

Roy Benavidez-Robert Patterson "All Airborne" Chapter
82nd Airborne Division Association, Incorporated
2608 Fort Boulevard
El Paso, Texas
79930-2116



First Class Postage



**On The Eighth Day...
GOD created PARATROOPERS and
The DEVIL Stood at Attention and SALUTED!**

**Benavidez-Patterson "All Airborne" Chapter
82nd Airborne Division Assn., Inc.**



"BUILDING MAINTENANCE FUND"

A \$10 per month donation would be greatly appreciated!

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Ricardo N. "Rick" Trevizo and CSM (Ret.) Lee B. Walker;

THANK YOU!

**DONATIONS MAY BE MADE AT THE CHAPTER FACILITY
TO:**

**JOE "CHINA BOY" LOPEZ, BOB CHISOLM OR JOHN CEBALLOS
CHECKS PAYABLE TO: BENAVIDEZ-PATTERSON CHAPTER**

**THEY MAY ALSO BE MAILED TO:
BENAVIDEZ-PATTERSON "ALL AIRBORNE" CHAPTER
ATTN: BUILDING MAINTENANCE FUND
2608 FORT BOULEVARD
EL PASO, TEXAS 79930-2116**

* Donations are fully tax deductible. Verification available upon request *



Benavidez-Patterson
"All Airborne"
Chapter Newsletter:
"The All-American"

This is the official publication of the Benavidez-Patterson "All Airborne" Chapter, 82nd Airborne Division Assn., Inc., of El Paso, Texas.

Expressed opinions are of the editor & correspondents and in no way reflect the opinion of the B-P general membership, or the 82nd Airborne Div. Assn., Inc.

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Comments, suggestions & materials to be considered for publication, are always welcome.

- Editor

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AIRBORNE
EVENTS

VETERANS DAY 2020

Arlington, Virginia

9 - 11 Nov. '20

DETAILS T. B. A.

Assn. Website

2021

ALL AMERICAN
WEEK

Fort Bragg,
North Carolina

DETAILS T. B. A.

Assn. Website

74th Annual

National Convention

RESCHEDULED

2021

Houston, Texas

DETAILS T. B. A.

Assn. Website

BELL "HUEY" BAR



CLOSED

UNTIL

FURTHER NOTICE!

ATM AVAILABLE!

PRICE LIST

Water/Sodas/Snacks- \$1

Wine/Wine Coolers/
Domestic Beer - \$2

Premium Beer - \$2.50

Mixed Drinks/Tequila/
Jagermeister
\$3.25

The Chapter Bar is a
Private, Licensed Facility

GUESTS MUST SIGN IN!

SUN CITY

"ALL AIRBORNE"

FIESTA VIII

El Paso, Texas

RESCHEDULED

NEW DATES:

June 30 - July 4, 2021

POC: John Ceballos
(915) 240-8104

Email: JohCeb@msn.com

Visit Website:

www.bp82eptx.org

Fiesta VIII Postponed - TAB



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"THE ALL-AMERICAN"

Volume 37

Issue 11

November 2020

"2019 CHAPTER OF HONOR"

SHUT DOWN REMAINS IN EFFECT



Although the local chapter of the 82nd Airborne has maintained its compliance with local remain at home orders, the city and county are now at odds because of a recent order by El Paso County Judge, Ricardo Samaniego, requiring all non-essential businesses to close. The order comes in response to the growing number of COVID-19 cases in the area and the strain that the pandemic has placed upon the medical community. The order follows a curfew which has already been imposed upon local residents.

The Mayor of El Paso, Dee Margo however, has declined to comply with the county order and has instructed the El Paso Police Department NOT to enforce the recent order. This appears to contradict legal precedence which maintains that orders of the county supercede those of the city. The mayor has reached out to the state attorney general for an opinion. And, although the attorney general has stated that the county's orders are illegal and unenforceable, legal experts note that the attorney general has NO authority to render a legal opinion as a legal judgement MUST come from a judge within the court system.

El Paso County Attorney, Jo Anne Bernal, has concluded: In summary, the El Paso County Judge has independent emergency powers vested to him pursuant to Chapter 418 of the Texas Government Code. The legislature has not granted the Governor the authority to suspend emergency orders of a county judge. These include but are not limited to the ability to evacuate an area, control the egress and ingress of people, the movement of people and the occupancy of premises, within a disaster area of the county. To the extent that of conflict between an order by a county judge or an order of a mayor of a municipality the order of a County Judge prevails. As the game of political football continues, the El Paso Chapter of the 82nd Airborne will continue to keep its doors closed mostly however, because of the concern for the safety and welfare of all members of our organization but also, of the members of our community.

PHONE SERVICE SUSPENDED

The unit's phone service will be temporarily suspended to eliminate the financial obligation for a service not currently being utilized. The last monthly bill was for \$70 on a phone line which serves no purpose at the time. The service will be re-installed upon return to normal operations.

BY-LAWS AMENDED

To comply with association requirements for recognition as a 501 (c) 3 organization, the chapter by-laws have been amended and now include the required statements. Although published in the last issue of this publication the statements once again, are shown on page 3, column 2, of this issue.



Chairman's Corner

John Ceballos, M.S.
Chapter Chairman



Fellow Members and Associates,
The Chapter E-Board Meeting was cancelled for the month of October due to persistent threat posed from the current COVID-19 Pandemic. Also, should the health crisis continue late into the month of November, there is a possibility that the Board may be forced to conduct a **VIRTUAL** monthly meeting **VIA ZOOM**. Therefore, board members are urged to install the **ZOOM APPLICATION** on either their personal cell phones or computers. Others may choose to meet with a fellow member, familiar with the application, to assure that they too, will be able to participate in the virtual meeting. Officers will receive notification via E-mail and Phone, on the decision for the November monthly meeting. Also, with the annual election of officers generally held in the month of November, the Board has decided to postpone the elections until the month of December. Although the annual Christmas Party is generally celebrated in lieu of the monthly gatherings, with the Christmas Party already **CANCELLED**, hosting a general membership meeting should pose no problem for members to participate in the meeting. And, so as to not conflict with personal plans for the Christmas Holidays, the meeting & elections have been tentatively scheduled for: **11AM, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2020**. Updates will be provided to keep officers and the general membership informed.

If you have not done so, please get your Flu Vaccine, stay home, stay healthy and continue to follow all suggested health related safety precautions.

Friendly Skies and Soft Landings!

JOHN CEBALLOS, M.S.
Chapter Chairman

NOVEMBER CALENDAR

NOTE: Members are urged to remain flexible as a variety of events may still be cancelled or rescheduled!

Su 01 END Daylight Savings Time
Tu 03 Election Day
Fr 06 VA Coffee Call - **CANCELLED**
Sa 07 Purple Heart Mtg. - **CANCELLED**
We 11 VETERANS DAY
Th 26 Thanksgiving
Sa 28 Monthly Chapter Meetings - ?
11 a E-Board Meeting - **VIRTUAL ?**
12 p FREE Buffet Lunch - ?
1 p General Meeting - ?

PARKING LOT ISSUE CONTINUES

Efforts continue to resolve the parking lot issue resulting from the complaint filed against the chapter claiming a violation of city code which requires the open lot to be **PAVED**. Also included was a notice to remove the two trailers we have parked on the lot and inside of the gated area. Col. Bob has offered to have the trailer, currently parked on the open lot, moved to his property. However, the other parked inside the gated area will prove to be a little more of a problem as it currently is without tires. The estimates received on possibly paving the parking lot have been between \$45,000.00 and \$50,000.00, which is a price we cannot afford to pay. Should our efforts of obtaining a possible waiver, or a grant to fund the paving project, the chapter may be forced to **FENCE IN** the parking lot area and not allow any vehicles to park there. We are hoping that the efforts of chapter member, CSM (Ret.) Paul Albright, Chief Military Officer, City of El Paso's Division of Veteran & Military Affairs, are able to produce favorable results for the organization however, we must be prepared should a solution to rectify the situation, not be received. Updates will be provided as the situation warrants.

CANCELLATIONS

Be advised the annual Christmas Party has been cancelled although it is hoped that the election of officers may be held in lieu of the celebration. Also, recognition of individuals via the annual awards, has been suspended.



BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY/WELFARE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Help us recognize the birthday and anniversary celebrations of ALL members, associates, and family members. Also, medical issues and/or deaths, to include funeral home information, date and time of viewing, religious facility and involved cemetery. Provide information to chapter P.I.O., John Ceballos via Email: JohCeb@msn.com or cell: (915) 240-8104.



IN NOVEMBER

Mike Briseño, Col. Dave Casmus, John Ceballos, Col. Gus Gonzalez, Eustolia Marrufo, Virginia Saiz, Antonio "Tony" Sarabia; Linda Smith, and Amelia G. Vera.



Jesus & Margie Bravo; Tom Melgares; Aristeo Blanco; Mario Collazo; Fernie Holguin; Burton "Burt" Graves; Pete Camacho; Jose Sanchez; Jesus "Chino" Torres; Rocco "Rocky" Munoz; MSG (Ret.) Jarry Little; Ricardo "Rica" Enriquez; 1SG (Ret.) Luis Lopez; Carlos L. "Charlie" Nuñez; Emilia Lucero; Armando and Mrs. Norma Rosales; Joe Moreno; Angie Hernandez; and Peter G. Ursol.

MISSING PUBLICATIONS

Aside from "MEDAL OF HONOR", an additional publication has been found to be missing from our unit's historic collection. "HISTORY OF THE 508TH PARACHUTE INFANTRY", donated and personally autographed by LTC (Ret.) Robert E. Chisolm has also, been found to be missing. The book was last signed out by RAUL BORGAS. Anyone familiar with the individual should request our issue be returned. We may be forced to institute the difficult decision of no longer allowing books to be removed from the library.

EXEMPTION REQUIREMENT

82nd Airborne Division Association bulletin # 696, dated September 2020 states: for a chapter to qualify for the 501(c)(3) tax exemption the following statements must be contained within the Chapter By-Laws:

The 82nd Airborne Division Association organization (**Benavidez-Patterson "All Airborne" Chapter**) is structured primarily for charitable and educational purposes. Included is making distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations described under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

Also: Upon the dissolution of the local organization, any and all associated assets shall be forwarded to the parent organization (82d Airborne Division Association). Said assets shall be allocated to exempt projects/activities of the National Office. The 82d Airborne Division Association shall expend the assets for one or more exempt purpose(s) within the scope of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose.

The first statement now appears as:

ARTICLE X: MISCELLANEOUS.
Section 1 of the Chapter By-Laws.

The second statement appears as:

ARTICLE XIII: DISSOLUTION OF THE CHAPTER of the Chapter By-Laws

With NO VALID objections presented to the chairman, the adjustments are in effect as of November 1, 2020.

VETS DAY EVENTS CANCELLED

Friendly reminder: All related events previously scheduled in celebration of Veterans Day have been CANCELLED. This includes the Veterans Day Parade generally held in downtown El Paso. No specific notices have been received on other area parades or events however, with the current lock down in place, it can be assumed they too, will be cancelled.



ANNUAL ELECTIONS

The annual election of officers who will serve for the year of 2021 is currently anticipated to be held during a special December General Membership tentatively scheduled for: **11 am, Saturday, December 19, 2020**. The meeting will be held at the chapter facility with NO meal to be served and NO raffle to be held. The event will be a simple gathering mainly for the election of officers to be completed. Upon completion of the elections the general membership will be excused with ONLY Board members remaining for a meeting in Executive Session. NO other individuals will be allowed in the facility during this meeting. Individuals wishing to be considered for a position must notify PIO, John Ceballos, so that the appropriate names will appear on the election ballots.

CURRENT OFFICERS

John Ceballos, Chairman/P.I.O
 Lee B. Walker, 1st Vice-Chairman
 Eusebio Bretado, 2nd Vice-Chairman/Membership
 Edmundo Madrid, 3rd Vice-Chairman
 Nathaniel Ford, Jr., Secretary
 Ricardo N. Trevizo, Treasurer
 Shawn Ward, Sergeant-at-Arms
 Jesus Bravo, Quartermaster
 Robert E. Chisolm, Staff Judge Advocate

Ronald Bailey, Joe Lopez, David Lucero, Marco Pastrana, Tony Sarabia & Phillip R. Sloniger, currently serve as Turstees with member, John Ruple announcing that he too, wishes to vie for a position.
 Trustees (ONLY 6):

Contact PIO Ceballos via Email at: JohCeb@msn.com or cell: (915) 240-8104, to be considered for a position.

SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE NEARS

Applications for the 2020 scholarships are due **NLT 5 pm, Monday, November 30**. The deadline will be strictly adhered to as the committee will require time to review the applications and select the recipients. The stipends may need to be mailed to this year's recipients. INFO: JohCeb@msn.com or: (915) 240-8104.

POSSIBLE VA OUTSOURCING

Excerpts taken for an October 21, 2020, Stars and Stripes article by Nikki Wentling

WASHINGTON – The Department of Veterans Affairs is eliminating its in-house compensation and pension exam program and will outsource all of the exams, which are crucial to determining whether veterans are eligible for VA benefits.

However, in a letter to VA Secretary Robert Wilkie, Rep. Elaine Luria, D-Va., claims the plan was developed with no notice to Congress and she's concerned the move could slow work to reduce a backlog of compensation and pension exams, commonly referred to as C&P exams, and she's worried about the VA's ability to oversee the contractors.

Lawmakers were led to believe the contracted examiners merely supplemented the existing program.

The change comes as the VA is working through a backlog which has grown to about 350,000 requests.

During a C&P exam, a health care provider provides an exam to help determine whether a veteran's disabilities are connected to military service. The gathered information is used by the VA to make a decision on a veteran's claim and to issue a disability rating and to determine the monthly compensation owed the veteran.

Luria is worried that as the VA expands its use of contractors, the department lacks the ability to oversee them. Luria sent a list of questions to Wilkie, including how many C&P examiner jobs the VA would eliminate and whether those employees would be able to remain at the agency in some capacity. She also wants to know whether the VA has considered maintaining in-house exams for vets suffering from Gulf War Illness, military sexual trauma and traumatic brain injury, all unique which call for specialists. Luria has asked for responses by Nov. 16.

wentling.nikki@stripes.com