



The 11th Engineer Battalion Association

PANTHER PRESS



April 2014

From the President:

This year the 11th Engineer Battalion Association will share the annual Reunion with the 547th Engineer Battalion Association. Both Associations scheduled their 2014 Reunion in Charleston, SC in September, therefore agreed to share the Hotel/events for negotiating the best prices for a higher volume of participation.

My first assignment was to Uijongbu, Korea to the 11th Engineer Battalion (Combat) from January 1967 through March 1968. My PCS assignment was to Darmstadt, Germany to the 547th Engineer Battalion (Combat) from April 1968 to July 1969. Significant events for me were the bridging of the Han River in Korea, and twice bridging the Rhine River, in Germany.

This newsletter includes the details of the Hotel and the agenda. Please register early with both your Hotel reservation and with Treasurer John Booth for the Banquet and Activities package. I commend 1VP Joe Papapieto for the outstanding advance preparations for the 2014 Reunion.

During the 2013 Reunion we chose to have all future Reunions sponsored by an Association Member at their home location. Mike and Julie Ellegood will host the 2015 Reunion in Prescott, Arizona. I recently visited Mike where he graciously showed me the Hotel (with an original 1920's Otis elevator) and some of the local museums. Look to this issue for the announcement of the 2015 Reunion. Be prepared to host-volunteer a 2016 Reunion at your home location. The 1VP will be your mentor/guide in setting up the Reunion.

We continue to receive notices of the passing of our Association Members. Thank you Association Pastor Jim Rock for sending sympathy cards to the families on behalf of our Association. 2VP Jeff Corker continues to search for past 11th Engineer Soldiers to invite them to join our Association. Please assist in new membership by contacting your era Soldiers and inviting them to participate in our Association and in the Reunions. Our membership growth is a high priority that needs everyone's help.

I've asked Historian Rick Goring to develop a simple questionnaire to distribute to our Members that will record each person's time while assigned to the 11th Engineer Battalion. Each Soldier's Military service is valuable, and an informal record of your personal service is important to save. This documentation of service is encouraged by many of the Army museums. Eventually our documentation will be turned over to an appropriate Army Engineer Museum.

My final concern is to find candidates for First VP, Secretary, and Web Site master. My thought is to have two people share the Secretary position as a Corresponding Secretary and as a Recording Secretary. Our Association needs your help! It is important that you volunteer in some capacity. For an example it has been my privilege and pleasure to perform the 1VP duties for four years, and now four years as President. It is important to involve other members in guiding the Association in the future years. Please contact me at wrd1945@sbcglobal.net , or at PO Box 336, Cool, CA 95714, or 530-885-3917 (h), 530-320+6907(cell).

Bill Davis, President

From the 1st Vice President:

Your “reunion committee” has been busy this winter putting the final touches on our 2014 reunion in Charleston and initiating the planning process for our 2015 excursion to Arizona.

1. **CHARLESTON, SC:** The 2014 reunion will be unique in that we have capitalized on an opportunity to link up with the 547th Engineer Battalion Association whose members will be joining us in Charleston. By taking advantage of our combined numbers we were able to secure a very favorable hotel rate and improve our negotiating position for everything from transportation to local area discounts.
 - a. **THE VENUE:** Charleston is world-class venue that has been named the **#1 United States City** by the Condé Nast Readers’ Choice Awards for an unprecedented *third* consecutive year. It’s a beautiful coastal destination with easy access by air or interstate. Charleston is deeply immersed in southern hospitality and exudes a warm, inviting charm. It offers much in the way of American history, culture, architecture, fine or casual cuisine, exciting and varied night life and yes...shopping. If you have not yet visited this jewel of a southern city now is your chance. If you have already been there then you know what I mean...it’s time to do it again!
 - b. **THE AGENDA:** Please refer to the attached paper (Subject: 2014 Reunion Agenda) for the day to day details of our planned Charleston activities. This year’s reunion (from Thursday, 18 Sept through Sunday, 21 Sept departing on Monday, 22 Sept) includes a visit to The Citadel to tour the facilities and see their famed Cadet Parade, a visit to Patriots Point and a wreath-laying ceremony at the Congressional Medal of Honor Museum. There is also ample time for you to explore on your own....not to mention the renewing of old friendships and making new ones in the Hospitality Suite. NOTE: If you desire to come early or stay late the Charleston Plaza Hotel (formerly the InnPlace Hotel) has agreed to extend the very favorable room rates (see below) for up to 3 days on either side of the reunion. Two Info Papers are attached with the details of our visit to The Citadel and Patriots Point.
 - c. **THE HOTEL:** This year’s reunion will be held at the Charleston Plaza Hotel. Info Paper #3, Subj: Hotel Info & Registration Procedures (attached) provides all the details. The Charleston Plaza Hotel is a full service establishment in North Charleston that has offered us a group rate of \$99/night (+ tax = ~\$113). This rate includes: breakfast for two, free shuttle service to/from the airport and local shopping/restaurants, a dedicated Hospitality Suite and free on-site parking. The Charleston Plaza Hotel also offers a full-service restaurant, banquet facilities, a modern exercise facility with both indoor and outdoor pools, and a complete business center with several PCs and printers. NOTE: The InnPlace Hotel was recently been purchased by Marriott and renamed the Charleston Plaza Hotel. This is a net positive given the world-wide reputation of the Marriott brand. I do not know the transition schedule for the re-branding process but it should be invisible to us and will have no impact on the rates and amenities that we have already contracted for.

d. REGISTRATION:

- I. Please refer to Info Paper #3 (Hotel Info & Registration Procedures) and complete and submit the Reunion Registration Form (attached) as soon as possible.
- II. Please call the Charleston Plaza Hotel (see Info Paper #3) and make your room reservation. I urge that you do this now to avoid any last minute difficulties and help us manage the block of rooms we have reserved.
- III. If you have any questions do not hesitate to call or email me.

2. **Reunion 2015: Prescott, AZ.** Mike & Julie Ellegood volunteered to take this on and have been active scoping out possibilities for our 2015 trip to Arizona. They have received a good offer from a Prescott hotel and are busy working the details. They've also done a lot of legwork on potential agenda items including: a trip to the Grand Canyon; possible trips to Sedona and Oak Creek Canyon; guided walking tours of Prescott; and for the adventurous day hiking in Prescott National Forest. Golf, a Prescott antique prowl, Flagstaff and a visit to Lowell Observatory are also possibilities. More details on this when we convene in Charleston. Thanks Mike and Julie for all you've done!!

3. **A FINAL NOTE:** Based on interest I've received to date we're likely to have a record turn-out in Charleston. Please download the following forms and complete the registration and reservation process as soon as possible. This will insure that we have the best information on who is attending and the total number of attendees.
- a. The 2014 Reunion Registration Form
 - b. The 2014 Reunion Agenda
 - c. Info Paper #1: Visit to The Citadel
 - d. Info Paper #2: Visit to Patriots Point
 - e. Info Paper #3: Hotel Information & Registration Process paper.

I hope to see you in Charleston.... if you have any questions or need help with anything please contact me.

Joe Papapietro
1st Vice President/Reunion Coordinator
Phone: 717-818-7331
Email: o6ret@aol.com

From the 2nd VP:

The focus of this article is "Membership." The dwindling of our membership rolls has been a topic that has been talked about since I first joined the 11th Engineer Battalion Association. We have now reached a point where talking about it is no longer a viable option but rather our Association must take a clear course of action if it is going to remain in place and solvent.

In attempting to analyze our membership problem there are basically two major areas of concern. First, we have lost and continue to lose a significant number of our WWII and Korean Veterans as

they pass on from our ranks. Many, if not most, of these individuals have kept up as Active Members to include the timely payment of dues and participation in our Association's Reunions and other activities. However, there are also a significant number of these individuals who are being carried on an Inactive Membership status and have not paid their dues in years. Efforts have been made to reach out to these individuals but with little success. Second, is the fact that we, as an Association, have failed to attract new members despite diverse and numerous efforts by a few of our truly dedicated members in an attempt to do so. However, as members, we all know that it is our Association and its Membership is our responsibility.

Each and every one of us reading this article needs to make an active and ardent effort to reach out and bring in just "one new member" to our Association over this next year. Take the time to call or email a friend that you have kept up with from your service with the 11th Engineers and encourage them to join our Association. If each Active Member would do that – we would double our Membership in just one year. There is a Membership Form enclosed with this Newsletter that provides the information you need to pass onto a prospective member. If you need assistance with this effort, please don't hesitate to contact any of our Officers.

In closing, I ask that you keep in mind it is our Association and as such, it is our responsibility for its Membership and continued existence.

God Bless, Jeff Corker, 2nd Vice President, 504 Neal Drive, Gurley, Al 35748.

jcorker@championfactorydirect.com

From the Treasurer (April 2014):

Floss and I are looking forward to seeing everyone at the 2014 Reunion.

Treasury – Our Treasury is healthy; between our savings account and our checking account we have \$12,514.74. We have some outstanding bills, which will be paid when they are received. I have completed the 2013 IRS form 990-N to continue our Tax-exempt organizational status. Thank you for your membership dues and contributions to the General Fund.

Good news - Bad News by the numbers.

- **87** members are current with their 2014 dues.
- **94** members were paid in 2013.
- **5** members that were paid up for 2014 have passed ☹.
- **40** members have paid dues for 2015.
- **46** of the names in our database are not current with their 2014 dues, and
- **14** of those not current were paid up in 2013. I hope that the members that have let their membership laps are okay.

Attached is the current membership list, if you see someone on the list that you know whose membership has lapsed, please reach out and check on them. If you need a phone number, email or snail mail address let me know and I will pass it on to you.

The dues payments support:

- communications with our members without email addresses to include the Newsletter distribution,
- awards for the 11th Engineer Battalion of Soldier, NCO, and Officer of the Year,
- reunion planning and preparation costs, and
- development and maintenance of our new website
<http://www.11thengineerbattalionassociation.com>

Thank you again for your support.

ESSAYONS

John L Booth

56 Hope Road, Tinton Falls, NJ 07724

732-345-1134

BoothJL@aol.com

From the Secretary:

"Vacant - still looking for a replacement...how about you?"

From the 11th Engineer Battalion Liaison:

Below is an info paper #4, Subject: 11th Brigade Engineer Battalion (BEB), on the future of the 11th Engineer Battalion. There are ongoing big changes for engineer units.

Planning for the 2015 11th Engineer Combat Battalion Reunion:

Although there is almost a year and a half before the 2015 Reunion, your committee has been hard at work. The reunion will be held in Prescott, Arizona, home of the first territorial capital of Arizona. It is a beautiful mountain community of 40,000 nestled in the Bradshaw Mountains of Arizona. At a 5600-foot elevation, Prescott offers four distinct seasons, all of them mild.

The reunion hotel is expected to be the Hassayampa, a historic hotel constructed in 1929 offering a combination of southwestern and art deco architecture. Located just off of the town square, it is within convenient walking distance to many local attractions including the Sharlot Hall Museum that depicts life as it was in the old west.

The major outing will be a day trip to the Grand Canyon. This is about a two-hour coach ride each way. This plus several hours at the Grand Canyon will make for a full day.

In addition to our meetings, auction, banquet, memorial service and general camaraderie there are a number of other activities in Prescott including the Phippen Museum of Western Art, numerous hiking trails, pub crawling along Whiskey Row, antique shopping, the restored Elks Theater (don't know yet about shows scheduled) and side trips to Sedona, Jerome and Flagstaff.

Prescott is about 100mile northwest of Phoenix. There is a convenient and inexpensive shuttle service from Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport that offers military discounts for groups like ours.

More later as plans develop further.

11th Engineer Battalion Association

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2012 - 2013

William R. Davis – President
Joe Papapietro – 1st Vice President
Jeff Corker – 2nd Vice President

APPOINTED OFFICERS

Open - Secretary
John Booth - Treasurer
Jim Rock - Chaplain
Phil Loftis - Newsletter Editor
OPEN - Web Master
Mike Ellegood - 11th Engr Bn Liaison
Rick Goring - Historian

EMERITUS

William H. Van Ort - President
Harry H. "Dutch" Heiney - President
Ernest Seymour - President
Ernest Reeves - Treasurer
Rev. Allan Eubank - Chaplain

Sony computer; Word;my documents\Panther Press April 2014, latest version



11th Engineer Battalion Association

Annual Dues Payment Form



As your 11th Engineer Battalion Association Treasurer this is a reminder of payment for Annual dues (\$15.00/year) for Calendar Year 2014 which are due on January 1 each year. We are currently summoning the collection of dues and asking that you **please update** the information requested below, so that we may verify/update the information on file as it pertains to you and your service with the 11th Engineer Battalion.

Name: _____ Spouse's Name: _____

Street: _____ Telephone: _____ Email: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Designated Unit Served: _____ Assignment: _____

Locations served _____

Time Period Served: (From) _____ (To) _____

Name/Telephone Number and/or Email for alternate Point of Contact _____

As previously mentioned our dues are **\$15.00 per year** with the Membership Year coinciding with the Calendar Year, i.e., January 1 to December 31. In the past, some members have opted to pay dues for a number of years in advance and/or have sent in additional funds that are put into our Association's General Fund, some of which may be used to pay dues for a few of our less fortunate members. We encourage both!

Please complete: 20____ Dues Payment: **\$15.00** Additional Years at \$15.00/years: \$ _____

Additional Funds to General Fund: \$ _____ Pre-paid Membership Dues through: _____

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____ Check #/Other: _____ (Checks or Money Orders only.)

Please send your payment of dues, any donation to our General Fund and this completed form so as to reach us by **January 1 of each year**. Also, if there is an issue, comment or recommendation that you believe is for the good of our Association and/or that you would like to further discuss, please appropriately make note in the space below or the back side of the form.

Please make your Check/Money Order out to "The 11th Engineer Battalion Association" and mail to:

**John L. Booth
Treasurer, 11th Engineer Battalion Association
56 Hope Road
Tinton Falls, New Jersey 07724**

Once I receive and process your form and payment I will forward your information to the Secretary. Upon receipt, the Secretary will verify/update your information, as applicable, on our Association Roster and send your Membership Card reflecting its new expiration date. If you have prepaid your dues for 2014, or beyond, please note that fact on the above form. However, please still complete the information requested on this form, so we can verify/update our records.

In the past year we have had problems contacting some members. Please provide alternate telephone # or email address for us to contact in the event that we cannot reach you at those listed above. _____

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me (John Booth) at 732-345-1134 or email: boothjl@aol.com.

**SUBJECT: 11th & 547th Reunion Registration Form
Charleston, SC from 18 thru 22 Sep 2014**

Attendees: Member: _____
Spouse/Guest: _____
Guest: _____
Guest: _____

Registration Fees: \$20 per Member, Spouse & adult Guest \$ _____

Activities:

1. **Arrival & Registration** Thursday, 18 Sept @ 3 PM
 - a. Hospitality Suite opens at 3 PM
 - b. Association sponsored informal dinner in the Hospitality Suite @ 6 PM

2. **Tour & Cadet Parade at The Citadel (see Info Paper #1):** Friday, 19 Sept @ 1 PM
 - a. Motor Coach to The Citadel & return to hotel
 - b. Guided tour of The Citadel
 - c. VIP seating for the Cadet parade
 - d. **COST: \$20 per person** \$ _____

3. **Tour of Patriots Point (see Info Paper #2)** Saturday, 20 Sept @ 1 PM
 - a. Motor Coach to Patriots Point & return to hotel
 - b. Admission to all Patriot's Point venues
 - c. Tour of the Congressional Medal of Honor Museum
 - d. Memorial Service, Hangar Bay #3, light refreshments to follow
 - e. **COST: \$57 per person** \$ _____

4. **Ladies Brunch/Luncheon: Date/Time/Location: TBD; Cost: Pay As You Go.**

5. **Reunion Banquet:** Sunday, 21 Sept @ 6 PM
 - a. Location: InnPlace Hotel Ballroom
 - b. Menu Options: Each entrée includes salad, rolls, vegetables, dessert & coffee or tea.
 - i. Chicken Florentine (\$39 x _____ # of meals) \$ _____
 - ii. Atlantic Salmon (\$39 x _____ # of meals) \$ _____
 - iii. Filet Mignon (\$45 x _____ # of meals) \$ _____
 - c. No Host / Cash bar

Total Due: Registration Fees + Activity Costs \$ _____

ACTIONS REQUIRED: (See Info Paper #3)

1. Make your check payable to "11th Engineer Battalion Association"
2. Mail this form with payment to John Booth, Association Treasurer:
JOHN BOOTH
56 Hope Road
Tinton Falls, NJ 07724
- 3 Call 'Lorin' at the Inn Place Hotel (888-747-1900) for reservations (Info Paper #3). **NOTE:** This is a direct line to the hotel and by-passes the normal reservation process. Please call M – F during normal duty hours or Sat from 9 AM to 2 PM. Do not call Sunday

**11th & 547th Engineer Battalions
2014 Reunion, Charleston, SC
18 – 22 September 2014**

SUBJECT: 2014 Reunion Agenda

It is no wonder that Charleston has received the Conde Nast “#1 American City” award three years in a row. It is truly a remarkable and welcoming destination with many attributes and activities. It’s a natural venue for our upcoming reunion.

We are still working on some details but the following schedule is about 90% complete:

a. Thursday, 18 Sept:

- 1) Check-In: Charleston Plaza Hotel at 3 PM (see Info Paper #3, attached)
- 2) Hospitality Suite:
 - I. Opens at 4 PM for registration.
 - II. Association sponsored casual dinner at 6 PM.

b. Friday, 19 Sept:

- 1) Morning: Breakfast in hotel; no activities on schedule.
- 2) 1:00 PM: Depart for The Citadel (see Info Paper #1 for details)
- 3) 2:00 PM:
 - i. Tour the campus w/ Cadet guides;
 - ii. Review the Corps of Cadets parade
- 4) 5:30 PM: Return to hotel, dinner open.
- 5) 6:00 PM: Hospitality Suite opens

c. Saturday, 20 Sept:

- 1) Morning: Breakfast in hotel
- 2) 9:00 AM Association Business Meeting in Hospitality Suite
- 3) 11:00 AM Ladies Brunch/Lunch Excursion (details TBD)
- 4) 1:00 PM: Depart for Patriot’s Point (see Info Paper #2 for details)
- 5) 3:00 PM: Conduct Memorial Service & wreath-laying at the CMOH Museum
- 6) 6:00 PM: Return to hotel; dinner open
- 7) 6:30 PM: Hospitality Suite opens

d. Sunday, 21 Sept:

- 1) Morning: Breakfast in hotel; no activities on schedule
- 2) Afternoon: Open
- 3) 5:00 PM Group photos in hotel lobby
- 4) 6:00 PM Association Banquet in Hotel Banquet Facility to be followed by:
 - i. Presentation on the 2015 Reunion
 - ii. Membership vote on the 2016 Reunion location
 - iii. Association Auction

e. Monday, 22 Sept: Depart Charleston.

INFORMATION PAPER #1

SUBJECT: Agenda for The Citadel visit on Friday, 19 September

1. Location: The Citadel, Charleston, SC

Website: <http://www.citadel.edu/root/>

2. Cost: \$20 per person (includes transportation to & from the Citadel).

3. Sequence of Events for Friday, 19 September:

a. Morning: Open

- i. Reunion participants enjoy a free breakfast in the hotel.
- ii. Time to explore Charleston and the surrounding area.

b. 1:00 PM: Board buses at the Charleston Plaza (InnPlace) Hotel for the drive to The Citadel.

c. 1:30 PM: Arrive at The Citadel.

d. 1:45 PM: Meet with Citadel External Affairs office personnel.

- i. Split into 4 groups for Citadel tours.
- ii. Meet individual Cadet Tour Guides.

e. 2:00 PM: Walking tour of the Citadel campus led & narrated by Cadet guides.

f. 3:00 PM: Tours end. Groups re-assemble at the Parade Grounds

g. 3:15 PM Members move to reserved seats in front of bleachers.

h. 3:30 PM: Corps of Cadets Parade/Pass In Review.

i. 5:00 PM: Board busses for the return trip to the hotel.

j. 5:30 PM Evening activities.

- i. Dinner is open.
- ii. The Hospitality Suite opens at 6 PM.

INFORMATION PAPER #2

SUBJECT: Agenda for Patriots Point visit on Saturday, 20 September

1. Location: Patriots Point, Mt. Pleasant, SC

Website: https://www.patriotspoint.org/plan_your_visit/

2. Cost: \$57 per person includes:

- a. Motor coach transport to/from Patriots Point
- b. Admission
- c. Memorial Service & refreshments

3. Sequence of Events for Saturday, 20 September:

- a. Morning: Open. Reunion participants enjoy a free breakfast in the hotel & time to explore.
- b. 1:00 PM: Board buses at the Charleston Plaza (InnPlace) Hotel for the drive to Patriots Point
- c. 1:30 PM: Arrive at Patriots Point.
- d. 1:45 PM: Process through ticketing and move to the dock.

NOTE: Golf carts will be available for those requiring assistance.

- e. 2:00 PM: Aboard the USS Yorktown
 - i. Split into small groups to take self-guided tours throughout the ship. NOTE: A few areas require the ability to negotiate steep stairs and small passageways and may not be accessible to those with mobility limitations.
 - ii. Tour the Congressional Medal of Honor Museum
 - iii. Take in the short (20 minute) historical movie in the ship's theater.
- f. 3:00 PM: Assemble at Hangar Bay III for the Memorial Service (details below).
- g. 4:00 PM Continue with USS Yorktown tours or explore other Patriots Point opportunities:
 - i. The USS Laffey (destroyer)
 - ii. The Vietnam Naval Support Base
 - iii. The USS Clamagore (submarine)
- h. 5:30 PM: Move to buses in the parking lot.
- i. 6:00 PM: Board buses for return to the Hotel.
- j. 6:30 PM Evening activities
 - i. Dinner on your own
 - ii. Hospitality Suite opens at 7 PM.

4. Joint 11th & 547 Memorial Service.

a. To be conducted in Hangar Bay III, adjacent to the Medal of Honor Museum.

i. The area will be restricted to 11th & 547th attendees.

ii. Stage, sound system, flags and seating to be provided.

iii. Light refreshments will be available.

b. Sequence of Events:

i. The 11th Engineer Battalion Association Chaplain shall call the Memorial Service to order promptly at 3 PM.

ii. The Association Chaplains shall in turn offer blessings in memory of our fallen members, spouses and comrades-in-arms.

iii. The 11th Association President shall ask the Secretary to read the Medal of Honor citation for SFC Paul Smith and offer appropriate remarks.

iv. The President shall recognize the Smith family and call Mrs. Smith to the front to assist in laying a wreath at the entrance of the Congressional Medal of Honor Museum.

v. The President shall recognize the Guest Speaker (TBD) and invite him forward to offer his perspective and comments on the occasion.

vi. The President shall thank the Guest Speaker and offer an Association memento.

vii. The President shall introduce our soloist (TBD) and invite all present to accompany him/her in the singing of God Bless America.

viii. The Chaplains shall offer an appropriate benediction and close the Memorial Service.

ix. The President shall invite those in attendance to partake of refreshments and continue their tour of Patriots Point.

INFORMATION PAPER #3

SUBJECT: Hotel Info and 2014 Reunion Registration Procedures

1. Hotel Information:

a. **Address:** Charleston Plaza Hotel (formerly InnPlace Hotel)

4770 Goer Drive

North Charleston, SC 29406

Tele: 843-747-1900

Website: <http://www.innplacehotels.com/locations/charleston>

b. Accommodations:

- i. Rooms with two double beds or one queen bed @ \$99/night + tax = ~ \$113
- ii. All rooms include breakfast for two persons per day.

c. Hotel Amenities:

- i. Free airport and local area/outlet mall shuttle
- ii. Full service restaurant and bar and banquet facilities.
- iii. Indoor & outdoor swimming pools.
- iv. State-of-the-Art fitness center
- v. Business center with PCs and printers

2. Reunion Registration:

a. Complete the Registration Form with the names of those attending. NOTE: Please list each name the way you want it to appear on your name badge.

b. Calculate the Total Amount Due based on:

- i. The number of attendees/guests.
- ii. A \$20 registration fee for each ADULT attendee (18 or over).
- iii. The cost of each activity selected per person.

3. IMPORTANT:

a. **Submit the Registration Form and the Total Amount Due to the Association Treasurer.**

i. **Make your check payable to: 11th Engineer Battalion Association**

ii. **Mail the check AND the Registration Form to the Association Treasurer:**

JOHN BOOTH

57 HOPE ROAD

TINTON FALLS, NJ

b. Hotel Reservations:

i. **Call Lorin at the Charleston Plaza Hotel (1- 888-747-1900)**

ii. **Tell her you will attend the 11th/547th Engineer Battalion reunion.**

iii. **Provide your CC, contact information and email address.**

iv. **She will send you an email confirmation.**

NOTE: The "InnPlace Hotel" has been purchased by Marriott and is now the "Charleston Plaza Hotel". The re-branding process should be invisible to us.

11th Engineer Battalion Association Membership as of Apr 24, 2014

ACTIVE paid 2014 dues members (* paid 2015)

Allen, Joe E.
Atkins, Matthew S. *
Baswell, Carl F., COL (ret) *
Berger, Richard P. *
Boehle, Fred F.
Booth, John L., COL (ret) *
Bowler, William E (Gene),
COL (ret) *
Bradley, Edmund C.
Brady, Raymond
Brown, William D (Dave) *
Canant, Dennis C, LTC (ret)
Castle, James M. (Jim) *
Clem, Joseph D., Jr, (Joe)
Corker, Jeffery, CSM (ret) *
Davis, William R. (Bill),
CSM (ret) *
Delleo, Michael F., Jr.
Dennis, Bernard A.
Diehl, Robert A. *
DiVacky, Raymond J. *
Dodson, James R. *
Donnelly, Thomas F.
Dorton, James R., MSG (ret)*
Downs, George M.
Durkin, John A., COL (ret) *
Ellegood, Michael S.
Eubank, Rev L. Allan *
Fessender, Paul H. *
Garner, Jessie Harlan (Hank)
George, Lynn D. *
Gioiosa, Thomas E.,
LTC (ret) *
Goring, Richard H., COL (ret)
Graves, Donald E.
Grimaldi, Gennaro J. Sr. *
Hagedorn, Zach Jr.,
COL (ret)
Hamilton, Barry, K., CSM
(ret) *
Harper, Ronald A. *
Harrison, William Jr.
Heiney, Harry A. (Dutch), *
Hill, Malcolm L.
Horne, Garth M. *
Hubbell, John D.
Keech, Ronald E.
Kreikemeier, Donald D.
Lantz, Fr Rev Gary L.
Lillibridge, John
Loftis, Phillip G, COL (ret)
Lunsford, Jessie *
Marks, Hyman
Marques, Edward D (Windy)
McGee, Thomas J.
McNichols, Thomas R.
Mogren, Eric T. *
Mouzakes, Howard M.

Mowery, Jim Z. *
Owen, Paul E., COL *
Papapietro, Joe G., COL (ret)*
Patton, Martin F.
Perry, John G.
Ploof, Robert J.
Ray, Lynn
Reeves, Ernest J.
Rock, James G. COL (ret)
Rosario, Erick R *
Schumacher, Thomas J.
Scott, Charles, L (Chuck)
Seidler, Albert H. *
Seymour, Ernest S. *
Smoker, Ronald R. *
Soehlke, Richard G. (Dick)
Struble, Roy *
Swanson, Eugene *
Sweet, Roger P.
Thomas, Gary
Tolley, James S.
Trainor, John
Trexler, Thomas D.
Trott, Phillip W. *
Vinczi, Bela L.
Walker, Fred W. *
Way, Walter *
Wyatt, James D. *

HONORARY MEMBERS

Boelsche, Charlotte
(wife of NJ Fred)
Smith, Bridget
(wife of MOH awardee
SFC Paul Ray Smith)

Members who have passed in final review

Bass, Noah W.
Boerger, Phillip T. (Pete),
BG (ret) -25 Mar 2014
Borman, John - 2013
Botelho, Benjamin - 2013
Boyce, Billy D.
Enzinger, Paul – 10 Jan 2014
Greenberg, Ira – 2012
James, Earl F. – 10 Mar 2012
Lemire, Omar R – 22 Aug
2009
Mahoney, James L
McTaggart, Richard –
2012/13
Meredith, Russell – 17 Aug
2013
Meyer, Robert J. – 5 Jan
2014
Nichols, Christian J.
Osborn, Gilbert C.

Raymer, Dareth A – 15 Apr
2012
VanOrt, William H. – May
2011

MEMBERS Missing and NOT Current (** paid 2013)

Alexander, Charles J.
Alston, J Paul
Bankowski, Leo
Beck, Jesse R.
Bell, Jimmy W.
Binetti, Micael R.
Borman, John
Breed, Edwin R (Ed) **
Cheatham, John
Coulter, Robert E. CSM (ret)
Ealey, Sam O., Sr
Fahey, Kenneth
Fiala, Charles J. Sr.,
MG (ret) **
Fischl, Richard G. (Doc) DDS
Foley, Gerald K.
Gagne, John M.
Gallagher, Patrick J. **
Gardner, Roger R.
Gray, John R. (Jack) **
Herkert, August J. (Gus) **
Hermanson, Merrill R.
Hixson, Arnold G.
Hussin, Chris, LTC **
Joyce, Michael, N.
King, Billy J. **
Latham, John
Layde, William A.
Loose, F. James (Jim) **
Lundquist, Lawrence R.
McOscar, John J. **
Nichols, Bobby R.
Porcelli, Louis L.
Purdin, Terry L.
Rains, Brian
Robishaw, Paul A.
Shellenbarger, Robert T. **
Smith, Thomas P.
Speakman, Francis
Sperry, Rev Loy G.
Still, Quenten G.
Sulik, John A.
Teague, Noel O. **
Tippett, Robert H.
Trevino, Mike **
Vetter, Leo
Walker, Stuart M. Jr. **
Weeks, Robert E. (Bob) **
Welch, Deane E.
Whitley, Allan H.

INFORMATION PAPER #4

SUBJECT: 11TH Brigade Engineer Battalion (BEB)

1. With the cessation of hostilities in Iraq and pending withdrawal from Afghanistan the Army has begun the process of “downsizing”. The conversion from wartime to a peacetime force will result in an approximate 14% reduction in active duty end-strength or a draw-down of ~80,000 soldiers from 570,000 to 490,000.
2. As part of the downsizing the number of Brigade Combat Teams (BCTs) will be reduced from 45 to 32 and reorganized to reflect the new BCT 2020 design. This new structure reorganizes the Army's infantry and armor brigades by adding a third maneuver battalion and additional engineer and artillery capabilities. Stryker brigades, which currently have three maneuver battalions, but no brigade special troops battalion, will now get a Brigade Engineer Battalion (BEB).
3. Operations in Iraq and Afghanistan revealed significant gaps in the Engineer capabilities in the modular BCTs. The most significant gap was in the area of mission command. Senior Army leaders also recognized that the modular BCT lacked the required horizontal, gap crossing, breaching and route clearance capabilities. Responding to these concerns, the Maneuver Support Center of Excellence (CoE), in collaboration with Maneuver CoE, designed a BCT Engineer Battalion (BEB) concept to replace the current brigade special troops battalion within the Armored and Infantry BCTs. It also formed an Engineer battalion in the Stryker BCTs.
4. The re-organized BEB provides BCTs with critically needed Engineer, Military Intelligence, Signal and CBRN capabilities enabling it to conduct decisive action with their organic assets. The BEB will consist of two engineer companies to address mission command, bridging, breaching, route clearance and horizontal capability gaps. The BEB will also provide administrative and sustainment support for the following units:
 - A Military Intelligence company
 - A Signal company and
 - A Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) platoon.
5. While the BEB does provide some growth to the Engineer Regiment and an increase in command opportunities, this is a side effect and was not part of the rationale. The BEB was created in order to alleviate clearly identified gaps and shortfalls in the Engineer capability and capacity inside the BCT.
6. As many as 26,600 soldiers from across the force will move or reorganize to form these new engineer battalions in each of the Army's Brigade Combat Teams (BCTs). To form the BEBs, the Army will need about 21,000 soldiers and equipment from the Brigade Special Troops Battalion in each of the 45 BCTs as well as about 5,600 personnel authorizations from the echelon-above-brigade engineer force structure. The BEBs will range in size from 417 to 460 soldiers, depending on the type of BCT it belongs to.
7. In the first quarter of FY2014, the Army activated five BEBs and is aggressively executing a plan to establish a total of 32 BEBs in the Active Component by the end of FY2015 and 28

BEBs in the Army National Guard by the end of FY2018. By the completion of BCT Reorganization at the end FY2018, the Army Engineer total force will be postured with 26 percent in the Active Component and 74 percent in the Reserve Component. At echelons above brigade, the Army Engineer Regiment will be postured with 15 percent in the Active Component and 85 percent in the Reserve Component.

8. The following BEBs have already been activated:

ABCTs

3rd BEB (3/1 CD) BEB at Ft Hood
91st BEB (1/1 CD) at Fort Hood
588th BEB (3/4 ID) at Ft Carson

IBCTs

21st BEB (3/101 ID) at Ft Campbell
326th BEB (1/10 ID) at Ft Campbell

IBCTs (Airborne)

37th BEB (2/82 ID) at Ft Bragg

SBCTs

16th BEB (1/1 AD) at Ft Bliss
299th BEB (1/4 ID) at Ft Carson

9. **The 11th Engineer Battalion** will deactivate on 15 Sep 2015 and reactivate on 16 Sep 2015.

- a. It will be re-designated the 11th Brigade Engineer Battalion (BEB), 3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team (IBCT), 3rd Infantry Division (3ID). Note: The 3/3 BCT, currently an Armored BCT, will be converting to an Infantry BCT.
- b. The 11th has already received deactivation orders for its subordinate units and this process is underway:
 - i. The 362nd MRBC, 52nd Survey and Design Detachment, and 153rd Concrete Detachment will deactivate on 15 SEP 14.
 - ii. The 60th (Vertical) Engineer Company and 63rd (Horizontal) Engineer Company are scheduled to deactivate on 15 Sep 15.

“An email letter from a former A Company Commander to John Booth”

Dear John,

It was a nice surprise to learn that you graduated from ISB. Three of our children did also. Below is a brief statement on how we got here:

In June, 1951, after graduating from Texas A & M in Geological Engineering, I took a commission in the regular Army and was sent to Korea in March 1952. I became CO of A Co, 11th Engrs (Combat) in Sept. 1952. I extended my stay in Korea for a month in order to make Capt. and left 8 days after the cease fire. My next assignment was with the Corps of Engineers New Orleans Office with river and harbor construction for a year. About 6 months into that tour I was in my apt. on Tulane Ave. just down from the Corps Office when I heard a strong voice, "You are going to be a Missionary." How does one know if it is the voice of God? I just knew! I wanted to live a Christian life, but had never considered being a minister even less being a missionary. I had been debating whether to stay in the Army or go into the oil business, so I immediately bargained, "All right, I'll be a missionary, but let me make a million in the oil business first. I can do a lot more good rich than I can poor."

I did not hear any more voices, but I thought we had an agreement. I resigned and went to work for what is now Chevron Oil in Dallas TX and later in Iraan, TX. I did not make my million, but I was trying when I read the verse in the bible, "Seek first the Kingdom and his righteousness and all these things will be added unto you." (Matt 6:33). I closed the bible quick, but now the "Word" was not just in the book but in my heart. It kept burning until it drove me out of the oil field to study for the mission field in the seminary at TCU, Ft. Worth, TX.

I had been love struck by Joan Hovis from the first time she walked into A Co. in March 1953 to sing for us as part of a USO show touring Korea. Now 5 years later Joan came to Ft. Worth from Broadway to sing the lead role in the musical "Oklahoma." She had just received an award as one of "The Ten Most Promising Personalities on Broadway " in 1959. We were married nine months later, finished seminary in 1961 and have served in Thailand these past 53 years. I enjoyed my service in the army, but the day I enrolled in seminary was the day I felt, "This is why I was born." We are grateful for every day here, When we were to retire from the mission board in 1964, we felt, "God has called us here and has not called us back.

Blessings,

Allan and Joan Eubank (Picture attached below)

If any of you 11th people come to Thailand call us at 66-53-869-507



Allen and Joan Eubank



Greetings Fellow Jungle Cats!



As you know one of the stated goals of The 11th Engineer Battalion Association is to maintain the history of the Battalion. One way to do that is to assemble the histories of its' members. Within our ranks we currently have members who served during WWII all the way forward to currently serving soldiers. These men and women have a tremendous amount of historical vignettes to be shared and that is what we want to do.

Our goal now is to capture your experiences from when you served in the 11th, compile them to share with all of the members. As the histories are compiled we will display them at all future reunions and events for you to see. This is your opportunity to place your thoughts down for all to see. Ultimately, we plan to share a copy of this history with the Engineer Museum at Fort Leonard Wood for all engineers to read.

Here is your chance to include your thoughts and memories in our 11th history. So please join us as we begin compiling your entries. Attached is a series of questions that will serve as the base template for your input. Please answer the questions that are applicable to your time as a Jungle Cat and feel free to include other thoughts that you feel will be appropriate for inclusion. Attach a photo or photos of your time "back in the day" to be included. Please forward your input to our historian via email at marlrickg@gmail.com.

Thanks again and we look forward to including you input.
Essayons!

Bill Davis
President

Rick Goring
Historian



11th Engineer Battalion Association Member Bio



Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Last Rank: _____

MOS: _____

Status: Active _____, Retired _____, Service Completed _____

Awards and Decorations: _____

Number of Assignments with the 11TH EN BN: _____

11th Assignments: Please include dates, location, rank, unit and position, awards:

Please describe why you entered the Army

List the dates and location of your military schooling

Briefly describe your Army assignments

Describe significant operations while in the 11th

What were your best duties while in the 11th?

What was your least favorite duty while in the 11th?

What were your "extra duties"?

How did you spend your "off duty" time?

Describe an Officer and /or an NCO who influenced you while in the 11th

What is your favorite humorous experience in the 11th?

Was there a significant event that changed your life while in the 11th?

How did you feel when leaving the 11th?

What were your follow on assignments?

What is/was your civilian career after leaving the Army?

Please include answers to the following questions if you served overseas or had your dependents with while in the 11th.

Did you participate in R&R activities?

Did you have dependents with you? Explain the housing they lived in

Describe the civilian places you visited , foods and entertainment you enjoyed

Please feel free to attach additional pages if needed to provide your information.

Thank you

Remember your answers will be on display for other Jungle Cats and Spouses to view

Your submission of answers grants your permission for them to be included in the in our Members Bio's book and for public display.