

#### **A Successful Reunion!!!**



Jeane and Joe Flesch at the 2018 Sky Soldier Reunion

It seems like a distant memory now: Joe Flesch proposing that our Chapter host the 2018 173<sup>d</sup> Airborne Reunion. After all, it was more than two years ago.

Almost none present had any idea what it would take to pull off the Reunion and perhaps, like many products of casual conversation, it would fade away.

After many a meeting, much compromise, tough decisions, and just plain hard work, the Reunion venue, the program, the guests, and the attendees slowly came into focus.

Although it was not on the Metro system, the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center proved to be a good Reunion venue. Virtually all the Association members were housed under one roof and the hotel staff proved to be very proactive in addressing problems that arose before, during, and after the Reunion.

The Reunion program included a wide array of historical tours, shopping trips, memorial activities, and formal and informal eating opportunities. There was something for everyone and most activities were oversubscribed.

Such luminaries as Alexandria Mayor Allison Silberberg; Medal of Honor recipient, Al Rascon; authors Gregg Zoroya, Gary Prisk, and Edward Murphy; and The Old Guard CSM Scott Beeson joined

Continued; Page 4, Reunion Success

#### **Chapter Bar-B-Que**

11:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Directions: Take exit16 from I-270 (MD 27/Ridge Road) towards Damascus, MD. Turn left on Hawkes Road (about 4 miles from I-270). The house will be on your left about 0.7 miles from MD Route 27. Flesch name is on the mailbox.

Warning – GPS it may take you to a brick house. We will be two houses further on the left (light gray siding). Saturday August 11, 2018 Joe Flesch

Chapter President's Home

11730 Hawkes Road Clarksburg, MD **Cost:** \$5 per person. Kids five and under are free.

Members may bring their own beer or wine. Bring pot luck dish and be entered into a \$25 prize drawing.

**Coordination:** To help us plan for food. Email: Flesch11730@ comcast.net or call 301-266-0216 with the number coming, **NLT 1 August 2018**.

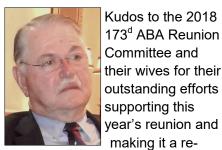


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## **The Chapter President's Message**



Joe Flesch Chapter President

outstanding by all involved, including the invaluable support of Association executives, the 2019 Reunion Chairman, and the Association Web Master, **Jerry Cooper**. We are still working to close out our account with the hotel. See the article below.

sounding suc-

cess. It was an

The Reunion was not the only activity on the Chapter agenda this past quarter. Not only did final planning and coordination for the 2018 Reunion accelerate, but we continued to execute the major events on our calendar and supported unplanned events.

Our 10 March, Gathering of the Herd to celebrate St. Patrick's

Day, at Flanagan's Harp and Fiddle, in Bethesda, MD, was well attended.

We were notified of the passing of Chapter member, **CW3 Patrick J. McGlynn**, on 21 March. **Terry Walsh, Jack Kranchick** and I attended the funeral and internment at the Fort Indiantown Gap National Cemetery, Pennsylvania. We presented a Chapter Honor Set **Mrs. Katie McGlynn**.

Eleven people joined us, on 5 May, for our Annual Reading of the Names, at the 173<sup>d</sup> Airborne Brigade marker, in Arlington National Cemetery.

On 23 May, the opening day of the 2018 Reunion, three Chapter members and 42 others attended **MSG (Ret.) Robert P. Canuel's** funeral, at Arlington National Cemetery. His next-of-kin received the Chapter Honor Set.

Note a change in the Calendar. The Gathering of the Herd at Troegs Brewery, in Hershey, PA, is changed to Saturday, 14 July, 1100 hours. Please join us for a short business meeting, a tour of the brewery, and a great time.

You are all cordially invited to our Chapter picnic, at my house, on 11 August. I will send out a flyer out with directions etc., in early August.

An addition to our Calendar. On Wednesday, 15 August, we will honor Sky Soldier **COL John Bell Rosamond**, at Arlington National Cemetery. There will be a Mass of Christian Burial, at the Fort Myer Old Post Chapel, at 1245h, followed by burial with full military honors. His next-of-kin will be presented the Chapter Honor Set.

We need candidates to run for President and Treasurer next year. Jeane and I will be stepping down as JAN 2019.

Thank you for your support, Airborne All The Way, Joe

**Miracle Quilts for WRNMMC & Fisher House** 

Their motto is "Changing Our World One Box at a Time." Their mission is producing quilts to support our wounded troops. Those two sentences summarize Miracle Quilts and its founder, **Carole Carroll.** 

Miracle Quilts was founded in 2009 to create patriotic quilts to present to wounded troops in hospitals, serving Soldiers and homeless veterans.

The Chapter invited the effervescent Carole Carroll to the 2018 Sky Soldier Reunion to promote her charitable activities, to assist veterans; and to be the guest speaker at the Reunion Ladies Breakfast. Upon meeting Carole, one is immediately struck by her infectious energy, kindness, and compassion.

On 24 May, Carole Carroll, Chapter Member, **Mack Brooks**, Association Member **Ray Saikus**, and another Reunion attendee delivered a carload of Miracle Quilts to the American Cross at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center Bethesda and the Fisher House there. The gifts were well received and appreciated.



Carole Carroll, Jessica Reddish, Mack Brooks, and a Reunion attendee with a sample of the donated quilts.

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## **The Reading of the Names 2018**



It was a perfect Spring day– a welcome respite from the torrential downpours that had been the norm for two months.

Mark Ludlow

The preparations were in place by the Brigade Marker, in Arlington National Cemetery the podium, the chairs, the American and Brigade flags, the bugler, and the faithful cohort of Readers.

**Ed Anthony** had even seen to it that even the road was blocked off from vehicular traffic. Our annual Reading of the names takes place the closest Saturday to May 5, the date the 173<sup>d</sup> deployed to Vietnam from Okinawa. This year, the Reading of the Names was on May 5. Eleven committed people participated.

Chapter President, **Joe Flesch**, set the tone for the moment by reminding those present of our sacred obligation to remember those Sky Soldiers who had paid the ultimate price.

**Mack Brooks** gave brief, but poignant prayer that asked God's blessing upon those faithfully departed, those present, and the nation's decision-makers.

The bugler played the taps and one-by-one, the readers went to the podium and read the names in rhymical cadence. It was a long list: 601 in total – 1967 and GWOT. The period covered some of the most epic battles in which the Brigade was engaged and, of course, the costliest.

Some read the names of Sky Soldiers they knew. All read each name with the reverence due.

After an hour and a half, all the names for this year were done. The

Sky Soldiers and friends of Sky Soldiers left with the knowledge that they had done their duty and that there will be more names to read next year.



**Terry Modglin** 

# gathering of the bero saint patrick's bay



**Garrett Clement and Al Phillips** 

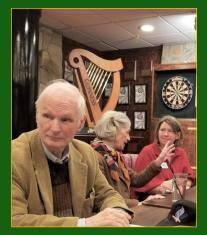
March 10 was the second time many Chapter Members celebrated Saint Patrick's Day at Flanagan's Harp and Fiddle, in Bethesda, MD. The Chapter had been there before. Nonetheless, this occasion was every bit as enjoyable as the last.

It was a Gathering of the Herd and

Members and their families came out in droves – excuse the mixed metaphor - to enjoy the ambiance, camaraderie, and good food that the venue, with its Hibernian motif, and Irish fare could offer.

Twenty attendees huddled around the large center and satellite table. After a prayer and short business meeting, the real reason people came, talking and eating, started. The low threshold hum of conversation was only interrupted by some Irish football (soccer) team making a goal.

The attendees included Ed & Connie Anthony; Mack Brooks; Don Byrne; Garrett & Susan Clemons; George Farris; Joe Flesch; John Foley; Roy, Kathie, and Shannon Gilmore; Pat Linehan; Roy & Carol Lombardo; Mark Ludlow; Alan &



Pat Linehan, Mary Ann Phillips, and Susan Clement

Mary Ann Phillips; Jim Yarrison; and Terry Walsh.

A good time was had by all and, if I don't say so myself many lad and lass left with a bit of the brogue about them.

Chapter 2018 Calendar							
Chapter Event	Date	Time	Day	Project Officer	Remarks		
Gathering of the Herd (PA)	14 Jul 2018	1100	Sat	Bob Read	Troegs Brewery 200 E Hershey Park Drive Hershey, PA 17033		
Chapter BBQ	11 Aug 2018	1100	Sat	Joe Flesch	11730 Hawkes Road Clarksburg, MD		
Sky Soldier Funeral COL John Bell Rosamond	15 Aug 2018	1245	Wed	Don Byrne	Mass Old Post Chapel, Ft Myer Arlington National Cemetery		
Gathering of the Herd (VA)	15 Sep 2018	1200	Sat	Roger Dick & Mick Weisinger	Sunset Grill 1601 Hockett Road Manakin Sabot, VA 23103		
Bravo Bulls Ceremony	9 Nov 2018	1100	Thu	Roy Lombardo	Start at SSG Larry Rougle Burial Site Section 60 Arlington National Cemetery Veteran Day Celebrated 10 Nov 2017		
Walk to the Wall	12 Nov 2018	1000	Mon	Ed Anthony	Vietnam Memorial No-Host Lunch		
Wreaths Across America	15 Dec 2018	0900	Sat	Joe Flesch	Arlington National Cemetery		
Wounded Warrior Visits	Periodic	N/A	N/A	TBD	DC and Richmond VA Area		

## **Successful Reunion, Cont.**

us in celebrating our Reunion.

To help us honor our, allied brother Sky Soldiers and their families, the Australian Military Attaché **BRIG Shane Gabriel** and his wife, **Karli**, was there to support Australian Gold Star son, **David Carroll** and his wife, **Lani**. **LTCOL Benjamin Pitt** and his wife, **the** New Zealand Army attaché, was there to help us honor New Zealand veteran of the 1-61 Battery, **Wayne Robson and his family**. The Brigade Command Group, COL James Bartholomees and CSM Erick Ochs; Virginia politicians Senator Mark Warner, Senator Tim Kaine, and Representative Don Beyer sent letters of welcome. Virginia Governor, Ralph Northam issued a framed proclamation welcoming the Association to Virginia.

The Reunion placed much emphasis on service to Gold Star Families. The Chapter and the Association did much to recognize and support them. Twenty-eight Gold Star family members joined us, as we honored their relative's sacrifice.

Association President, **Terry Aubrey**, and the Association Executive Committee seemed pleased with the result. All this was the result of Joe Flesch's leadership, doggedness, the Reunion Committee's hard work and energy, and Chapter active support.

Thanks to all involved

I WANT YOUR STORY The Herd Word Send Short Articles and Pix to Mack Brooks1@gmail.com

# **Picture Gallery**

**2018 Sky Soldier Reunion** 



Joe Marquez, Association Chaplin; Joe Flesch, Alexandria Mayor Allison Silberberg; and Association President, Terry Aubrey



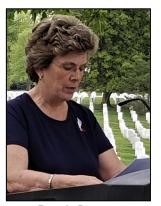








2018 Reading of the Names



**Brenda Persons** 



Front Row L to R: Mack Brooks, Gene Cartier, Terry Modglin, Henry Persons, Brenda Persons, Trudy Surut; Back Row R to L: Thomas Abraham, Joe Flesch, Ed Anthony, George Farris, Mark Ludlow



George Farris

### **Reunion 2018 Ladies Breakfast**



After getting our fill from the Hilton Hotel's excellent Reunion breakfast buffet, **Jeane Flesch** led the ladies attending the breakfast with a prayer and a moment of silence to honor fallen Soldiers, who couldn't be there for the nourishing meal. She welcomed the ladies and shared a few thoughts about them being a source of comfort to their families when their husband's duty took them away.

**Jenny Aubrey**, wife of **Terry Aubrey**, 173<sup>d</sup> Airborne Brigade Association President, added her words of welcome and how thrilled she was to be among such a wonderful group.

**Carole Carroll**, the founder of Miracle Quilts, then spoke to the assembly. Miracle Quilts was founded by Carole Carroll in March 2009. Their mission is to create patriotic quilts for wounded troops in honor the sacrifice of Army PFC **Joseph A. Miracle**.

PFC Miracle, aged 22, had only been in Afghanistan 35 days before being

killed in action, in July of 2007.

Carole, a passionate quilter and an exceptional speaker showed examples of work done by her quilters to comfort the wounded.

Her organization had provided over 4,500 quilts, of various sizes, with a matching pillow sham, to veterans. Carole said the recipients are thrilled that somebody is thinking of them. She then added that "It's just an emotional experience!"

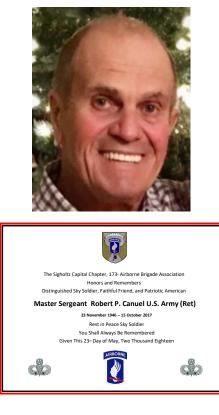
For those attending the breakfast, it was also an emotional experience to learn of the love, beauty, and passion that Carole and her team puts into this labor of love. Should you wish to be a remote quilter or make a donation, contact Carole at <u>Miraclequilts@att.net</u> or 248 321-8669.

### **MSG (Ret.) Bob Canuel Funeral**

Retired Sky Soldier, **Master Sergeant Bob Canuel**, was laid to rest on 23 May 2018, in Arlington National Cemetery. **Jack Tarr, Chuck Huller, Paul Clark, and Dennis Elway** represented the Chapter and the Association.

MSG Canuel served with the 4/503<sup>d</sup>, from June1966 to June 1967. He died In October 17, 2017, after a long battle with cancer. He was 70 years old.

MSG Canuel had been a Specialist four, Company Radio Telephone Operator with Bravo Company in Vietnam. He later served in Operation Desert Storm. Nine of his former 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion comrades, and their families attended.



His military awards included the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, Meritorious Service Medal; the Army Commendation Medal, the Combat Infantryman's Badge, and Airborne wings.

At the end of the ceremony, Jack Tarr explained the significance of the Chapter Honor Set to the 45 attendees. Paul Clark, MSG Canuel's Company Commander in Vietnam, presented the Honor Set (Brigade flag and Chapter Honor Certificate) to Mrs. Canuel. The Canuel family was deeply grateful for the flag and certificate. It was proudly displayed at a luncheon afterwards.



### **Sky Soldier CW3 Pat McGlynn Funeral**



Honor Guard with CW3 McGlynn's reminds

A prayer by the Post Chaplain, a rifle volley, and presentation of the US flag to the widow are hallmarks of the honors due at a military funeral.

So too, it was on April 6, 2018, when

a contingent of Chapter Members (Jack Kranchick, Terry Walsh, and Joe Flesch) went to Fort Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania, to lay to rest Sky Soldier CW3 Pat McGlynn. The 173<sup>d</sup> Airborne Brigade flag, with its streamers dancing in the in the stiff wind, seemed to be saluting the recently departed.

Chapter President, Joe Flesch, presented Pat's wife of 60 years, **Katie McGlynn**, the folded Herd flag and the Honor Certificate. The Honor Set is presented to Sky Soldier families when the Chapter participates in the funeral. Joe said kind words to thank Katie, on behalf of the Brigade, for her husband's honorable service.

His widow, four daughters, their husbands, and assorted grandchil-

dren were appreciative of the 173<sup>d</sup> Airborne Brigade Association's tribute to CW3 Patrick McGlynn.

#### **Jack Kranchick**



Joe Flesch presenting the Honor Set to Mrs. Katie McGlynn

As of 13 June 2018	
Balance as of 20 February 2018	\$9.258.13
Receipts (fees and donations)	
Disbursements	0.004 (\$5,040.00) (\$6,611,21)
	(#0, 011.21)
Balance as of 13 June 2018	\$6,286.92
Receipts:	
Chapter Fees:	
12	\$240.00
Donations:	·····
5	\$963.00
Reunion Events:	
Event Fees (Late Collections) Vendor Sales	\$330.00
Vendor Sales	\$2,107.00
Disbursements:	
Donation [Reunion Fund]	\$500.00
Donation [Memorial Foundation Annual]	\$200.00 \$200.00
Donation [Brigade Association Foundation Scholarship Fund]	\$1.673.00
USPS [Annual Box Rental Fee]	\$136.00
Staples [The Herd Word]	\$19.70
USPS Mailing [Challenge Coins]	\$8.79
Wayne Bowers [Chapter 1 Vendor Supplies]	



# Celebrating after the 2018 Reunion



# Chapter Reunion Committee

FOLD

#### 173<sup>ª</sup> Airborne Brigade Association

Chapter 1 (Sigholts Capital Chapter) P.O. Box 173 McLean, VA 22101-0173

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Address Label







**XAW BHT 11A BURNE ALL THE WAY**