



THE STATIC LINE

WESTERN STATES CHAPTER 10

NEWSLETTER

173rd AIRBORNE BRIGADE ASSOCIATION

Volume 5, Issue 1

Spring 2018

Chapter News for Spring 2018

By Bob Ortiz, Chapter 10 President

Another busy year has gone by with some great times had by many, and another year has started with new memories to come our way.

In 2017 we had 17 different venues that involved a 173rd Chapter 10 member. I am so proud and honored to be part of this special brotherhood! Proud, not for what I have done, but for all our members, friends, and families that get involved with our many different events that we have throughout the year. Whether it's a single mission or in support of our group gatherings that make it possible to help others when and how we can. As I have said many times before, we are a volunteer group and it is always a combined effort.



Members from Chapters 10, 14, and members of the 335th Assault Helicopter Co. (Cowboys), and Casper Aviation Platoon.

At our 2017 Christmas party in Ripon, all Chapter 10 officers were approved and elected for another 2 years. I, together with our other Chapter 10 officers, thank you for the trust you have placed in us. We are always open for any comments or

suggestions for us to be more proficient in our duties and endeavors. It is our Chapter and we are only as good as our members. We are looking forward to the great memories yet to come for all of us this year.

As your current president, I attended the annual Mid-Winter Conference in Alexandria, Virginia, on January 11. It was very cold; 2 to 12 degrees! On the first day, all of the attendees went on tours of the Capital and the Pentagon. They were very worthwhile tours. The next day, we had the Association meeting at 09:00 hours. Among the topics discussed:

1. Involvement of our Chapter to get onto social media as a means to attract our 2nd generation 173rd troopers and get them involved with their 173rd chapters.
2. Converting the Sky Soldier Magazine to an online magazine instead of the hard copies sent by U.S. mail.
3. Association and Chapter By-Laws.
4. The 2018 Reunion, which will be held May 23-27 in Alexandria, Virginia.
5. Dr. James Cloninger spoke on the accounting of our POW/MIAs. He will be going to Vietnam hoping to collect sufficient evidence to recommend possible sites of their remains for excavation. Doctor Cloninger and his team have brought closure to many families.
6. This year's activities and locations.

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WESTERN STATES CHAPTER 10 173rd AIRBORNE BRIGADE ASSOCIATION

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EDITOR'S UPDATE

By Charles Earthman, Editor-in-Chief

Looking back, I must say I am proud to be a part of what we have accomplished with our chapter newsletter. We have come a long way and "The Static Line" newsletter has become very popular with our members and the community.



The first edition of the current style was published in December, 2013, when I became Chapter Secretary and was asked to help with the newsletter. At the time I was part of a nationally recognized, award-winning VVA publication for the local chapter in Santa Rosa and I wanted to bring some of the attributes that had made that newsletter so successful, i.e., the writing style and layout with lots of photos and illustrations. I also wanted to add stories from and about the membership and the Brigade. Much of that has been done, but we are always trying to improve with each edition.

Looking forward, there are some things we can do to

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Membership Reminder

**A Message from Rob Linscott,
Chapter 10 Treasurer**

Chapter 10 members should pay your membership dues through the Chapter and not to the Association. If people pay their membership dues through the Chapter, we keep \$10 for the Chapter and we send a Chapter membership card. I send the remainder to the Association to keep the member current. If they pay directly to the Association, the Chapter gets nothing and we are not informed of your payment. I am afraid that they prefer the latter. Pay your dues through the Chapter, it's the best way.

**Pay membership dues at any general meeting or
send them to: Western States Chapter 10
Attn: Robert Linscott
P.O. Box 151
Fairfax, CA 94978**

**Pay your dues
to the Chapter
or this guy may
stare you down
at the next
meeting.**



THE NEXT CHAPTER 10 MEETING

MARCH 17, 2018 - 11 AM

American Legion Post 172

1960 N Tracy Blvd, Tracy, CA 95376



Continued from Front Page

There will be more information on all topics at our next Chapter 10 meeting to be held in Tracy on March 17, 2018. Please plan to attend as the meeting will be very important.



Bob Ortiz with Mr. and Mrs. Terry Aubrey in the Capitol Building in Washington, DC

February 10th was the 20th year anniversary of the Frank Mantua yearly reunion at the Seaclyff Inn in Aptos. Frank started this gathering when he was President of Chapter 10 and got those of us that were involved and hosting the 173rd Association Reno reunion to attend. Each year since then, on Valentine's Day weekend, the members that were directly involved with the reunion get together each year. To this day, many say the Reno Reunion was one of the best!

At the 20th Reunion Dinner, place mats were made with assorted pictures of the past 20 years. A large, 1 lb. Candy Kiss and flowers were passed out to the ladies. It has always been lots of fun the evening of the Annual Dinner Dance. Over the years there have been anywhere from 15 couples to just 2 couples in attendance! There are always lots of laughs! In past years, Frank and Jackie would cook up a great brunch out of their RV the following morning. This year they were missing, but there is always next year!

For everyone's information, Frank Mantua will be awarded his 2nd Silver Star for his valor many years ago in Vietnam. A big congratulations go out to him and we all salute you, Frank! The Governor of New Mexico, where Frank and Jackie live, will be presenting the well-deserved award!

BITS AND PIECES



How Did We Get There?

Rob Linscott tells his story.

For me, it was Omaha Beach.

The little sailor to the left is my Uncle Kenny. He was a submariner patrolling and protecting the fleet. The big sailor on the right is my Dad, a Sea Bee, tasked with running a wharfing tug: stabilizing and assisting landing craft pull back. He was sunk and folded in with Patton's Third Army for the Cherbourg Campaign. The soldier in the middle is my Uncle Buzz. He jumped in with the 82nd Airborne. He made all the 82nd jumps. He died when I was in Vietnam so I never had a chance to talk with him as a combat veteran but I do recall his saying "I landed in the only f*cking tree in Holland and broke my nose!" He was wounded there and evacuated to the US.

So, when I was 19, we had a shooting war going. It was my turn. I enlisted airborne.

**Come Celebrate
50 Years of Supporting the 101st!**

**ADOPTED UNITS
101ST AIRBORNE
DIVISION**

San Mateo - 1968
A Company
1-327 Infantry

Burlingame - 2004
B Company
1-327 Infantry

Hillsborough - 2007
Headquarters Company
1st Brigade Combat Team

Foster City - 2012
Headquarters Company
1-327 Infantry

Millbrae - 2013
B Battery
2-32 Field Artillery



**ADOPTED UNITS
101ST AIRBORNE
DIVISION**

Belmont - 2016
C Company
1-327 Infantry

San Carlos - 2017
D Company
1-506 Infantry

San Bruno - 2017
A Company
1-506 Infantry

Atherton - 2017
B Company
1-506 Infantry

Historic Parade and Festival in the Park!

**Saturday, March 24th
11am**

**Parade in Downtown San Mateo- B Street
Followed by Festival in Central Park**

City Clerk's Office: 650.522.7040 * www.CityofSanMateo.org/101st

JOIN THE CELEBRATION WITH CHAPTER 10 AND "AIRBORNE JOE"

On March 24th, 2018, Chapter 10 and our "Airborne Joe" have been invited to participate in the 101st Operation Eagle 50th Anniversary Homecoming Parade in San Mateo, CA.

On March 4, 1968, The City of San Mateo unanimously adopted A Company, 1st Battalion, 327th Infantry Reg., 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. San Mateo was the only American city to host the only homecoming parade in the United States honoring returning Vietnam Veterans.

For those that need or want to ride, the truck bed has benches that accommodate 12 people. Airborne Joe will be mounted on his trailer that is pulled by the truck and which will be decorated. To be asked to be part of this special parade for our Airborne Vietnam brothers is an honor and I hope you will join me on this special day of tribute to Airborne.

More information regarding the time and point of rendezvous will be announced at the next General Meeting to be held in Tracy on the 17th of March, 2018



Congressman, Vietnam Veteran and Sky Soldier Mike Thompson in the Petaluma Veterans Day Parade.





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improve the scope of the newsletter. This can be done with the help of the active members, their families and friends. Over the next few months I will be collecting email addresses from our members in order to improve networking and communications and allow us to quickly exchange ideas and information. It's time to move into the 21st century. I will also be talking to members about their military experiences, especially their time in the Brigade. If you served in the 173rd Airborne Brigade, you served overseas and most likely in a combat zone. There have got to be a few tales from those times. You don't have to write them by yourself; I will help you. Or, you can tell them to me and I will write them for you.

Also, my plan is to start a community billboard to enhance our outreach in the community. We have a growing associate membership that comes from many branches of service. There are events that they are a part of that they might want to share with others in Western States Chapter 10.

These are a few ideas I have. If you have some ideas for the newsletter, let me know. After all, this is your newsletter, too. Talk to me or President Bob Ortiz by phone or email and we will see what we can do to improve an already great publication.

Stay in touch. Airborne, All The Way!



**Hosted by Chapter 1
Hilton Alexandria
Mark Center Hotel
Alexandria, Virginia
May 23 to May 27**



Upcoming Chapter events For 2018

Here are some events coming in 2018, look for dates, times, and locations to be posted later this year as they become available.

March 17 — Chapter meeting, Tracy

March 24 San Mateo Operation Eagle Parade

Chapter meeting

Brigade reunion—Washington, DC

Summer Picnic and BBQ and Chapter meeting

Chapter meeting

Chapters 10, 14 and 28 joint meeting

Veterans Day Parade


Christmas Party and Chapter meeting



Show your business logo or business card here in this Newsletter.

Make a donation (\$50 or more) to Chapter 10
and the Newsletter will advertise your business for one year (4 issues).
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Chapter 10 Christmas Party December 2017