

Summer 2018

84th Railsplitters Association

Bugler



Orley, Schuh and Schuler Re-elected

At our Annual Meeting June 14th, three nominees were re-elected to serve again. COL Dean Orley and MSG Goldie Schuh were elected to serve three-year terms, while MAJ Jim Schuler was elected to serve a two-year term. Another one-year term remains vacant.

CSM David Gramins gave us the "state of the association" and presented the treasurer's report. David reminded all members to submit charitable requests for consideration by the Board. We received a briefing on the Association's survey results by Goldie Schuh. She also explained that surveys may still be submitted and encouraged all to complete a survey, if they have not already done so.

We heard from CSM Frank Parker and all of the work the AUSA is doing to assist veterans. AUSA also provided the birthday cake to celebrate the Army's 243d birthday.

The event was held at the newly renovated Milwaukee County War Memorial.

President's Message



Greetings from your Railsplitters Association. We hope you and your family are enjoying all the summer activities and we wish you a safe Labor Day Holiday.

I hope that those of you who were able to attend our annual meeting on June 14 had an enjoyable and informative evening with your fellow members. Both the AUSA and the War Memorial presentations were very informative. If you haven't been to the War Memorial lately, you will be impressed by the improvements that have taken place there. The building is quite impressive and the technology that has been set up to do self-guided tours is very easy to use. Next year we are hoping to have a guest speaker come to our annual meeting and give us an overview of what is all happening in the retirement benefit area.

I am honored to be selected again this year to serve as your Association's President and am looking forward to the challenges we face. We had a very successful 2017 and we are off to a good start for 2018. Our next scheduled event will be our annual Steak Fry. The event will be held on Saturday, September 15, 2018; commencing at 1600. Once again the event will be held at the Cudworth-Stenz-Griesell-Smith Post 449 located at 3245 North 124th Street, Brookfield, Wisconsin. See the attached flyer for this event. Volunteers to help at this event are always welcome.

Don't forget about the annual War Memorial Golf outing that will be held September 8, 2018 at the Silver Spring Golf Course. If you are interested in golfing in this event please contact prior president Peter Pochowski.

As always, enjoy the rest of the summer activities and I hope to see you at the Steak Fry.

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

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Upcoming Special Events

- 07 Sep 2018 RAD-Ft McCoy
- 08 Sep 2018 Milwaukee County War Memorial Golf Outing
- 15 Sep 2018 Steak Fry Cookout
- 11 Nov 2018 Veterans Day
- 22 Sep 2018 Colonel's Cup Golf Outing

84th Railsplitters' Charitable Giving

Fundraising

Our annual fundraiser is coming up: The Steak & Chicken Cookout on 15 September at the VFW Post. The monies raised at the event support the many veterans' organizations in our area. In the past, we've donated to the VFW Post 449, the Milwaukee County War Memorial, Wounded Warrior programs, Honor Flights for Veterans and the Fisher House. We held our Annual Meeting in June at the War Memorial and saw some of the new renovations. The Fisher House is another beneficiary of the 84th Railsplitters.

The Fisher House

Fisher House Foundation is best known for its network of comfort homes where military and veterans' families can stay at no cost while a loved one is receiving treatment. One of these houses is located at the Clement J. Zablocki VA Medical Center in Milwaukee. The Milwaukee house has been open since April 2016 and has already served more than 1,100 families. It's a home away from home for veteran and military families and offers them comfortable accommodations in a home-like environment at no cost.

The Milwaukee VA Fisher house has 16 suites to accommodate single travelers as well as larger families. The families share meals together with other families and support each other through their joys and sorrows.



Join the 84th Railsplitters in supporting a worthy cause—the Fisher House.

MEMBERSHIP SURVEY.

At the end of 2017, the Association fielded a survey requesting member completion. The results of the survey will aid the board in determining whether or not we are heading in the right direction and what needs improvement. Goldie Schuh was pleased to report we have had a 13% return rate on the survey. We consider this to be positive since this is the first time this approach has been used. We are still looking for your opinions, so consider filling out one of the surveys. Current results of the survey are available for your viewing at: <http://www.84thrailsplitters.com>.



DD 214's for All

ROA is urging Congress to ensure all service members receive a DD Form 214 certificate. With the yearly global demand ever increasing for Reserve Component members, more and more citizen warriors are being called to action.

Since the Active and Reserve Components are treated equally in terms of the "Total Force" concept, it is important that all members, past and present, be treated equally. This is not the case when it comes to veteran's status.

Currently, not all Reserve Component members receive a DD 214 when they leave the military service. This is a continual issue for Reserve members because the VA and other government agencies including state VAs normally require veterans to have a DD 214 to determine a veteran's eligibility for benefits. There is no one form used by the Reserves or National Guard that is similar to a DD Form 214, that meets "Proof of Service Requirements."

ROA recently received a message from a family member of a Georgia Reserve Officer who served in the US Army Air Corps in World War II and the US Army in the Korean War who had passed away. For his military service, he received both the Purple Heart and Silver Star as an Infantry Officer for combat actions. Because his family did not have a DD 214 for his service in the Korean War, the VA did not want to mention Korea on his headstone.

Many Reservists are called to active duty for up to, but not more than 90 days, and therefore do not receive a DD 214. The DD 214 is issued upon a service member's retirement separation or discharge from active duty. Many Reservists who have honorably served their nation in peace and war cannot satisfy the requirement for issuance of the form due to the 90-day requirement.

It's time for Congress to recognize the service of America's citizen-warriors and end the inequity by directing that all service members separating from the Reserve or National Guard receive a DD Form 214 type of certificate.

Excerpt from an opinion contribution to The Hill by Jeffrey Phillips, Executive Director of ROA, and John Rothrock, Director of Legislation and Military Police for ROA.

Happy 100th Birthday!!

LTC (Ret) Russell G. Shurr turns 100!



Happy Birthday to a former 84th Railsplitter! LTC Shurr was a member of the 84th Division and served during WWII. On 21 July 2018, he turned 100 years young. Now that's a way to STRIKE HARD!

OPERATION "REMEMBER"

If you have not visited our website, www.84thrailsplitters.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, goldgr123@hotmail.com or LTC (Ret) Ron Moe, moe@remdem.com



In March, the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs welcomed new women veterans coordinator, Tiffany Koehler, to the team.

Growing up in a single-parent household and despite some unfavorable circumstances, Koehler's optimistic attitude, persistence and desire to succeed has fueled her to help those at risk while raising awareness to those who struggle with mental health issues. After taking military science courses at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, she realized she wanted to enlist in the U.S. Army Reserve. She was also following in the footsteps of her grandfathers who served during WWII.

"Like many young people, joining the service is a great way to lay down a solid foundation for one's life," Koehler said. "You meet people from all around the world, you're challenged and tested, and most important, you're serving your country and doing your part."

Koehler graduated from Cardinal Stritch University with a degree in political science and has amassed a number of unique achievements throughout her career.

Koehler served in the Army Reserve at the 84th Division as a legal specialist and other reserve units as a behavioral science specialist and locomotive dispatcher.

From the founding of our nation, women have protected America's freedom and will continue to do so in ever increasing numbers. To address the needs of women veterans in our state, the WDVA remains committed to providing advocacy for women veterans, encouraging and supporting recognition of women veterans' contributions to Wisconsin and the nation and providing outreach for women veterans' programs and issues.

There are approximately 34,000 women veterans in the state of Wisconsin. If you are a woman veteran or know of a woman who has served in the military share the following information with them.

Go to the Women Veterans of Wisconsin Facebook page and "LIKE" it and visit wisvets.com for information on state veterans benefits and other areas of interest.

If you would like to reach Tiffany, you can email her at Tiffany.Koehler@dva.wisconsin.gov

Upcoming Activities



Join the McKeown family and friends at Brighton Dale Links in Kansasville, WI on Saturday, September 22, 2018. Registration begins at 7:00 a.m. with a Shotgun start at 8:00 (dependent on the number of golfers). The \$60 registration fee includes 18 holes of golf, cart rental and fabulous prizes. Please register by 9/7.

For more information, email colonelscupmckeown@gmail.com or call/text Brigid McKeown at (414) 218-9593



Memories



Please send your pictures to railsplitters84th@yahoo.com.





- Numbered TDs in CONPLAN II structure; inactivated Bns indicated with * (EDATE: FY19)
- Named TDs w/down trace documented on PO's

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

Someone New

I usually talk to my same friends when I attend 84th events. But I had the pleasure of meeting someone new at the recent Dining Out. Col Donald Rambadt and his lovely wife, Barbara. Throughout the evening, COL Rambadt entertained our table by sharing tidbits about his military and professional career. As the colonel put it, he joined the 84th Division because he didn't want to go to Vietnam. His career included numerous assignments to include serving with the Aviation Section of the 84th back in the 70s. His illustrious career also included an assignment as a Command & General Staff instructor with the 5045th headquartered in Madison, WI.

COL Rambadt and his wife have taken advantage of innumerable of "Space Available" flights trailing near & far. He and Barbara love to entertain by playing their *stumpf fiddle* and accordion.



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