



Geronimo!



VOLUME 6, ISSUE 2

SEPTEMBER 2018

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SEND E-MAIL ADDRESS TO PhilipHandscomb@msn.com AND WE WILL SEND YOU A COPY OF THE NEWSLETTER

At the Reunion of the 509 PIA, in Reno, Nevada, we were pleased to honor Philip Handscomb with the 509 Order of Geronimo. Pictured above is the Brit., 007.

Where is reunion in 2019?

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND THE MEMBERSHIP IN ATTENDANCE AND ON-LINE HAVE CHOSEN THE THREE POSSIBLE SITES FOR THE 2019 REUNION: 1ST PLACE, FORT SMITH, AK; 2ND PLACE, ST LOUIS, MO; 3RD PLACE, ALEXANDRIA, LA. HOUSMAN AND ASSOCIATES WILL TAKE BIDS FROM HOTELS FOR EACH OF THE SITES, AND PROBABLE TIMES FOR THE REUNION, AND WILL GET BACK TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WITH THE RESULTS. EVERY ATTEMPT WILL BE MADE TO CHOOSE THE 1ST PLACE PICK, BUT IT ALL COMES DOWN TO PRICE FOR THE MEMBERS AND AVAILABILITY. WATCH FOR FUTURE POSTINGS HERE AND ON THE FACEBOOK PAGE.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- 509 NEW BOARD
- 2018 REUNION
- MEMBERSHIP APP
- 509 REUNION PICS
- DMOR
- 509 PIA NEWS
- 509TH WEBSITE LINK abn509thassoc@yahoo.com

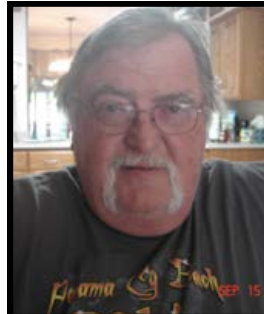
OUR EXECUTIVE BOARD 2018—2019



Jamie Garza,
President



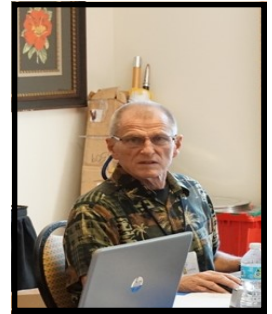
Don McElroy,
Vice-President



Dale Fairbanks,
Treasurer



Margot Handscomb,
Secretary

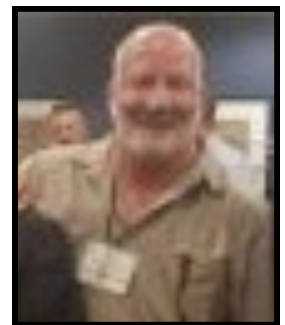


John Eaves ,
Membership



Philip Handscomb
Sergeant at Arms

**A Sincere Thank You to Jaime Garza,
our President**
who is staying on and has organized a very success-
ful reunion. All our thanks to June & John, for the
time and hours they have put in, to make the 509 PIA
reunion a success . **Welcome to Don McElroy, our
new 509 PIA Vice President, Henry Hyde, a new
Trustee, and to all our new members.**




Dave Bush,
Trustee



Barry Simpson,
Special Projects

TRUSTEES



Henry Hyde



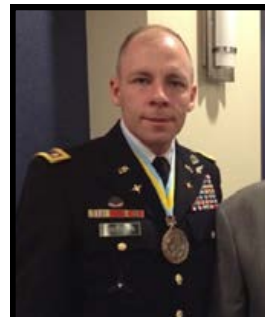
Tryggvi Larum,
Special Projects



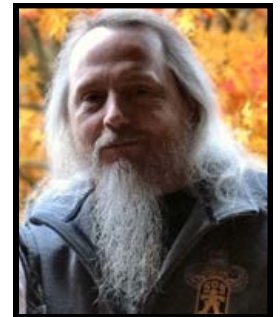
Tom Tsvigas



Lee Barber



Matt Anderson



Kevin Boatman

CSM Paul B Huff Medal of Honor Memorial

Over the last couple of years, the 75th anniversaries of important dates have been observed. In 2016 the Association celebrated the 75th anniversary of the activation of what was initially designated the 504th Parachute Infantry Battalion, but would later be re-designated and



finish the war as the 509th Parachute Infantry Battalion. Next year we will see the anniversaries of probably the most significant events of World War II for the Airborne in general and the 509th in particular. The invasions of Anzio, Southern France and the Battle of the Bulge will all mark 75 years.

One of the events to be recognized next year will be the 75th anniversary of the February 8th action, where then Corporal Paul Huff, received his Medal of Honor in the Anzio beachhead. Paul Huff was a native of Cleveland, Tennessee and joined the Army in June of 1941. He was one of the original Troopers of the 504th PIB, and served with the Battalion at Forts Benning and Bragg, and in England. Huff participated in both combat jumps in North Africa and Avellino. Following the Avellino operation he fought with the Battalion at Monte Croce, and participated in the amphibious invasion of Anzio. Cpl. Huff was the first Paratrooper to be awarded the Medal of Honor.

As mentioned above, February 8th, 2019 will mark 75 years since his Medal of Honor action near Carano, Italy. A memorial ceremony is being planned for Saturday, February 9th to commemorate this achievement. Paul Huff is buried in his hometown of Cleveland, Tennessee, and plans are to hold the ceremony at his gravesite. While it's still in the early stages for the ceremony, an honor guard, a laying of a wreath, and participation by the Huff family are all being planned for. As the date gets closer more details will be published in the newsletter and on Facebook.

3/509 Re-deployment & 509 Ball Pictures



509 PIA VP, Don McElroy and Lt Col Adam Barlow. Thanks Don for attending and sending pictures.





June Housman in a cowgirl hat with bling , Reno 2018.



Philip H, and Friend visit John Kessler at VA Home, Roanoke, VA, July 2018



Philip Handscomb and President, Jaime Garza, Reno 2018.



Lloyd Plummer and Ernestine DeLaca and others, Reno 2018.

Look at These Amazing Guys



2018 509 DMOR Awards Ft. Polk, LA



COL (Retired) Mark Suich



COL Darron L. Wright



CSM (Retired) Frank Ashe



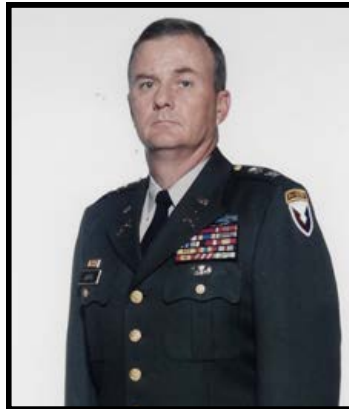
CSM (Retired) John Burns



CSM Timothy Metheny



COL (Ret.) John W King



COL (Ret) Don Loftis



SSG David T Brabander

ys/Gals from 2018 Reunion



509 PIA | GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

Meeting date | time 6/2/2018 10:00 AM | Meeting location Reno, NV

Meeting called by	Jaime Garza, President	Attendees:
Type of meeting	Annual Membership Meeting	A Quorum of the Executive Committee was Present: Jaime Garza, President; Dale Fairbanks, Treasurer; Margot Handscomb, Secretary; 509 PIA Trustees; Tom Tsvigas, Don McElroy, and Kevin Boatman; Sgt. At Arms, Philip Handscomb: Past President, Dave Bush. Special Projects, Barry Simpson/Trygvi Larum. June Housman & John Eaves, Housman & Assoc. Also in attendance were all 509 PIA members in good standing, who were in Reno, NV, for the 509 PIA Reunion.
Facilitator	Jaime Garza	
Secretary	Margot Handscomb	

AGENDA TOPICS:

- I. The Membership meeting began with a Call to Order by the Sgt. at Arms. The minutes of the last General Membership Meeting were read by the current Secretary, Margot Handscomb, and approved. Our Treasurer, Dale Fairbanks reported on our change of banks from Wells Fargo to a Credit Union. Our current balance is approximately - \$5,000 in checking, and 25,000 in savings.
- II. President Garza announced that the Association members had made visits to at least 3 WWII veterans, and visited the 3rd 509 at Fort Richardson, Alaska. Heath Stanley and Philip Handscomb had presented the Order of Geronimo to John Kessler and Keith Houghton.
- III. Barry Simpson, Special Projects, informed the membership that he as working on a "Go Fund Me" page for a reprinting of "Stand in the Door" which is out of print, and for which we have many requests. He is also working on a monument to stand at the Military Museum at Fort Benning, GA. He feels he will have a design available by the 2019 reunion. He feels this acquisition will take a major fund raising effort.
- IV. June Housman presented the top three possible sites for the 2019 reunion. After open discussion from the floor, the following sites resulted from a written vote by membership: 1st place, Fort Smith/Chaffee, AK; 2nd place, St. Louis, MO; 3rd place, Alexandria, LA. June will send out packets to likely hotels in all 3 locations to get bids availability/desirability info. She will get back to the Executive Committee with all information. In 2020 the reunion will be held in the Eastern Third of the US, so suggestions were made, discussion ensued, and a vote was taken. The top three sites were: 1st place, Ft. Walton, FL; 2nd place, Ft. Bragg, NC; 3rd place, Ft. Lee, VA.
- V. John Eaves reported on the progress of the on-line store. He said they were expanding on the number and type of items available, and they were offering T-shirts with color options other than black.
- VI. Barry Simpson attended the Man Of the Year award ceremony in Atlanta, GA, where our 509 Man of the Year, Jaime Garza, was honored.
- VII. A motion was made and seconded from the floor, that 2 DMOR recipients from each of the 1st and 3rd Battalions of the 509th attend the reunion every year, and have their attendance expenses, not covered by the Army, paid for by the 509 PIA. The motion was affirmed by a unanimous vote from the members.
- VIII. Jaime Garza, President, Thanked Ernie, our beloved bartender, for again donating his tips to the 509 PIA,

- IX. Discussion of Officers and Executive Committee members including the fact that Drew Pumarejo will be stepping down as Vice President of the 509 PIA. Thank you Drew for your service to the 509 PIA. Nominations and election of Officers and Committee members followed and the results are as follows:
- a. President – Jaime Garza
 - b. New Vice President – Don McElroy
 - c. Treasurer – Dale Fairbanks
 - d. Secretary – Margot Handscomb
 - e. Sgt. At Arms – Philip Handscomb
 - f. New Trustee – Henry Hyde
 - g. Trustee – Matt Anderson
 - h. Trustee – Tom Tsvigas
 - i. Trustee – Lee Barber
 - j. Trustee – Dave Bush
 - k. New Membership Secretary – John Eaves
 - l. Special Projects – Barry Simpson & Tryggvi Larum

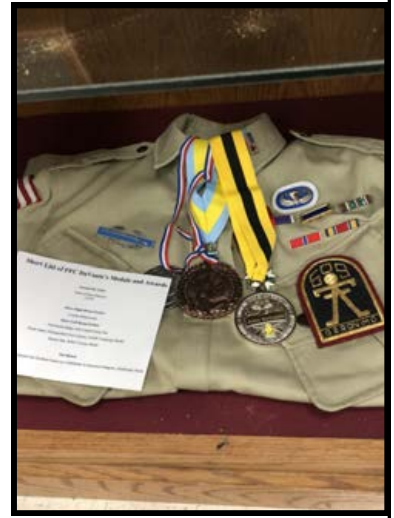
*****Attention—Current account Update for 9/2018**

Regular Share Account \$25,985.40

Access America Account \$5,365.88

Total Deposit Accounts \$31,351.28

Don McElroy has sent us Pics from FT Polk, 26Sept 2018, which he took on a recent visit. There is the Ginger Bread Man, the door to Huff Hall, John Devanie’s memorabilia glass cases, the front door to headquarters, and a tribute to Darron Wright.



Organization Dues Statement

January 1-December 31

Annual 509th PIA Membership

- CHARTER WORLD WAR II VETERAN LIFETIME MEMBER
- LEGACY IMMEDIATE FAMILY OF VETERAN \$20.00 per year
- REGULAR POST WORLD WAR II 509TH VETERAN \$25.00 per year
- ASSOCIATE NON 509TH VETERAN \$25.00 per year

Please make check payable to:

509th PIA

and send to:

509th Parachute Infantry Association
 PO Box 43
 Owatonna, MN 55060

We Need Your Support

Name: _____

Address: _____

Spouse's Name: _____

Phone No.: _____ E-mail Address: _____

Occupation: _____

509TH SERVICE:

Unit: _____ Time Period: _____

Combat Tour: _____ Time Period: _____

OTHER COMBAT UNIT:

Combat Tour: _____ Time Period: _____

If you do not want your name and information listed in a member directory please check the box

[Click here for 509th PIA Application](#)