



April 2019



Issue Number 63

The "BULL SHEET"

Published by:
107th Engineer Association
900 Palms Avenue
Ishpeming, MI 49849

Welcome to Calumet, Home of the 1431st Engineer Company(Sapper) and birth place of the 107th Engineer Battalion

The 1431st Engineer Company is inviting you to the 58th Annual Reunion of the 107th Engineer Association. The Soldiers of the Company are looking forward to bringing everyone together and putting on a great event for the Association. This year's reunion will take place on August 9th and 10th at the Calumet Readiness Center located at 57707 Military Ave. Calumet, MI 49913.

Registration (and the bar) will open at 1500hrs on Friday August 9th. We will remain open until 2300hrs and provide finger foods and snacks throughout the evening. This will be an excellent opportunity for the members of the Association to meet with current members of the unit to share stories and instill the Legacy and rich history of the Company.

On Saturday August 10th, breakfast at the Armory will be available from 0700-0900 for \$5.00 a person. Bloody Marys and service by the Soldiers of the unit are available.

At 1030hrs, we will be meeting at the flagpole for our annual Memorial Service. Following the service, we will be coming together for our annual business meeting located in the classroom adjacent to the drill floor. A cook-out lunch will be provided at \$5.00 a person.

Upon conclusion of the business meeting, the Armory will be open for various activities. Equipment displays will be on site to portray the unit's current capabilities. We will also have a Robotics Demonstration and Historic display; showcasing the unit's cherished history. These events will run until 1600hrs.

Beginning at 1300hrs on Saturday, we are happy to announce a few events within the local area. A Quincy mine tour will be available to attend in Hancock. (For those that have not been there, the museum provides a rich experience detailing the mining history of the Keweenaw Peninsula).

We will also be providing a narrated tour of the recent Houghton County Flood sites which our unit played a significant role in the recovery and relief efforts. For those wishing for an afternoon of leisure activities with old friends, we are coordinating with the Calumet Golf Course to provide this opportunity.

At 1700hrs, we will reconvene at the Armory for a social hour and refreshments. The colors will be posted at 1800hrs and the formal portion of the program is expected to run until 1900hrs. Dinner will cost \$20.00 per person. As of now, we are expecting The Adjutant General for the State of Michigan, MG Paul Rogers, to provide comments as the honored speaker. He is a Michigan Tech Alumni and prior member of the unit.

Music, refreshments, and comradery will be available until close. Soldiers of the unit will be providing free transportation for the weekend so please enjoy yourselves and take advantage of our designated drivers. We will also be providing rides from your hotels to the Armory in the morning to retrieve your vehicles. Please don't feel that you need to rush off however on Sunday August 11th. Brunch and Bloody Mary's will be available at the Armory from 0900-1100.

Please RSVP as soon as possible so that we may adequately staff and resource the great events scheduled for this year's reunion. If you have any questions or requests, please feel free to contact SFC Timothy Corrigan at the Calumet Armory (906-662-6294) or at timothy.m.corrigan.mil@mail.mil. We look forward to meeting old friends and making new ones as we host this year's reunion.

"Good as Done!"

Alexander L. Sackmann
CPT, EN, MIARNG
Commanding
1431 EN CO (A CO) Commander

TAPS

*Day is done, gone the sun
From the lake, from the hill.
From the sky
All is well, safely rest. God is nigh.*

*Thanks and praise for our days
'neath the sun, 'neath the stars,
'neath the sky.
As we go, this we know. God is nigh.*



Donations (continued): HUTCHESON, Jim, West Peoria, IL; IRON COUNTY NATIONAL GUARD CLUB; JACOBSEN, Jack, Iron River; JOHNSON, Idel, Marquette; KESANEN, Fred, Eagle Harbor; KOLJONEN, Bucky, Lac La Belle; KUPARI, Clint, Prattville, AL; LaCHANCE, Dick, Perkins; LATURI, Phil, Iron River; McGUIRE, Bob, (WW II), Centerville, IA; PECK, Freeling, Belding; PETERSON, Brian, Newcastle, CA; PROULX, Justin, Soo; RYAN, John, Calumet; SCHMITT, William, Norway; SEYMOUR, Henry, Rapid River; SMALL, Marge, Marquette; SMITH, Bob, Milton, FL; VUKONICH, Tom, Oxford; WALLNER, Jason, Negaunee; WESOLOSKI, Dave, Menominee; WESOLOSKI, Mike, Kalamazoo; WHALEN, Eldon, Newberry; WILLS, Dick, (WW II), Marquette;

Registered members who attended the 2018 reunion in Ishpeming:

ANDERSON, Chelsea	Ishpeming
APPLEBERRY, Bill	Warren
BECKMAN, Jim	Marquette
BESSNER, Todd	Hancock
BRAMBLE, Matt	Laurium
BREEN, Megan	Calumet
BROWN, Joe	Greenland
BUSSIERE, Don	Ontonagon
CAIN, Jason	AuTrain
CAREY, Dave	Big Bay
CARLSON, Steve	Nisula
CHARTRE, Ray	Negaunee
COMPTON, Jon	Ishpeming
CONSTANTINE, Mary	McLean, VA
DAUGHERTY, Blair	Kingsford
DeGROTE, Bud	Lowell
DENOO, Kerry	Leesburg, FL
DeVERNEY, Butch	Midland
DOUGOVITO, Jim	L'Anse
EHRHARDT, Fritz	Vulcan
FLORIANO, Joe	Iron Mtn
FRASER, Mike	Ishpeming
FRAZIER, Carol	Marquette
FREDRICKSON, Jim	Livonia
GARCEAU, Dan	Ishpeming
GAUS, Josh	Indian River
GILLAHAN, Dave	Holt
GRAHAM, Chris	Ishpeming
GUSE, ILT	Ishpeming
HALL, Joe	Wyoming
HANMER, Mike	Iron River
HENDRA, John	Calumet
HERRIMAN, Becca	Ishpeming
HOUSE, Scott	Lansing
HUTCHESON, Jim	West Peoria, IL
JACHIMSKI, Ed	Negaunee
JEANNOTTE, Rob	Hancock
JOHNSON, Idel	Marquette
JOHNSON, Tim	Ishpeming
JUDICI, Marty	Gwinn
KOLJONEN, Bucky	Lac La Belle
LaFRENIERE, Gary	Ishpeming

Name	Date Of Death	Unit(s)
ALESSONDRONI, Garrett, SGT(ret)	unk	Co B, 107th
ANTONICH, Vincent	2 Jun 18	Co A, 107 th
BARRY, Jim	Apr 16	Det 1, Co B, 107 th
CREWS, Henry (WW II)	unk	Co C, 254 th Engr Bn
CZERNESKI, Dave SSG(ret)	28 Aug 15	Co B, 107th
DUMS, Clifford, SGT(ret)	unk	Co B, 107 th
ELLSWORTH, Charlie, SSG(ret)	unk	Det 1, Co A; Co B, 107 th
ERVA, Gerald	12 Sep 15	Co A, 107 th
HANSEN, George LTC(ret)	Oct 16	HHC, 107th
KIEVIT, Douglas	unk	1437 th Engr Co
LaHAIE, Mervin, SGT(ret)	unk	Co B, 107 th
LEWIS, Gilbert, SSG(ret)	unk	Det 1, Co B, 107 th
NEGRI, Clarence	unk	Det 1, Co B, 107 th
OBERLE, Lawrence, (ret)	unk	1437 th Engr Co
OGEA, Peter	22 Feb 19	HHC, 107th
PARENT, Mark CPT(ret)	6 Sep 19	HHC, 107th
SUPPA, Louis (WW II)	unk	Co C, 254 th Engr Bn
ZEITS, Bernie	28 Apr 18	Co B, 107 th

Association Information

1. Our internet web address is www.107thengineers.org. The minutes from the 2018 business meeting and lots of other info about the battalion and Association is posted on the website.
2. We are always interested in receiving names, mailing addresses and e-mail addresses for ANY battalion retiree or alumni. Send them to me so I can add them to our mailing list.
3. If you have an article, a picture, or whatever that you would like to see printed in the "Bull Sheet" please send them to the Ishpeming Armory address on the Bull Sheet masthead or e-mail me at secretary.107thengineers@gmail.com or secretary@107thengineers.org

2019 New Life Members. BARBER, Willy SSG(ret), Marquette, MI; CAREY, Dave SGT(ret), Big Bay, MI; CRONKRIGHT, Gary SSG(ret), Iron River, MI; LESSARD, Lloyd MSG(ret), Gladstone, MI; MILLER, Tim SFC(ret), Marquette, MI; PROEHL, Ben SFC, Rapid River, MI; WESOLOSKI, Mike, Kalamazoo, MI; WHALEN, Eldon CSM(ret), Newberry, MI

Every year some of our members send in extra money for expenses along with their dues. I hope I didn't miss anybody. ANDERSON, Neil, Soo; BARBER, Willy, Marquette; BEARD, Tom, Marquette; BECKMAN, Jim, Marquette; BESSNER, Todd, Hancock; BREEN, Megan, Ishpeming; BROWN, Joe, Greenland; CRONKRIGHT, Gary, Iron River; DeVERNEY, Butch, Midland; EHRHARDT, Fritz, Vulcan; FLORIANO, Joe, Iron Mountain; FRAZIER, Carol, Marquette; FREITAG, Jim, Caspian; GAGNE, Dave, Iron River; GAUS, Joshua, Indian River; GILLAHAN, Dave, Holt; GRAHAM, Chris, Ishpeming; HANMER, Mike, Iron River; HENDRA, John, Calumet;

Attendees (continued)

LAHTI, Bill	Pelkie
LEAHY, Jessica	Marquette
MAKI, Ed	Pelkie
MILLER, Lisa	Marquette
NEPPER, Steve	Iron Mtn
NIEMISTO, Dan	Ishpeming
NORA, Perry	Ishpeming
NYQUIST, Jake	Gladstone
PELLINEN, Steve	Ishpeming
PEREZ, Luis	Barbeau
PERRY, Tom	Ishpeming
PFIESTER, Jake	Mason
PLITZ, Walt	Soo
PROEHL, Ben	Rapid River
PROULX, Justin	Soo
ROLLING, Jason	Negaunee
ROSS, Ron	Gladwin
SACKMANN, Alex	Bessemer
SHELDON, Jim	Baraga
SMALL, Marge	Marquette
SOLBERG, Ross	Bessemer
STONEHOUSE, Fred	Marquette
SULLIVAN, Jim	Nisula
TESTOLIN, Joe	Iron Mtn
TESTOLIN, Joe	Iron Mtn
VUKONICH, Tom	Oxford
WALLNER, Jason	Negaunee
WARD, Len	McLean, VA
WAYNE, Bernie	

Future Reunion Locations, Here are the PROPOSED locations, subject to acceptance by the units and approval of the membership, for the next 3 years; 2020 Traverse City, 2021 Gladstone, 2022 Kingsford . It is difficult to set locations too far in advance because we never know when one of our units will be mobilized or perform AT out of the state/country during the summer. There is always the possibility that an armory will be closed.

“Short Snorts”

Random thoughts, musings and news about the reunion and Association in general, as they pop into the head of ye’ ole editor:

I received an RSVP from two WW II/254th Engineer Battalion vets last year; DICK WILLS and BOB MCGUIRE. I also know HOWARD NICHOLA is still around, although I didn’t get an RSVP from him.

“Short Snorts” (continued)

The year of 2018 was the tenth anniversary of the return of HSC & FSC from Operation Iraqi Freedom 2007-2008. The battalion served as the command and control headquarters for engineer route/road clearance companies. The following Soldiers died while deployed and serving under the 107th Engineer Battalion. They were honored at the reunion memorial service. Six soldiers were killed in direct contact with the enemy while the battalion conducted route clearance operations in the area of the city of Baghdad Iraq, Sadr City; a suburb district of Baghdad and Camp Cooke, vicinity of Taji, Iraq.

NAME	UNIT(all ARNG units)	DIED	CAUSE
SSG Jonathan Forde	237th Engr Co(VA)	13 Aug 07	Meningitis (Died at Mobilization Station, Fort McCoy)
SGT David Lambert	237th Engr Co(VA)	25 Oct 07	KIA(EFP)
SGT Derek Banks	237th Engr Co(VA)	14 Nov 07	KIA(EFP) (Died as a result of wounds sustained on 25 Oct 07)
SGT Matthew Straughter	1138th Engr Co(MO)	31 Jan 08	KIA(RPG)
SSG Bradley Skelton	1138th Engr Co(MO)	6 Feb 08	KIA(EFP)
SSG Jeremiah McNeal	237th Engr Co(VA)	6 Apr 08	KIA(IED)
PFC Adam Marion	171st Engr Co(NC)	28 Apr 08	KIA(Rkt Atk)



The “Fallen Engineer” Memorial Wall at Fort Leonard Wood, MO, USAES



107th ENGINEER ASSOCIATION
Executive Committee for 2018- 2019

President	CPT Megan Breen	1431 st Engr Co.
Vice President	1SG Lee DeForge	1431 st Engr Co.
Secretary & Bull Sheet Editor	LTC (ret) Tom Perry	HQ/A/B, 107 th Eng Bn
Treasurer	SFC(ret) Perry Nora	HSC, 107 th Eng Bn
Public Relations Officer	2LT Lexus Pettinger	1430 th Engr Co
Historian	SSG John Peterson	HSC, 107 th Eng Bn
Chaplain	MAJ(ret) Ed Jachimski	HQ, 107 th Eng Bn
Permanent Director	LTC Dave Gillahan	Cdr, 107 th Eng Bn
4 Year Director	MSG(ret) Joe Battsfore	HHC/1431 st /Co A, 107 th Eng Bn
3 Year Director	SFC (ret) Bob Groop	HHC, 107 th Engr Bn
2 Year Director	1SG(ret) Jeff Gibson	1432/Co B/Det 1, Co D, 107 th Eng Bn
1 Year Director	SSG(ret) Tom Beard	Det 1, HHC, 107 th Eng Bn

There will be limited room to park travel trailers, motor homes, tents, etc at the armory. Contact the armory to reserve a spot. Other area campgrounds: McLain State Park, Lake Linden City Park, Hancock Recreation Area

Partial List of Area Lodging:

- [Centennial Cottages](#), 58301 4th St, Calumet, MI 49913, (906) 337-4730
- [Oak Street Inn](#), 808 Oak St, Calumet, MI 49913, (906) 369-1777
- [AmericInn](#), 56925 S 6th St, Calumet, MI 49913, (906) 337-6463
- [Trailside Lodge & Copper Country Rentals](#), 57900 US Highway 41 Calumet, MI 49913, (906) 337-9905
- [Vic's Cabins](#), 58696 Us Highway 41, Calumet, MI 49913, (906) 337-8427
- [Vista Bella Motel Inc](#), 415 Kearsarge, St Laurium, MI 49913, (906) 337-5821
- [Laurium Manor Inn](#), 320 Tamarack St, Laurium, MI 49913, (906) 337-2549
- [Centennial Cottages](#), 26950 Number 4 Rd, Calumet, MI 49913, (906) 337-4730



**Howard Nicola, 103 years old
Dodgeville, MI
H&S, 254th Engr Bn(WW II)**



107th Engineer Association Business Meeting Minutes
8 September 2018
Ishpeming, MI

Call to order at 1055 hrs by President Jason Wallner. 29 Members present. President Wallner informed the membership about the evening festivities.

2017 business meeting minutes read. Motion to approve by Jim Dougovito, second by Ed Jachimski. Motion carried.

2017-2018 treasurers' report read. Motion to approve by Joe Floriano, second by Joe Testolin. Motion carried.

Lineage and Honors Committee Report The purpose of this committee is to capture the activities and mobilizations of the battalion since September 11, 2001. We are soliciting volunteers to gather info and data about each of the different platoons and companies that deployed. If you want to help in this effort, please contact Tom Perry or Perry Nora. LTC Gillahan, Battalion Commander, has also tasked CSM Perez to assist in this effort. Tom Perry and Perry Nora committed to checking with the NMU archives/history department, the Ishpeming Historical Society and the Marquette Historical Society for assistance or advice in updating our history book. They will also check on the possibility of donating our historical items to one of these organizations to be displayed for the public to enjoy. They will report back at the 2019 reunion.

Old Business:

The website fees through Feb 2020 have been paid by SFC(ret) Ross Stevens (Co A/1431st retiree). He is also the technical consultant to keep the website running properly. Effective Aug 2018, administration and ownership of the website were transferred to the 107th Engineer Association to insure we can maintain the URL into the future. The website name(URL) costs \$9.99 per month paid on a 3 year basis.

The website(www.107thengineers.org) needs to be updated/redesigned because the software used to edit the website is obsolete. Tom Perry is taking over as webmaster. I order to redesign and update the website he has requested that the Association authorize \$9.99/month payable on a yearly basis for new software to edit and manage the website. Motion to approve the request by Jim Beckman, with a second by Jim Dougovito. Motion carried.

Follow-up on graphic design work to show all the shoulder patches of the organizations which the battalion units have served with in the Global War on Terror(GWOT) is still a goal but not making much progress. CPT Wallner and ISG Cain will see what they can do to get this idea rejuvenated and make some progress.

Follow-up regarding the battalion plaque in the regimental room at the Fort Leonard Wood museum. LTC Dave Gillahan, battalion commander, asked for one more year to accomplish this mission. (\$3000 was appropriated at the Gladstone reunion in 2015 to fund this plaque project. If we are not going to participate in this project, we should de-obligate the money.)

The 107th Engineer Battalion monument at Camp Grayling(CG) has been repainted. Patten Monument did an excellent job. \$500 was approved for the work at the 2017 business meeting. The actual cost was \$1500.00. Tom Perry paid the invoice in full and requests to be reimbursed for the expense by the Association. Motion to approve the additional \$1000 by Dave Gillahan, second by Jake Nyquist. Motion carried.

Investing of Association funds with a financial manager. Tom Perry will speak with Jason Rolling regarding feasibility of investing Association funds to increase our return on investment.

New Business:

Nominate 1431st Engineer Co., 107th Engineer Battalion in Calumet as the location for the 2019 reunion. Motion by Joe Testolin, Second by Butch DeVerney. Motion carried. (Footnote/thought by LTC Dave Gillahan: The 1430th Engr Co is now stationed in Traverse City. This is a new location for the battalion. Perhaps the 2020 reunion could be held at their armory.)

Dates for 58th annual reunion set for 9-10 Aug 2019. Motion by Tom Perry, Second by Bud Degrote
Slate of officers for 2019. Motion by Dave Gillahan, Second by Steve Pellinen. President, CPT Megan Boss, 1431st Engr Co. VP, ISG Lee DeForge, 1431st Engr Co. Secretary, LTC(ret) Thomas Perry, HQ/Co A/Det 1, Co B, Treasurer, SFC(ret) Perry Nora, HSC, Public Relations Officer, 2LT Lexus Pettinger, 1430th Engr Co, 107th Engr Bn, Historian, SSG John Peterson, HSC, 107th Eng Bn, Chaplain, MAJ(ret) Edwin Jachimski, HHC, Permanent Director(Battalion Commander), LTC Dave Gillahan, 4 Year Director, MSG(ret) Joe Battisfore, Co A/1431, HSC, 3 Year Director, SFC(ret) Bob Groop, HHC, 3 Year Director, ISG(ret) Jeff Gibson, 1432/Co B, Det 1, Co D, 1 Year Director, SSG(ret) Tom Beard, Det 1, HHC

Discuss advancing funds, for seed money, to the unit hosting the reunion. The individual armory NCO/EM Clubs don't make money like they did in years past. As a result, some of the clubs don't have enough cash reserves to pay for upfront costs for the reunion such as food and beverages. CW2 Rob Jeanotte made a motion to have the Association loan the hosting unit up to \$1,500 for startup costs to be paid back from the hosting unit club receipts after the reunion is over. Second by Perry Nora. Motion carried.

There was discussion regarding the Association participating in the Ishpeming Memorial Day parade/ceremony and Veterans Day programs in communities where armories are located with a color guard and possibly rifle team on behalf of the Battalion. No one stepped up to coordinate the efforts required to make it happen.

The Association membership extends a big thank you to HHC, 107th Engr Bn for an outstanding reunion.

Association Pledge recited and lead by Chaplain MAJ(ret) Jachimski

Adjournment at 1148 hrs. Motion by Tom Perry, Second by Perry Nora. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted:

Tom Perry
Secretary

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: To make or cancel a banquet reservation, please notify the individuals below:

1. **Before 1 Aug 2019** mail the notice below to: 107th Engineer Association, 900 Palms Ave., Ishpeming, MI 49849-1064
2. **After 1 Aug 2019** Call the Ishpeming Armory at 906-662-6294, or e-mail SFC Tim Corrigan, timothy.m.corrigan.mil@mail.mil

PLEASE RETURN THE SECTION BELOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, **WHETHER OR NOT** YOU PLAN ON ATTENDING THE REUNION, to ensure your contact information is correct. This will also help us a great deal in preparing for this year's reunion and keeping our membership records up to date.

-----CLIP AND SEND IN THE REGISTRATION INFORMATION BELOW / RETAIN THE TOP-----

1. I (will) or (will not) be present for the 58th Annual Reunion of the 107th Engineer Association at Calumet, MI.
(circle your choice)
2. Reserve _____ place(s) for me at the banquet / dance on Saturday, 10 August 2019. My guest(s) for this event will be
(how many)
(names) _____.

3. *(Please check one)*
____ My association dues of \$ _____ (\$5.00 per year) are enclosed for _____ years;
-or- _____ (how many)
____ My association lifetime membership dues of \$50.00 are enclosed.
-or-
____ I am a lifetime member.
(Optional)
____ Enclosed are \$ _____ towards printing and mailing expenses.

3. My name and address is _____

4. I joined the 107 at(city/unit) _____ in the year of _____

5. I left the unit in (year) _____ at (city/unit) _____ because _____

(Optional information) Please complete the following:

6. My phone number is: _____.
7. My Email address is: _____.
8. For more info please check the Association web site at "<http://www.107thengineers.org>"