



# National Capital Area Chapter

The 101st Airborne Division Association

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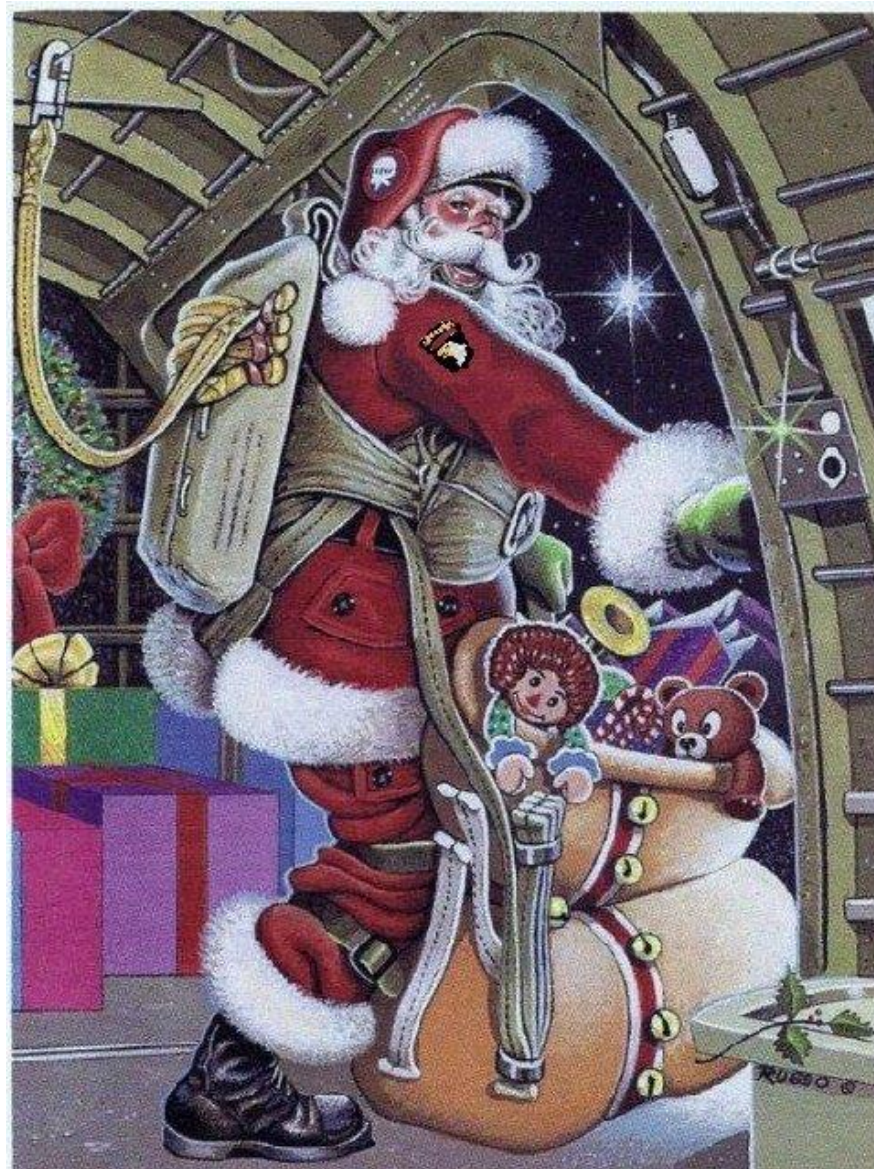
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## NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER – DECEMBER, 2017

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***“WE WISH ALL OUR FELLOW SCREAMING EAGLES A MERRY HOLIDAY SEASON AND MAY 2018 BE A HAPPY AND HEALTHY ONE FOR ALL.”***

**PRESIDENT’S LETTER:**

*“Another year has passed by and as we move into 2018 there are a number of things we need to consider. Our revised program for Memorial Day is taking shape. We hope to make the experience as trouble free as possible. I hope everyone will be flexible. It is hard to believe, that we are well into the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary period of the Vietnam War. Lots of regional activities are ongoing. There will undoubtedly be a major national observance at some point and we want our members to be fully informed as to what will happen and to facilitate everyone’s ability to participate to the extent they might wish. For those interested in the planning now underway, please look at the website established for coordination: <http://www.vietnamwar50th.com/>*

*We welcome any suggestions about chapter participation in the observance. I hope that the new arrangements for Memorial Day will encourage wider participation. I look forward to seeing everyone in May.” George Malleck*

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**VETERANS DAY 2017 IN WASHINGTON, DC:**

The **National Capital Area Chapter** again hosted **Veterans Day** activities at the **Vietnam Memorial Wall** and the **101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division Memorial** at the entrance to Arlington National Cemetery. We began with a **Hospitality Suite** on the afternoon and evening of the **November 10<sup>th</sup>**, which was attended by **Veteran Screaming Eagles** and their **guests**. On the **November 11<sup>th</sup>** our Chapter wreath of the **Division patch** was placed at the **Vietnam Memorial (The Wall)** by Chapter President **George Malleck** as part of the National Ceremony honoring the more than **58,000 casualties** listed on that **Memorial**. Following that ceremony the Chapter conducted a **wreath laying** at the **101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division Memorial** at Arlington National Cemetery. **Ten memorial wreaths** were placed honoring the following units and individuals: **101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division (Air Assault)**; the National Association; **MSGT Elvin W. Anderson**; **327<sup>th</sup>/401<sup>st</sup> Infantry**; **Task Force 3/506<sup>th</sup> Airborne Infantry, Geraci Chapter**; **CPL Peter Pulaski, Jr., 42<sup>nd</sup> INF PLT - Scout Dog**; **Dennis L. Husereau 2/502d Infantry**; **COL Leonard C. Krawczyk**; **LTC Charles K. Gailey**, past Chapter President; and a wreath by Chapter member **COL Eric Heist** commemorating Army Service. This year we were honored to have as a guest and participant the **father** of longtime Chapter member **COL Jonathan Sweet**, retired **COL Worth A. “Sonny” Sweet, Jr.** who served as the **Division G-2 from June 1984 – June 1986 as a then LTC**. He retired from the US Army in 1992. Both **COL’s Sweet** placed the wreath for the **101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division (Air Assault)**.



**Veterans Day in Washington, DC**



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**MEMORIAL DAY 2018, IN WASHINGTON, DC:**

Our Chapter is back on track with all **four events** for our **Memorial Day** observances. We have secured a date and time for the placement of a **memorial wreath** at the **Tomb of the Unknowns** which will be **1:15 PM on Friday May 25, 2018**. We will also be working with the **new schedule** of events which was put into effect this past Memorial Day. **Both wreath laying** ceremonies and the annual **lunch/dinner** will be conducted on **Saturday, May 26, 2018**. As of this writing, **Sunday, May 27<sup>th</sup>** is an **open day** for people to do whatever they wish. **Monday, May 28<sup>th</sup>** will be the Chapter's participation in the annual **Memorial Day Parade** along with the Central Virginia **Mustang car Club**. A complete schedule of events and registration forms are located in another part of this magazine.

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**IN MEMORIUM:**

On **December 12, 2017**, Chapter members visited the graves of **24 502<sup>nd</sup> Screaming Eagles in Section 60 and Columbarium Court 1 at Arlington National Cemetery** who were lost in the air disaster at **Gander, Newfoundland** on December 12, 1985. Miniature Division Flags were placed on each gravesite.

Long time Chapter member **LTG (Ret) John H. Cushman** known to family and friends as **"Jack"** passed away in Washington, D.C. on Wednesday, **November 8, 2017** at the **age of 96**. **LTG Cushman** graduated from the United States Military Academy at **West Point in 1944**, where he was **First Captain** of the **Corps of Cadets**. He served for **35 years** in the **US Army** with **three tours** of combat duty in **Vietnam**, including commanding the **2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade of the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division**. His General Officer assignments included his command of the **101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division** at **Fort Campbell, Kentucky**. **LTG Cushman** was a member of the National Capital Area Chapter for many years and actively participated in many of our Memorial Day and Veterans Day activities. A memorial service was held at **Knollwood Military Retirement Community** in Washington on Sunday, **November 12, at 2:00 PM**. Funeral services were held at West Point on Thursday, **November 30, 2017**.

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**CHAPTER WEBSITE:**

The Chapter has a **new website**, [www.ncac101.org](http://www.ncac101.org), which is still a work in progress. We are currently developing an events section which will contain **information** about the **Chapter's pending activities**. There are back issues of the Chapter Newsletter in which more information concerning Chapter activities is available. We are still developing our **Chapter membership application** and hope to have that uploaded soon. We welcome any **suggestions and ideas** but request that you address them to either **Diane Husereau, Sylvia Schonberger, Bob Ponzo or George Malleck**. A photo gallery and a links page are also in development.

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**LICENSE PLATES:**

If you are a **Maryland resident** and are interested in obtaining 101<sup>st</sup> License Plates – send an email to [telemere@gmail.com](mailto:telemere@gmail.com). The subject line should read "101<sup>st</sup> License Plates." The applicant must first become a member of the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division Association to qualify for the tags.

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**FACEBOOK PAGE:**

**Our Facebook page is: 101st-DC-Chapter**

**National Capital Area Chapter  
Memorial Day Weekend, May 25-28, 2018  
Registration Form**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse \_\_\_\_\_ or  
Guest \_\_\_\_\_

Unit \_\_\_\_\_ WWII \_\_\_\_\_ VN \_\_\_\_\_ DS \_\_\_\_\_ OE/IF \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_FC \_\_\_\_\_

I/we plan on Participating in the following events:

\_\_\_\_\_ 25 May – 1:15 PM Wreath Ceremony, Tomb of the Unknowns: # \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ 26 May – 9:30 AM Bus and War Memorials Ceremonies: # \_\_\_\_\_

Note: Bus originates and returns to the Sheraton hotel, \$5.00 per person.

\_\_\_\_\_ 26 May – 3:00 PM 101<sup>st</sup> Memorial ceremony and dinner: # \_\_\_\_\_

Note: Dinner is pay as you go.

\_\_\_\_\_ 28 May – 1PM National Memorial Day Parade (only current and ex-military)

\_\_\_\_\_ I am able to march if required.

\_\_\_\_\_ I will need to ride.

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to ride if available.

Mail registration forms to Bob Ponzo, National Capital Area Chapter, 93 Sentinel Ridge Lane, Stafford, VA 22554. Registration forms should be received no later than 20 May, 2018

NOTE: There will be a block of rooms (price \$119/night plus taxes) available in the Sheraton Pentagon City Hotel beginning Friday, 25 May. For reservations against this block of rooms, contact Diane Husereau at 301-528-3165 or [dhusereau@aol.com](mailto:dhusereau@aol.com). You can also make reservations directly at: <https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/events/start.action?id=1712192147&key=27CA87A5>. The special discounted rate will be available on a first come basis, so please contact Diane as soon as possible.

**2018 Memorial Day Wreath Ordering Form**

Name /Organization of person ordering the wreath(s):

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Person(s) placing the wreath (if known):

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Inscription and color preference for ribbons adorning wreath(s):

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Cost is \$90.00 per wreath. Please place orders with Bob Ponzo. 93 Sentinel Ridge Lane, Stafford, VA 22554. Telephone: 540-659-7212 or email at [oznopsf@gmail.com](mailto:oznopsf@gmail.com).

**Orders for wreaths must be received not later than May 22, 2018**  
**National Capital Area Chapter**  
**Memorial Day Weekend, May 25-28, 2018**  
**Schedule of Events**

You are cordially invited to join the National Capital Area Chapter of the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division Association in commemorating our fallen comrades on Memorial Day weekend.

**Friday, May 25, 2018**

11:45 AM – Leave the Visitors Center at Arlington National Cemetery to walk to the Tomb of the Unknowns.

1:15 PM – Division Association wreath will be laid at the Tomb of the Unknowns

3:00 PM – Hospitality Suite at the Sheraton Hotel will be open.

**Saturday, May 26, 2018**

Due to the adverse effects on attendance encountered because of Rolling Thunder during our prior years Sunday wreath ceremonies and luncheon, the Chapter has decided to combine the Saturday and Sunday events into one day as follows:

9:30 AM – Bus leaves the hotel for the National Mall. Association wreaths will be laid at the WWII Memorial, the Korean War Memorial and the Vietnam Wall. Hospitality Suite will open upon return to the hotel.

3:00 PM – Memorial Ceremony, including laying of wreaths\* at the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division Memorial.

5:00 PM – Dinner served at the hotel. Hospitality Suite will re-open after the dinner.

**Sunday, May 27, 2018**

This will be a free day for visitors to partake in any of the many events taking place in the Metropolitan area.

11:00 AM – Hospitality Suite will open and remain open until 12 midnight (or later).

**Monday, May 28, 2018**

We will assemble on the Mall for the Memorial Day Parade which starts at 2:00 PM. Look for the Eagles and the Car Club in the vicinity 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Jefferson Drive. The nearest Metro station is L'Enfant Plaza – walk down 7<sup>th</sup> Street to the Mall (Jefferson Drive). You can also be dropped off at the north end of the Mall on 4<sup>th</sup> Street from where you can walk to the assembly area. Parade organizers in golf carts will have maps with organization's locations. The parade will travel down Constitution Avenue and end at 17<sup>th</sup> Street.

\*The price remains at \$90.00 per wreath. Anyone interested in purchasing a wreath to be placed at the 101<sup>st</sup> Division Memorial should contact Bob Ponzo at 540-659-7212 or email him at [oznopsf@gmail.com](mailto:oznopsf@gmail.com).