



Southeastern PA Chapter

CHAPTER MEETING-DECEMBER 2013

Meeting Notice:

The monthly meeting will take place on Wednesday, December 18, 2013 at the Continental American Legion Post # 263, at 7:30 PM sharp!! The post is located at the corner of Wissahickon Ave. and Hansberry St. The Post phone # is 215-844-1140.

Standing Orders:

1) Keep me updated on all Chapter news, OR e-mail address changes. My e-mail is mdirtdart101@aol.com. or call me at 267-973-0600. Also, mail can be sent to our Assistant editor/treasurer, Marty Tomkin. His e-mail is ... metmst@gmail.com, and his # is 215-219-8675.

Chapter and 101st Division News:

- 1) Check out our Chapter's website at...www.sepa101stairborne.org, thanks to deceased member Guy Anhorn. Any volunteers to manage our "web-site"..???
- 2) The meeting with Bob Corey on Saturday, Nov 23rd at Bob's residence at the Masonic Home went extremely well. Bob is doing great and getting around the residence with few restrictions. Chapter members, Joe Schmidt, Duke Gallagher, Marty Tomkin and myself, along with about 15 members of the Phila chapter of the 82nd Abn. were there to visit and honor Bob. A proclamation to recognize Bob's service in WWII was obtained and presented to Bob by city councilman David Oh, also a member of the 82nd Chapter.
- 3) We received a Christmas donation from John Vollrath in the amount of \$101.00. Thanks and a tip of the "chute" to you John for your generosity to the Chapter..!!
- 4) Another reminder, due to additional family and personal responsibilities, I will have to phase out doing the monthly "Dropzone" next year. Any volunteers..?? Marty and I would assist you, so it won't all be on you....!!

Heads Up Dept:

1) There were nationwide commemorations for the 72nd Anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor. Survivors, family members, and fellow comrades, presented wreaths at the USS Arizona Memorial at Pearl. In Washington, D.C., another ceremony was held at the National World War II Memorial at 1:53 p.m. According to the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association, an estimated 84,000 servicemen and women survived the attack, of which less than 3,000 are still alive. The association disbanded in January 2012, but its [website](#) continues to be a treasure trove of first-hand survivor stories.

2) On Oct. 16, 2013, President Obama presented the Medal of Honor to former Army Capt. William D. Swenson in a White House ceremony yesterday, citing Swenson's heroism during a six-hour battle that followed a deadly Taliban ambush in Afghanistan four years ago. Swenson's heroic actions saved more than a dozen lives during the Sept. 8, 2009, Battle of Ganjgal in Afghanistan's Kunar province. Swenson is the second service member to receive the Medal of Honor for that battle. Dakota Meyer, a Marine Corps corporal at the time, was honored two years ago.

3) The Defense Department is now examining the potential closure of its 178 stateside commissaries in an ongoing effort to further reduce overall operating expenses. In an effort to measure customer feedback, the independent Military Times news organization is asking service members, retirees and their families to participate in a brief survey about this potential change to a significant military quality of life benefit. To receive a unique link with login and password to conduct the survey, contact survey@militarytimes.com. Participation is voluntary, and all responses will be kept completely confidential.

4) The House and Senate Budget Committee have also reached a deal within the *Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013* (H.J.Res.59) that includes a proposal to cut future cost-of-living adjustments (COLA) by one percent for military retirees under age 62.

POW-MIA Recoveries:

WW II-- Army Technician Fifth Grade Oneal Rush, 24, of Galivants Ferry, S.C. was buried Oct. 26, in his hometown. In August 1944, Rush, a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers soldier, and six other service members were aboard an C-47A Skytrain aircraft that departed from Shingbwiyang, Burma to Myitkyina, Burma, on an air supply mission. Rush and the six service members were reported missing in action when the airplane failed to reach its destination.

KOREA-- Army Pfc. Norman Dufresne, 20, of Leominster, Mass. was buried in his hometown. In July 1950, Dufresne and elements of G Company, 2nd Battalion, 19th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division, were deployed astride hills along the Chinju-Hadong Road, just west of the Nam River deep within South Korea. The North Koreans

launched a massive attack against their positions, forcing the Americans to fall back. Dufresne was reported as missing in action on July 30, 1950.

V/NAM--U.S. Air Force Col. Francis J. McGouldrick Jr. of New Haven, Conn., was buried Dec. 13, at Arlington National Cemetery. On Dec. 13, 1968, McGouldrick was on a night strike mission when his B-57E Canberra aircraft collided with another aircraft over Savannakhet Province, Laos. McGouldrick was never seen again and was listed as missing in action.

Casualty Dept and Sick Call:

1) It is with great regret to inform all about the passing of Edward "Babe" Heffron on Deember 1st. Babe had turned 90 in May, and was suffering from cancer. A long time associate of Wild Bill, he accompanied him on many functions that the "Band of Brother". "E" Company 506th Abn did after the miniseries came out on HBO. He and Bill got together to record their remembrances in a book titled "Brothers in Battle..Best of Friends" in 2007. May you rest in eternal peace with God, our brother, you certainly earned it. Please keep Babe and his wife and daughter in you prayers. .

Respectfully,

Mike and Marty (editor and assistant)

PS: Also remember to keep all our fallen, those who serve, and all their families in your prayers.

PPS: Every have a great Christmas and holiday season...!!