division started at company level working his way up to the Division Headquarters. Subsequent to his retirement from military service he was an active member of the 84th Railsplitters Association. CSM Franecki and his lovely wife, Pat, could always be seen at our events. CSM Franecki's contributions to soldiers and veterans will never be forgotten. He will truly be missed.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to the 84th Railsplitters Association. We are only as strong as our members! We look forward to seeing you at the Dining Out. Until then stay safe, stay healthy and enjoy our spring-time weather.

Goldie M. Schuh, MSG (Retired)
President, 84th Railsplitters Association, LTD

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Upcoming Events:

- **Dining Out**
  15 May 21
- **Annual Meeting**
  17 June 2021
- **Steak/Chicken Fry**
  11 September 2021

Please Join Us!

84th RAILSPLITTERS' CHARITABLE GIVING

After a year of isolation due to COVID, the 84th Railspitters Association dusted off the checkbook and donated to a number of worthy veterans' organizations. Your Railsplitters board welcomes your suggestions for donations.

Founded and run by veterans, Mliwaukee Homeless Veterans Initiative's mission is to help homeless and at-risk veterans reach and maintain their highest levels of independ ence. For those veterans who are in short-term crisis, they have a food pantry where veterans can get several days' worth of food.

A donation was made in memory of SGM Ray Franecki to **Camp** Hometown Heroes- a camp for children and sibings of fallen US Service Members.

The Mliwaukee County War Memorial Center is Wisconsin's most visible memorial to all those who have served in the U.S. Armed Services, and is committed to furthering a single, solemn mission: "Honor the Dead. Serve the Living."

Red Arrow Park in Manitowoc is finishing up a memorial for the 32nd Infantry Division to add to the other memorials in the park. Shown above is the "Morning Sun" monument. Bricks and memorial trees are available to honor and remember veterans.

The Highground Veterans Memorial **Park** is located in Neillsville, WI is a 155-acre park whose mission is to "Honor, Educate and Heal" our Veterans, families and all who visit. The park has over a dozen tributes, a museum miles of hiking trails and Camp Victory, a development to provide an outdoor experience for mobility-challenged individuals.

The Wisconsin Veterans Home at Union Grove provides residences, specialized skilled-nursing care and a protective memory-care environment for veterans.

Two Upcoming Events in Waukesha

Here's an opportunity to sponsor your favorite veteran (or yourself) by dedicating a flag in their honor or purchasing tee-shirts. They are also accepting in-kind donations for the event and sponsorships to help defray the cost of bringing The Moving Wall to Waukesha. They need volunteers, too! For more information on all of the sponsorship opportunities, contact Karen Richards at: 262-524-3741 or krichards@waukesha-wi.gov. For volunteer information, contact April Dethloff at 262-524-3709 or adethloff@waukesha-wi.gov.

FALL IN!

Your left, your left, your left. right, left!

More paperwork, imagine that!

Say goodbye to those goldilocks!

Nothing like the COVID shot!

Do you have size 9 1/2?

That Road March was way too long!

Send your pictures to railsplitters84th@yahoo.com.

Can I just skip the gas chamber?

This CAMO goes on just like lipstick!

Staying awake for ANOTHER lecture!

PT! We like it, we love it, we want more of it!

We get paid to have all this fun?

Finally! Joining a real unit!

Sunshine Club

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the families of those who passed away recently:

CW4 Robert C Harpke

CSM Ray Franecki, G3, 84th Division

COL Tod Kulas

SFC Phillip "Phil" Bojar

Best wishes for a speedy recovery:

CSM Dave Gramins

SGM Bobbi Sherrod

Karen Clark

1SG Ed Marynik

Opal Simmons

1SG John Recklies

Remember to send any information, or correspondence for Get Well, Encouragement, Sympathy, etc. to:
Mary Orley at (414) 425-0256 or email, maryo_44@yahoo.com

ISGBob Cox

Robert Harpke

COLTod Kulas

SGM Ray Franecki

SFC Phil Bojar

84th Railsplitter Association End of Life Guidance

Hardly a month goes by that wedon't learn of the passing of one o f our 84thDivision colleagues. Like sever al of our association members, over many years I havereceived calls from concerned survivors of our veterans seeking advice on what to do next. All too oftenI have learned that too many veterans had done little or no planning for their deaths and their spouses/families were left with the burden of a funeral with no idea where to start . I am concerned that so many of us have not been prepared for our eventual deaths. Incredibly, I recall one of these troops had been divorced and remarried, but never put his second wife in the DEERS (records) system - so the benefits went to the ex-wife.

Our board of directors realizes we are not able to offer legal advice, so we strongly encourage you to do so before your survivors have to face the double t ragedy of your death, and no plan for them to follow to respond. To address this concern, we are developing a guide to follow. The guide is too lengthy to include in the newsletter so i t will be posted on the website on or about May 1. The guide is intended to assist you in your end-of-life planning. It is based on input from several senior members of the Association who are knowledgeable in these matters. I strong ly encourage you to update the plan annually as some of these offices and references will certainly change. Once again, you are encouraged to secure legal advice in this process. It would be tragic if your last decision at the end of your life was t o place your loved in a terrible dilemma.

Skip Pochowski

My apologies to CW5 (Ret) Dennis Olczak... after knowing him for so many years, you'd think I could spell his name.

Congrats to MG Marcia M. Anderson

Marcia M. Anderson, the Army's first Black female Reserve officer to obtain the rank of major general, was one of the inductees into the Army Women's Foundation's Hall of Fame during a virtual ceremony during Women's History Month. Seen here with the "other generals" of the Ethiopian Army in 2009. They all wanted to get a glimpse of the female general!

American Legion Post 449 Cabin Rentals

Did you know about the cabins for rent up in the American Legion State Forest on Little Tomahawk Lake in northern Oneida County? That's not far from Minocqua, Woodruff, and Hazelhurst. They might be a well-kept secret that you could be in on! Only Wisconsin Veterans and/or members of the American Legion Post are allowed to stay there. Post 449 has three cabins (there are seven in the State Forest).

For 2021, the rental season begins May 29 and runs through October 2. All rentals are weekly, Saturday to Saturday. The rates provide huge savings when compared to similar accommodations in the area.

They are first-come, first-serve so stop by the Post on May 1st with your check and fill out the application.

Then enjoy the great outdoors this summer!

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Please support:
Cudworth-Stenz-Griesell-Smith
American Legion Post 449
Home of the 84th Railsplitters
Association

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HERE

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Humor noun

hu·mor | \ ˈhyü-mər, ˈyü- \

Definition of *humor*

1a: that quality which appeals to a sense of the ludicrous or absurdly incongruous **:** a funny or amusing quality // Try to appreciate the *humor of the situation.*

Home schooling science lesson went really well this week.

Next week—marketing and distribution.