



Serving Sky Soldiers Past, Present and Future



The Herd Word

Chapter Annual Meeting

On January 7, 2017, Chapter 1 held its Annual Meeting, in compliance with Chapter and Brigade by-laws. The meeting was held at 501 Slaters Lane; Alexandria, VA, Chapter Member, Mark Ludlow's home.

Members **Gene Cartier, Garrett Clemons, Bill Connolly, George Farris, Jeane Flesch, Joe Flesch, Jackie Lofton, Mark Ludlow, Terry Modglin, Henry Persons, Alan Phillips, Gene Weeks**, and **Rick Young** were present. Brenda Persons and Flo Cartier dutifully accompanied their spouses.

Highlights of the meeting are provided below:

- Following the Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence for the Fallen, lunch and refreshments were provided.
- Minutes from the last Annual Meeting were approved by voice vote.
- Since no one declared as candidates for the election of the Chapter President and Treasurer positions Joe Flesch and Jeane Flesch, respectively, agreed to continue in their positions for another term. Each said this would be their last term of service.
- The Chapter was briefed on a viewing held for LTC (Ret.) **Joseph T. Gill** and an upcoming funeral

for LTC (Ret.) **David Milton**.

- Members were reminded that the 2017 Brigade Reunion would be on 17-21 May 2017, in Oklahoma City and a follow-on Reunion, in Italy, has been rescheduled to 4-8 July 2017. The Association is trying to sort out reservations made for the earlier date.
- The Chapter President will attend the Mid-Winter Board of Directors Meeting, in Oklahoma City, 13-15 January 2017.
- The Treasurer indicated that she would e-file the Chapter's tax submission soon.
- The Chapter Reunion Committee is becoming more active. The Chapter President requested detailed Reunion tasks and timeframes.
- The assembly approved a motion to donate \$200 annually to the Bravo Bulls to conduct pre-Veterans Day ceremonies, \$500 to the Foundation Scholarship Fund, and an additional \$1730 to the Foundation to establish a Chapter 1 (Sigholtz Capital Chapter) scholarship.
- The group also approved donating \$500 to the Fisher House; and \$500 to USAHEC.



AIRBORNE
ALL THE WAY

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Message from the Chapter President



Our Chapter remains committed to supporting Sky Soldiers, veterans, and the community.

The New Year began with several Chapter activities:

- We supported **LTC (Ret.) Joseph T. Gill's** family, at his 6 January 2017, viewing in Richmond, VA. The Chapter presented his widow, Nancy, with a Chapter Honor Set.
- We held our 2017 Chapter Annual Membership Meeting, on 7 January, in Alexandria, VA.
- On 13-15 January, I attended the 173^d Airborne Brigade

Association Board of Directors Meeting in Oklahoma City, OK..

- On 28 January, our 2018 173^d Airborne Brigade Association Reunion Committee had its monthly meeting.
- On 17 February, **Roy Gilmore** and I conducted an initial recon of the venue for our 2018 Association Reunion, the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center.

Upcoming Events:

- There will be a gathering of the Herd, at 1000h, 11 March, at Ireland's Four Provinces Restaurant, Falls Church, VA. See calendar and announcement in this issue.

- The Chapter Reunion Committee will have its monthly conference call at 0900h (Eastern Time), on 25 March. **Committee members should let me know if you can participate.**
- Annual fees were due 1 January 2017. To date, 77 members are active with the Chapter. If you did not receive the 2017 Chapter fee letter please contact me. Your support is vital to the Chapter.

Please join us at our events –
You are the Chapter!

Airborne All The Way,

Joe

LTC Joe Gill, Jr. Viewing

On 4 January 2017, the Chapter was informed that Sky Soldier **LTC (Ret) Joseph (Joe) T. Gill, Jr.** passed away in Richmond, VA and there would be a viewing at Bliley's Funeral Home, Richmond, VA, on Friday 6 January.

The family asked that we come and present a Chapter Honor Set (a folded 3'x5' Brigade Flag and a Chapter Certificate) to **Mrs. Nancy Gill.**

We were also informed that Joe would be buried in a family plot in Phillipsburg, NJ, on Monday 9 January. We informed our members about

the event so those who were able could honor Joe and his family at the graveside service in NJ.

Chapter members **Joe Flesch**, **Mack Brooks**, and **Terry Walsh** drove to Richmond for the viewing and were joined by Chapter member, **Mick Weisinger**, who lives in the Richmond area. Mick is a close friend of the Gill's and was Joe's commander in the 173^d Airborne Brigade (Separate), prior to Joe being assigned as the Brigade S-4.

Mick presented the Honor Set to Mrs. Nancy Gill and expressed the Chapter's and the 173^d Airborne Brigade Association's appreciation for Joe's dedicated

service to our Country and for the family's patriotic support and sacrifice during Joe's military career.



Mrs. Nancy Gill accepting the Chapter Honor Set

Chapter 2017 Calendar

Chapter Event	Date	Time	Day	Project Officer	Remarks
Chapter Annual General Membership Meeting	7 Jan 2017	1100	Sat	Mack Brooks Mark Ludlow	Marina Towers 501 Slaters Lane Alexandria, VA Refreshments will be served
Sky Soldier Funeral LTC (R) David Milton	17 Jan 2017	0900	Mon	Joe Flesch	Administration Building Arlington National Cemetery Arrive at 0830
St. Patrick's Day Gathering of the Herd (VA)	11 Mar 2017	1000	Sat	Joe Flesch	Ireland's Four Provinces Restaurant 105 W. Broad St, Falls Church, VA 22046 No host Brunch/Lunch
Reading of the Names Vietnam and GWOT	6 May 2017	1030	Sat	Ed Anthony	Brigade Marker Arlington National Cemetery Reading the Names Sky Soldier KIAs 1965 - 1966 & GWOT
173 ^d Airborne Brigade National Reunion Oklahoma City, OK	17 - 21 May 2017	N/A	Wed - Sun	N/A	Sheraton Oklahoma City Downtown Hotel Renaissance Oklahoma City Convention Center Hotel
173 ^d Airborne Brigade National Reunion Vincenza, Italy	4-8 Jul 2017	N/A	Tue - Sat	N/A	Vergilius Business Resort and Spa Caserma Del Din
Gathering of the Herd (VA)	15 Jul 2017	1130	Sat	Barry Holland	Center Street Grill 5101 Center Street Williamsburg, VA 23188 757-220-4600
Chapter BBQ	12 Aug 2017	1100	Sat	Joe Flesch	Flesch Home 11730 Hawkes Road Clarksburg, MD
Bravo Bulls Ceremony	9 Nov 2017	1000	Thu	Roy Lombardo	Start at SSG Larry Rougle's burial site (Section 60, Arlington National Cemetery) Veteran Day Celebrated 10 Nov 2017
Walk to the Wall	10 Nov 2017	1000	Wed	Ed Anthony	Vietnam Memorial No-Host Lunch Veteran Day Celebrated 10 Nov 2017
Wreaths Across America	16 Dec 2017	0900	Sat	Joe Flesch	Arlington National Cemetery
Wounded Warrior Visits	Periodic	N/A	N/A	TBD	DC and Richmond VA Area



Photo Gallery



George Farris
& Maria Hale



Flag Presentation to Joy Milton



Chapter 1 and friends at LTC (Ret.) Milton's Funeral



Joe Flesch, Terry
Walsh, Gene Cartier



Mrs. Nancy Gill, Mick
Weisinger & Terry Walsh



Mrs. Nancy Gill at LTC Joe Gill's Viewing



Mick Weisinger &
Joe Flesch



Jackie Lofton at
Annual Meeting

Chapter 1 Financial Report

As of 27 February 2017

Balance as of 28 November 2016	\$10, 084.91
Receipts (Dues, fees, and donations)	\$2,446.26
Disbursements	(\$1,199.44)
Balance as of 27 February 2017	\$11, 331.73
Receipts:	
Chapter Dues (8) @ \$19.12 and 1 Brigade at \$23.20 (PayPal)	\$176.26
Chapter Dues (33) @ \$20.00 1 for 2 years @ \$40.00	\$700.00
Brigade Dues (2) @ \$24.00	\$48.00
Brigade Historical Membership (Chapter Share)	\$684.00
Donations:	
Scholarship Fund (7)	\$363.00
General Fund Donations (10)	\$365.00
Wounded Warrior (1)	\$60.00
Gold Star (1)	\$50.00
Disbursements:	
Staples (Herd Word Production) (20 Copies)	\$20.19
Staples (Annual Meeting Packets (25)	\$29.00
Chapter Annual Meeting (Food)	\$205.90
Postage for Honor Set Mailing (2 Sets)	\$48.64
Go Daddy (Web Hosting)	\$149.97
Chapter President Expenses (Mid-Winter Conference): Airfare, Hotel & Parking	\$697.74
Brigade (Annual Fees)	\$48.00

Note: IRS E-file 11 January 2017

The LTC (Ret.) David A. Milton Funeral

Throughout Arlington National Cemetery, the tokens of respect that Wreaths Across America had placed to honor those buried there still leaned against the white grave markers. The weather seemed to reflect the mood: overcast, cold, and somber.

So, it was on January 17, 2017, a contingent of Sky Soldiers accompanied LTC **David Milton's** widow, family, and friends as they took that final trek to this brave Sky Soldier's final resting place.

On January 7, 2016, LTC Milton died from complications following surgery. Dave served in the Army Reserve for almost 7 years. In 1967, he commanded A Company, 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 503^d Infantry in Vietnam, where he was severely wounded.

Chapter member **Ken Smith** had replaced David, as A Company Commander, when David was evacuated. Following recuperation, Dave returned to active duty.

Among Dave's decorations are

the Silver Star, the Purple Heart, the Bronze Star Medal with "V" device, the Bronze Star (2 OLC), the Air Medal with "V" device, the Master Parachutist Badge and the Ranger Tab.

The Milton family asked the Chapter to participate in the Colonel's final honors. The Chapter responded admirably with a cohort consisting of **Gene Cartier, Ron Leonard, Ed Weatherman, Joe Grey, Jim Yarrison, Bill Nichols, George Farris, Chuck Evans, Ken Smith, Mack Brooks, Terry Walsh, and Joe Flesch**. They stood near the Chapter's Brigade flag with Battle Streamers.

As always, Soldiers from the Old Guard executed the ceremony with the solemnity and precision due our honored warriors.

Following Taps and the presentation of the US flag to **Mrs. Joy Milton**, Chapter member Ken Smith presented the Chapter Honor Set to her. Mrs. Milton graciously accepted the folded Brigade flag and the Chapter Certificate of Appreciation as

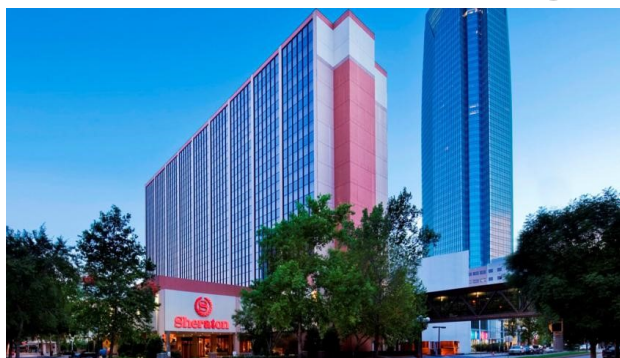
recognition for her husband's service to the Brigade.

After accepting the Milton family thanks for honoring David, the Chapter Members left those sacred grounds, fully aware that they had again fulfilled their solemn obligation that none be



Mrs. Joy Milton with her American flag and Chapter Honor Set

2017 Airborne Brigade Reunion



Sheraton Oklahoma City



Renaissance Oklahoma City

**Oklahoma City, OK
17-21 May 2017
Register Today!!!!**

<https://www.skySoldier.net/event-2280895>



I WANT YOU

**To Submit Articles for the
Herd Word**

**Send Short Articles
and Pix
To Mack Brooks1@cox.net**

Jackie Lofton Joins the Herd & The Chapter

I linked up with The Herd during a training rotation to Graf, in October 2004.

When I arrived, everyone was in the field, so I thought I'd have time to adjust to Italy and get to know the layout of the post. Nope.

Bob Rimmel

and I received our equipment issue and joined Chosen Company, in the field.

I was feeling pretty confident about my initial meeting with the guys. I wasn't a cherry and I had two deployments under



On Patrol March 2008 Near Outpost Bella
Operation Enduring Freedom VIII

Left to Right: SPC Stephen Johnson, SPC Thomas Hanna, SGT Joshua Salazar, SPC Jared Ricanburg, SGT Jackie Lofton, SPC Kenneth Turner, SPC Juan Diaz

my belt, but I was missing one thing: a mustard stain. You know. The little bronze star on a Soldier's jump wings that signifies that he made a jump over enemy territory. That's when I realized I was in an Airborne unit.

I was lucky to serve with the 173^d for over four years. I was privileged to be surrounded with some of the greatest leaders and Soldiers in the world.

Fast forward almost ten years and now I am living and working in Northern Virginia, thanks to some fellow Sky Soldiers. I recently joined Chapter 1 (Sigholtz Capital Chapter) of the 173^d Air-

borne Brigade Association and I look forward to helping them plan for the 2018 reunion here in the D.C. area.

Jackie Lofton



From the Webmaster



Who knows what information lurks in the heart of the Chapter website?
The Webmaster knows.

Herd Word. Looking for a back copy of the Herd Word? You can always find back copies on the website. The Chapter website has Herd Word copies back to 1987. They are in PDF format. So, they can be easily viewed or downloaded. Back Herd Word issues are in the News section of the website. The direct link is <http://173dairbornechapter1.org/news/>

2018 Reunion Working Page. To keep members informed of Chapter activity and progress on the 2018 Reunion, we have created a Reunion working page on the Chapter website. All reunion information, reports, and working group activity will be posted on that site. The Reunion Working Page is in the Events section of the Chapter website. The direct link is <http://173dairbornechapter1.org/events/chapter-1-reunion-working-page/>

Gene Cartier

50th Anniversary Dak To Tour

Gene Cartier is helping to organize a Vietnam tour commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the battles fought at Dak To, in November 1967.

The tour will include visits to Vung Tao, War Zone D, Saigon, Dak To (Hill 875 & 823), Tuy Hoa, and LZ English. An itinerary is included in News section of the link (hypertext) below.

<http://173dairbornechapter1.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/173rd-Abn-Tour-Nov-2017.pdf>

For additional information and details contact Gene at hypertext or e-mail cajungene@gmail.com

Board of Directors Meeting

As a member of the Association Board of Directors (BOD), I attended the Association Mid-Winter Conference.

The meeting was held at the Sheraton Hotel, in Oklahoma City, OK. The 2018 Association Reunion will be held at that same venue. I flew out on Friday, 13 January and returned home, Sunday 15 January.

The Mid-Winter Conference began on Saturday, 14 January, at 0900h.

After Opening Remarks, etc., the roll call was conducted and the minutes of the previous BOD meeting were read and approved.

The Association officers and committees briefed their reports. We received updates on the 2017 Oklahoma City and Italy Reunions. I gave an overview of our plans for the 2018 Reunion in Alexandria, VA.

There was much discussion of the candidates for Association President. Information on two candidates had been included in the Winter Sky Soldier Magazine. There had been three candidates to run. The Association President decided only two would be announced.

Amid much protest, in that three qualified candidates had complied with the Association By Laws.

The BOD voted that three candidates should be offered to the membership. This motion was approved.

The three candidates are **Terry Aubrey, Wambi Cook, and Eldon Meade**. Information on them will be on the Association website and in the Spring 2017, Sky Soldier Magazine.

Discussions on the By Laws and chapter reimbursement began after lunch and continued until 11:30 PM, when the Hotel Security made us stop.

We reconvened at 0900h, Sunday morning, to complete the markup of the By Laws.

Results of our deliberations were provided to the By Laws committee for incorporation into the proposed By Laws. The revised By Laws will be provided to the Association membership, discussed, and voted on, at the 2018 Reunion General Membership Meeting, in May.

Chapter 1 will establish its Chapter By Laws Committee, after the approved Association By Laws changes.

Joe Flesch



Ye don't have to have a lilt in your voice or a jig in your step to Celebrate Saint Pat's Day

Gathering of the Herd

Ireland's Four Provinces Restaurant



Tis a bit of the Irish in all of us.

Be there!

11 March 2017, at 1000h
No-host Brunch/Lunch



SAVE THE DATE

**15 JULY 2017
1130H**

WILLIAMSBURG GATHERING OF THE HERD



CENTER STREET GRILL
"Where traditional tastes are fused with new world flavors" Established 2002



Address Label

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173rd Airborne Brigade Association

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