

Spring 2018

84th Railsplitters Association

Bugler



Valentine's Dinner Camaraderie

On February 17, 2018, the Association held its Eighth Annual Valentine's Dinner at Western Racquet club. After a delicious buffet dinner, we were entertained by Joe and Janice. Even COL Pochowski sang a tune. The Valentine's Dinner is one of the Association's social events to promote camaraderie!



COL Pochowski



Command Sergeants Major



Our entertainment

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Upcoming Special Events

- ◇ 19 May 18 Dining Out
- ◇ 14 Jun 18 Annual Meeting
- ◇ 07 Sep 18 RAD-Ft McCoy
- ◇ 15 Sep 18 Steak Cookout
- ◇ 11 Nov 2018 Veterans Day

President's Message



Greetings Fellow Railsplitters,

Welcome to spring. Now that spring has officially arrived, our thoughts turn to warmer activities such as festivals, boating and, of course, golf. Or for some of us, at least try to golf.

Our first activity for 2018 was a huge success. Over 50 Railsplitters and spouses enjoyed an evening of fun and fellowship at our annual Valentines Dinner which was held Saturday, February 17 at the Western Racquet Club. The entertainment provided by Joe and Janice was outstanding as usual. Our thanks go out to this very entertaining duo. Our next scheduled event this year will be the Dining Out to be held May 19, at the Western Racquet Club. Festivities begin with a cash bar at 1800 hours followed with dinner at 1900 hours. Mark your calendars now for this event and reply to the invitation you received recently.

Our annual membership meeting and Army birthday celebration will be held June 14th. Watch for the invite that will be going out soon for this event. Election of officers will also be held that evening, so if anyone is interested in running for a position on the board please make your interests known to one of our board members.

September 7, 2018, is the date for the annual RAD (RETIREMENT APPRECIATION DAY) at Fort McCoy Wisconsin. If



→ you have the time this event is worth a trip to Fort McCoy. Many knowledgeable speakers, and handouts are available, and you can find out what new things are happening in the Army.

The annual Steak/Chicken Fry, will be held September 15, 2018 at the Smith-Stenz-Griesell-American Legion Post #449. Come and enjoy good fellowship and get caught up with the latest news and happenings of your fellow Railsplitters. Remember this is also our annual fund raiser for our organization. Please bring lots of money to bid on your favorite items.

In closing, we will be tallying all the information we received from the surveys that were sent out and will publish the results in the next edition of Bugler. If any member has any suggestion or ideas on how to improve our organization please pass this along to any board member for consideration.

Have a great summer and I am looking forward to seeing you at our next scheduled event.

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



**The 84th Railsplitters
Association
Annual Meeting
14 June 2018
Will be held at the
War Memorial**

The 84th Railsplitters Association is often asked for volunteers to assist veteran's organizations. If you are interested in volunteer opportunities, please ask a board member.

Next year, we taxpayers will receive a 'Tax Cut'

This is indeed a very exciting prospect. I'll explain it by using a Q & A format:

Q. What is a 'Tax Cut' ?

A. It is money that the federal government will return to taxpayers when they file their "1040 Tax Returns".

Q. Where will the government get this money that they are going to return ?

A. From taxpayers.

Q. So the government is giving me back my own money ?

A. Only a smidgen of it.

Q. What is the purpose of this tax cut?

A. The plan is for you to use the money to purchase an ultra; high-definition TV set, thus stimulating the economy.

Q. But isn't that stimulating the economy of China ?

A. Shut up.

Below is some helpful advice on how to best help the U.S. Economy by spending your "tax cut returns" wisely:

* If you spend the "tax cut returns" money at

Wal-Mart, the money will go to China or Sri Lanka.

* If you spend it on gasoline, your money will go to the Big Oil.

* If you purchase a computer, it will go to India (software), China (hardware) ...

* If you purchase fruit and vegetables, it will go to Mexico, Honduras or Guatemala ...

* If you purchase useless stuff, it will go to Taiwan

* If you pay your credit cards off, or buy stock, it will go to banking management bonuses and they will hide it offshore.

Instead, keep the money in America by:

- 1) Spending it at yard sales, or
- 2) Going to ball games, or
- 3) Spending it on prostitutes, or
- 4) Beer, or
- 5) Tattoos.

(These are the only American businesses still operating in the U.S.)

Conclusion: Go to a ball game with a tattooed prostitute that you met at a yard sale and drink beer all day!



The U.S. Army Reserve Command (USARC) honor guard marches on Hay St. during the 2012 Fayetteville Veterans Day parade, Nov. 10, 2012, in Fayetteville, N.C.

Who Loves a Parade

On 7 February, ROA Executive Director Jeff Phillips' opinion piece on the president's proposed military parade was published by *The Hill*, a major news publication in Washington, D.C.

The purpose of the OPed was to call attention to the better use of military spending on military personnel versus a proposed military parade in Washington, DC. Earlier this month, White House and Pentagon officials confirmed reports that Trump had asked military leaders for the outline of large-scale parade to showcase troops and military equipment. Defense Secretary Jim Mattis said last week he was developing several options for the president, and the Pentagon has tasked the Army to be the executive agent for the effort. The White House press office said the goal is to create an event where the entire country "can come together to show support and honor our military."

The parade could cost between \$10 million and \$30 million, depending on its length, White House budget director Mick Mulvaney recently told a House Budget Committee. That cost is not reflected in Trump's proposed 2019 budget that was presented Monday, Mulvaney said, "because it's come up at the last minute."

Upon hearing of the proposed military parade, Phillips contacted ROA Executive Committee members to survey their opinion, which was a resounding NO! A recent *Military Times* poll found that the vast majority of respondents oppose the idea for a parade as well. With almost 98,000 people voting, the majority, 88 percent, said the military has more important needs to address.

Jeffrey E. Phillips, a retired U.S. Army Reserve major general, is executive director of the Reserve Officers Association of the United States, which promotes a strong and ready reserve force. In his younger days, he was an Army tank commander.

Excerpt from The Hill: <http://thehill.com/opinion/national-security/372785-parading-the-american-character>

OPERATION "REMEMBER"

If you have not visited our website, www.84trailsplitters.com in the last couple of months, request you do. LTC (Ret) 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, goldgr1123@hotmail.com or LTC (Ret) Ron Moe, moe@remdem.com



RESERVE COMPONENT RETIREMENT PAY SYSTEMS

There are currently two Reserve retirement systems that parallel the systems for active duty: the Final Basic Pay System and the High-Three System. To determine which retirement system a Reserve member is under, look at the Date of Initial Entry to Military Service (DIEMS). That is the date an individual first became a member of a uniformed service.

FORMULAS FOR COMPUTING RETIRED PAY

- If you first entered a uniformed service* before **September 8, 1980**: Compute your retired pay based on length of service by multiplying the basic monthly pay for your retired grade at the time of retirement by the years of creditable active federal service at the rate of 2.5 percent for each whole year of service. This is called the **"Final Pay"** retirement system. That means you get 50% for 20 years of service up to a maximum of 75%.

- If you first entered a uniformed service* between **September 8, 1980 and July 31, 1986**: Compute your retired pay using the same formula as the Final Pay system above, except you use the average basic pay for your three highest paid years (36 months) rather than final basic pay. This is called the **High 36** system you get 50% for 20 years of service up to a maximum of 75%.

Your years of service are used to determine the value of each point. Your retirement points are multiplied by the approximate value of a point to produce the estimate monthly retired pay value. For example an E-9 with 20 years in 2009 would receive a valuation of approximately 0.360 per point whereas the

same retiree would get 0.432 for 30 years of service.

An important factor: A member who retires under either system receives longevity credit for those years while a member of the Retired Reserve awaiting pay at age 60. However, this does not apply to a former member (defined as an individual who elected discharge rather than transfer to the Retired Reserve) who is entitled to retired pay under either the Final Basic Pay System or the High-three System. In the case of a former member, regardless of the system under which the individual will receive Reserve retired pay, longevity credit ceases on the date the former member was discharged.

www.military.com/benefits/military-pay/reserve-and-guard-pay/military-reserve-component-retirement-overview.html

SUNSHINE CLUB

Remember to send Mary Orley any information, or correspondence for Get Well, Encouragement, Sympathy, etc. to Mary Orley at home

414-425-0256 or email, maryo_44@yahoo.com



Recently Deceased:
COL Philip Pape

84th RAILSPLITTERS ASSOCIATION, LTD WEBSITE.

You're invited to visit our website, www.84thrailsplitters.com. 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 is our webmaster, he has used his creativity and expertise to make the site user friendly. The site offers information on: History of the 84th Division (now, Training Command); Mission Statement of the association; Events the association is hosting; Membership page; current and past issues of the Bugler and the "TAPS" page. We are open to suggestions on how to improve the site. Recommendations can be sent to MSG (Ret) Goldie Schuh, goldgr1123@hotmail.com or LTC (Ret) Ron Moe, moe@remdem.com





Remember the uniforms before BDUs?



Remembering those we've lost.



E-Battery

Memories. Part of the mission of the 84th Railsplitters Association is to promote fellowship among former and present members of the 84th Division and successor commands. To share your memories of the fellowship we shared in , please send in your pictures to railsplitters84th@yahoo.com.



Remember middle weekends?



Family Day cookouts.



Everyone remembers cattle cars!



Santa always came to the Party!

84th Railsplitters Association, LTD

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Please support:

Cudworth-Stenz-Griesell-Smith

American Legion Post 449

Home of the 84th Railsplitters Association

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Jerry takes a bow

For nine years, CW3 (Ret) Jerry Wold has been the editor of the 84th Bugler. He took it over from 1SG (Ret) Ed Marynik. Jerry, and his wife, Lisa, have also regaled us with stories of their world travels—visiting over 60 bases! Jerry and Lisa plan to continue traveling and he promises to continue writing about

their adventures. Thank you, Jerry, for your service!



84th Railsplitters Association President, COL (Ret) Dean Orley, presented Jerry with a coveted 84th jacket at our Valentine's Dinner—to keep him warm in his northern travels.

Thank you Jerry