



Transportation Express

Transportation Corps Regimental Association Newsletter

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Visit our website @ www.tc-regt-association.org

June 2009

From the President, TCRA and Honorary Colonel of the Regiment

Fellow Transporters:

Please annotate your calendars to attend the Association's summer meeting and membership drive on Friday, 31 July 2009 beginning at 1400 at the Fort Eustis Club. Our annual summer meeting will again be held in conjunction with the Transportation Corps Conference that will run from 29 July-1 August. BG Layer has been invited to present a Regimental update and we will also recognize the winners of the TCRA scholarships with a social following the meeting.

I challenge every member of the Association to renew your membership when your current membership is due to expire- as well as to recruit at least one new member for the Association in the next 12 months.

I would like to commend the over 1734 TCRA members who have responded to our request that we send their semi-annual newsletters via email. I ask all of our members to provide your email address so that this newsletter can be provided to you electronically thus saving the Association the cost of mailing the newsletter. We estimate that the Association has saved over \$1232.00 during the last year by use of email to distribute the newsletter. Our Association goal is complete the turnover to email distribution of the newsletter by November 2009.

Kudos to Col (R) Dave Kolleda, the Local Chapters Chair who has contributed many volunteer hours toward reinvigorating the TCRA local Chapters. I wish to thank the Presidents and Officers of our Local TCRA Chapters for their positive contributions of time and talent toward ensuring the growth and professional relevancy of our Association.

Our corporate members are very important to the overall success of our Association. They are listed on our website. If your normal duties or social activities bring you into contact with companies that in any way support the Transportation Corps mission, please consider introducing your Corporate point of contact to our TCRA Corporate Membership Chairman, COL (R) Gene Losa, email tcra@cox.net. He can explain the benefits of Corporate membership in TCRA.. For our current Corporate members, we encourage you to submit articles for the Transportation Corps Professional Bulletin (they will be very beneficial to

our readers) as well as sponsor professional briefings and tours for our local Chapters.

We have made several additions/ modifications to our Association web site www.tc-regt-association.org over the past several months. I encourage you to visit our web site and send us your recommendations for other additions/ modifications that would make the web site more useful to our members.

I am looking forward to seeing you on 31 July 2009. In the meantime, please contact me with your thoughts and recommendations on the TCRA at tcra@cox.net

It is **GREAT** to be an **88!**

Fred E. Elam
Major General, USA Retired
President, Transportation Corps
Regimental Association

2009 TCRA Scholarships Awardees

Congratulations to the 2009 recipients of \$1,000 TCRA Scholarships! As previously announced, scholarships are being awarded to four children of TCRA members and, for the first time, to the spouse of a TCRA member. Names of awardees and their parent or spouse follow:

Graduating High School Students

Kelsey Bekaert	CSM Michael W. Bekaert
Lindsey Hicks	COL (Ret) Mark R. Hicks

College/University Students:

Regina Nelson	CSM (Ret) Paul J. Nelson
Michael Morgan	Mr. Harold Morgan
	Corporate Member-BAE Systems

Spouse

Heather McLaughlin	MAJ Steven McLaughlin
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A total of fourteen applications were received. Selections were made by a volunteer committee of four drawn from the ranks of the TCRA Executive Committee. All identification of scholarship applicants and their parent or spouse was blocked out during the selection process. Each individual committee member prepared independent rank ordered lists of applicants in the three categories above. Subsequently, these individual lists were placed in a matrix where only the

relative rankings of applicants by each committee member were used to create an Order of Merit List (OML). The TCRA President reviewed committee work and approved the OML.

Scholarship recipients are invited and encouraged to attend the Scholarship Award Ceremony which will take place during the July 31, 2009 TCRA Membership Meeting at the Ft. Eustis Club. Scholarship recipients must start or continue schooling within six months of the scholarship award or it will be rescinded and re-awarded. Please note that scholarships are financed through a combination of membership dues and corporate member support.

Veterans Can Now Salute the Flag

For Years, Veterans have wanted to salute the US flag during the Pledge of Allegiance and the National Anthem instead of just placing their hand over their heart. Now they can.

A Congressional Amendment sponsored by Senator James Inhofe (R-OK) in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009 specifically states that "members of the Armed Forces and Veterans who are present but not in uniform may render the military salute." Veterans can salute the flag during the National Anthem as well as during "the hoisting, lowering and passing of the flag."

"The salute is a form of honor and respect, representing pride in one's military service," said Inhofe. "Veterans and service members continue representing the military services even when not in uniform. The U.S. Code is now consistent for Veterans and all service members in regards to the symbolic gesture of the military salute."

Own your Piece of History! Purchase a TCRA Print!

The TCRA's 2008 Commemorative Print is now on sale at the Army Transportation Corps Museum Gift Shop. This year's Print, by military artist Michael Wooten and titled *Contact Left! The Transportation Corps in Operation Iraqi Freedom – 2004*, depicts a scene very familiar to many Army Transporters. Developed from an actual picture taken by a convoy truck driver in 2004, the print represents a convoy ambush in Iraq during the early development of current-day escort doctrine and gun truck technology. The scene is a convoy ambush in Iraq – very likely the single most pervasive occurrence that defines the Transportation Corps experience in the early 21st Century. The 2008 Print is set in 2004, a critical period of transition that has provided the foundation for development of modern gun truck and convoy force protection technologies and doctrine. Seen from the typical perspective of most drivers - that is, the rear of the line of trucks – you see a convoy that has stopped along a route into downtown Baghdad in response to an attack ahead and to the left of column. Please stop by the Museum or see the TCRA website for detailed ordering information.

TC Week 2009 Information

The Army's Chief of Transportation, Brigadier General Brian R. Layer, will host the annual Transportation Corps (TC) Conference at Fort Eustis, Virginia, from July 29 to August 1, 2009.

The theme for this year's celebration is "The Transportation NCO: Backbone of the Corps." Our methods in support of this theme will be twofold--first honoring the Transportation Corps' roots and secondly preparing for the future. One special group of individuals, who will be recognized during this week, is the Military Railway Service (MRS) veterans of World War II (WWII) and Korea. During WWII, over 43,500 Soldier-railroaders served in over 50 commercial railroad-sponsored MRS units stationed in theaters around the world, providing logistical support to combat operations. These individuals realized their accomplishments with a combination of hard work, technical competence, and a love of their country.

Most TC Conference events will be open to the public. A special invitation, though, is extended to post Korean-era Soldiers, who served in MRS units and also to those Soldiers currently serving in military railway units, to come join in the celebration. MRS veterans of WWII and/or Korea, desiring to participate in TC Conference activities, please contact Mr. Mark Metz, LTC-USAR (Ret), at m-m-e@comcast.net or (717) 597-2636.

TC Central will operate in the Modisett Training Facility July 29th and 30th, 0700-1700 and July 31st, 0700-1200. All attendees should check in to receive registration packets. Individuals desiring to attend TC Conference activities should go to the Fort Eustis website at: www.eustis.army.mil/ocot/ the beginning of June 2009 and fill out the registration form.

Wednesday, 29 July 09

1800 – 2100 Museum Ice Breaker

Thursday, 30 July 09

0800 – 1200 Senior Leaders Seminar
0800 – 1200 Future Capabilities Tour
1200 – 1300 Future Capabilities Tour (VIPs)
0900 – 1430 Spouses' Tour & Luncheon
1030 – 1600 Future Capabilities Tour (Open to Public)
1315 – 1700 Senior Leader Workshops
1800 – 2100 Regimental Picnic

Friday, 31 July 09

0800 – 1200 Future Capabilities Tour (Open to Public)
0800 – 0930 Regimental Recognition, DMOR Induction, & Regimental Award Ceremony
1200 – 1330 Hall of Fame Luncheon and Induction Ceremony
1400 – 1500 Transportation Corps Regimental Association Update & Social
1800 – 2400 67th Anniversary Transportation Ball

Saturday, 1 August 09

0730 – 0900 Golf Classic Registration and Breakfast
0900 – 1400 Regimental Golf Classic Scramble

Mark Your Calendar.....July 31, 2009

TCRA Update and Social, 1400 at the Fort Eustis Club

TCRA Chapters

Each of our nineteen Local Chapters is chartered to TCRA with a requirement to provide an annual report to the Executive Council. As you can imagine, the war effort has made it difficult to keep up with all of our units and Local Chapters. The Executive Council requests that chapters contact our Local Chapters Chairperson so that we may reconstruct our Chapter listing, and help update records. We need your help to complete the task as soon as possible. Please contact COL (R) Dave Kolleda at dkolleda@drs-ssi.com or by phone at 804-929-1424. We specifically need help with contacts from the following chapters:

143rd TRANSCOM (as chartered, currently 143rd ESC as reorganized under the Modular Force)
Capital Region
Cornhusker
Iron Mike (Ft Bragg)
North Central
Phantom (Ft Hood)
Redstick
William J. Seay

Thank you and we encourage you to maintain a strong and active Chapter. Let us know if there is any way we can assist.

Have you Moved?

We need your updated mailing address and email address to keep our records updated and to insure that you receive our mailings. Visit the website and use the feedback button.

Direct All Inquiries To:

Transportation Corps Regimental Association
P.O. Box 4260, Fort Eustis, Virginia 23604
E-mail: tcra@cox.net
www.tc-regt-association.org

Our Corporate Members

The Transportation Corps Regimental Association (TCRA) began accepting Corporate memberships in 1998. In the subsequent 11 years, the dues structure for our valued Corporate members has remained unchanged. During that time, the TCRA has significantly expanded its programs to improve the professional benefits for its growing Corporate membership. In order to continue to better serve our members, we solicit your suggestions. Please forward your suggestions to Col (R) Gene Losa, the Corporate Membership Chair, at tcra@cox.net or directly at galosa1@comcast.net.

AS ALWAYS, WE THANK OUR CORPORATE AND ASSOCIATE CORPORATE MEMBERS!

CORPORATE MEMBERS:

Alion Science & Technology

AM General LLC

BAE Systems

Charleston Marine Containers Inc.

Computer Sciences Corporation

Comtech Mobile Datacom Corporation

Daimler Trucks North America LLC

DRS Technologies, Inc.

Heavy Engineering Industries & Shipbuilding Company

Landstar System, Inc.

LMI Government Consulting

Logistics Management Resources, Inc.

Mack Trucks, Inc.

Maersk Line, Limited

Oshkosh Corporation

TEXTRON Marine & Land Systems

VT Halter Marine, Inc.

ASSOCIATE CORPORATE MEMBERS:

Buffalo Computer Graphics, Inc.

Florida Institute of Technology

Ginny's Ink

Laser Shot, Inc.

Northrop Grumman Sperry Marine

Remembering Two of our Steadfast Supporters



KING, BRIGADIER GENERAL (RET) BOYD E., JR. Brigadier General (Ret) Boyd E. King, Jr. passed away unexpectedly on Monday, April 20, 2009. Mr. King, known and loved by all who knew him as Butch, was born on April 24, 1943 in Atlanta Georgia. He was preceded in death by his wife, Diane Wells King and his parents, Boyd Edwin King Sr. and Edna Hackman King Lewallen. Mr. King was the CEO of VT Halter Marine since 2002. He was instrumental in reorganizing and revitalizing the company. Mr. King was retired from the Army after 36 years of service. He served as an enlisted man, a NCO, a warrant officer, a commissioned officer and retired as a brigadier general. He served with honor in Vietnam and was subsequently stationed in Germany, England, various US postings and the Pentagon. Mr. King loved his country and was proud to serve. He was a leader who truly led by example. He valued honesty and integrity and inspired those characteristics in others. He showed the same devotion to his family, his friends and his church. Butch was a warm, generous man with a kind word for everyone. He loved to laugh and brought joy to all who knew him. He was an energetic person committed to doing the best in each of his endeavors. He will be deeply missed for all that he brought to his family, friends, workplace and community. Most of all we will miss his charismatic spark that brought light to even the darkest room. He is survived by his daughter and son-in-law Leigh Ellen and Chris Davis; his sister Elizabeth King Thurbee; his girlfriend Debra Traugher, her daughter Lara Dunlap (Sam), her granddaughter Callia, brother-in-law Bill Wells (Joan), sister-in-law Jeanie Wells Varner (Scott), nieces Jean Marie Banks (Glenn), Jessica Thurbee, Kathryn Thurbee LaRocca (Al), Lauren Banks, nephews Bryan Wells, Warren Wells (Tamie), Clint Wells (Misti), Craig Smith (Jaime), Evan Thurbee, Race Banks and numerous cousins, great nieces and great nephews. Interment will be held in Arlington National Cemetery, July 20th at 9am. Meet at the Administration Building at 8:30. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Coast Guard Foundation or a charity of your choice. Those unable to attend may sign guest register online at www.obryantokeefe.com.



WILLIAMSBURG - Lynn Del Ridley, of Lanexa, Va., died on May 3, 2009. He is survived by his wife, Kristie Ridley; his daughters, Melissa and Patricia; two granddaughters; a brother, Robert Ridley; and a sister, Ann Butterfield.

Mr. Ridley served in the United States Army with distinction as a career soldier, retiring at the rank of CW5 and becoming an inductee of the Army Transportation Corps Hall of Fame. Following his retirement, Mr. Ridley served as the Riverkeeper for the James River, putting to use his lifelong interest in marine science and love of the water in efforts to protect the environment. He also served as a contracted advisor to developing nations, working with government officials to establish democratic principles and align their constitutions with UN and NATO regulations. Mr. Ridley's life was one of dedicated service to the principles of freedom, democracy, and protection of our natural resources. To honor this and in lieu of a memorial service, a scholarship for a Virginia student studying marine or environmental science has been established in his name. Contributions to the Lynn D. Ridley James River Conservation Scholarship can be mailed to 4516 Waterside Dr., Lanexa, VA 23089.

Online condolences may be registered at www.nelsencares.com.

View and post condolences on our online guestbook at dailypress.com/guestbooks