



2018 Calendar

- January
14: Chapter Meeting
 - February
11: Chapter Meeting
 - March
11: Chapter Meeting
 - April
8: Chapter Meeting
21: Chap 37 SFA Ball
 - May
6: Chapter Meeting
12: Chapter Fishing Excursion
21-24: All American Week
25: Chicago Vets Ruck March
28: Memorial Day Parade
 - June
10: Chapter meeting
14: Flag Day; US Army Birthday
 - July
4: Independence Day Parade
10: John Steele Chapter Picnic
 - August
5: Chapter Meeting
8-11: 72nd National Convention
16: National Airborne Day
 - September
9: Chapter Meeting
 - October
14: Chapter meeting
 - November
1: Scholarship App deadline
11: Chapter meeting
 - December
9: Chapter Holiday party
31: Membership Renewals Due
- Download a complete 2018 calendar from our website at www.chicagoairborne.com

The Chicago Chapter is a registered 501(c)(4) non-profit organization

Chairman's Message

Hello Chicago Chapter!

Welcome to the March 2018 edition of our Chicago Chapter newsletter. We're off to a great start this year and hope you enjoy the effort we're making to both grow our membership and create new opportunities for you, our members, to connect in true Airborne spirit. For example, we're planning an Airborne trivia contest for our March meeting, plus a fishing outing and a trap shoot - see below for details. And if you have an idea for an activity, just let me know.

LET'S GO!
Larry Slavicek
Chairman and Treasurer



Airborne Trivia Contest - 11 Mar

Think you know a lot about Airborne history and jargon? Then join us immediately following our March chapter meeting at Rock Bottom in Warrenville, IL, on Sunday, 11 March, for our first ever Airborne Trivia contest. We'll break into teams and test your knowledge of Airborne-themed trivia for both bragging rights and cool prizes.



You don't need to bring anything other than your brain. Feel free to order off the Rock Bottom menu or enjoy a unique Rock Bottom craft brew. We'll set up and pick teams about 14:45 and start the contest about 15:00, then run for about an hour. Hope to see you there!

SF Association Military Ball - 21 Apr

Our friends with Chapter 37, Special Forces Association, will host their 24th Annual Military Ball on 21 Apr at Fountain Blue Banquets in Des Plaines, IL. It's a black tie fundraiser gala featuring dinner, dancing, open bar, a raffle and their ROTC Awards Ceremony. POC is Chuck Mount at cmount00@aol.com or (916) 769-3390.

Chapter Fishing Outing - 12 May



Calling all Airborne fishermen! Grab your favorite fishing gear and meet up at Tampier Lake, located at 131st & Wolf Road in Orland Park, from 8:00am until all fish are caught. We will meet at the west end of lake. Please plan to bring food, drink, and your gear -- we'll have a great time! Contact Vice Chairman Glenn T. Granat at (630) 209-2834 for more info or to let him know you're interested.

Trap Shoot - 09 Jun (Tentative date)

Do you enjoy trap shooting or want to learn how to trap shoot? Chicago Chapter Life Member



Steve Corcoran, an avid trap shooter himself, is arranging a trap shooting event for our chapter that will be open to all members and friends. The event will take place at Downers Grove Sportsmen's Club in Morris, IL. The tentative date right now is 09 June. This will be a pay-as-you go event. We'll lock down the details by the end of March but want to get this on your radar. If interested, contact Steve directly at sjcorcoran@protools.ws or (630) 215-6344.



"America's Guard of Honor"

- AFRICA
- SICILY
- FRANCE
- THE NETHERLANDS
- BELGIUM
- GERMANY
- DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
- VIETNAM
- GRENADA
- PANAMA
- PERSIAN GULF
- AFGHANISTAN
- IRAQ



2018 Chapter Officers

Chairman, Treasurer
Larry Slavicek

Vice Chairman, Sgt at Arms
Glenn Granat

Secretary
Mark Mueller

Service Officer
Cal Roesner

Finance Officer
Hank Mazik

Favorite Links

82nd Airborne Div Association
www.82ndassociation.org

U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs
www.va.gov

IL Dept. of Veterans Affairs
veterans.illinois.gov

Pritzker Military Library
www.pritzkermilitary.org/

Honor Flight Chicago
www.honorflightchicago.org

Operation Support our Troops
www.osotamerica.org



82nd & Association Merchandise

Association members and friends looking for Association or 82nd Airborne Division merchandise have a number of good options, including:

Association Sales: Airborne and Association branded merchandise is available online at aaquartermaster.com

Museum Website: The 82nd Museum Gift Shop offers merchandise online. Visit 82ndairbornedivisionmuseum.com

CHICAGO CHAPTER HEADLINES

Current Headcount

Our Chicago Chapter is currently 201 members strong.

Welcome Our Newest Members

A mighty Airborne welcome to our newest Chicago Chapter members:

- **Ross Burgess of Chicago, IL.** He served with 2/505 PIR from 2011-15 and earned the rank of SGT.
- **Gardner Coughlen of Joliet, IL.** He served with 82nd PSC from 1987-89 and earned the rank of SPC.
- **Paul Hettich of Antioch, IL.** He served with 1-82nd Aviation and is a Retired O-6.
- **David Mueller of Palos Heights, IL.** He served with 1/325 AIR and 3/325 AIR from 1990-92 and earned the rank of SSG.
- **Jeff Schulman of Highland, IN.** He served with 2/508 PIR from 1979-83 and earned the rank of SGT.
- **Max Wood of Lockport, IL.** He served with 618 Eng Bn from 1963-65 and earned the rank of SGT.

2018 Annual Member Renewals

Renewing their Annual membership this year is:

- Alan Bold

Contact Updates

To keep our records accurate, please share all contact info updates with us, particular address, email and phone. All members can update their contact info on our website at www.chicagoairborne.com, or drop us an email at info@chicagoairborne.com.

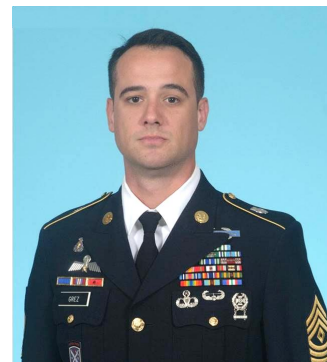
Recently, we've received updated contact information from Kris Belenger, Rob Bliss, Mike Dooley, Caleb Nerstad, Steve Rathjen, and Pete Vandingstee.

Chapter 50/50 Raffle

New this year, our chapter has started a 50/50 raffle that collects money throughout the year and then draws once in June and again in December at the Holiday party. Raffle tickets will be reset for each drawing. The raffle is open to the public and members are encouraged to help sell tickets, as proceeds benefit the chapter. Visit our chapter website or Facebook group for all the details and to download printable tickets.



March Member Spotlight: 1SG Christopher Grez



Chicago Chapter Life Member 1SG Christopher Grez currently serves as 1SG of D Co, 97th Civil Affairs Bn (Abn), 95th Civil Affairs Bde (Abn), 1st Special Forces Command (Abn) at Fort Bragg, NC. He is a native of Hickory Hills, IL, where he graduated from Amos Alonzo Stagg High School in 2002. He entered active duty service on 27 Jul 2002 at Fort Benning, Georgia, where he completed Basic Training and Advanced Individual Training as an Infantryman.

1SG Grez's assignments include: Saw Gunner, Grenadier and Designated Marksman, 1-325 AIR, 82nd Airborne Division; Team Leader, 1-252 CAB, 30th Infantry Division, North Carolina National Guard; Team Leader, 1-327 IN, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), Fort Campbell, KY; CA NCO, CA Medic, CA Team Sergeant, BN CA Operations Sergeant (S3 Air), and CMOC NCOIC, 97th Civil Affairs Battalion (Airborne); BDE CA Operations Sergeant (S3 Air), 95th Civil Affairs Brigade (Airborne), Fort Bragg, NC.

1SG Grez's deployments include two tours to Bangladesh, one to the Philippines in support of OEF-P, and one T-CMSE rotation in Singapore. His training exercises include rotations to Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and the Republic of Korea. 1SG Grez deployed in support of both OIF and OEF-A with the 82nd Airborne Division in 2003 and 2005 respectively. He also deployed in support of OIF in 2007 with the 101st Airborne Division.

1SG Grez's military education includes the Warriors Leaders Course; Advanced Leaders Course; Senior Leaders Course; Airborne School; Air Assault School; Survival, Evasion, Resistance, and Escape, Civil Affairs Qualification Course, Special Operations Language Training-Tagalog; Special Operations Combat Medic Course, Civil Affairs Medical Sergeant Course, Individual Terrorism Awareness Class, Unit Armorer Course, Unit Preventive Leader, Master Jumpmaster Course, and Company Commander and First Sergeant Course.

1SG Grez married Amy Allen in 2010 and they have two children: son Kaleb and daughter Lily.

Miss a Chapter Meeting?

Meeting minutes are always available on our website. Visit ChicagoAirborne.com any time.



Upcoming Chapter Meetings

March 11

14:00 to 16:00

Rock Bottom Restaurant & Brewery
28265 Diehl Road
Warrenville, IL 60555
(Across from the Regal Theater)

Meet us in the 2nd floor loft!
Join us at 14:45 for our first ever Airborne Trivia!

April 08

13:00 to 15:00

The Ram Restaurant & Brewery
9520 W Higgins Rd,
Rosemont, IL 60018

Meet us in the private room!
NOTE: Time change to 13:00 just for this meeting.

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CHICAGO CHAPTER MERCHANDISE

Our eBay Store offers the following items for sale:

- 2018 Airborne Calendars, \$10 each
- Challenge Coins, \$12 each
- St. Michael Medallions, \$12 each
- Lapel Pins, \$5 each
- Wristbands, \$5 each
- Window Decals, \$4 each
- Holiday Cards, \$12 for pack of 20

NATIONAL ASSN. HEADLINES

Association IRS Status Update

In 2017 the National Association officially changed from IRS 501c4 to 501c19 status. This new status allows for donations from both businesses and individuals to be tax deductible. This status change has not yet trickled down to the chapter level; however that action will happen eventually.

2018 Airborne Awards Festival

This annual event honoring contributions to the Airborne community will be held 18-21 April 2018 at the Best Western Plus Hotel in Columbus, GA. The Donald D. Lassen All Airborne Chapter is the host and the POC is Al Fracker at (770) 841-4345.

All American Week 2018

The 82nd Airborne Division will once again host All American Week (AAW) at Fort Bragg and invites all veterans to attend the festivities. This year's event, celebrating 101 years of 82nd Division pride, will occur over 21-24 May. Event registration remains at \$100 per person. Visit 82ndairborneassociation.org for all the event and registration details.

The main hotel will once again be the IHG Army Hotel on post, with a rate of \$74/night for a standard Queen room and \$83/night for a King room, plus tax. The hotel rate includes a full buffet breakfast each morning. Rooms for individuals with disabilities are available upon request. Members should contact the hotel directly for reservations.



72nd National Convention

The 82nd Airborne Division Association will host its 72nd Annual National Convention over August 8-11, 2018, in Orlando, FL. Registration is \$110.00 per person, which includes two formal dinners and food and drink in the hospitality rooms. Bus transportation to the drop zone is available for an additional charge of \$15 per person and must be requested in advance as busses will only be available for those who have paid for transportation prior to the Convention.

The host hotel will again be the Rosen Centre in Orlando, FL, just minutes from many of the Orlando vacation attractions. The rooms are \$85 per standard room a night (max 4 persons per room). Hotel reservations can be made by calling (407) 996-9840. Registration forms and all the details are available at www.82ndairborneassociation.org.

All Chicago Chapter members are encouraged to attend the convention - it's a great opportunity to reconnect with the Airborne friends.

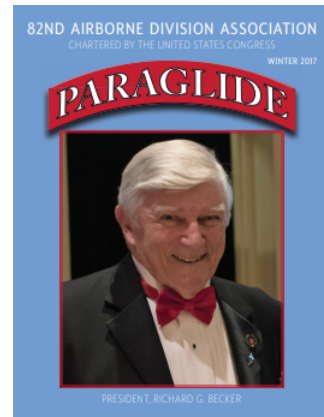
Association Education Fund

The 82nd Airborne Division Association Education Fund is available to dependent children of Airborne veterans or Airborne veterans themselves who apply within two years of separation. The fund provides grants to those eligible and who apply and meet all requirements. The firm deadline for receipt of completed applications is November 1. Details and applications are available on the Association website at www.82ndassociation.org, or contact Chicago Chapter Secretary Mark Mueller at (630) 561-2139 or secretary@chicagoairborne.com.

Donations to the Education Fund are always welcome. The Fund is set up as a unique legal entity and is an IRS recognized 501(c)(3) non-profit organization; donations are tax deductible.

Association PARAGLIDE Magazine

Just a friendly reminder that the National Paraglide magazine continues to be published quarterly, however is only available online. Hard copies were discontinued a few years ago due to increasing costs. The latest edition is Winter 2017 and is currently available to download from the Association website at www.82ndairborneassociation.org.





CHICAGO CHAPTER
82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION ASSOCIATION
C/O MARK MUELLER, SECRETARY
05415 MADISON STREET
WINFIELD, IL 60190

WINDY CITY WINGS | MARCH 2018



ABOUT THE CHICAGO CHAPTER

The Chicago Chapter is one of the three original chapters in the Association, officially organized as the Illinois State Chapter on 25 March 1946. On 15 April 1948, the Chapter reorganized to make room for more Illinois paratroopers and received its charter as the Chicago Chapter of the 82nd Airborne Division Association.

The 82nd Airborne Division Association was honored on 5 November 1990 by The United States Congress in receiving a Congressional Charter.

Today, the Chicago Chapter is more than 200 members strong and active in social and service activities. The Chapter is managed by an Executive Board of five officers elected by chapter members and governed by our chapter By-Laws.

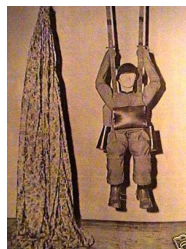
AIRBORNE HISTORY

A monthly installment by Vice Chairman Glenn Granat

D-Day Paradummies

500 paradummies called Oscars (American) and Ruperts (British) were dropped during the D-Day Airborne assault. They were half the size of a human and appeared lifelike to those looking up from the ground on a dark night.

A Rupert was discovered at the bottom of a garden shed with a set of RAF maps for a team tasked with spotting for the Royal Naval bombardment of the German defenses. In the 1970s a batch of them were found on an airfield and some are now in museums. The Germans also used paradummies when they attacked the Netherlands in 1940.



Paradummies have also been used in the Vietnam War as well as the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. Examples of both of these paradummies are regularly displayed at our monthly Chicago Chapter meetings.