

**Descendants of WW II Rangers Business Meeting
August 3, 2019 at the Wyndham Hotel in Gettysburg, PA**

President David Williams called the meeting to order at 9:50 am ET. He welcomed members and guests, then led the group in the Pledge to the Flag. He introduced the WW II Rangers in attendance: Joseph Drake (2A), Rudolph "Roy" Huereque (5D), and Arthur Wilson (1D). Roy showed his Liberators of France medal that he received in June during his trip to Normandy for the 75th Anniversary of D-Day.

President's Report:

- Only descendants who are current dues paying members may vote.
- Board members were introduced: Nancy Taube, Vice President; Andrea Buchanan, Secretary; Terry Toler, Treasurer; and Laura Moore, Member at Large.
- Reunions have been held every year since 2017 due to the age of the Rangers. The Board has committed to keeping the cost of reunions in "the black".
- The Board of Directors conducts meetings through emails and teleconferences, which David Williams has set up and donated the cost of the calls.
- Funds remain strong. We are a 501©3 non-profit organization whose annual tax returns are done by a CPA. Our savings account has remained untouched.
- The new website was a year in the making at a cost of \$3,000. A webmaster was hired with input from the Board members.
- The newsletter editor, member Leland Williams, took over this past year.
- The 75th Anniversary of each Ranger battalion has been acknowledged at reunions and through the newsletter.
- The Silent Auction items will be moved from the hospitality suite to the banquet hall this afternoon. Bids stop at 6:00 pm this evening. Winners will be announced after dinner.

Secretary's Report: The minutes from the Membership Meeting of June 30, 2017, at the Hilton Garden Inn at Fort Benning, GA were passed out by Secretary, Andrea Buchanan. Steve Lehmann made a motion to approve the minutes. It was seconded by Riley Williams. The motion to approve carried.

Treasurer's Report: Terry Toler presented the financial statement from January to June 2019: Revenue of \$15,740 and Expenses of \$13,213.82 leaving income of \$2,526.18. As of June 28, 2019, we have \$13,398.28 in business checking, \$717.15 in the Ranger Library checking, and \$65, 133.48 in savings. A motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made by John Brooks and seconded by Charles Kusnyer. The motion carried. It was suggested

that we put the 2018 Income and Expense statement on the website in the Members Only section.

Committee Reports:

Membership Report: Chair Nancy Taube reported that the Board set a goal in 2018 to increase membership to 200. In 2018 we had 209 members and so far in 2019 we have 206 with dues still coming in. She encouraged everyone to sign up their family members.

Website Report: Nancy Taube, who oversees the website, explained an added feature. She is creating an individual page for each Ranger for those who send her their information and pictures. She is also looking for ways that we can honor our Rangers, such as brick pavers at Fort Benning and Fort Smith. It was recommended that we post the membership roster on the website.

Julie Belanger was thanked for her generous contribution of the Morning Reports that are on our website for members only.

History Committee: Laura Moore is Chair along with a member from each battalion.

Ranger Library Report: David Williams described the library as a searchable database of WW II Rangers' records and memorabilia that will be passed onto future generations. While at the Army Heritage Center, he met with the Operations Director to discuss areas of common interest which may benefit the development of the WW II Ranger Library. Our Library Advisors are: LTG (ret) Ken Keen, BG (ret) Bill Leszczynski, COL (ret) Robert Poydasheff, and Sheila Dudley. Ranger Joe Drake will donate his tapes on DVD.

Unfinished Business: Gary Stern copyrighted the blue diamond Ranger patch in Europe. He can put the patch on any product he chooses and is using it to make money for his personal gain. All patches are copyrighted by the U.S. Army. By a show of hands, members support trying to revoke his copyright.

New Business: Ron Hudnell, chairman of the Congressional Gold Medal (CGM) Committee, gave an update on the facts and history of the CGM along with the current status of SB 1757 which was reintroduced in the Senate on June 10, 2019. At least 67 Senators must co-sponsor the bill before it can be considered by Committee. They are currently looking for Representatives to introduce a bill in the House. Ron handed out packets of information to attendees to urge them to call, email, write, and/or visit their Senator.

Since the 29th Ranger Battalion was included in the bill for the CGM, members supported the Board looking into incorporating them into the Descendants of WW II Rangers. In addition, members support trying to regulate or copyright the RBA scroll.

Amendments to the By-laws: Both proposed amendments passed by a vote of 28 “yes” to one “no”:

1) To be eligible to be nominated, elected and serve on the Board of Directors, the person must have been a voting member in good standing of the Descendants of World War II Rangers, Inc. for at least two (2) years, must be a current dues-paying member in good standing, and have demonstrated a dedication to the organization for a minimum of at least two (2) years.

2) The Board of Directors will expand from five (5) members to seven (7) members. The two new positions will be Board Members at Large.

Election of Board of Directors: Eight members who accepted the nomination for seven positions were Julie Belanger, Andrea Buchanan, Ron Hudnell, Holly Seery, Nancy Taube, Terry Toler, David Williams, and Newton R. “Riley” Williams, III. Ron Hudnell made a motion to close nominations. It was seconded by Barbara Huereque. Motion carried. There was a tie between Terry Toler and Holly Seery. Seery was elected in the runoff along with Belanger, Buchanan, Hudnell, Taube, D. Williams, and R. Williams.

Reunion Sites for 2020: The following cities were mentioned as possible sites for the next reunion: West Point, Savannah, Tampa, a city central to all the surviving Rangers, or New Orleans. In 2021 we will go to Fort Benning during Ranger Rendezvous and every other year after that.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:18 pm ET.

Respectfully Submitted

Andrea Buchanan, Secretary