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Fall/Winter 2022 Bridgeheace Sentine

THE SOCIETY OF THE FIRST

INFANTRY DIVISION

A PUBLICATION

# Bridgehead Sentinel



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Please send DUES and ADDRESS CHANGES to: Society of the First Infantry Division PO Box 2307 Fort Riley, KS 66442

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#### **EDITORIAL POLICY**

The purpose of the *Bridgebead Sentinel* is to serve the needs of the Society and the interests of its members by:

-Disseminating information from the Society to its members;

-Publishing articles and items of interest to Society members;

-Promoting the history and heritage of the Big Red One.

The *Bridgebead Sentinel* staff reserves the right to edit all articles for length, grammar, and content.

The *Bridgebead Sentinel* does not publish material relating to political issues or campaigns, solicitations, or material that may be considered defamatory or libelous.

All stories, photos and other items sent to the *Bridgebead Sentinel* will be automatically considered for donation to the First Division Museum in Wheaton, Illinois, unless otherwise requested.

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A U.S. First Division Artilleryman in the doorway of his bombproof shelter utilizes a few peaceful moments in writing to the folks at home. March 7, 1918.

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### **Society News**



# Letter from the President By LTG (Ret.) Ron Watts

Greetings to all Society members across these great United States of America! I trust that all are enjoying some cooler weather after a very hot, humid summer, especially in Florida.

Our 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division continues to perform missions in support of U.S. National Security Objectives. Please keep their leaders, Soldiers, and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

Society Reunions.

a. We had a great reunion in Fort Worth this past July. During the General Membership Meeting, our members approved revisions to the Society Constitution and a Board of Directors slate for 2022 – 2025. Amendments to the Constitution included authority for Board members to vote on issues electronically, and reduced the mandatory Board Meetings from two to one.

b. This was our first reunion since 2019, with 365 in attendance, the lowest in the last decade. We are uncertain as to reasons for declining attendance at Reunions. It may be the lingering concern over COVID, inflation might have been a factor, or it may be attributable to changing demographics and an aging, less mobile population. We are also in a transition with less Vietnam-era attendees and potential Post 9-11 attendees. The War on Terror Veterans are still in their wage-earning years and have not yet discovered the benefit of reunions as we have known them in the past. The bottom line is we just do not know!

c. Our 2023 reunion is in New Orleans 9-13 August; and 2024 in Albuquerque 29 July-4 August. Both have signed contracts with hotels.

d. We decided to defer the process of selecting the 2025 reunion location until we can better understand our members preferences. The Society Reunion Committee, chaired by BG (Ret.) Randy Dragon has commenced a study to explore the opportunities and challenges that face the Society's reunions and report to the Board and General Membership in New Orleans. In addition to informing our expectations for the 2025 reunion, the Reunion Committee will address three primary research areas:

1. Determine if declining attendance is a short- or long-term challenge

2. Confirm the acceptable thresholds and rational for selecting a reunion hotel

3. Review the inner workings of reunion planning – time of year, consolidated or separate CPs, frequency and length of reunion – and recommend options

e. We need those who might attend a reunion to make their preferences known to the Committee. Please email your thoughts to randal.dragon@aol. com by the end of 2022.

f. In summary, all points of view and perspectives are under consideration. I am both confident and optimistic that we will find the best possible combination that sustains in-person reunion opportunities, serves our faithful reunion attendees, starts to attract the next generation of BRO Veterans, and manages expectations from a fiscal standpoint.

D.C. Monument Status: Planning continues to add the 631 names of BRO Soldiers lost in Afghanistan and Iraq. I have learned that the National Park Service schedule will not permit construction in time to meet our planned dedication on Memorial Day 2023. The earliest we will be able to start construction is August 2023. We are also working our way through possible increases in construction costs. The Executive Director will keep you informed using email.

Through your loyal support and generous donations, we shall continue to provide a "rallying point" for our BRO Veterans, and reach out to BRO active-duty military and their families with financial hardships.

I wish you all continued good health and happiness. Stay safe! ■



# Letter from the Executive Director By CW3 (Ret) Phyllis Fitzgerald

Happy Fall Y'all. I hope my letter finds you well and staying healthy. Summer was a hot one. July kicked off with our 101<sup>st</sup> Annual Reunion in Fort Worth, Texas. It was wonderful to finally meet many of you at the reunion. I am already looking forward to the 2023 Reunion in New Orleans and seeing you again and meeting more attendees. Please tell your buddies about the next reunion.

This issue of the Bridgehead Sentinel contains updates on our database, membership, monument, chapters, donations, fundraisers, 2023 Reunion and much more.

I share the story of the Society and the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division every chance I get. Weekly I brief during the Victory Welcome to new Fort Riley Soldiers about the Society. I also brief at many community events and different groups. This year I will be part of the Retiree Annual Appreciation Event on Fort Riley. I will have a table set up and will be presenting at three different breakout sessions throughout the day. I will share the story of the Society, our mission, how we help and take care of Soldiers, Veterans, and families, and how to become a member.

The Society continues to provide support to Soldiers and families, as you will see on these pages. Through our Big Red One (BRO) Support Fund, we provide emergency assistance to serving 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division Soldiers who are active members of the Society-financial support not available from other agencies supporting Soldiers. The BRO Support Fund also provides non-emergency assistance to units, active-duty Soldiers, and family members on a case-bycase basis. Please see more in the magazine.

In Chapter news, efforts continue to try and get local chapters established. As you know from going to reunions, it is always great to see old friends and meet new friends. Chapters are a way to stay connected, reconnect and meet others. If you are inter-

Have you moved, changed

We value our members and

It is especially important that

want to make sure your member-

if you move, change your phone

number, or change your email

your phone number or email

ship profile is up to date.

address?

ested in joining a local chapter, more information is in this issue. If there is not a chapter in your neighborhood, please consider starting one. The Society can help.

Membership remains steady. Throughout the year we receive donations to sponsor Active-Duty Soldier(s) from our members. These sponsorships help to build our active-duty component of our association. You will find in the magazine a reoccurring article on the makeup of our database. Post 9-11 Vets have replaced Vietnam Vets in numbers, but we still have a significant amount of Vietnam-era members. As time progresses, the Society looks forward to the leadership of our Post 9-11 Vets.

Anytime you have a question, comment, suggestion, or concern, please reach out to us. We are here to assist. Our website, www.1stid.org, is a good source to stay updated with the Society, Quartermaster, Reunion, Scholarships, Monument and much more.

Please check your spam/

address that you inform us so that we can update our records.

We want to stay in touch with you, but we need your help.

Please contact us with any changes in your status as soon as possible so that we can update your member profile. Here are the ways to submit changes:



**Above:** *Phyllis at the Retiree Annual Appreciation Event.* 

junk folders often for emails that will come from these addresses: admin@1stid.org and sfid1919@ gmail.com. And thanks to everyone for helping us to keep your profiles updated with correct addresses, emails, and phone numbers.

I hope you enjoy the magazine. Your phone calls, letters, and emails are appreciated. I am honored to serve as your Executive Director. ■

#### **Contact us:**

Society of the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division P.O. Box 2307 Fort Riley, KS 66442 785-579-6761

sfidkansas@gmail.com or sfidqm@gmail.com ■

### Keep Your Contact Info Up-to-Date!



### **Active Duty**



# Letter from the CG by Major General John V. Meyer, III

Dear Big Red One Soldiers, Families, and Friends,

I want to first start by thanking LTG Sims for his leadership and passion for the Soldiers and Families of the Big Red One and Fort Riley. His efforts have made a lasting difference in the Division and community.

After taking command in May, I deployed forward to join our Division Headquarters in Poland. In June, a group of our Soldiers and I attended the D-Day ceremonies in Normandy for the 78<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We had the honor of meeting several 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division Veterans and to walk along Omaha Beach. It was an impactful visit for everyone as the Big Red One patch has returned to Europe.

Our Division has assumed multiple missions across the globe. In Europe, our Division Headquarters and DIVARTY are focused on our direct mission to support NATO and our allies abroad. Our Soldiers continue to lead efforts in the Baltics and Poland as we provide ready and postured, combat-credible forces through multinational training exercises to enhance our cohesion and interoperability.

Back on Fort Riley, 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade is home from a successful rotation in support of Atlantic Resolve and Operation Assure, Deter, and Reinforce. Thanks to the support of the garrison and our Fort Riley community, our Soldiers are successfully reintegrated with their Families.

2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade completed a rigorous summer of modernization activities and an emergency deployment readiness exercise to NTC, where they collected valuable lessons learned to improve our overall training readiness. They continue to stay ready as they prepare for deployment to Europe this winter.

1<sup>st</sup> Combat Aviation Brigade continues to fly across the Flint Hills sky, while also traveling to California, Texas, and beyond to improve readiness and master their skills.

1<sup>st</sup> Division Sustainment Brigade is busy supporting the Division with modernization, deployments, and redeployments, while focusing on their holistic health and fitness (H2F) programs and leader development.

As winter approaches, we are closing on the Big Red One Year of Family, a year-long campaign to educate, appreciate, and increase the resiliency of our Families. This campaign is a part of Operation Victory Wellness and although the year is ending, our focus on Families will not end. Our community provides an abundance of opportunities and support to our Families, for which we are very grateful.

We are eager to announce next year's focus, the Big Red One Year of the NCO. We will emphasize the importance of the NCO Corps in maintaining accountability, standards, and training Soldiers to the standard. More information will be published in the coming months about the great year to come.

I am excited to once again wear the Big Red One patch and it is an honor to serve with 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division and the Fort Riley community.

Duty First! People Always...All Else Follows! ●



### 1<sup>st</sup> ABCT Returns from Deployment

The 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division, held a combined change of command ceremony on July 15,

at the Cavalry Parade Field on Fort Riley following the brigade's return from a nearly 12-month deployment to Europe. ■

### 2<sup>nd</sup> ABCT Trains Ahead of Deployment



Soldiers of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division, put their training to the test during the NTC rotation 22-09 in Fort Irwin, CA.

In early September, it was also announced that the  $2^{nd}$  Brigde will

replace the 3<sup>rd</sup> Armored Brigade Combat Team, 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, as part of a regular rotation of forces to support the United States' commitment to Atlantic Resolve in Europe. ■

## Keeping up with the 1<sup>st</sup> Division

#### Headquarters (DEPLOYED)

A portion of the DHHB joined the 1<sup>st</sup> CAB on a rotational mission in Central Europe in July 2021.

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Brigade Combat Team (REDEPLOYED)

The 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade recently returned this summer from their 12-month deployment in support of Atlantic Resolve and Operation Assure, Deter, and Reinforce.

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Armored Brigade Combat Team (REDEPLOYED)

2<sup>nd</sup> ABCT recently finished a rotation to the National Training Center in Ft. Irwin, CA to train ahead of the Brigade's winter deployment in support of Atlantic Resolve.

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Combat Aviation Brigade (REDEPLOYED)

1<sup>st</sup> Combat Aviation Brigade continues to fly across the Flint Hills sky, while also traveling to California, Texas, and beyond to improve readiness and master their skills.

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Division Sustainment Brigade (REDEPLOYED)

The 1<sup>st</sup> Division Sustainment Brigade Special Troops Battalion uncased their colors in Afghanistan in February 2019 in support of Operations Resolute Support and Freedom's Sentinel. In November 2019, the 1<sup>st</sup> ID Sustainment Brigade redeployed back from Fort Riley.

#### **Division Artillery (REDEPLOYED)**

Since the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division Artillery stood up in late 2015, there has been an emphasis on the importance of partnership. The Division Artillery continues to train alongside Division elements as well as outside units. ■



	<u>sfidkansas@</u>	Box 2307, Fort Rile Phone: 785-579- ggmail.com Web: w SAPPLICATI	6761	
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(CITY)		(STATE)	(ZIP C	 CODE +4)

SOCIETY OF THE 1<sup>ST</sup> INFANTRY DIVISION

#### Benefits of a Business Membership are:

EMAIL:

- Your business name, address & phone featured in the business supporter link on our website
- You will be listed as a supporter in the Bridgehead Sentinel magazine emailed when published and available year-round on our website: www.1stid.org
- An e-subscription to the Bridgehead Sentinel
- Certificate of Membership suitable for framing
- A window decal signifying your support

PHONE: (

#### Annual Membership Fee: \$200

I would like to make an additional tax deductible contribution of \$ beyond my regular dues.

I would like to become a CENTURY CLUB member with a donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_(\$100 minimum) to the BRO Support Fund which is used to assist Active Duty Soldiers in need. *Century Club members will be recognized in the Bridgehead Sentinel throughout the year.* 

#### The Society of the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry division is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All donations are tax deductible as provided by law.

#### ENCLOSED IS MY CHECK PAYABLE TO THE SOCIETY OF THE 1<sup>ST</sup> INFANTRY DIVISION

-0R-					
PLEASE CHARGE MY	(CIRCLE ONE)	VISA	MASTERCARD	AMERICAN EXPRESS	DISCOVER
CARD #					CVC (Code on back of card)
SIGNATURE					(Code on back of card)

Return this form and your check, if applicable, to the address above.



~ ¬

\*\*\*\* THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT \*\*\*\*

### Society News

## Society of the First Infantry Division Giving Member Profile Update Famili

Our database is updated daily by either updating a profile, taking a membership payment, creating a new account, or looking up a member in response to an inquiry.

Below is the composition of our membership as of October 1, 2022. Please keep in mind it does change daily but generally the total numbers stay close.

On October 1, 2022, we had 8825 active members, which does not include business partners and corporate sponsors. Some of our members have served in more than one era but this does not change the percentages.

#### **MEMBERS:**

Life	. 8185	93%
Active Duty	116	1.3%
Regular Veteran	. 438	5%
Executive Veteran	31	
Associate	53	
Business Partner	37	0%
Corporate Sponsor	17	0%

#### SERVICE ERA:

Post 9-11	3928	44.5%
Vietnam *	2021	22.8%
Peace Time	. 981	11.1%
Unknown/NA	. 519	5.8%
Balkans	. 574	6.5%
Cold War	. 387	4.3%
WWII *	. 223	2.5%
Desert Storm/Gulf War	226	2.5%

\*Includes widows

Note that Post 9-11 membership now surpasses the Vietnam era.

Based on current membership levels, our general fund operates on approximately 5% of member annual dues. The remainder of the Society's annual budget is supported by funds from business partners, corporate sponsors, quartermaster sales, donations, and fundraisers. ■

# Giving Families a Helping Hand

The Society of the First Infantry Division is deeply committed to supporting our Soldiers and their families. One way that we do this is by providing grocery gift cards.

We will be using the Big Red One Support Fund monthly (subject to change based on availability) to provide five (5) commissary gift cards valued at \$50 each to the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division and Fort Riley Post Chaplains



office. The office then distributes the cards to enlisted families who are in need.

During November and December, the Society donates many commissary gift cards to the Chaplains office. We will continue this tradition as well.

Our gift card program is possible thanks to generous donations we receive from our members and sponsors. ■



### Memorial Day in Washington

Our First Division Monument Wreath Laying Ceremony on Memorial Day 2022 was beautiful. The weather was in our favor, sunny and warm, and attendance was strong. Many watched the event via live streaming from the Society's Facebook page.

The wreath was placed by Brigadier General Niave F. Knell, Deputy Commanding General-Support, 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division and Fort Riley, along with CSM Albert Sarrano, Command Sergeant Major, Fort Riley. We thank the Military District of Washington for providing Ceremonial Support (bugler, chaplain, and Color Guard) and the National Park Service, Liaison to the White House, for assisting us in the event.

A wreath was also placed at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

We are looking forward to Memorial Day 2023 and will provide the timeline for all who can attend and the details to watch it live on Facebook. ■



### **Society Chapter News**

### Local Chapters–Society of the First Infantry Division

Currently there are local chapters in the states of Indiana, Kansas, New York, New Mexico, New Jersey, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

The BHS allocates space for local chapters to share updates.

Chapter meetings allow for social time and a chance to discuss past and future chapter activities.

The Society can assist you in starting a local chapter. We help by reaching out to our members and advising them that a chapter is being formed in their area, along with point of contact information. If interested, call the Society at 785-579-6761 or email sfidkansas@gmail.com. We salute our members who have offered to establish a chapter in their community.

Chapters with POC information are listed below and on our webpage: 1stid.org/chapters ■

# Local Chapter Updates

#### East Central Indiana Chapter

POC: James Allen Jallen5749@gmail.com or 765-969-7977

Currently, I am the only Chapter member. Anyone in the East Indiana/West Ohio area who is interested in joining, please contact me to learn more.

#### The Albuquerque/ Sante Fe Chapter

POC: Manuel Alzaga, manuelalzagajr@gmail.com or 505-270-4068

Nothing to report. If you live in the Albuquerque/Sante Fe area and want to learn more about the Chapter, please reach out to Manuel.

#### Wisconsin Society of the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division Chapter

POC: Jeff Anderson, jeffoakvalleyfarm@gmail.com or 608-381-3791

Nothing to report. If you live in Wisconsin and want to learn more about the Chapter, please reach out to Jeff. **Junction City Kansas Chapter** POC: Phyllis Fitzgerald, sfid1919@ gmail.com or 785-579-6761

Nothing to report. If you live in the Junction City/Fort Riley area and want to learn more about the Chapter, please reach out to Phyllis.

#### Western New York, SSG David Bellavia Medal of Honor Chapter, Society of the First Infantry Division

POC: John B. Long Email: marinawoolcock54@ gmail.com --Phone: 716-877-6818

Nothing to report. If you live in the Western New Your area and want to learn more about the Chapter, please reach out to Dr. Long.

#### New York/Fort Dix Branch of the Society of the First Infantry Division.

POC: Antonio Maria, black\_ lions66@yahoo.com or 973-477-9360

Antonio reports that Chapter members recently met for lunch. The food was good and selections were the same as before Covid. They are planning another get together on January 15, 2023. Please reach out to Antonio if you live in the New York/Fort Dix, New Jersey area and want to learn more about the Chapter.

#### Society of the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division South Eastern Ohio Chapter

POC: Mike DeBolt, 1infdivseo@ gmail.com or 740-252-1485 Home office address: 1434 Linden Ave., Zanesville, OH 43701

Nothing to report this month. If you live in the Zanesville area and want to learn more about the Chapter, please reach out to Mike.



Above: Ft. Dix, NY Chapter of the Society meeting for lunch.



# 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division 2022 NCO and Soldier of the Year

The 1st Infantry Division 2022 NCO and Soldier of the Year were, SGT Espinosa, Alexander R. HHC, 2-70 AR, 2ABCT, 1ID and SPC Richey, Caleb J. HHC, 1-18 IN, 2ABCT, 1ID.

SGT Espinosa and SPC Richey

coin during the banquet. SPC Richey was unable to attend. SGT Drecker from the Combat Aviation Brigade accepted on his behalf.

each received a plaque, member-

ship in the Society and a Society

Above: SGT Espinosa, 2022 NCO of the Year, with COL Jason Arriaga, Commander 1<sup>st</sup> Combat Aviation Brigade, 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division.

# 2022 Fall Raffle Results

Our Fall 2022 Jeep Raffle was converted to a 50/50 raffle on October 5, 2022, due to lack of ticket sales. Five-hundred tickets went on sale on August 23 and the drawing took place on October 5.

The raffle was livestreamed on our Society of the First Infantry **Division Facebook page from** 

corporate sponsor Valor Automotive of Junction City, Kansas. We thank Valor Ford for partnering with the Society.

The winner of the 50/50 was Society of the First Infantry Division member, Barry Morrison, HHC 2-18 INF Vietnam. ■

## 2022 Annual Reunion Raffle Results

Thank you to the 1st Infantry Division NCO of the Year 2022, SGT Alexander Espinosa, for assistance in drawing the winners:

\$500 - Becky Arthington \$1000 - Thomas O'Donovan \$2000 - Joseph Corteal ♥

### **Regimental Command Post Competition**

The theme for this year's reunion was "Salute to the 1st Infantry Division - Post 9-11 Veterans."

The 1st Infantry Division NCO of the Year, SGT Espinosa, Alexan-

der R. HHC, 2-70 AR, 2ABCT, 1ID selected the DIVARTY Command Post as the winner.

A check for \$250 was presented to DIVARTY during the banquet dinner.



Above: SGT Drecker accepting on behalf of the 2022 Soldier of the Year (SPC Caleb Richey) with COL Jason Arriaga, Commander 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Infantry Division.





Fall/Winter 2022

### 2022 Reunion



# A Great Time in The Lone Star State!

The 101<sup>st</sup> Annual Reunion of the Society of the First Infantry Division was fun and memorable. The Society staff was busy from the day our boots hit the ground in Fort Worth! More than 270 registered for the reunion and 230 attended the banquet where General Martin, 37<sup>th</sup> Vice Chief of Staff of the Army, was the guest speaker. There were many in attendance and many that watched the event live that was streaming from our Society of the First Infantry Division Facebook page.

Command Posts were up and running. Tours to the stock yards, ghost tour/wine tasting, John Wayne Museum and Texas Civil War Museum were highly popular. The Welcome Party was awesome with entertainment by the Empty Pockets Band. A 50/50 raffle took place at the party and we thank Rene Caputo for donating her winnings back to the Society! Thanks also to everyone who bidded on the silent auction items. The conflict breakfast was wonderful, keynoted by 1<sup>st</sup> Aviation Brigade/1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division Commander COL Jason Arriaga. COL Arriaga was also our guest speaker at the Memorial Service.

Once again, thank you to everyone who joined us in Texas and we look forward to seeing you and many others at the 102<sup>nd</sup> Annual Reunion in New Orleans (August 9-13, 2023). ■







### 2022 CP Attendance

*The winner of the trophy for most attended went to the 18<sup>th</sup> Infantry for 2022. Last count was 62 in attendance.* 

## Special Thanks

The Society of the First Infantry Division would like to thank the following for media coverage of the 101<sup>st</sup> Annual Reunion:

SSG Keagan Costello, 19<sup>th</sup> Public Affairs Detachment and Donsae Kang, 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division Public Affairs. ■

### More Reunion Photos Online!!

1<sup>st</sup> Division Public Affairs Photos: https://www.flickr.com/ photos/firstinfantrydivision/ albums/72177720300805241

1<sup>st</sup> **Division Public Affairs Video:** https://www.youtube.com/ watch?app=desktop&v=ftnTMRxjbbo&feature=youtu.be **■** 







# IS FOR VETERAN

When we're thanked for our service we reflect on how we served.

The way we had to break in boots. The times we gathered up our nerve.

The nicknames that made us laugh. The smell of chili mac MREs.

The pride we felt with that first oath. The friendships that came to be.

So, at the game, when we're asked to stand, it's not applause that's in my sight.

I'm looking around for you, my friend, to see who's on my left and right.



Scan to learn how you can **honor a fellow veteran.** 



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### **SOCIETY NEWS** Society of the First Infantry Division 102<sup>nd</sup> Annual Reunion *August 9 – 13, 2023*



#### Astor Crowne Plaza New Orleans French Quarter

739 Canal Street at Bourbon New Orleans, LA 70130

#### **Making Reservations:**

Weblink: https://book.passkey.com/e/50441679 Phone: 1-877-408-9661 \*\*Note: When calling provide the operator with the block code SFQ ■

# Society of the First Infantry Division Support and Donations



Above: Gold Star Monument, Topeka, Kansas Capital.



**Above:** 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division Army Ten-Miler team with the 16<sup>th</sup> Command Sergeant Major of the Army, CSM Michael A. Grinston, who is also a former 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division Command Sergeant Major.

Thank you to all our members, business partners and corporate sponsors who donated to the Big Red One Support Fund. Thanks to your generous donations, we provided support to various activities and events that support our 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division Soldiers and families. Below is a summary of some of the events. • Will be providing 100 Commissary Gift Cards (\$50 each) to the 1ID and Ft. Riley Chaplains for the holiday season (50 cards for November and 50 cards for December). Total value: \$5,000. And monthly we will provide five gift cards, also valued at \$50. The Chaplains office distributes the cards to families that need a little extra help during the holidays.

• Provided a grant for a 5-4 Cav Soldier for medical reasons.

• Provided \$750 to help sponsor the 1ID Army 10-Miler team to run in the Annual AUSA Ten-Miler in Washington, D.C.

• Provided \$250 to help with providing sheets, blankets, towels, pillows, and wash cloths for returning 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade Single Soldiers from Europe who reside in the barracks. • Provided \$500 this past spring for the Kansas Gold Star Memorial Fund. The funds were used to help sponsor the placement of a Gold Star Family Monument in Topeka, the capital of Kansas. The monument was unveiled and dedicated on September 23, 2022. ■



### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL Effective For 2022

SOCIETY OF THE FIRST INFANTRY DIVISION P.O. Box 2307 Fort Riley, KS 66442 Phone: 785-579-6761 www.1stid.org				
	MEI	MBERSHIP APPLIC	ATION or REN	IEWAL DATE:
TITLE <u>:</u>	NAME <u>:</u> First	MI	Last	Suffix Jr., II, Etc.
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EXECUTIVE	\$65 per year	E-1 TO E-7	\$10	
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ASSOCIATES (Fa	amily and Friends of the BRO)	05 TO 08	\$20 EAR	☐ 60 <b>—</b> 69 \$250
REGULAR	\$35 per year	☐E-1 TO E-7	\$25	☐ 70 <b>—</b> 79 <b>\$</b> 200
		E-8 TO O4	\$40	80 + \$100
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# **Society News** Standing Tall in Washington

The First Division Monument is the basis of a plaza in President's Park, west of the White House and south of the Eisenhower Executive Office Building (EEOB) at the corner of 17<sup>th</sup> Street and State Place, NW. (The EEOB was originally known as the State, War, and Navy Building and then as the Old Executive Office Building.) The monument that stands today was built by veterans of the Division. Soon after the end of the Great War the First Division Memorial Association set about raising \$150,000 dollars to build a monument to commemorate more than 6,000 First Division soldiers who paid the ultimate price. On October 4, 1924, the association dedicated the monument. President Calvin Coolidge and General Charles P. Sommerall, war time Commanding General, were the chief speakers. Approximately 6,000 veterans attended.

The monument stands some 78 feet high on base of white granite with a column of pink granite and gold leaf bronze statue of Winged Victory at the top. It is a graceful addition to a city full of beautiful monuments. In the spring red tulips arranged in the shape of a "Big Red One" grace the approach to the monument followed by red begonias in the summer. The flower garden came in 1965 at the behest of Lady Bird Johnson's efforts to "beautify" the national capital. Although the monument remains within the authority of the Society it has, since 1939, been administered by the National Park Service.

During World War II the government built a temporary barracks to house troops that guarded the White House. This building blocked the view of the monument from the south, the direction in which the monument faced. After the war this "eyesore" remained in place for years while the Society of the First Division fought to remove the barracks. In 1954, the building finally was torn down. The Society then raised the \$60,000 needed to add tablets to list the names of the Big Red One soldiers killed in action during World War II.

In 1957, Lieutenant General Clarence R. Huebner, one of three officers who commanded the 1st Infantry Division in World War II, dedicated the renewed monument to the 4,325 Big Red One Soldiers killed in action in three amphibious assaults and campaigns in North Africa, Sicily and across France, Belgium and Germany ending in Czechoslovakia. World War I veterans led the initial effort to add a Vietnam War addition to the monument. R. L. "Dick" Major who served in the 1<sup>st</sup> Engineer Battalion during the Great War helped raise thousands of dollars as head of the committee to memorialize the Vietnam War. Senator Sam Ervin of North Carolina introduced the necessary legislation in 1973. Ervin served in the ranks during the First World War. Teno Roncalio of Wyoming, also a WWI veteran, introduced the legislation in the House. Fred Bramlage, a Junction City booster of the 1st Division and a member of the American Battle Monuments Commission, ably supported the campaign to add to the monument. The chairman of the commission carried the monument addition paperwork



through the nine government agencies that had some measure of approval authority.

The dedication of the Vietnam addition to the memorial occurred on August 20, 1977, completing the layout that exists today. General William E. DePuy (USA Retired), president of the Society of the First Division, and General Bernard W. Rogers, Chief of Staff of the Army, spoke. Present were Mary Francis Allen, daughter of LTC Terry de la Mesa Allen Jr., who was killed in action commanding an infantry battalion: Mrs. Rudolph Nunes. whose husband was killed in action while leading a long-range reconnaissance patrol; and Mrs. Joseph Venable, whose husband was killed in a helicopter crash while serving as Division Sergeant Major.

The post-World War II design remains in place with the exception of a small tablet that added the names of those who died in Operations Desert Storm and Desert Shield. Lieutenant General Thomas G. Rhame and Major General Jerry R. Rutherford dedicated this addition on May 29, 1995.

The time has come for those of us who served during the Cold War, Desert Shield/Storm, the Balkans, and post 9-11 operations to carry the cudgel to memorialize our brothers and sisters killed in Operation Iraq Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. We have a design to accommodate the means to recognize the sacrifice of 631 Big Red One Soldiers killed in action since 9-11 as well as correct errors on the Desert Storm plaque. The Kansas Delegation to the Congress has cleared the way, the National Park Service has approved the plan. All that remains is to raise the necessary funds, a process that is well underway.

Donation opportunities are available online or by mail.

Please go to our website: www.1stid.org or mail checks to: 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Division FDN P.O. Box 607 Ambler, PA 19002 ■



### Caputo Cheese | caputocheese.com



# **BRO Veteran Exemplifies Division Motto**

#### **By Jon Sharkey**

Presently, I am in Ukraine helping against the Russians. I do Night Patrols, Checkpoints and actually bodyguard my wife Oksana who is a RN, when she is treating patients, because since they are from the Eastern Part of Ukraine, they could be Russian loyalists...

I entered Active Duty on 28 October 1981. I was 17 years old.

My Basic and AIT was at Ft. Sill. My MOS was 13 Bravo - Artillery (I race with the number 13).

I completed AIT in February 1982 and was sent to Ft. Riley, KS and assigned to C, 3/6FA.

While at Ft. Riley, I suffered severe injuries to my knees, which required surgery at Irwin Army Hospital. I was then found unfit for duty.

I was never deployed. It took

Russia invading my second home (Ukraine), for me to make it to a warzone.

After being discharged, I started dealing with the VA, and had multiple surgeries on my knees. During that time, I also attended Kansas State University.

I am 100% VA S/C T&P. I have endured 23 knee operations as a result of my injuries—13 on my left knee.

10 weeks after surgery in 2018, I returned to racing and won. However, I had to be pulled from the seat, because I did not have the strength in my right leg to get out.

I have been with an IndyCar Team before trying to race the 500, Project Indy was their name. They were a CART Team.

My goal is to become the first

disabled American Veteran to race the Indy 500, as well as the 24 Hours of Le Mans, and do it 2 months apart.

In FL, I have won 5 racing series championships since 2016, against racers half my age!

From racing, I like to inspire disabled veterans, and civilians with disabilities to live their lives and make their dreams come true. Live life on your terms.

I belong to the Society of the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division. I am also a member of St. Michael's Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Pinellas Park, FL.

However, I am no saint. Like the one reporter stated, I am prone to wearing the



Story continued on page 22

Fellow members, please use this membership form to approach businesses in your community to join the Society as a corporate member!

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#### SOCIETY OF THE FIRST INFANTRY DIVISION P.O. Box 2307 Fort Riley, KS 66442



Phone: 785-579-6761 www.1stid.org

#### Corporate Membership Application or Renewal

	NAME:				٢	ATE:
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#### Platinum Level:

With a donation of \$2,500 or more, each Platinum Level membership receives a 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary First Infantry Division commemorative numbered print, a Society membership certificate, window decals for your business, e-copies of the *Bridgehead Sentinel* (BHS), and a full-page advertising space in the BHS. Additionally, we give you (4) banquet dinner tickets at our annual veteran's reunion.

#### Gold Level:

With a donation greater than \$1,500 and less than \$2,500, each Gold Level membership receives a 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary First Infantry Division commemorative number print, e-copies of the *Bridgehead Sentinel* (BHS), a 2"x5" advertising space in the BHS, a Society membership certificate, and two (2) banquet dinner tickets at our annual veterans' reunion.

#### Silver Level:

With a donation between \$500 and \$1,500, each Silver Level membership receives a 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary First infantry Division commemorative numbered print, e-copies of the *Bridgehead Sentinel* (BHS), a 2"x5" advertising space in the BHS, a Society membership certificate, window decals for your business, and a banquet dinner ticket at our annual veterans reunion.

	( PAYABL	E TO THE <b>SOCIET</b>	Y OF THE FIRST INFANTR	Y DIVISION
- or - PLEASE CHARGE MY (CIRCLE ONE):	VISA	MASTERCARD	AMERICAN EXPRESS	DISCOVER
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Return this form and your check. If paying by credit card, call us at (785) 579-6761.

\*\*\*\* THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT \*\*\*\*

# Society News

### Membership Sponsorship Program

Thanks to everyone for your continued support of the Membership Sponsorship Program. We continue to provide paid memberships to many Active-Duty Soldiers thanks to your generous contributions.

It really does take all of us to have a successful Society. Please

share your Big Red One Story and the Story of the Society of the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division with others and invite them to join.

Thank you for sponsoring Active-Duty Soldiers.

William Strusinski sponsored seven new Active-Duty Soldiers with a 1-year membership. ■

### Growing Society Membership Opportunity

Support an Active-Duty E-1 to E-7 with a one-year membership (\$10.00) in the Society.

#### Make checks payable to:

SFID "Sponsor Active-Duty Soldier" Mail to: Society of the First Infantry Division P.O. Box 2307 Fort Riley, KS 66442

**Or go to our website:** 1stid.org (Click on "Sponsor New Member" link located on the right side of home page under quick links)

#### First Infantry Division Monument Fund Drive



- First Division Monument located west of White House
- Each Conflict contains names and units of 1<sup>st</sup> ID KIAs
   12,947 Names on Monument (WWI Desert Storm)
- Modifications needed to add 631 Iraq and Afghanistan BRO KIAs – Update Desert Storm Plaques to conform with others.

#### Society Goal: Redesign, Add Names, Dedicate in 2023 I want to do my part in reaching the Society Goal: Check Payable to: Society of the First Infantry Division \_\_\_\_\$1,000. \_\_\_\_\$500. \_\_\_\$300. \_\_\_\$100. \_\_Other: \$\_\_\_\_ Donations are Tax Deductible

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_

Mail to:1<sup>st</sup> Inf Division FDN, PO Box 607, Ambler, PA 19002; Credit Card #:\_\_\_\_\_ Exp\_\_/\_\_, CVD\_\_\_\_

Zip:



### 2022 Scooter Raffle Results

Our first Scooter Raffle took place last summer, made possible by our generous business partner City Cycle Sales Harley Davidson, Kawasaki and Suzuki, of Junction City, KS. We thank them for partnering with the Society of the First Infantry Division.

Three-hundred tickets went on sale on June 27 with the 100<sup>th</sup> ticket sold on July 5. The drawing winner was Verna Henderson, a lifetime member of the Society who served with HSC 216 Engineers during Iraq. The 216<sup>th</sup> Engineers were assigned to and supported the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division during their deployment to Central Iraq from March 2004 to Feb 2005. The 216<sup>th</sup> is a Combat Heavy Engineer Battalion from the Ohio Army National Guard which provided force protections, upgrades, FOB construction, and route security clearance missions throughout the 1<sup>st</sup> ID AOR. ■

# **BRO Veteran Article**

#### **Continued from page 20**

Black Hat like Dale Earnhardt, Sr. did. I will not back down from any fight. That is why I am here in Ukraine right now.

I am also a member of the American Legion, and feel betrayed that in January 2020 I made a sponsorship request to them, that they denied, and then months later, they sponsored Jimmy Johnson and Tony Kanaan neither of whom are Veterans. I will be returning to my home in Tampa Bay soon. My goal for the race season is to race at least Formula E2 and TaG 125.

I do wear a 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division insignia on my cars when I race. I just need love and support!

My email is: jonathontepes@ yahoo.com. Any and all support will be appreciated. I am looking for major sponsors to help me make history! ■





We thank all who have responded to our requests for support of our SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS.

Your generosity will enable us to fulfill our obligation to the children of all Big Red One Soldiers who have lost their lives in combat—over 180 children to date—and to the children and grandchildren of our 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division Veterans.

Following is a list of contributors to the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division Foundation Scholarship Fund and 1<sup>st</sup> Division DC Monument Fund since May 2022.

#### **SOCIETY DONATIONS**

Boundary Oak Pasquale Caputo Rene Caputo Joe Corteal Paul Davis Frederick Dunford **Gregory Fontenot Bradley Gates** Kerry Grant Paul Herbert Scott Lingamfelter Fitz Lufkin Thomas O'Donovan Joseph Repva Randy Shannon Steven Shappell **Ronald Watts** Frank and Ann Swinford: In memory of Clark Welch and In memory of Lois Menetrey

#### **SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

**Gold Contributions:** Jim DaSilva

#### **Platinum Contributions:**

Dr. and Mrs. Raymond Burrell Artillery of the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division Association Bill McCloskey in memory of Charles Phelan Mrs. Lucia Jezior in memory of her husband Anthony

#### **Silver Contributions:**

In memory of Charles Phelan Catherine Genkinger Ann McLaughlin Patricia McAdam Marge O'Mars James Stack Margo and Paul Johnson Pete and Vickie Polombo Richard Voloshin

#### **Bronze Contributions:**

In memory of Charles Phelan; Eileen and Allan Corlett Ken Duszynski Richard and Ruth Klotz Tom and Kathy Whyte Laurine Marks In memory of Anthony Jezior Aloysius Jezior Rose Esson Paula Leigh

### **D.C. MONUMENT FUND**

#### Platinum (\$1,000 or more)

Gift from a member Charlene and Jack Durham in memory of their son Kelly 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment 1/4 CAV Association 16<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment Association Artillery of the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division Association Mrs. Mary Horner in memory of her husband LTC Charles Horner III Fred Calenda Memorial Gifting Fund

#### Gold Contributions (\$500-\$999)

Rebecca Arthington (3<sup>rd</sup> place raffle winner) General Ron Watts

I

### Silver Contributions (\$100-\$499)

Tom Copeland Joyce Santiago Terrance Ford Bill Strusinski Robert Schiller Lou Murray, Jr Patrick Daniel Audie and Kim Prewitt

In memory of LTC Charles Horner, III; Karen and John Kilday Steven and Sandy Loosbrock Karla Horn Jim Crowley Bill and Taylor Barlow Rear Admiral and Mrs. Hinkle William and Charlotte Cash, III William Vonderschmidt David Rogers Frank Heim

HQ/Support in memory of Charles Phelan ■

### **BRO SUPPORT FUND**

Yes... I want to help our Society help the Soldiers of the BIG RED ONE! Here is my TAX DEDUCTIBLE contribution to the BRO Support Fund!

		$\square$ \$15 $\square$ \$30 $\square$ \$60 $\square$ \$100 $\square$ \$150 $\square$ Other \$
। ४	0	Name
ï		Address
i		CityStateZip
		Phone () E-Mail
		Please make your check payable to: <b>Society of the First Infantry Division</b> . Mark it <b>"BRO SUPPORT FUND"</b> and mail it to: Society of the First Infantry Division, PO Box 2307, Fort Riley, KS 66442.
- 11		Your contribution is 100% deductible for income tay burboses

#### THE BRO SUPPORT FUND

The Big Red One Support Fund is the Society's own fund that provides assistance to serving 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division Soldiers and their families in non-emergency situations—our 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division Foundation's McCormick Grants program handles the emergencies. As the Global War on Terror has progressed, the number of needs and assistance programs have multiplied dramatically, yet there are often needs that fall between the cracks. These situations are the reason the BRO Support Fund exists.

If you would like to donate to the BRO Support Fund, please use the coupon on the left to do so. With your generosity, help and support, the Big Red One continues to take care of its own!

### CENTURY CLUB

Welcome to the new members of the Century Club! These are members who have donated \$100 or more toward the *Big Red One Support Fund*. Thank you for partnering with us to support our division!

Cliff Lingren

Justin Malone

Philip B. Nielsen

Thomas O'Donovan

Bill and Becky Arthington Richard Edwards Frontier Spirits James Jensen Patriot Tattoo Joyce Santiago

### **BRO Books**

The books in this section are not published by the Society of the First Infantry Division, but they are BRO-related or may be of interest to members of the Society.

If you have written a book about the 1<sup>st</sup> Division, and would like it in the BRO Books Section, mail a copy of the book to:

First Division Museum at Cantigny ATTN: BRO BOOKS 1s151 Winfield Rd Wheaton, IL 60189



The Steadfast American: A Vietnam Story 1964-1967

By C. Mark Sollars Available at Amazon.com His father never spoke much of Vietnam, and Mark Sollars had always wondered why. His curiosity grew over the passing years until one day, compelled by a rising unease for a failure to get a full account of his dad's military experience, Mark asked him to talk about what he did there. The ensuing conversation covered war, friendship, and a divisive American era. And it underscored the importance, and urgency, of asking the most important people in our lives to sit down and tell us their story.

Sollar's father was a 2LT in the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 26<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment and was one of the officers in the advance party that deployed to Vietnam in September 1965. ■

### Armed Forces Community Foundation "Stand To" Match Day

The annual Armed Forces Community Foundation (part of the Greater Manhattan Community Foundation) "Stand To" Match Day was held on Veterans Day, November 11, 2022. Thank you to everyone who supported this opportunity to raise funds for the Society.

Donations by our members totaled \$5,160. Of this amount, \$1000 will be matched at 50 cents on the dollar by the Greater Manhattan Community Foundation. We estimate the Society will receive \$6,160.

Dwight Allbee Norah & Denner Astyk Major J. Blake R2B4 Bramlage Family Foundation (Special Thanks to Bob Bramlage) Robert Branch Paul & Marilyn Caldwell Britton Dicks Anonymous Phyllis & Keith Fitzgerald John & Marilyn Flock William Gates Paul & Caroline Goddard Mike Goudey Glenn Hanson George Harness Amono Kin Ho Terrence Hueser Robert & Judith Humphries James Jones John & Mary Kolasheski

- MAJ Trent D. Laviano Louis Lagos Richard Ledyard Charles & Cathy Lukas Antonio Maria Vincent McPartland Nancy & Armando Morales Robert Myres Richard Nau Philip Nielsen Pietro & Susan Piraino
- Joyce Santiago Bill Strusinski H. F. & Ann Swinford Edward Trobaugh Albert & Joyce Turner LTG (R) Ron Watts William R. Williamson James & Wanda Williamson Jimmy Winters ■





CPT Andrew Allman Montgomery, Texas June 19, 2022 Blackfoot Troops/ 5-4 CAV, IRAQ

Ralph Anderson Belton, Missouri February 7, 2016 E/18 INT, WW2 Life Member

COL (R) George Basso Peoria, Illinois February 19, 2019 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division, VN

Frank Bergstol Ocala, Florida February 12, 2020 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade, VN

Robert A. Boisse Wells, Maine September 4, 2022 G Company, 2-16 INF, CW

Carlos Brown Chicago, Illinois B. Co. 1-26<sup>th</sup> Infantry, VN Edward Coates Norway, Michigan May 24, 2022 C/2-16 INF. VN

R 1SG Michael Dunn Hopkinsville, Kentucky February 18, 2022 VN & DS

Victor Dunne (age 102) Mint Hill, North Carolina July 12, 2022 16<sup>th</sup> Infantry, WW2

John Gjaltema Buhl, Idaho April 16, 2022 C/2/2IN, VN

Carl A Goslovich Redding, California B 1 Medical November 27, 2022, VN

Patrick Harpshire Lake Worth, Florida May 30, 2022 1-18 Infantry, VN Sidney Hollender Monroe Township, New Jersey 1ID, WW2

Claire Holmes Manahawkin, New Jersey Widow of Robert Holmes SVC 1-18 IN, WW2

Anthony M. Jezior Raleigh, North Carolina October 14, 2022 16<sup>th</sup> Infantry, VN Life Member

Donovan "Spike" Kolness Hendrum, Minnesota July 28, 2022 A 2-2 INF

BG (R) David C. Martin Toledo, Ohio November 2017 1-16 INF, VN Jimmy R. Moore Springfield, Virginia May 31, 2022 B 2-16 INF, VN Life Member

Charles Phelan Ocala, Florida July 7, 2022 1 MP, VN

Leo C. Yeoman Penn Valley, California 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division, WW2 Life Member **■** 



# Remembering Andy Anderson

Gerald "Andy" Anderson died 23 August 2022 at the age of 99. Andy was an active member of the Society of the First Infantry Division, and the 16<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment. He attended most Society Reunions and had planned to attend the Fort Worth event in July but was unable to travel due to health issues.

Andy joined the Big Red One in Sicily, and was assigned to the 16<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment. He fought with the BRO in Sicily before training in England for D-Day. On June 6, 1944, Andy landed on Omaha Beach, then fought with the Division until the end of WWII.

Andy Anderson's decorations included two Bronze Star Medals, two Purple Heart Medals, a Bronze Service Arrowhead, and the Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB).

Fall/Winter 2022

### **CORPORATE SPONSORS**

Thank you to our Corporate Sponsors! If you'd like to become a Corporate Sponsor of the Society of the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division, see the registration form on page 8.

### Platinum Level



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#### The Furniture Store thefurniture.store

### **Gold Level**



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USAA USAA.com



**Briggs** Auto briggsauto.com



**Caputo Cheese** caputocheese.com/



**R2B4 Bramlage Family** Foundation







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**Patriot Tattoo Company** facebook.com/patriottattoo/



**Tanzillo's Barber Shop** Facebook.com/tanzillosbarbershop/



**US Wings** uswings.com



**Kaw Valley Engineering** Kveng.com/



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Bruce McMillan AIA Architects P.A. Junction City, KS

Central National Bank, Junction City, KS

City Cycle Sales Harley Davidson, Kawasaki and Suzuki, Junction City, KS

Dibben Tax and Accounting, Junction City, KS, 785-304-4505 Email: dibbentax@tctelco.net

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Geary Community Hospital, Junction City, KS

Geary County Visitors & Convention Bureau

## **Silver Level**



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GoSecure gosecure.net



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Email: toddfawcett@jcabstractandtitle.com

Just a Kid from Swampdoodle to Vietnam

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Junction City Kansas Area Chamber of Commerce

Junction City, KS

Junction City, KS

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**Bridgehead Sentinel** 

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#### FALL/WINTER 2022 ORDER FORM

Mail to: Quartermaster Society of the  $1\,{}^{\rm st}$  Inf Division P.O. Box 2307 Fort Riley, KS 66442

PLEASE NOTE: Previous order forms no longer valid. Please use this form only until next issue.

Item           1         4           2         4           4         E           5         E	# Auto License Holder		one:			<b>F</b> 1	
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3 E 4 E 5 E	Auto License Plate	15.00		Metal			Tstid.or/6, daw
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5 E	Baseball Cap-Desert Storm	20.00					-
	Baseball Cap-Vietnam	20.00					_
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	I <sup>st</sup> ID Flag	12.00					-
	Bumper Sticker	5.00		DS / Irag / Afg	hanistan / Blank		-
	Christmas Ornaments	4.00			White / Silver		-
-	Desert Storm Coin	4.00					-
	Coin-Society of the 1 <sup>st</sup> ID	11.00					-
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	Lapel Pin	8/10/15		Small 3/4" / Regul	ar 1¼" / King 2"		_
	Miniature Badge	12.00		САВ			_
	Miniature Badge	12.00		CIB/CIB 2 <sup>nd</sup>			_
-	I <sup>st</sup> ID Golf Towel	20.00			Red		_
	Pocket Knife	8.00			i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i		_
-	Shoulder Patch	4.00		Red / Subdued	/ Desert		_
	Coin I <sup>st</sup> ID / Lady V	15.00			Desere		_
	IID Key Chain	8.00					_
	Window Cling (Lg. Inside)	5.00		Blank, or Mem	l Iber		
	Coffee Cup (11 oz)	12.00		I <sup>st</sup> ID or Lady Victory			SUB-TOTAL
	Print (Centennial)	25.00		18" x 36.5"	Unframed		_
	I <sup>st</sup> ID Brooches	25.00		Style 1/4/8	1		KS Residents Only ADD 7.75%
	Duty First Socks	12.00				1	for state sales tax +(x .0775)
	Tie Tack	10.00		IID or LV			
	st ID Flask	15.00		8 oz.			_
	Pull-Over Hoodies	32/35		Call for sizes	Rd/Blk/Grn		<ul> <li>Overseas Orders ADD 10% +(x .10)</li> </ul>
-	Golf Shirt Men's Port Authority	40.00		Call for sizes	Rd/Blk/Grn		_
	Golf Shirt Women's Port Authority	35.00	1	Call for sizes	Rd/Blk/Grn		+\$10.50 Shipping Charge
	e we have other choices			Call IOF SIZES			

Make Checks payable to: Society of the First Infantry Division

Payment method (circle one): Cash, Check, Visa, MC, Amex, Discover

Card Number				
Expiration Date: Month	_Year	(e.g. <u>08 24</u> )	Security Code (Back of card)	
Signature			. ,	



FIRST DIVISION MUSEUM AT CANTIGNY





**Top:** One stop on the trip was the location of the BRO's first victory in World War I, the village of Cantigny. Bottom: Museum staff members Gayln Piper and Jackie Gillaspie.

# Following the Footsteps of the First

#### **By Jackie Gillaspie**

The First Division Museum's inaugural battlefield tour, led by museum staff members Jackie Gillaspie and Gayln Piper, took place October 6 – 15, 2022. Fifteen travelers from five states joined the museum, following the footsteps of the First, from D-Day through the Battle of the Bulge. The tour started in Normandy,

visiting key D-Day locations such as WN-60, Dawson's Draw, and the American Cemetery at Colleville-sur-Mer before traveling across France to stop in the village of Cantigny. The group continued towards Germany, touring a Belgian microbrewery, before reaching Aachen, Germany. In Aachen, the group visited Crucifix



Top: The group paid respects to the fallen at 1st Infantry Division cemeteries along the tour. Bottom: Group photo at the 1st Infantry Division monument honoring the Soldiers lost at the D-Day battle in Normandy, France.

Hill and the Laufenberg Castle before enjoying a private tour of the Hurtgenwald Museum. Then, a hike in the Hurtgen Forest to see the remnants of the Siegfried line. Before departing for France, travelers toured the Bastogne War Museum, and made a quick trip to Butgenbach, Belgium. The final stop before returning to Paris was a tour and tasting at the Taittinger Champagne Cellar in Reims, France.

The group was joined by two veterans of the 1<sup>st</sup> Division. Michael Feltes and Darnell Perkins, who represented the Division during a wreath laying ceremony at Margraten American Cemetery in The Netherlands. ■



### Museum



**Above:** The Ofrenda on display inside the lobby of the First Division Museum at Cantigny Park.

# A Special Welcome Home

#### **By Laura Sears**

This year Cantigny Park hosted "Alebrijes: Creatures of a Dream World," an outdoor art exhibit that brought together the gardens of Cantigny Park and artists from Mexico. The First Division Museum participated in the popular art display with the special exhibit, "The Mexican American Military Experience," which offered insights into their experiences from the American Revolution to the present. Through all the conflicts the United States participated in, from the beginning of the nation, Mexican Americans numbered among America's patriots. The exhibition also specifically highlights Soldiers who served in the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division.

The outdoor art exhibit closed in early November in line with the Mexican heritage celebration, Día de Muertos. During the first two days of November, families in Mexico welcome home the spirits of their loved ones who have passed away with altars called ofrendas to help guide their



*Top:* "The Mexican American Military Experience" exhibit. *Below:* The alebrije exhibit closed on November 2.

ancestors home.

The First Division Museum displayed its own unique ofrenda throughout October to welcome home the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division and Mexican American veterans who have passed away. Offerings representing Earth, wind, fire, and water are traditionally placed on the ofrenda, as well as marigolds, colorful banners, photographs, and items the person used in life. The offerings on the First Division Museum's ofrenda featured items used by Soldiers, including helmets, patches, canteens, American flags, MREs, and C-rations.

The ofrenda at the First Division Museum was assembled by the Girls Scouts of Greater Chicagoland and Northern Indiana during a unique evening program where the Scouts learned about the Soldiers of the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division and the importance of thanking and welcoming home those who have served us. ■

