

The 11th Engineer Battalion Association



PANTHER PRESS



June 2026



From the President:

Greetings to all! Our 2026 Reunion is nigh, and I implore everyone to reserve their room and register for all events IMMEDIATELY IF NOT SOONER!

One of the special aspects of this year's get-together is that it coincides with our nation's 250th birthday, as measured from the publication on July 4th, 1776, of the Declaration of Independence. Note that the Declaration came 13 months AFTER the establishment of the Continental Army (14 Jun 1775). No Army, no country! Of a total population of 2.5 million, an estimated 40% of free white men of military age served at some point in the Continental Army (3% at any given moment). Of roughly 0.45 million enslaved and 0.05 million free Blacks in the Colonies, an estimated 5000 (around 04% of fighting-age men) served in the Continental Army. An estimated 20,000 (around 16% of fighting-age men).

The Declaration of Independence was published during Washington's defense of New York, partly in response to his desperate pleas to provide the soldiers with a cause worth fighting for, boldly stated in its first paragraph: independence! Its second paragraph encapsulates the philosophy on which the Constitution will be based: that all men are endowed by their Creator with the inalienable right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. The middle portion details the governmental abuses the Constitution will be designed to curtail.

Five more years of war would ensue before the Continental Congress could produce the Articles of Confederation (01 Mar 1781), which were in force when the Treaty of Paris effectuated the independence of the United States on 30 Nov 1782. Dissatisfaction with the Articles led to the establishment in 1787 of a Constitutional Convention which produced our basic Constitution on 04 Mar 1789. When Benjamin Franklin was asked

what form of government the Convention had produced, he is said to have replied, "A republic...if you can keep it!"

The ability of the citizens to keep the republic was viewed with skepticism by some founders. John Adams, in a letter to the Massachusetts Militia, opined that our Constitution was meant only for a moral and religious people, and was wholly inadequate for any other. The Virginia Declaration of Rights invokes "a firm adherence to justice, moderation, temperance, frugality, and virtue..." George Washington in his first inaugural address asserted "an indissoluble union between virtue and happiness." One wonders what the founders would think of our current situation. The three longest-lasting republics in years were Venice, 1100; Iceland, 930 and counting; Rome, 482; and the U. S., 239 and counting (the Declaration preceded the Constitution by 11 years).

The United States has changed mightily in the past two-and-a-half centuries. After the Declaration, it came together under the Articles of Confederation, then produced the amendable Constitution which established our form of government that still exists today. Soon after (1791) came the first ten amendments, known collectively as the Bill of Rights. There are now 27 amendments. Subsequent accomplishments include the abolition slavery (Amendment XIII, 1865), the total enfranchisement of formerly enslaved men (Amendment XIV, 1868), women (1920), and indigenous people (Indian Citizenship Act, 1924). In short, rights of citizenship initially granted only to white men were eventually extended to all.

The United States military has played an important role in our rise. Although many of the Founders were opposed to maintaining a standing army, and we like to think of ourselves as peaceful, our country was born of war and has experienced much armed conflict. In addition to the nearly continuous low-level warfare with the aboriginal tribes in the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries, the U. S. participated in...

(1801-1805) First Barbary War (Navy & Marines "to the shores of Tripoli)

(1812-1815) War of 1812 (Washington burned, Battle of New Orleans)

(1815). Second Barbary War (Stephen Decatur).

(1836). Texas Revolution (Alamo, San Jacinto). Future U. S.

(1846-1848) Mexican War

(1861-1865) Civil War

(1898) Spanish-American War

(1917-1918) WWI

(1941-1945) WWII

(1950-1953) Korean Conflict

(1964-1973) Vietnam Conflict

(1991) Persian Gulf War (Desert Shield & Desert Storm

(1998-1999) Kosovo War
(2001-2021) Operation Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan)
(2003-2011) Iraq War and occupation
(2014-2021) Operation Inherent Resolve (Iraq/Syria)
(2026) Iran Conflict.

That comes to 83 of the past 250 years (a third of our existence) at war, and there are probably more. That is a lot of fighting, virtually all of which required Engineer support.

Since we are celebrating an anniversary which is a multiple of 50, I thought it would be interesting to see what significant things happened in years ending in 26 or 76. Here is what I found.

1526: San Miguel de Guadalupe, first European settlement on future U. S. territory, was founded somewhere along what is today the Georgia or South Carolina coast.

1576: Nothing!

1626: Manhattan purchased from aboriginal tribe for goods valued at \$24 by Dutch West India Co.'s Peter Minuit. It became New Amsterdam, then New York.

1676: Nathaniel Bacon led planters in a revolt against British Governor Sir William Berkeley and burned Jamestown.

1726: The Great Awakening (religious revival) begins.

1776: The Declaration of Independence.

1826: Thomas Jefferson and John Adams both die on the 4th of July.

1876: Custer's last stand at the Little Bighorn on 25 Jun.

1926: Army Air Corps established on 02 Jul.

1976: Bicentennial, outbreak of Legionnaires' disease, and the end of my tour in the 902nd Engineer Co., FB (attached to 11th Engr. Bn.).

2026: Iran conflict (Midnight Hammer, Urgent Fury) and 11th/547th Reunion in Jacksonville!

I hope you found the foregoing interesting and hope to see you all in Jacksonville in September.

Essayons! Norm Fagge, faggenorman@comcast.net

From the 1st Vice President:

Hello, once again, as we are now very near the upcoming planned reunion for September 17-21, 2026, in sunny Jacksonville, Florida.

By now, all members should have received, by email, the reunion registration forms. In part these are necessary for anyone wanting to enjoy the bus tour of Jacksonville and to

the Mayport Naval Base (home of the Navy's 4th Fleet). Your registration for this tour must be received before 15 August. A blank registration form is included in this newsletter.

Currently there are more than 30 members and guests attending. It would be a pleasure to have a lot more, so do not delay to sign-up and join us. I hope to see everyone there in Jacksonville, Florida.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions or suggestions.
Essayons, Jeff Corker. 256-776-0877. Corker94CSM@gmail.com

From the 2nd Vice President:

I am hoping that this newsletter finds you and your family doing well. After the long winter months, I thought the summer would be a big relief for a change. My wife and I are spending some time at our camp which is in upstate New York on lake Ontario, which is about 23 mile from Canada as the crow flies. I guess I am wrong about the weather. Some days it is 90 and some days it drops to 60 and so far, every weekend we get rain. I know that a lot of you are also getting a lot worse as far as the weather goes.

Now I want to get to the point. If you have looked at our Facebook site (11th Engineers Bn Association) and joined it, I would personally like to invite you to join us in Jacksonville, Florida, this September. Look at it this way, you have nothing to lose.

We would also like to hear about your time with the 11th Engineer Battalion. We are trying to keep some history alive.

So, take some vacation time and make your reservations and I promise you won't be disappointed.

Any question you can reach me at: sesweet71147@yahoo.com or 315-404-3772.

Roger Sweet, 2nd VP

From the Treasurer:

The Association funds in our accounts as of 26 June 2026 is \$26,096.66, Of that, we have collected \$7,965.00 for the reunion and we have paid \$900.00 in reunion expenses.

Our major expenses for this year will be the 2026 reunion, the 11th Engineer Battalion support, and the newsletter.

Reminder, we still have 11th Engr Bn Association Tee Shirts available for sale to our members. Contact Jeff Corker or me if you are interested in purchasing one or more.

Order Form is attached to the newsletter.

As of today, we have ONLY 41 Association members paid for 2026, that is less than the 46 paid members last year. If your name is on the AWOL list, please renew your membership. If you know someone on the AWOL list, please contact them and encourage them to pay their dues. Consider paying for more than one year to save on the cost of a check, and postage by both you and the Treasurer who must mail out your membership card.

Thank you all for your support of the 11th Engineer Battalion Association.
We are looking forward to seeing everyone in Jacksonville for the 2026 reunion.

ESSAYONS! John L Booth, 319 Victory Gallop Court, Havre de Grace, Maryland
21078 908-309-5586 (leave message, the cell will not ring if you are not on my contact
list) BoothJL@aol.com

From the Secretary:

This position is vacant. We are looking for a volunteer.

From the Multi-Media Master:

We have 286 members in the 11th EBA Facebook site. Only a few have become members in our Association. A few tried to use the site as a forum for their agenda of commodity sales. Several enjoy seeing what we post on the site. Important items are in the "Files" such as the information packet for our 2026 Annual Reunion to be held in Jacksonville, Florida, during 17-20 September 2026.

I'm on the lookout for 11th Engineer (related) photos that anyone took while serving with our Battalion. Perhaps a copy of a letter of appreciation you received from the Commander. Or an article from the 11th newsletter that describes a project you completed. Other appropriate items would include a retirement checklist, or instructions for your family to follow should you unexpectedly pass away.

Member Bob Diehl is updating our 11th Engr Bn Association website. Look for his instructions on 'logging-in'. Bob is our liaison with the 11th Engineer Battalion, having visited them at Camp Humphrey, Korea.

Please share your contributions with me at;

Bill Davis wrd1945@gmail.com 142 E Colusa St, Orland, CA 95963 (530) 320-6907

From the 11th Engineer Battalion Liaison:

Our world traveler, Bob Diehl, is galivanting around the world again, so, as the Panther Press editor, I'll submit an article for him.

You may remember, back in 2017, a contingent of three 11th Engineer Battalion Association members, and one wife, attended a dedication of a memorial that the 11th Engineer Battalion Association funded and the French people of Gouzeaucourt constructed. The 11th Engineer Battalion was the First to Fight in WWI and the township of Gouzeaucourt has not forgotten. Bob paid a recent visit to the site, during his world travels, and below is a photo of the present condition.

Bob also reports he has secured a speaker for our reunion banquet. The speaker will be the current or recent stateside battalion commander or CSM. All have stated one will attend.



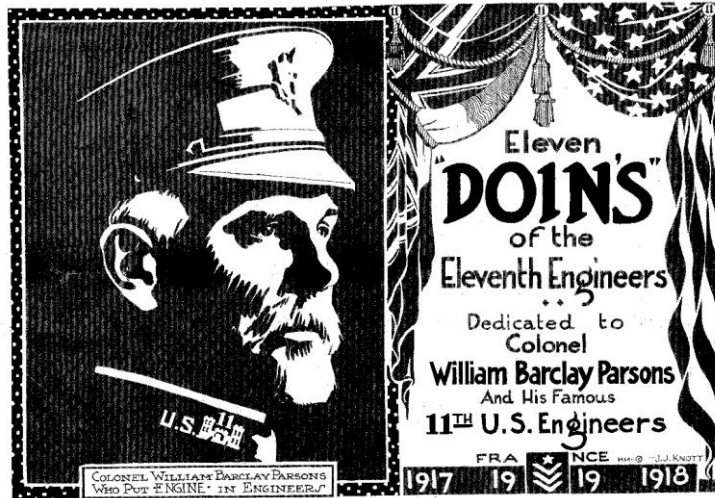
Bob Diehl nobigdiehl@yahoo.com

From the Historian:

My newsletter input is a very unique find that I came across some months ago. It's an original (in excellent condition) so I was able to get some very clear scans. The document was professionally printed in a 6.5" x 9" booklet format, which I have duplicated in full (see attached). Here's a shot of the cover with this inscription on the inside:

"Chronicle of The Eleventh Engineers, in which is Set Forth Their Great Valor"

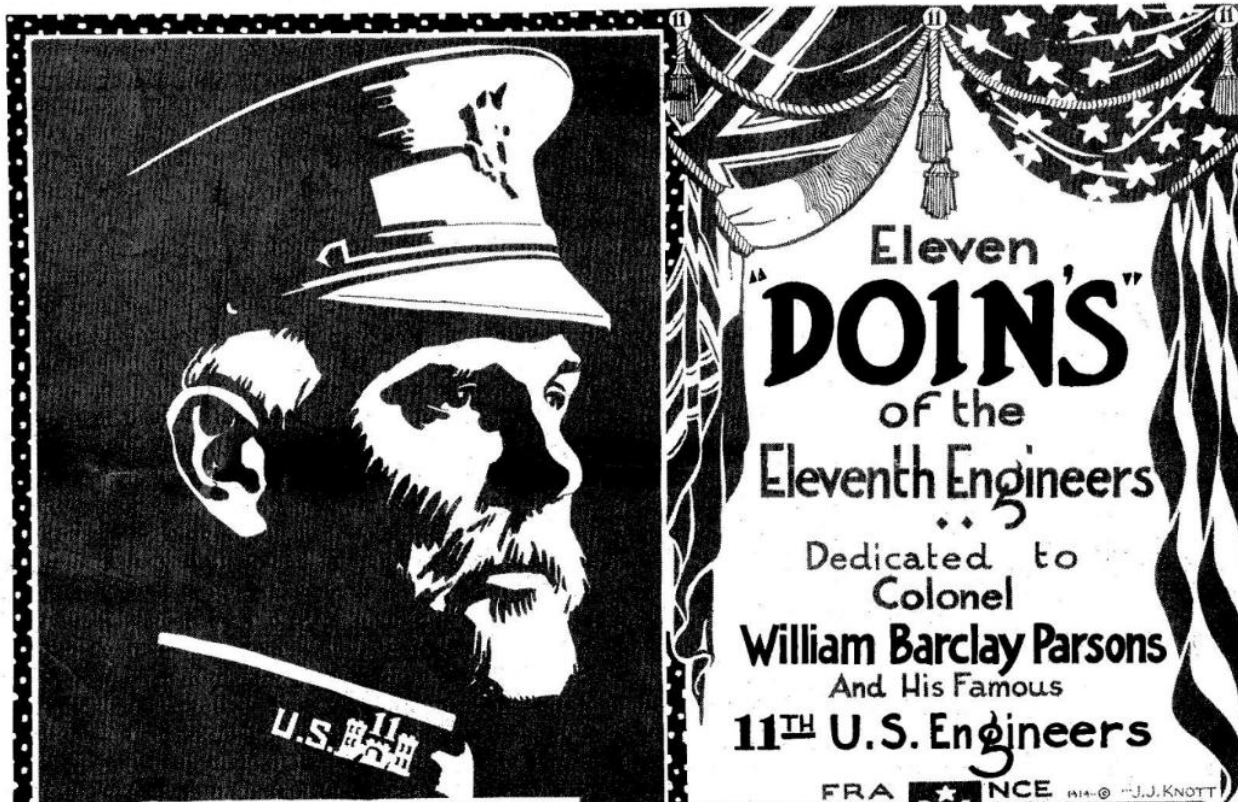
The intro dedicates the work to "Colonel William Barclay Parsons and his famous 11th U.S. Engineers". It recounts the achievements & contributions of the Eleventh Engineers during World War I, highlighting their bravery, engineering feats, and impact on the war effort.



The booklet consists of 15 pages total with 12 in 'cartoon' format drawn by J.J. Knott. Each is titled as follows often with whimsical comments and observations:

- A RIFLE MAY MAKE A SOLDIER, BUT IT TAKES A SHOVEL TO MAKE AN ENGINEER
- UNCLE SAM SAID "SLIDE OVER TO FRANCE QUICK"... AND THE 11TH DID
- IF YOU WANT A JOB DONE RIGHT—GET THE ELEVENTH & THEY WOULD
- "COME SEVEN OR ELEVEN" and THE ELEVENTH DID!!
- A CAT CAN WATCH A KING! BUT IT TOOK THE 11TH TO MAKE HIM NOTICE
- "HELL! HELL! THE ELEVENTH ARE ALL HERE!!!
- "THE RHINE OR BUST" – WELL, WE DIDN'T BUST!!
- WHAT DID SHERMAN SAY? – THE 11TH KNOWS!!!
- THERE ARE BRIGHT SIDES, EVEN IN ENGINEERING, THE PICKS & SHOVELS ARE NEVER DULL
- FRANCE IS ALL RIGHT, IN IT'S WAY – BUT ME FOR THE GOOD OLD USA!
- IT'S NOT WHAT IS ON THE TABLE THAT COUNTS -- IT'S WHAT'S IN THE HEARTS OF THE 11TH's HOSTS
- FINIS! FINIS!

NOTE: I will have the original with me in Jacksonville, hope to see you there. Joe & Richel



Chronicle of The Eleventh Engineers, in Which is Set Forth Their Great Valor

Written by ELIZABETH SEARS



AND it came to pass that on the fourth month—or thereabout—of the year 1917, a Mighty Engineer, surnamed McKinstry, chief over many, made known his purpose to set forth at the head of his men to administer punishment to a Village Cut-up, known as bill-the-kaiser, a germ that made war upon women and children. "Be it known," cried the Mighty Engineer, "that there is a call for brave men and true. Give me my Pick of men and I'll guarantee to Shovel this bill-the-kaiser guy off the face of the earth."

And to this the Chief of Warriors, surnamed Baker, added commendation.

"Gather ye together men of brawn and brains," quoth he, "and we will furnish forth the wherewithal to transport thine army into the land of the fray."

And it came to pass that from many tribes there came forth warriors, who assayed 100 percent and who gathered together and rushed the gates to the tribunal of McKinstry the Mighty.

And McKinstry spake unto them and said:

"One at a time—there's no rush. Line forms on the right and don't kid the medical officer. To France in sixty days—more or less."

And it came to pass that on a sunny day which fell on July, being the seventh month and the fourteenth day thereof, a proud ship surnamed The Carpathian, nosed down the bay enroute to settle the hash of said bill-the-kaiser. And the men thereon cheered mightily.

"Send swift couriers and heralds to announce us," they cried with one voice. "For the Eleventh Engineers being

Copyright, 1919, Joseph J. Knott.

now on the way. The Hun had as much chance as a stray cat at a Madison Square Garden dog fight."

So they progressed on their way, being always the first to the mess call as they were first to the call of their country and it came to pass that George, king of a nation, viewed them with favor and said to his warriors;

"They look like good stuff to me—shove 'em right along and sew up the Heinies."

It was first given to them to wage war upon the mud of France and thus to improve their fighting qualities. Also, such was their wisdom that they were chosen to build huge ice plants and to astonish all who came in contact with them for their discipline and their exceeding ability. And they dug trenches and built roads and laid track until the warriors surnamed The Tommies, leaned them each upon their rifles and spake in surprise, saying;

"Who are these who have come among us? Is this a war or is it a football game, that these sturdy strangers, unused to the rigors of this land, wear such shining faces and bathe so constantly and bore through the ground like steam shovels?"

And the Eleventh Engineers replied and said;

"Keep your eye on us, buddies, for we are surnamed the R. R. or Ready Rippers and are willing to meet all comers."

Thus the rumor of their wisdom went through the country and reached the ears of the Big Boss, surnamed General John Pershing, who uttered mandates for the warriors of their nation. And Field Marshall Haig lifted up his voice and said;

"Some guys—these be they who got my troops to the front faster than was ever known before. Verily, therefore, I do hereby cite them for bravery and persistence and general cussedness."

And the Big Boss replied and said;

"It is not proper that they be confined to the task of railroad work, since they be such marvels. I therefore decree that the Famous Fighting Engineers, handy equally with pick, shovel, musket and crap bones, be designated as U. S., meaning that they are capable of tackling any problem on the face of the earth and doing it well. Selah."

Which was done as he ordered. And the meaning of The Eleventh Engineers in ancient Chaldean is "They Who Never Back Down."

And the Engineers dwelt with the Tommies and taught them strange and divers new tricks in poker and methods of rendering a British ration good to eat. And they roused within the breasts of the enemy a mighty fear so that scouts were sent forth from the tents of the Hun to capture an Engineer and return with him that they might question him, which they did. And a fat lot of good it did them.

Thus it came to pass that the first and last prisoner of war was taken from the Eleventh, for upon the last day an engineer, detailed to act as field agent for a herald called Stars and Stripes was peacefully peddling his papers on the road between Sedan and Stenay and was run in by a Hun.

But the Chief of that camp spoke in anger, and said;

"What'n'ell you mean by bringing in this Engineer, you square head? He is of them that wrought much havoc among us because they observe not the union hours of fighting. Beat it."

So great was the fame of this regiment and so many their citations for bravery and valor that bill-the-kaiser sent word unto the rulers and lifted up his voice and wept; saying,

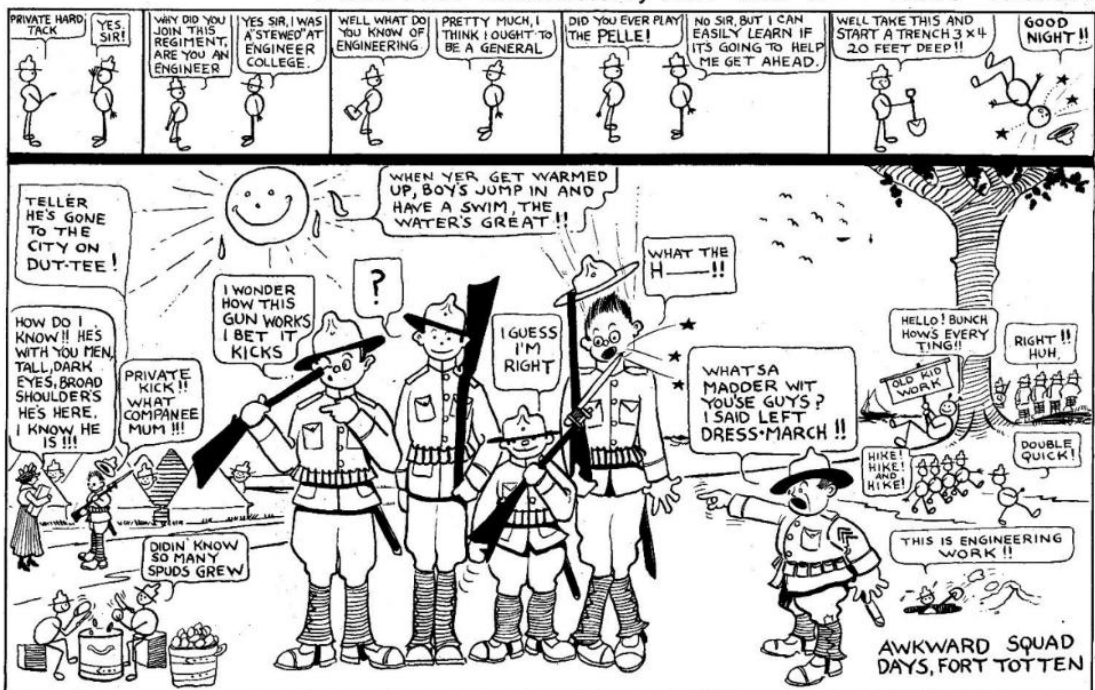
"You win. What chance have we against these men who kill as many with pick and shovel as we with machine guns. Verily if ye but call off these men, ye can name thine own terms for peace."

And on the Eleventh day of the Eleventh month, at the Eleventh hour, in recognition of the valor and wonderful deeds of the Eleventh Regiment, the war was called off and turned over to the referees for decision.

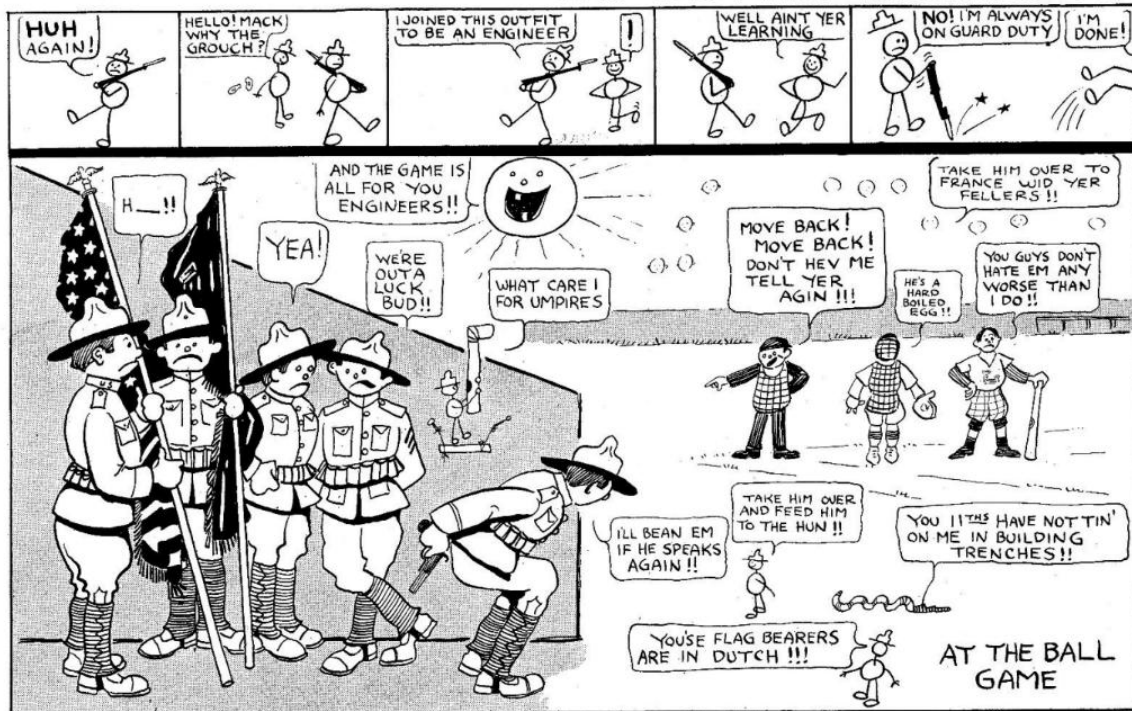
And it came to pass that on the Eleventh day of the fourth month of the second year of their pilgrimage to rub the proud nose of bill-the-kaiser into the mud of France, that the Fighting Engineers returned to the glad acclaim of their loved ones and the proud plaudits of their native land.

Thus ended this First Chronicle of the Eleventh Engineers.

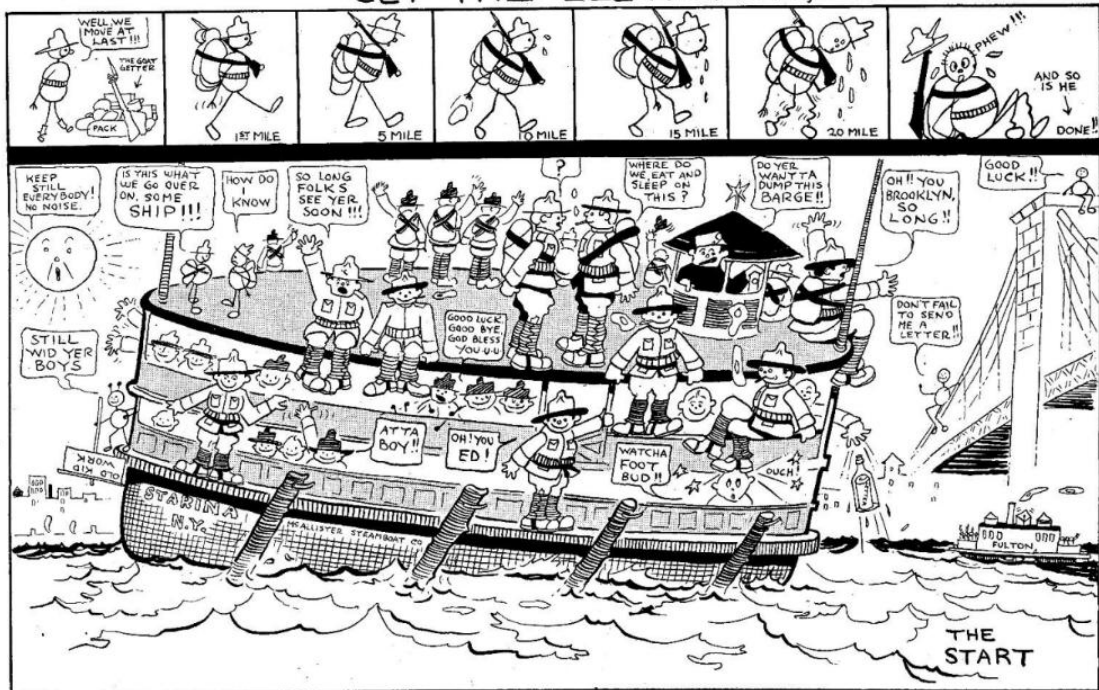
A RIFLE MAY MAKE A SOLDIER, BUT IT TAKES A SHOVEL TO MAKE AN ENGINEER, ASK THE 11THS THEY KNOW!



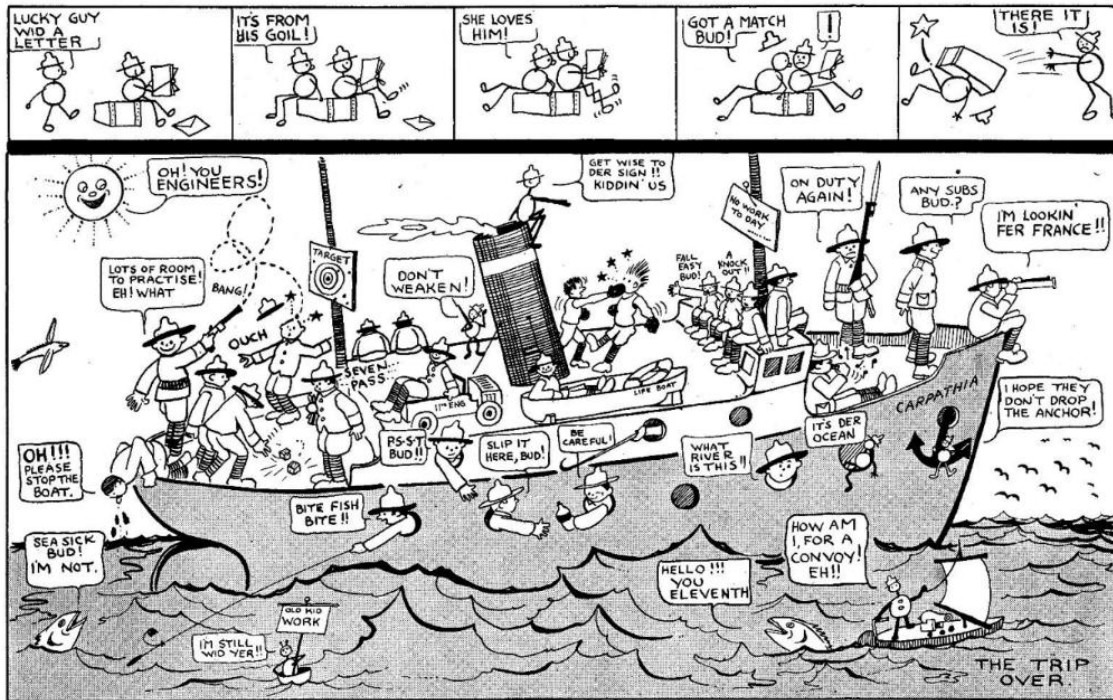
UNCLE SAM SAID "SLIDE OVER TO FRANCE QUICK"
AND THE FIRST RESERVES DID!



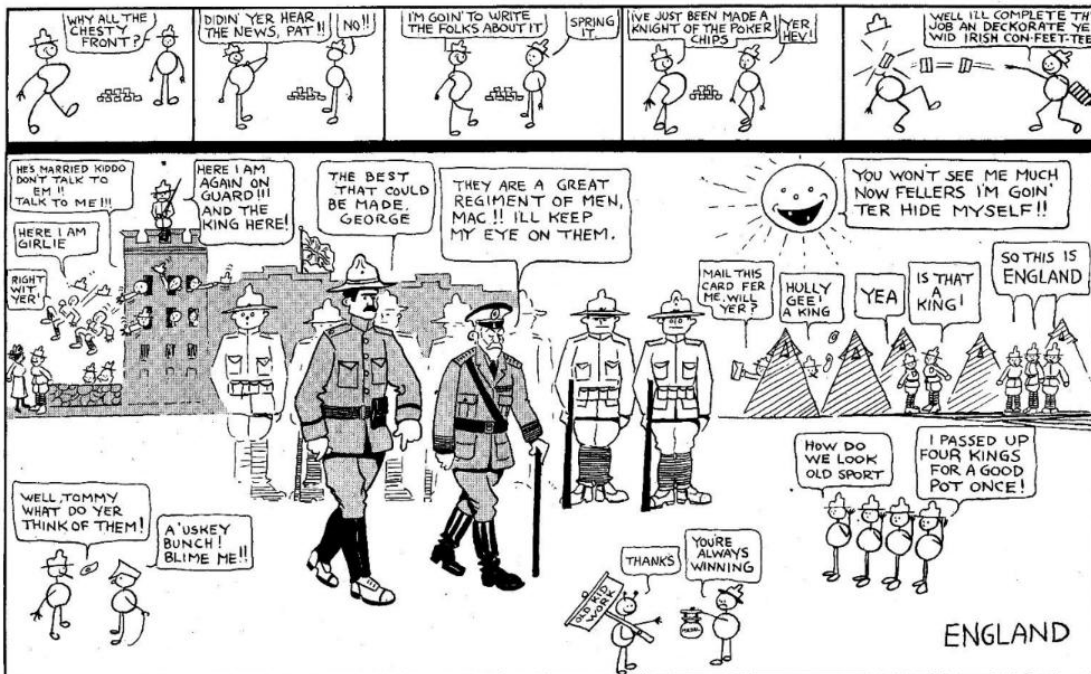
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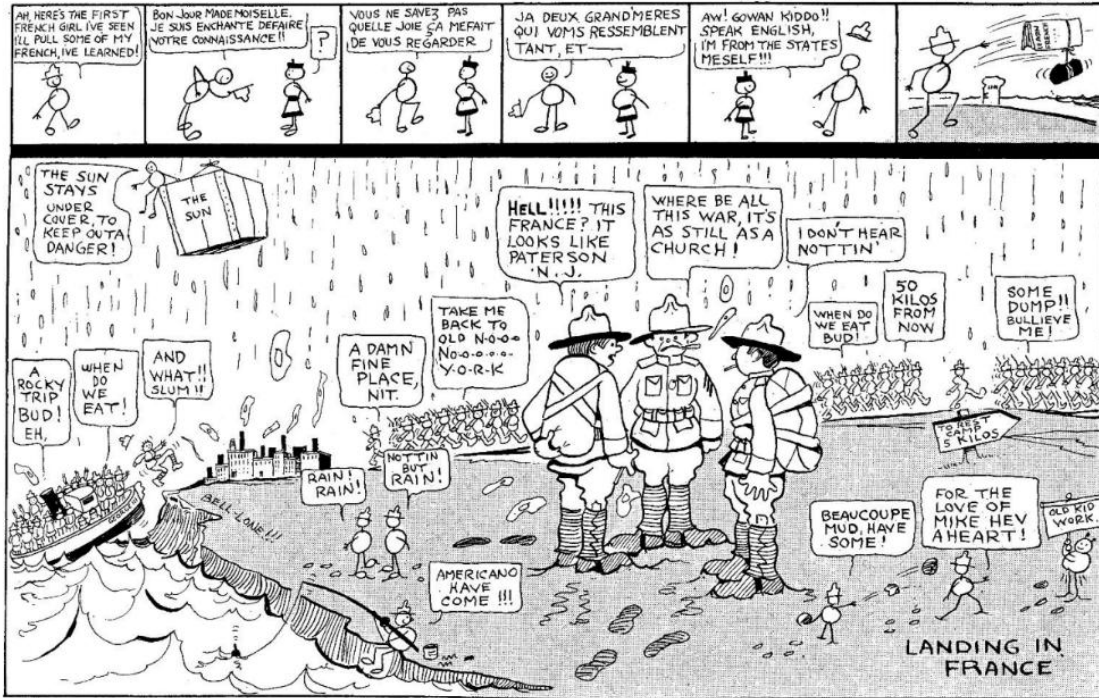
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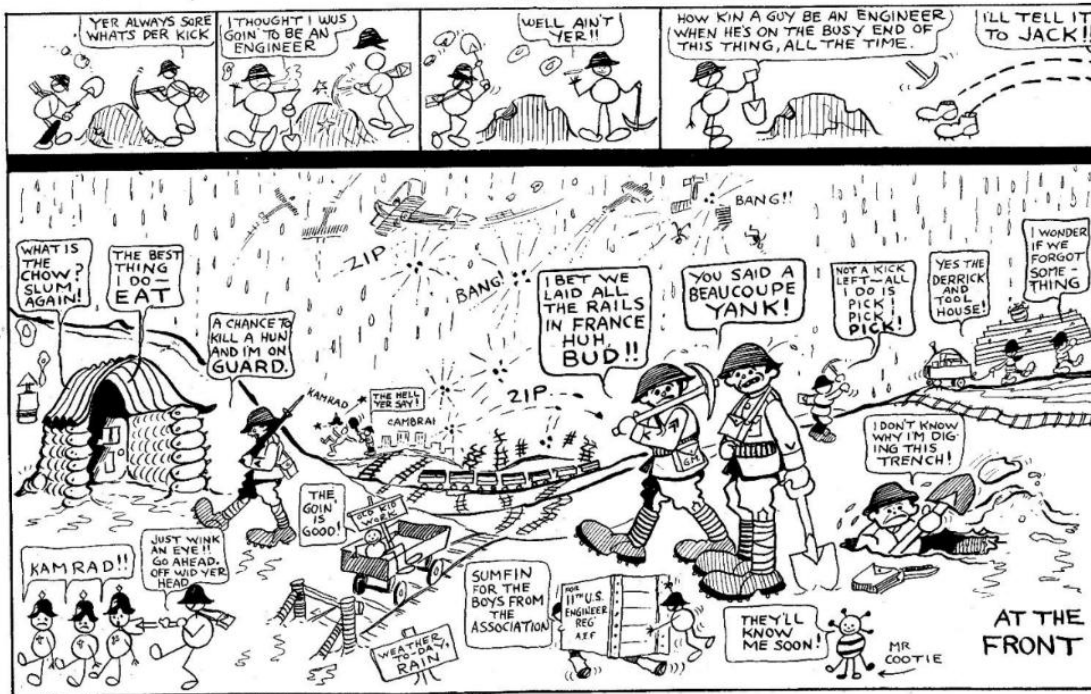
A CAT CAN WATCH A KING! BUT IT TOOK THE 11^{THS} TO MAKE HIM SIT UP, AND TAKE NOTICE !!!



"HELL! HELL! THE 11THS ARE ALL HERE !!! (KAISERS VERSION)

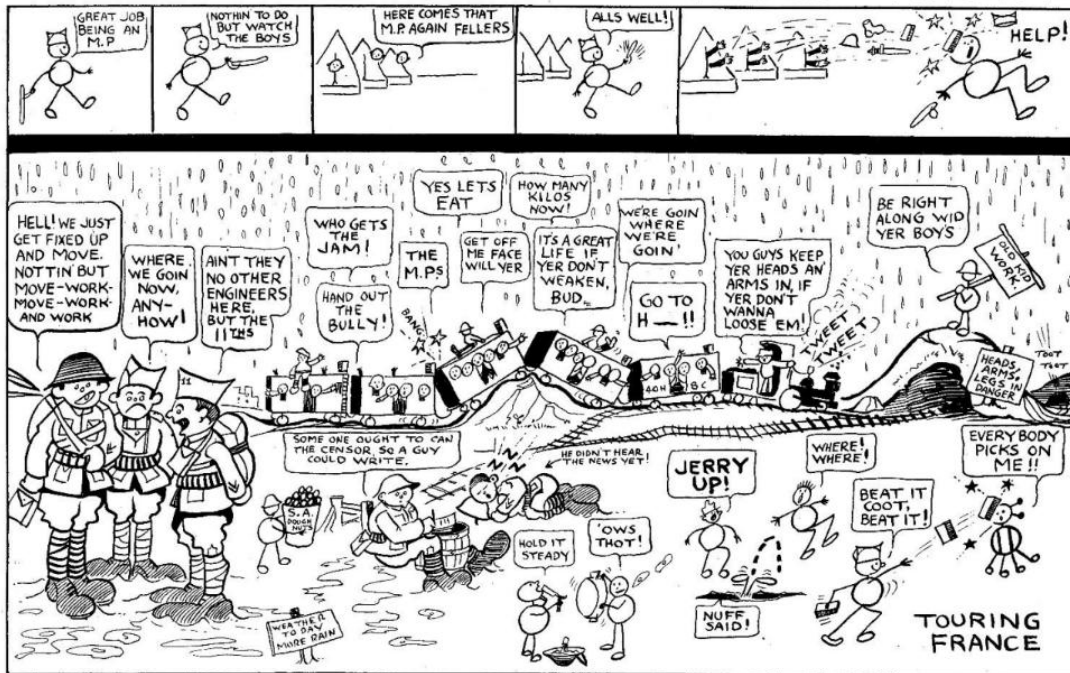


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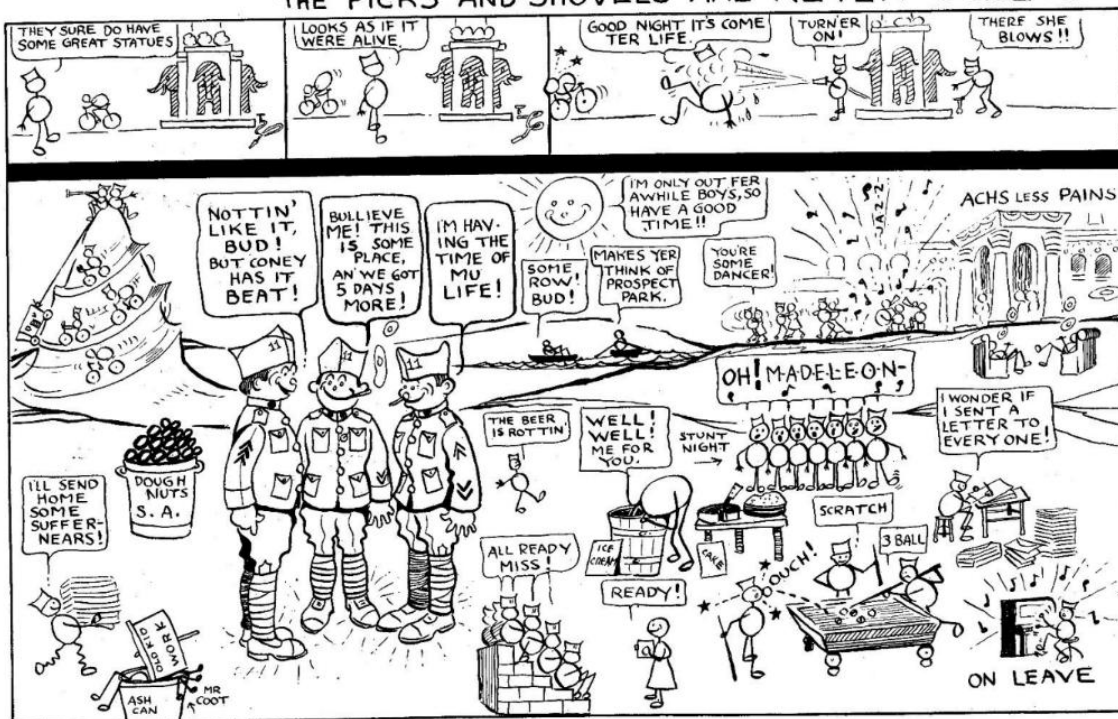


WHAT DID SHERMAN SAY ? —

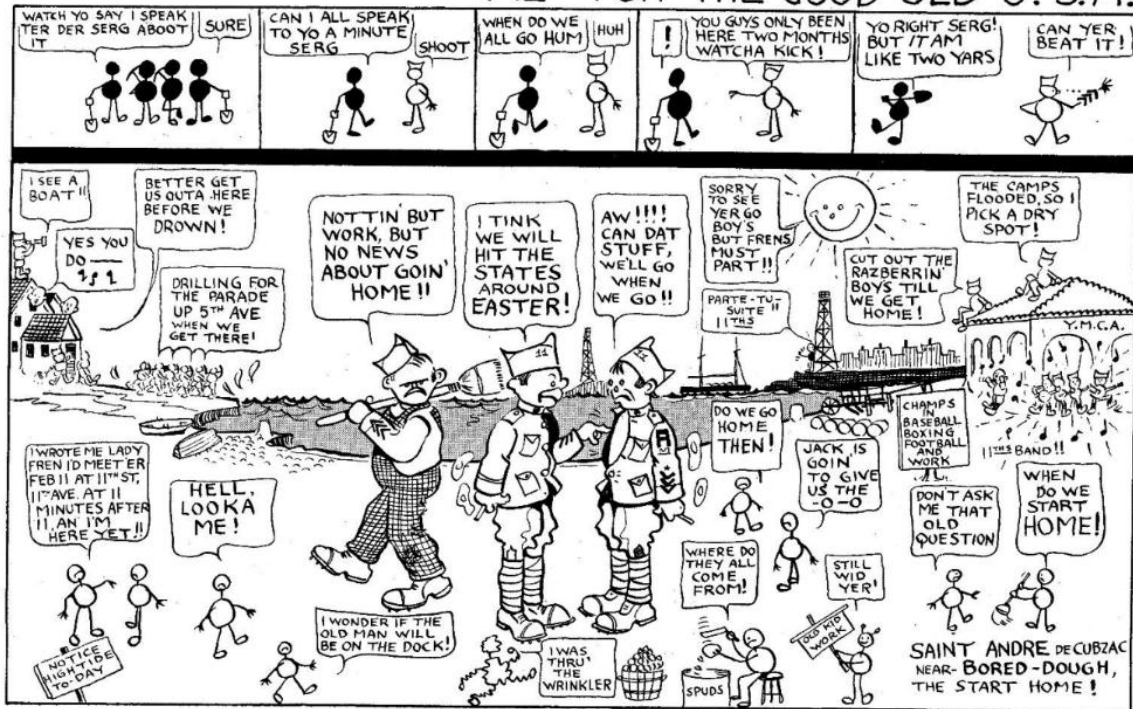
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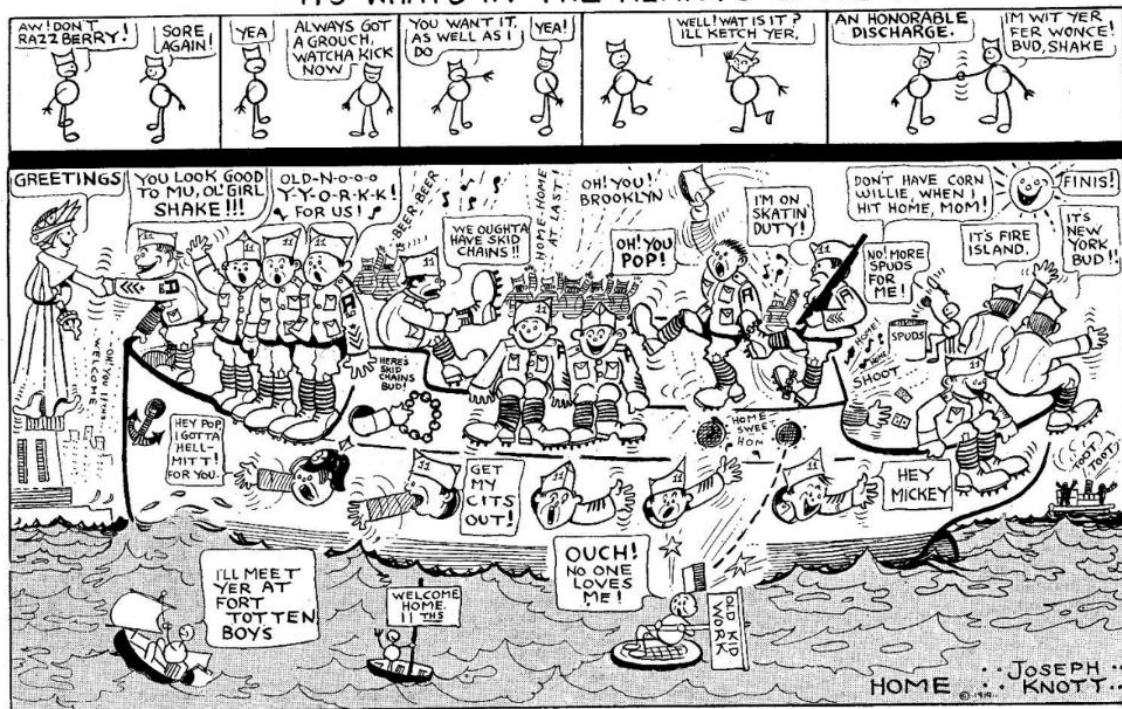
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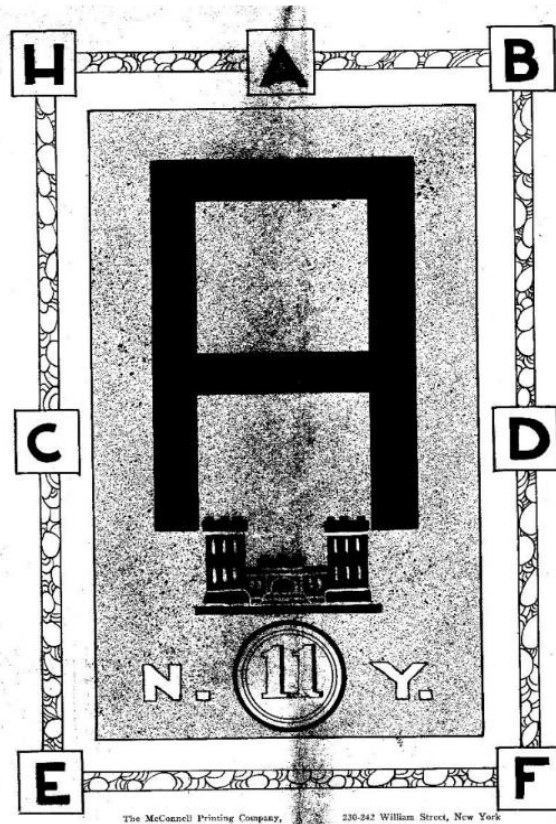
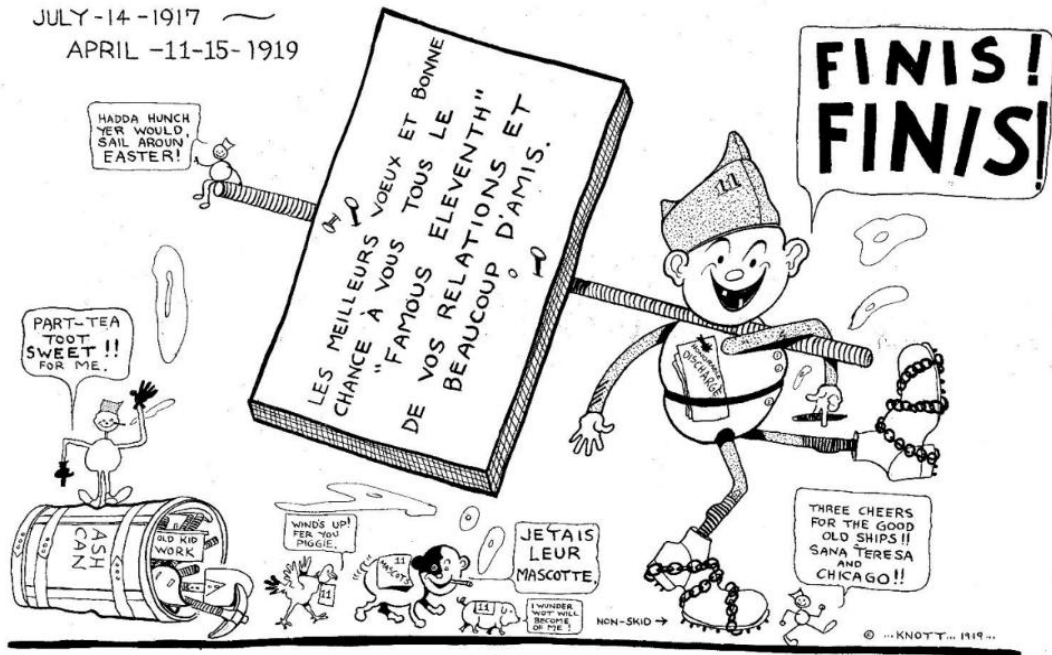
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IT'S NOT WHAT IS ON THE TABLE, THAT COUNTS— IT'S WHAT'S IN THE HEARTS OF THE 11THS HOSTS!!



JULY -14 -1917 ~
 APRIL -11-15-1919



The McCannell Printing Company, 238-242 William Street, New York

Respectfully submitted, Joe Papa, Association Historian

From the Chaplain:

Taps

This position is vacant. We are looking for someone to step up and fill this Association position.

...And a note from your Panther Press Editor:

The newsletter is for your benefit to keep you up to date on what is happening in the association and with your past fellow comrades in arms. If you have special topics you would like to include in the newsletter, please let me or one of the officers know. If you have personal experiences you would like to share during your time in the 11th Engineer Battalion, please don't hesitate to contact me...let me hear from you!

As our country is about to celebrate its 250th anniversary, I reminisce about where I was during the country's 200th anniversary back in 1976. I had PCS'd from the 11th Engineer Battalion the previous year and spent part of 1975 and part of 1976 in Korea. In July 1976, the battalion I was assigned to in Korea, which, by the way, was located at the present location of the 11th Engineer Battalion, i.e., Camp Humphreys, celebrated the occasion by putting on a BBQ. I thought it was a bit unique that I was overseas defending our country and Korea during this momentous milestone of our country.

Wise saying for this newsletter: "I now know why we are called Grown-ups. We groan every time we get up!"

Phil Loftis, pgloftis@gmail.com

11th Engineer Battalion Association

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11th Engineer Battalion Association website:

<https://www.11thengineerbattalionassociation.com/>

11th Engineer Battalion Association, US Army Facebook site:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/107887945902152>

HP computer, Word; my documents\Panther Press June 2026

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**11th and 547th
Engineer Battalion
Associations
2026 Annual Reunion**

**Join us in Jacksonville where we will discover the Flip Side of Florida
and tour St. Augustine to explore its old-world charm and *Fountain of
Youth!***

**Thursday, 17 Sep through Sunday, 20 Sep 2026
The DoubleTree, Jacksonville Riverfront
1201 Riverplace Blvd, Jacksonville, FL 32207**

HOTEL REGISTRATION

1. **Please call the number below ASAP to reserve your room for the Reunion:**
 - a. To reserve your room(s), **call: 800-222-8733.**
 - b. Be sure to ask the reservation clerk for the “**Group Code 91E**” special room rates (applicable only for the 11th & 547th Engr Bn Reunion). You have a choice of:
 - i. **Riverfront** * View 1-BR Jr Suite (King, w/ foldout sofa) at **\$149/night** incl/ Refrigerator, breakfast for two, self-parking and Wi-Fi
 - ii. **Riverfront** * View 1-BR Std (King, Queen or 2 Doubles) at **\$129/night** incl/ breakfast for two, self-parking and Wi-Fi
 - iii. **San Marco** View 1-BR (King, Queen or 2 Doubles) at **\$119/night** incl/ breakfast for two, self-parking and Wi-Fi
 - c. **If you would like to arrive earlier than the 17th and/or stay later than the 20th, the special rates will apply for three days before and after the reunion.**
 - d. An additional fee of \$15 will apply for each additional adult, over two adults, per room.
 - e. There is no cancellation fee if the hotel is notified at least 72 hr. prior to scheduled arrival.
 - f. Group rates are available until Thursday, 27 Aug 2026. After that date, or once the block of rooms is full, reservation requests are subject to availability and prevailing rates.
 - g. Check-in time is 4 PM and check out time is 11 AM. Guests arriving before the scheduled check-in time will be accommodated as rooms become available. A baggage storage room is available if a wait is necessary.
 - h. An early departure fee of one night's stay can be avoided by informing the hotel before or at check-in of your need to depart prior to your originally scheduled check-out date.
 2. **About the Jacksonville Riverfront DoubleTree:**
-

- a. This DoubleTree is set directly on the scenic Jacksonville Riverwalk. It's easy for guests to stroll to nearby parks, museums, and vibrant neighborhoods. Whether watching the dolphins swimming in the river, catching a show, exploring the local museums or simply enjoying the waterfront, everything feels close and convenient.
- b. Every corner of the hotel is designed to celebrate its riverfront setting. Many rooms feature private balconies overlooking the St. Johns River, offering front-row seats to glowing sunsets, passing boats, and the sparkling lights of downtown Jacksonville. It's the kind of view that makes mornings brighter and evenings unforgettable.
- c. On-site dining includes:
 - i. **Ruth's Chris Steakhouse & Riverfront Lounge** serves **dinner** 4-10pm daily
 - ii. **St. John's Provision Co. Restaurant** serves **breakfast** 6-10am M-F and 7-11am Sat and Sun; and **dinner** 4-10pm Wed-Sat
 - iii. **St. John's Provision Co. Lounge** serves **lunch** 11am-2pm Wed-Sat; **dinner** 4-10pm daily; **Bar hours** 4-10pm Sun-Tue and 11am-11pm Wed-Sat
- d. The DoubleTree offers plenty of ways to unwind including a sparkling outdoor pool that overlooks the river, a well-equipped fitness center, and inviting lounge spaces. It's a peaceful retreat in the heart of the city.
- e. Mid-September in Jacksonville is typically hot, humid, and prone to frequent afternoon showers or storms. Expect highs in the mid-80's to near 90°F and warm, muggy nights in the low-70's. Mornings are often clearer; storms tend to build after 3 PM.

REUNION REGISTRATION FORM

1. Before completing this form, please make your hotel reservation ASAP per Page 1 instructions above
2. Reunion registration cost is separate from your hotel registration cost
3. The last four digits of your Social Security Number are necessary for the Mayport Naval Station tour

11TH ☐ or 547TH ☐

Attendees: Member's Full Name: _____ Mobile _____
 Phone _____

Member's email: _____ SSN* (last four) _____

Spouse/Guest: _____ SSN* (last four) _____

Guest: _____ SSN* (last four) _____

Guest: _____ SSN* (last four) _____

Reunion Registration and Bus Tours

The following three items are all included in the single fee that helps us control our expenses

1. **Reunion Registration:** Costs of our hospitality suite, drinks, snacks, daily ice service, and invited guest costs.
2. **Friday Bus Tour of Jacksonville and Mayport Naval Station:** This is a guided sightseeing tour by deluxe motor coach of the city of Jacksonville and the Mayport Naval Station (homeport of the US Navy 4th Fleet). This tour includes a catered luncheon at Mayport NS. The meal is a buffet style build-a-sandwich including pasta salad or coleslaw, chips, and drink
3. **Saturday Bus Tour of Saint Augustine:**
 This is a guided sightseeing tour by deluxe motor coach of the oldest city in the United States. Settled in 1565, many of the buildings still appear as they did when Spain ruled Florida hundreds of years ago. This tour allows a two-hour lunchbreak off-the-bus where members can choose to shop and dine at any number of local eateries.

Total for all three items: \$225 x ____ #Attending \$ _____

Sunday Evening Reunion Banquet:

Choose your dinner entrées below. Each includes salad, vegetables, a starch, rolls, coffee/iced tea and dessert:

a. Chicken Marsala	\$60 x ____ # of meals	\$ _____
b. Roasted Pork Tenderloin	\$60 x ____ # of meals	\$ _____
c. Vegetarian/Vegan	\$60 x ____ # of meals	\$ _____

Sunday Spouse/Guest Tour of the Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens:

This activity is provided for the spouses and guests of our veterans during their business meetings. Michele Deacon will meet you in the lobby at 12:30 PM and walk you to the water taxi stop on the riverfront, board the water taxi, and cross the St John's River directly to the Cummer Museum for a self-tour of the museum & gardens. The museum has a cafe that serves soup, salads and sandwiches for those who want to have lunch there. The water taxi is scheduled to depart the museum for return at 3:30 PM. The fee covers round-trip water taxi and museum tickets.

\$30 x ____ #Attending \$ _____

Grand Total (Registration, Tours, Banquet, Museum Event) **All the Above** \$ _____ the amount you pay

Mail a copy of this form together with a check payable to the "11th Engineer Battalion Association" to COL John L Booth, 11th Engr Bn Assoc Treasurer, 319 Victory Gallop Court, Havre de Grace, MD 21078

REUNION AGENDA

Day 1—17 SEP

3. **3:00pm – 5:00pm Arrival, & Reunion Registration Begins!**
 - a. After check-in, locate the reunion registration table located in the 2nd floor Hospitality Suite.
 - b. Hospitality Suite opens at 3 PM!
 - c. Sign into the reunion & pick up your visitor's package; bring and wear your reunion lanyard/nametag. (If you need a new lanyard/nametag pick it up at the registration table)
 - d. If this is your first reunion, please join the Association! (fill out the attached membership form)
 - e. Sign up for a Hospitality Suite watch time
 - f. Confirm your Banquet dinner selection
 - g. Thoroughly enjoy the beverages provided (beer, wine, soft drinks, water) and snacks while you renew old friendships and share memories in the Hospitality Suite!
 - h. Please bring your memorabilia items (your 11th and 547th Eng Bn medals, plaques, pictures, etc.) to lay out on the memorabilia tables for everyone to see, enjoy and reminisce over. (For security of all items, we will lock up the Hospitality Suite after hours and during the day when no one is present.)
4. **5:00pm Reunion Officially Kicks Off in the Hospitality Suite**
 - a. Everybody come and kick-off the reunion!
 - b. Welcoming words by 11th EBA President, Norm Fagge
 - c. Introductions of 11th and 547th attendees/guests/first timers
 - d. Review of the scheduled activities by our reunion coordinator
 - e. Enjoy the snacks & beverages provided
 - f. Talk/eat/sip and socialize until your bedtime!

REUNION AGENDA

Day 2—18 SEP

5. **9:00am – 3:00pm Bus Tour of Jacksonville and Mayport Naval Station**
 - a. Luxury Motor Coach, Guided Tour of Jacksonville
 - b. Travel to Mayport Naval Station and Enjoy Lunch buffet
 - c. Guided tour of Mayport Naval Station
 - d. Return to hotel
 6. **3:00pm – 7:00pm Rest and Dinner**
-

- a. Rest and dine at a local eatery of your choice
- b. Check out the Riverwalk or just relax with friends in the Hospitality Suite

REUNION AGENDA
Day 3—19 SEP

- 7. **9:00am – 3:00pm Bus Tour of Saint Augustine***
 - a. Luxury Motor Coach Guided Tour of St Augustine
 - b. Two-hour off-the-bus break for lunch and sightseeing
 - c. Back on the bus and return to the hotel
- 8. **3:00pm – 7:00pm Rest and Dinner**
 - a. Rest and dine at a local eatery of your choice
 - b. Check out the Treaty Tree park nearby or just relax with friends in the Hospitality Suite

REUNION AGENDA
Day 4—20 SEP

- 9. **9:00 am – 12:30 am**
 - a. Free time (explore the riverwalk, watch the dolphins, shop, relax or whatever)
 - 10. **12:30 am – 1 pm**
 - a. 11th and 547th Veterans enjoy lunch and prepare for their business meetings
 - b. Spouses/guests who signed up for the Cummer Museum Tour gather in the lobby with Michele Deacon and proceed to the river taxi pier to cross the river to the Cummer Museum for lunch and museum/gardens tour
 - 11. **1:00 pm – 4:00 pm**
 - a. 11th and 547th Veterans conduct business meetings
 - b. Spouses/guests tour the Cummer Museum and return to the hotel via water taxi
 - 12. **4:00 pm – 5:00pm**
 - a. Everyone changes into their banquet attire and proceeds to the reception room (adjacent to the banquet room) for our reunion group photo
 - 13. **5:00 pm – 5:15 pm**
 - a. Group photo by our photographer
 - b. The hotel lounge bar next to the banquet room serves as our cash bar for the evening
 - 14. **5:15 pm – 5:30 pm**
 - a. Proceed to the banquet room
 - b. Select a table and display your dinner entrée tag at your place setting
 - 15. **5:30 pm – 7:30 pm**
 - a. Get a favorite beverage at the cash bar
 - b. The dinner and guest speaker proceed per the Banquet brochure
 - 16. **7:30 pm – 7:45 pm**
 - a. 10-minute bathroom break
 - b. Get reseated and comfortable for the fund-raising auction
-

17. **8:00pm -- Fund-Raising Auction**
- a. Support your unit fund raiser; enjoy the bidding; have fun!
 - b. After the auction, feel free to retire to the Hospitality Suite

REUNION AGENDA
Departure Day — 21 SEP

18. **Hotel check out time is 11am.**
- a. All good times must unfortunately come to an end. Checkout is 11 AM, but don't hesitate to stop by the Hospitality Suite and say goodbye to each other!
 - b. Safe Travels Home!
 - c. See you next year at the 2027 Joint Reunion in San Diego!!

11th & 547th 2026 Joint Reunion
Sunday, 20 Sep — Spouse/Guest Activity



Spouses and Guests Sunday Afternoon at the Cummer Museum & Gardens

While the gentlemen attend their business meeting, the ladies are invited to spend a delightful afternoon exploring the Cummer Museum and Botanical Gardens in Jacksonville. Transportation will be provided via the pre-paid Jax River Taxi, departing and returning to the DoubleTree Hotel (approximately 12:45–3:15 p.m.).

The Cummer Museum features a permanent collection of more than 5,000 works of art, spanning from 2100 BC to the 21st century. Highlights include exceptional European and American paintings and an impressive collection of Meissen porcelain.

Set along the scenic St. Johns River, the museum's historic gardens are listed on the National Register of Historic Places and offer a serene and picturesque setting.

Guests may also enjoy a light lunch or a delicious treat at the on-site café, with the option of dining al fresco on the patio.



Yep, you want 'em and I got

'em....with NO price increase!

But HURRY, when these three are gone it will take 90 days
to order another batch!

IMPORTANT: You know your spouse or grandkid wants one.
Get it now before they're gone
and have it in time to put under the tree.

ONLY \$25 + \$9 shipping = \$34 ea.

(NO TAX, WHAT A DEAL!)

Send your payment to John Booth, Association Treasurer,
and I'll ship it out ASAP!

Mail your check to: JOHN BOOTH
319 Victory Gallup Ct
Havre de Grace, MD 21078

NOTE: Want a different color or color combo? Email me, Joe
Papa (myoldarmy@gmail.com) and I'll get a price and
availability.

11th Engineer's Association T-shirt Order Form

2017 Design



2012 Design



Available in S - XL

SIZE	QUANTITY	STYLE	COST	COST
			INCLUDING TAX	IF MAILED
		Grey/Blk Ringer Tshirt	\$17.00	\$23.00
			TOTALS	

Name: _____ Phone #: _____
 Address _____
 : _____ Email: _____

Please send your order form and your payment made payable to 11th Engineer Battalion Association

to: John Booth

319 Victory Gallop Ct., Havre de Grace, Md 21078

If you have any questions please contact Jeff Corker - corker94csm@gmail.com

256-776-0877



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) 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 11th ECB Unit Served: _____ 11th ECB Assignment: _____

Locations served with the 11th ECB: _____

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! All donations to the General Fund are TAX DEDUCTABLE. The Association is recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(19) post or organization for past and present members of the Armed Forces of the United States.

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

John L. Booth
Treasurer, 11th Engineer Battalion Association
319 Victory Gallop Court
Havre de Grace, Maryland 21078

Once I receive and process your 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 the current year, 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. **NEW - We are prepared to accept dues via Check, ZELLE and Venmo. If you use ZELLE or VENMO, use John Booth's cell phone number below to make the payment.**

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. _____

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 make a note in the space below or the back side of the form.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me (John Booth) at **908-309-5586** or email: boothjl@aol.com or Norm Fagge, President, at 1-404-538-2902 or email at faggenorman@comcast.net.

11th EBA Dues Form, Revised Nov 3, 2025

11th Engineer Battalion Association Membership as of June 2026

ACTIVE MEMBERS paid 2026 dues

(* paid for 2027)

Anderson, Larry (***) New Mbr

Boehle, Fred F. *

Booth, John L., COL (ret) *

Brady, Ramond *

Brown, Wm. David COL (ret) *

Corker, Jeffery, CSM (ret) *

Coulter, Robert E. CSM (ret) *

Davis, William R. (Bill),

CSM (ret) *

Delleo, Michael F., Jr. *

Diehl, Robert A. *

Durkin, John A., COL (ret) *

Dykes, Steven W. *

Fagge, Norman D. *

Forget, Stephen *

Goring, Richard H., COL (ret) *

Hagedorn, Zach Jr., COL (ret) *

Harper, Ronald A. *

Hawkins, Larry *

Houck, Boyd D. (Doug) *

Keiser, Michael D, LTC *

Lantz, Fr Rev Gary L. *

Loftis, Philip G, COL (ret) *

Mehl, Steven J., CW3 (ret) *

McLendon, Robert. *

Murphy, Jeffery B. *

Papapietro, Joe G., COL (ret) *

Pluciennik, Edward P. *

Rock, James G. LTC (ret) . *

Scala, John J. . *

Smith, Thomas P. *

Struble, Roy . *

Sweet, Roger P. . *

Thomas, Gary, COL (ret) *

Trott, Phillip W., CSM (Ret) *

Verplogen, David L. LTC (ret) *

Way, Walter N. . *

Members who we have learned have passed in their final review, since the last newsletter

Jesse R Beck – passed Feb 7, 2022

Noel O Teague passed

Jan 7, 2021

Peterson, Donald (Pete)

Passed Nov 6, 2025

MEMBERS paid in 2025 and AWOL and NOT Current 2026

Atkins, Matthew S.

Ellegood, Michael S.

Gallagher, Patrick J.

Iwanyk, Eugene

Kelly, Jason E. COL

Layde, William A.

Mather, Dana

Schumacher, Thomas J.

Throop, William H, COL (ret)

MEMBERS AWOL and NOT Current

Alexander, Charles J.

Arroyo, Pedro A., CW5 (ret)

Bankowski, Leo

Berger, Richard P.

Binetti, Micael R.

Bowler, William E. COL (ret)

Bradley, Edmund C.

Dimon, Charles E.

Donnelly, Thomas F.

Dorton, James R, MSG (ret)

Downs, George M.

Eubank, Rev L Allan

Fahey, Kenneth

Ferguson, Dennis E.

Gardner, Roger R.

Gioiosa, Thomas E. LTC (ret)

Grimaldi, Gennaro, J. Sr.

Hamilton, Barry, K., CSM (ret)

Herkert, August J. (Gus)

Henderson, Delbert

Home, Garth M.

Hussin, Chris, COL (ret)

Joyce, Michael, N.

King, Billy J.

Lindsey, Denver, L. CW3 (ret)

Loose, F. James (Jim)

Lundquist, Lawrence R.

Marks, Russell

Marques, Edward D.

McNichols, Thomas R.

Mogren, Eric T.

Nichols, Bobby R.

Owen, Paul E., BG (ret)

Peterson, Harold A., III

Raines, Brian

Ray, Lynn W., COL

Robishaw, Paul A.

Rosario, Erick R

Sayles, Andre H. BG (ret)

Shellenbarger, Robert T.

Sperry, Rev Loy G.

Still, Quenten G.

Vinczi, Bela L