

## **Blue Ridge Conference Call - 23 October 2012**

**1. Attendance** - The 80th Blue Ridge Army Reserve Association Quarterly Telephone Conference call was held on Tuesday night, 24 October 2012 beginning at 1900. The call was attended by Blue Ridge Association officers, President Grant Porter, Secretary Pete Herbert, Treasurer Ed Polonitza, and Board Members; Jim Brown, George Croughwell, Paul Hoppes, Erik Imago, Coretta Lankford and John McLaren.

### **2. President's Report:**

**a.** Grant reported on the 93rd 80<sup>th</sup> Division Veterans Reunion at the BWI Marriott in Baltimore, MD from 22-26 Aug 2012. 123 attended including 23 WWII Veterans. Reunion included some great guest speakers and the hi-lite being the Baltimore Harbor Dinner Cruise. The Fall 2012 Blue Ridge Magazine contained many articles and pictures of the Reunion. Grant congratulated Doris Wollett for all her work as Secretary of the 80<sup>th</sup> Division Veterans and the outstanding job on the Blue Ridge Magazine.

### **2. Vice President's Report: (Presented by Pete)**

**a.** Our next Quarterly Luncheon scheduled for 24 Oct at the Holiday Inn on Belles Road and 16 members and guests have indicated they would attend, more details in the next newsletter. We are working with the same Hotel (Holiday Inn) for our Annual Holiday Party. Tentative date is 15 Dec (Sat) more details as soon as the date is confirmed.

**3. Secretary/Membership Report:** Pete reported we have 127 Active Members, 76 Lifetime Members and 51 Annual Members. Our newest members are SFC Douglas Burnett, an AGR soldiers assigned to the 80<sup>th</sup> G7 and Virgilio Munoz, 80<sup>th</sup> Safety Officer. 2012 Annual Dues are now due and we have 48 members owe 2013 dues which need to be paid by 1 Jan 2013. Our complete list of members is on our website at [www.80thblueridge.us](http://www.80thblueridge.us)

**4. Treasurers Report:** Ed reported we have in our Money Market \$10561.63 and in our checking \$5026.11 for a total of \$15587.74. Principal expenses: Hardy Scholarship \$500, Merchandise and gifts \$1204.20. Income \$856.92 from dues, merchandise and miscellaneous. These amounts are since the last board meeting. Our cash balance is down about \$1100 since January 1.

### **5. New Business**

**a.** John McLaren announced the 94<sup>th</sup> 80<sup>th</sup> Division Veterans Reunion will be held at the Virginia Beach Resort and Conference Center 3-8 Sep 2013. As the Senior Vice Commander, John will serve as Chairman for the Reunion. Planned events include a Golf Tournament visits to the MacArthur Memorial and USS Battleship Wisconsin, as well as several dinner functions.

**b.** We received a refund from the BWI Marriott Hotel of \$159.92 in overpayment for our Annual Meeting Breakfast held on Aug 26. It was agreed we would use this amount to keep the cost of the Holiday Party hopefully at last years level (\$20.00 per person). As soon as Pete and Doris get the final numbers they will work out details with Ed.

**c.** George, Golf Tournament Chairman, reported the 2013 Tournament, held on Sep 22 at Providence Country Club, was a great success and raised \$150.00 for the Association Awards Program. We had three teams and winners included: Longest Drive-Joe Deboer, Closes to the Pin-Angela Robey, and Monster Putt-

George Newnam. All participants received Blue Ridge Merchandise as prizes. George and Grant will present a Certificate of Appreciation to the Golf Course for all their support.

d. Emily Hardy, winner of the 2012 Continuing Education Scholarship sent a nice thank you note to the 80<sup>th</sup> as follows:

"Dear 80<sup>th</sup> Blue Ridge Members, It was a pleasure to finally meet some of you last week ! Thank you so much for granting me the Blue Ridge Association Continuing Education Scholarship. This will truly help me in my educational pursuits and lighten my financial obligations. I will be making the most of my education. I am proud of the 80<sup>th</sup> Division and hope I can make you all proud of me. Thanks Again. Sincerely, Emily Hardy"

e. Discussion was held on Awards Program. The 80<sup>th</sup> will no longer have a January Awards Banquet but CSM Wills has said there may be a Dining in or Dining Out sometime during 2013. Pete will try to find out the status so we can arrange a proper venue to present our Awards to Civilians and Soldiers.

f. George will Chair the 2013 Continuing Education Scholarship Program and J.R White has volunteered to help. Anyone else who is interested in serving on the Committee needs to contact George. This year we will be awarding two \$500.00 Scholarships.

g. We had four Blue Ridge Members who competed in the 2012 Army Ten-Mile held in Washington, DC. Congratulations to Larry Adams, Skip Goodwillie, Corretta Lankford, and Angela Robie. Each Participant will be given \$25.00 to help defray their expenses. As an alternative the participants can chose to receive \$25.00 in Blue Ridge Merchandise or make a donation of the \$25.00 to the Annual Awards Program which include: our Scholarship Fund, the Soldier and Civilians Awards or the Audie Murphy Awards. Pete will contact the individuals to determine their choice.

h. A Big Thanks to Virgilo Munoz, Safety Officer at the 80<sup>th</sup> for his contribution of a beautiful Hand Engraved 80<sup>th</sup> "Only Moves Forward" Mirror that we raffled off at the Veterans Reunion. We raised \$210.00 for our Awards Program as a result of this generous contribution from Virgilo. Again thanks Virgilio.

**6. Wrap-up:** The teleconference ended at 1935. The next scheduled call will be 24 Jan 2013.