



84th Division Alumni Bugler

Newsletter of the 84th Division Alumni Association

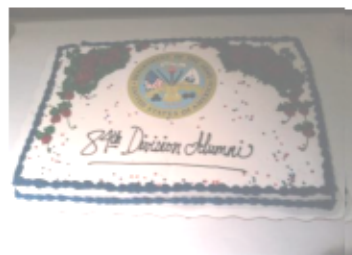
August 2011



Upcoming Special Events

- 9 Sep 2011 McCoy Retiree Appreciation Day
- 10 Sep 2011 Annual Steak/Chicken Fry
- Feb 2012 Valentine's Get Together

2011 Dining In



Great looking cake; and it tasted good

To accommodate many of our snow birds, we held our annual Dining In event on Friday, 13 May 11. A later start date seems to work well. The association has forgone the use of formal guest speakers to make it a more relaxed event. As always, the Western Racket Club put on a splendid feast. Please plan on attending next year's event at around the same date.

www.84thdivalumni.com

The 84th Division Alumni Association is pleased to provide its members a place to go for information about the Rail Splitters. If you have an idea for something you want to see on the website, please contact me at:

ppochowski@wi.rr.com

Peter (Skip) Pochowski



Members waiting for a largertable?

2011 84th Alumni Annual Meeting



Thanks to Stenz-Griesell-Smith American Legion, Post # 449, the association was fortunate to be able to hold our annual meeting to coincide with the Army's birthday. Army members of Post 449, and the Milwaukee Chapter of the AUSA were invited to the get-together. Post 449 provided a Color Guard for the event. We held a short business meeting, and then began our relaxed social. Pat Du Chateau and Lori Kuntsman were elected to the Board of Directors, and at the July board meeting, Bill McKeown handed over the President's gavel to Skip Pochowski.

The Commander for the Milwaukee Recruiting Battalion spoke and reiterated the importance of all we and past citizens have done for our country. The social gave us a chance to meet some new people, and put out our own recruiting arm.



President Skip P. shoulders the heavy mantle of leadership



Rusty A. models the new 84th Alumni IED Flak Jacket

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84th Sunshine

Please keep the following in your thoughts:

The families of **SGM (Ret) Michael Chubeck**, and **Mary Marynik** (wife of Ed Marynik), who both recently passed away.

Jan Berzowski chairs 84th Sunshine, and sends out get well/sympathy cards on behalf of the alumni association. Members knowing of anyone who should receive a card (members or their immediate families) should contact Mrs. Jan Berzowski at 262-468-4928 directly with the information.

From the desk of the President.



At the Alumni Board meeting in July, 2011, I was elected your new President. I am honored by the confidence my colleagues have placed in me with their vote, and considering the great leaders who have occupied this position in the recent past, I am also humbled. Specifically, I want to thank John Allen, Rusty Armstrong, and Bill McKeown for their individual and collective efforts over the past decade that have made the 84th Division Alumni Association what it is today. In particular I want to thank Bill for his decisive leadership over the past two years. We accomplished a lot on Bill's watch and the highest compliment I can pay him is that I will continue to do everything he did. I remember Major General Mike Berzowski once telling me "Ya' know, Pochowski, you do not have to accept the environment you have inherited. As the leader, you can change it." Of course, he was right, and I tried to change every environment I inherited – until now. Things are going that well. So, Bill, on half of a grateful membership, I want to thank you (and thank you Kathy for your role) for making a real good organization even better. I plan to do the same.

Also elected with me were Dean Orley and Jerry Wold as Vice-Presidents of the Activities and Communications Committees, respectively. Of critical importance to our success is the continued support of the two guys who REALLY make the organization go: Treasurer Dave Grammins, and Secretary Bill Krieger. Added to the Board this year were Lori Kuntsman and Pat DuChateau, two people for whom I have great respect. Frankly, I think we have one heck of a team.

But we said farewell to a few good people this year and I also thank Bill Vanasse for his work and especially Bob Staffaroni who handled our funds for many years. We never lost a dime – and no one went to jail. Quite an accomplishment these days. Thanks for keeping a clean house, Bob. Finally, we also lost a man who many considered the hardest working guy in the game – Sergeant Major Mike Chubek. Despite years of failing health, Mike was always at the reception desk with a quick smile and a joke. Mike died this past week, but his presence and his influence will always be a part of me and those who knew him. Our thoughts are with him and his wife Barb. May he rest in peace.

The goal of this Association is simple: Bring our members together for social events and to educate members on benefits they have earned. That's it. Since we no longer have a pipeline of new members in this state, our growth, and even our stability is based on our ability to contact old friends and colleagues. Mike's death reminds us that we do not know how much time we have left. My wife Issy and I have chosen to spend as much of that time as possible with our close friends in the 84th Division Alumni Assn. It's been said that memories are enjoyed most when shared with those who helped create them. We can talk about our memories, or I suggest we start a whole new series of them – but we can't do it without you. I hope to see you soon.

Skip Pochowski

9 Sep 2011 Ft McCoy, WI RAD

Retiree Appreciation Days (RADs) are designed with you in mind. They're a great source of the latest information for retirees and Family members in your area. RADs vary from installation to installation, but, in general, they provide an opportunity to renew acquaintances, listen to guest speakers, renew ID Cards, get medical checkups, and various other services. For more information, contact the Retirement Services Officer (RSO) sponsoring the RAD. (608) 388-3716

Walgreens versus TRICARE

On June 21, 2011, Walgreens pharmacy announced it broken off negotiations to renew a contract with TRICARE Retail Pharmacy's contractor, Express Scripts, Inc. Walgreens is the largest TRICARE network pharmacy. *What does that mean to TRICARE beneficiaries who use Walgreens?*

For the near term, Walgreens will continue to fill prescriptions for TRICARE patients at least until Jan. 1, 2012. At that point, if both sides are unable to come to an agreement, TRICARE Pharmacy benefits will no longer be available at Walgreens. Should it come to that, one TRICARE official said, "99 percent of beneficiaries have another network within five miles of the Walgreens they now use, and on average, another pharmacy within our national network is within a half a mile of a Walgreens." (From the Aug 2011 MOAA mag)

TRICARE covers skilled nursing facility (SNF) care.

For TRICARE to cover SNF admission, beneficiaries must: (1) be treated in a hospital for at least three consecutive days, not including the day of discharge; and (2) be admitted within 30 days of your hospital discharge (with some exceptions) to a skilled nursing facility. You are responsible for TRICARE beneficiary cost shares. The amount you pay varies, depending on your eligibility status and TRICARE option. For more information, please see the chart at www.tricare.mil/costs.

CareFree Offers Permanent Military Discount

CareFree RV Resorts announced late last year that it would offer a permanent 50 percent nightly discount to active and veteran military servicemen and women and their families at 35 RV parks.

"At CareFree RV Resorts we value all of our customers, but it is with great pride that we get to offer discounts to the active and veteran servicemen and women who protect our country's democracy and keep us safe," said Mike Rosenhagen, a retired U. S. Army major who now serves as CareFree RV Resort's vice president of operations.

"All veterans need to do to take advantage of this promotion is show their ID card or other form of identification that shows their service," Rosenhagen said, adding that the discounts also apply to their immediate family members who are traveling with the active duty member or military veteran. The discounts are offered Sunday through Thursday nights on a space available basis.

For more information: www.careferrvresorts.com



Ed's old RV camper breaks down. He traded it in for a newer model.

Fort McCoy Information

Vehicle Registration: Located in the Welcome Center, Building 35. Open Mon.-Fri. 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. (excluding federal holidays). For more information call 608-388-4988. (Closed weekends)

Main Exchange: Building 1538. Open Mon.-Sat. 9 a.m.-9 p.m. and Sun. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. ATM located inside.

McCoy's: Building 1571.

Primo's Express - Open Mon.-Fri. 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sat.-Sun. 4-10 p.m. (buffet Mon.-Fri. 11 a.m.-1 p.m.). Call 608-388-7673.

Habañero - Open Mon.-Thurs 11 a.m.-8 p.m.

Sports bar - Open Mon.-Sat. 4-Midnight; Sun. 4-11 p.m. ATM located inside.

(The Defense Department is studying various retirement reforms, one off which is listed below.)

What Proposed Retirement Reforms Mean

The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is warning that the proposal to convert the military to a civilian-style retirement system under which full retired pay wouldn't be paid until age 57-60 could have a much bigger impact than you think. A recent MOAA article compares the long-term value of the current military retirement system to the proposed reforms. This could mean a loss of \$1.6M in cash benefits over the lifetime of a retired E-7's.

Smart phone use enhances communication

The Army is finding the use of smart-phone devices, such as an Android or iPhone, lead to an increase in "SPOT" reports, where soldiers share tactically relevant information across the force in real-time, service officials said. Soldiers who went through mock-combat exercises with mobile smart devices achieved as much as a 40-percent increase in "SPOT" reporting, that included taking photographs and sharing data within their formation. (From AUSA)

The State of Wisconsin recently passed a concealed carry law, which is called Act 35.

This authorizes current and former military members the right to obtain a concealed carry permit. I have included the language from the Act.

175.60 of the statutes is created to read:

(4) TRAINING REQUIREMENTS. (a) The proof of training requirement under sub. (7) (e) may be met by any of the following:

4. Documentation of completion of small arms training while serving in the U.S. armed forces, reserves, or national guard as demonstrated by an honorable discharge or general discharge under honorable conditions or a certificate of completion of basic training with a service record of successful completion of small arms training and certification.

<http://legis.wisconsin.gov/2011/data/acts/11Act35.pdf>

Retiree Newsletters

Army: www.armyg1.army.mil/rso/echoes.asp

Air Force: www.retirees.af.mil/afterburner/

Coast Guard: www.uscg.mil/hq/cg1/psc/ras/

Marine Corps:

www.manpower.usmc.mil/portal/page/portal/M_RA_HOME/MM/SR/RET_ACT/Semper_Fidelis

Navy: www.public.navy.mil/bupers-

npc/reference/publications/shiftcolors/Pages/default.aspx

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* Board members can be contacted via email at alum84news@yahoo.com