

Florida 24th IDA Vets

April 13, 2015

The Newsletter of the Florida 24th Infantry Division Association Members Group, initiated July 2009.



Good turnout for March 2 Dutch Treat Luncheon!

Twenty-three members and their spouses joined together at the IHOP across from the Leesburg Mall in the 32nd such event held by the FL 24th IDA since forming in the Fall of 2009.

Seated, from left: **Bill Stokes**, 34th Leesburg; **Don Van Beck** 34th Tavares; newcomers to the group, **Janet and Ed Moran**, The Villages; **Eleanor and Duane Hall** of Leesburg and MI; **Dottie Wood**; and **Dorothy Hird**.

Standing from left: **Maxine and Frank Jennings**, 5th RCT, Melbourne; **Tom Thiel**, E Co 19th Eustis; **Ted Jansen**, H Co 19th, Leesburg; **Becky and Jim Bradford**, 21st, Winter Haven; **Joyce and Herb**

Betz, F Co., 19th from Eustis and Palmyra MI; **Paul and Mary Boulay** 34th The Villages; **Paul Miller**, 21st Inverness; **Jim Hird**, 26th AAA, Ocala; **Woody Wood, Jr.**, 34th, Silver Springs; and **Bill Simunek** 3rd Eng. Mount Dora. The 23rd Taro Leafer was Lawrence Koschak, Parish.

Thank everyone for coming, especially those coming from greater distances.

This was a first time back for Paul Miller, and it was really great to have him there again!

And it was good to get to know Janet and Ed Moran; we met Ed from KWVA at The Villages, where Chapter 169 recently expanded resulting in a surge in membership.

Our next Luncheon will be at 11:30 am on Monday, May 4, 2015, at the same IHOP at 10332 U.S. 441 #101, Leesburg, FL.

For those of you who have yet to come to the IHOP, it is directly across U.S. 441 from the main entrance to Lake Square Mall, and about 7 mi South (East) of downtown Leesburg.

A McDonald's is next door.

Monday's are 25 percent off days. For info: Tom Thiel 352-408-6612

24thidaweb@gmail.com.

Please Bring Donations for homeless Veterans.

24th Inf Div Assoc 68th Annual Reunion, The National Infantry Museum & Columbus GA, Sept. 17—21, 2015!



MEETING AT A GLANCE COLUMBUS

	Pre Day One Thursday Sept 17, 2015	Day One Friday Sept 18, 2015	Day Two Saturday Sept 19, 2015	Day Three Sunday Sept 20, 2015	Post Day One Monday Sept 21, 2015
Morning	Arrivals	Breakfast Azalea I 8:00 am – 9:00 am Registration Azalea Foyer 7:00 am – 9:00 am Hospitality Suite Azalea III 8:00 am – Noon	Men's / Ladies Breakfast Azalea I & II 9:00 am – 10:00 am Annual Meeting Azalea I & II 10:00 am – Noon	Breakfast Azalea I 8:00 am – 9:00 am Hospitality Suite Azalea III 9:00 am – Noon	Breakfast Azalea I 8:00 am – 9:00 am Departures
Afternoon	Arrivals Continue Registration Azalea Foyer 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm Hospitality Suite Azalea III 1:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Lunch & Ft Benning Rangers In Action Ceremony & Tour 9:00 am – 3:00 pm Depart Lobby Area Return Lobby Area Hospitality Suite Azalea III Noon – 6:00 pm	Lunch At Country's BBQ & Columbus City Tour 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm Depart Lobby Area Return Lobby Area Hospitality Suite Azalea III Noon – 6:00 pm	National Infantry Museum Tour & IMAX Theater 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm Depart Lobby Area Return Lobby Area Hospitality Suite Azalea III Noon – 6:00 pm	Departures Continue
Evening	Hospitality Suite Azalea III 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm On Own	Hospitality Suite Azalea III 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm Board Meeting Azalea II 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm On Own	Hospitality Suite Azalea III 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm On Own	Memorial Banquet Azalea I & II 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm Hospitality Suite Azalea III 9:00 pm – 11:00 pm	



24th IDA REUNION REGISTRATION FORM
September 17 – 21, 2015
COLUMBUS, GA

YES, SIGN ME UP FOR THE 24TH INFANTRY ASSOCIATION 2015 REUNION!!!

NAME _____

UNIT _____ YEARS _____ LOCATION _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ST _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

GUESTS NAMES _____

IS THIS YOUR FIRST REUNION? YES: _____ NO: _____

MEAL SELECTIONS:

MEMORIAL BANQUET _____ FISH _____ CHICKEN _____ BEEF _____

PLEASE LIST ANY SPECIAL NEEDS: _____

REGISTRATION FEES

REGISTRATION FEE (REQUIRED*)	# PERSONS _____ x \$25 = _____
MENS / LADIES BREAKFAST**	# PERSONS _____ x \$00 = _____
MEMORIAL BANQUET	# PERSONS _____ x \$25 = _____
LUNCH FT BENNING RANGERS IN ACTION & TOUR	# PERSONS _____ x \$19 = _____
LUNCH AT COUNTRY'S BBQ & CITY TOUR	# PERSONS _____ x \$26 = _____
NATIONAL INFANTRY MUSEUM & IMAX THEATER	# PERSONS _____ x \$24 = _____

*If you bring more than 2 people, the association will cover the registration fee of those guests above 2. You still will be required to pay for their tours and meals. Please list all attendees on your registration form.

**Free Breakfast is included in your room rate for up to 2 people per room and can be used for this event. Additional attendees above the 2 per room or anyone not staying at the hotel would need to be listed and pay \$16.00.

GRAND TOTAL ENCLOSED _____

PAYMENT IS DUE NO LATER THAN AUGUST 21, 2015

PLEASE SEND PAYMENTS TO THE ADDRESS BELOW, AND MADE PAYABLE TO:

FREDERICK EVENT MANAGEMENT
9233 SHETLAND ROAD
EDEN PRAIRIE, MN 55347
(612) 804-9457

Confirmation of registration and itinerary will be sent out by August 28, 2015. A \$25 per person cancellation fee will apply to all cancellations received within 30 days of the event. Cancellations received within 15 days of the event will be non-refundable. **Hotel reservations can be made by directly calling the Hilton Garden Inn directly at (706) 660-1000 or HGI Brand Reservations at (877) 782-9444 no later than August 31, 2015. Be sure to tell them you are with the 24th Infantry Division Reunion to receive the discounted rate of \$89 plus tax.** The rate is good for 3 days before and 3 days after the event if you wish to extend your stay. We'll see you soon in Columbus!

Tour Descriptions for Columbus

Fort Benning Rangers In Action, Lunch and Tour:

Come watch a Rangers in Action Demonstration (RAI) on Fort Benning. The U.S. Army Ranger School is recognized as the Army's premier leadership course. This highly coordinated performance will awe and thrill you as Rangers detonate explosives, jump from helicopters into the water, rappel down and up towers, race down zip lines, and participate in hand to hand combat.

Have lunch on base like the old days followed by a tour of the base including interaction with simulators, gun ranges and other hands on activities.

Country's Barbecue and Columbus City Tour:

Country's Barbecue offers great barbecue cooked in open pits over hickory and red oak -- the way folks down here like it. We also offer a full range of country cooking, homemade pies, shakes, sundaes, banana splits and old fashion made in a double boiler banana pudding. Country's on Broad offers full table service, to go and drive thru. We're located in an original Greyhound bus station with a built in 1940 something bus.

Columbus is an authentic rivertown. Today, the river is home to the 15-mile trail known as the Chattahoochee RiverWalk. Locally, Columbus offers a variety of fine attractions, such as the State Theatre of Georgia, the historic Springer Opera House; Port Columbus Civil War Naval Museum; the National Infantry Museum; The Columbus Museum; the beautiful Historic District and spectacular architecture of the MidTown Historic District; and the Coca-Cola Space Science Center. Stroll back to times genteel with a guided tour of Heritage Corner, in the heart of Columbus' 26-block Historic District -- Georgia's largest -- where brick cobblestone streets, ancient oaks and century old homes are the order of the day. Five historical buildings, from a trader's log cabin to the home of Dr. John Pemberton -- whose French wine d'coca became better known as Coca-Cola.

The National Infantry Museum, Soldier Center and IMAX Theater:

The National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center salutes soldiers in a 190,000-square-foot facility nestled where Columbus meets Fort Benning. It is the only museum in the country dedicated to the American Infantryman and preserves one of the greatest collections of military artifacts. Featuring state-of-the-art exhibits, the museum traces infantry history from colonial times to the present in a series of galleries. The museum also showcases the Vietnam Memorial Plaza, featuring the Dignity Memorial Vietnam Wall and the iconic World War II Company Street. Guests can enjoy the many attractions at the museum, including the area's only IMAX Theatre, Combat Simulators and EST200 Rifle Range, Soldier Store, and the Fife and Drum Restaurant.

The IMAX Theatre at Patriot Park is the region's premiere destination to experience the most thrilling Hollywood blockbusters and the most immersive documentaries! The theater features the area's largest screen at five stories high and 70 feet wide that offers a bigger picture, clearer images and crystal clear sound. Recognized as the world's most immersive movie-going experience, IMAX puts you IN the movie, delivering an experience that cannot be replicated in a conventional cinema.

http://www.24thida.com/reunions/2015_columbus_ga.html

The 2015 24th Inf Div Assoc 68th Annual Reunion will be Sept. 17—21, at Columbus, GA and The National Infantry Museum.

The photo on page 2 is my photo of the National Infantry Museum taken in Summer 2010.

Not shown is a reconstructed WWII (and Korean War era as well) Basic Training Complex; the barracks looks just like Camp Breckinridge and Roberts.

And you 19th Rock of Chickamauga vets may be interested to know that the 19th is there now!

My step-grandson, Zach, was there a couple of years ago.

Lets begin now to assemble groups to carpool to Fort Benning together this September!

I plan to have a sign-up sheet at our May 4 Luncheon.

Your nomination for the 2015 Verbeck Award.

Although nothing has been in the Taro Leaf about the 2015 Verbeck Award, we will likely be asked by the next Taro Leaf to nominate a member for the Verbeck Award.

The recipient of that award is the 24th IDA member that has done the most to further the Association in realizing its goals and objectives.

The photo above is of yours truly receiving the Verbeck Award at the 2009 Annual Reunion in Rapid City, SD! Presenting the award is **Sal Schillaci**, then VP of the Association, and Chair of the Verbeck Awards Committee.

We have been suggesting the names of persons we felt were the best qualified candidates, having given unselfishly of themselves in the furtherance of the 24th IDA.

All our nominees have indeed received the Verbeck Award, except one, Merry Helm, an Honorary Member and then Association Historian. I feel the Directors made a mistake here!

This year I will nominate the person who presented me with the



award, **Salvatore “Sal” Schillaci**, not because he gave me mine, but because he went on to serve with distinction as Association 2010-12 President, and he continues to lead efforts to place a 24th Infantry Division memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

There likely will be a card imprinted in the back cover of the next Taro Leaf to cast your nomination. *Even if there isn't*, please join me in nominating **Sal Schillaci**!

Nominations should be sent to:

VP Donald Bruner: A Co/2nd Inf
2611 Old Mallard Road
Enid, OK 73703
580-233-4228 H, 580-977-4037
C, donbruner@suddelink.net,

Or if someone else is designated send to that individual.

Thank you very much. TJT

University of Central Florida, Veterans History Project

is compiling the memories of Central Florida Veterans for posterity, and for history in UCF Historical Archives. And also for the Library of Congress.



I was interviewed on March 9 at the Mount Doral Public Library; it lasted for about two hours, and was very casual and enjoyable.

Why am I championing the UCF VHP? Because I believe you should be interviewed.

I know there are many stories to tell. Stories that the public should be able to access. Something for future historians across FL and the Nation to be able to access.

And also because UCF wants to interview us.

They will do the interviews in our area, Leesburg, The Villages, or perhaps your home.

I am compiling a list of Veterans desiring/willing to be interviewed. Please let me know that you would like to be added to the list.

Do this today; you will not be sorry you did.

Please contact me now: Tom Thiel
24thidaweb@gmail.com, 352-408-6612

<http://riches.cah.ucf.edu/veterans/>

Survivor Assistance Guide and Family Preparation Workbook

At a recent KWVA Chapter 169 meeting we had two speakers from the D.A.V. Chapter in Merit Island who gave a copy of above to all attendees. A copy of this excellent 68-page workbook that is so self-explanatory that, as one of the speakers said, "Even a Marine could follow these instructions!" is available for download at <http://cid169.kwva.org/> Find it listed on the lower main page and click on the link. You may then of course print or download it. TJT

Kenneth L. Bradshaw Jr., 84, of Inverness, passed away peacefully March 5, 2015, under the care of HPH Hospice, Lecanto.

Ken was born in Taunton, Massachusetts, and raised in the neighboring community of Raynham.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 45 years and best friend, Barbara Bradshaw.

Ken enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1948, and served with E/19th, 24th Infantry Division. He was seriously wounded on Feb. 6, 1951. He was medically retired in 1952.



Ken and Barbara at our July 2009 Leesburg Luncheon.



THE 24TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



I desire to be: Enrolled ☐ (Or) Reinstated ☐; as a Member ☐ (or) Associate Member ☐
(please check the proper two boxes)

of the
24th "Victory Division" Association
The Greatest Combat Division the United States Army has ever known.

☐ Annual Dues - \$15.00 (1) Year From date of joining in The Association.

☐ Life Member - \$200.00 Payable in one sum or 5 yearly payments of \$40.00 each.

~~~~~

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE+4 \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_ SPOUSE'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_

**Served IN the 24th Division, OR was Member of Any Unit Ever Attached TO the 24th at any time.**

Unit: \_\_\_\_\_ Squad \_\_\_\_\_ Plt/Bat \_\_\_\_\_ Co \_\_\_\_\_ Bn \_\_\_\_\_  
(e.g., 5th, 19th, 21st, 3rd Eng, etc.)

Location Served: \_\_\_\_\_ From (Yr.) \_\_\_\_\_ To (Yr.) \_\_\_\_\_  
(e.g., Pearl H., WWII, Japan, Korea, Germany, Ft. Stewart, Lebanon, Somalia, Desert Storm, Ft. Riley, etc.)

POW: From (Yr.) \_\_\_\_\_ To (Yr.) \_\_\_\_\_

Other Unit Served With: \_\_\_\_\_ From (Yr.) \_\_\_\_\_ To (Yr.) \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor (not necessary): \_\_\_\_\_

Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks in above amount payable to the "24th Infantry Division Association"  
And mail with this completed application to:

**John A. Dunn, Secretary/Treasurer**  
**24th Infantry Division Association**  
**9150 Hwy. 51**  
**Westover, AL 35147-9527**

January 2012, 24th IDA WEB

**If you are not a member & receive the Taro Leaf, Please Join now. Tom Thiel**

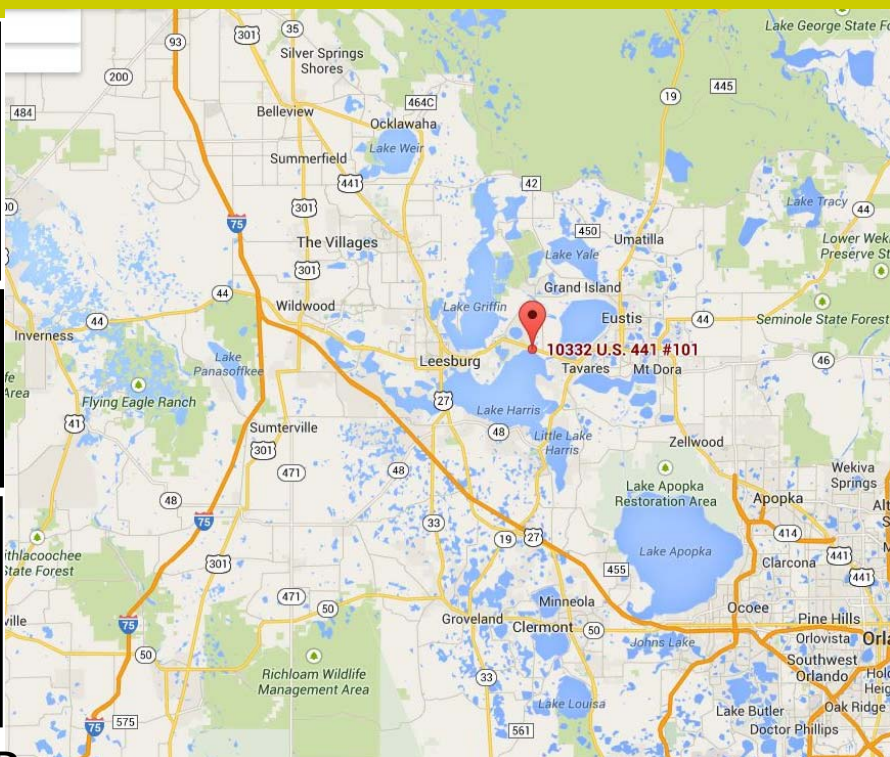


**Florida 24th IDA Group  
Dutch Treat Luncheon**

**Mon. May 4, 2015 11:30 a.m.  
IHOP, 10332 US441 in Leesburg.  
Across 441 fr Lake Square Mall**

This newsletter produced and delivered  
with only the financial support realized  
from the 50:50 drawings held at the  
Luncheons.

**Please help us cut mailing costs.  
If you have email, please send  
Tom Thiel an email at  
24thidaweb@gmail.com  
352-408-6612**



**FL 24th IDA Web Page**

www.24thida.com — click on Florida 24th IDA  
at bottom of home page



*The Florida 24th Vets*  
Tom J. Thiel, Editor  
19147 Park Place Blvd.  
Eustis, FL 32736-7262

