



22nd Infantry Regiment Society

Deeds Not Words



Regulars by God



Issue 6

November 22, 2021



**Veterans Day
November 11, 2021
National Infantry Museum
Fort Benning, GA**

Society President **Mark Woempner** led our group of active duty, veterans and family members of 22nd Infantry Regiment attending the National Infantry Museum's Veterans Day Paver Dedication Ceremony at Ft Benning, Georgia November 11, 2021. The ceremony marks the official recognition of Legacy Pavers along the museum's Heritage Walkway that leads up to the Walk of Honor where our 22nd Infantry Regiment Memorial Monument and Regiment Legacy tree are located.



2021 Veterans Day
Paver Dedication Ceremony



PAVER DEDICATION Ceremony	
MASTER OF CEREMONIES	CSM (Ret) Martin Celestine Vice President of Operations National Infantry Museum Foundation
INVOCATION	CH (MAJ) Jorge Budas WHINSEC
NATIONAL ANTHEM	
WELCOME	Ilene Kent Director of Dedications National Infantry Museum Foundation
REMARKS	LTC (Ret) Mark S. Woempner President, 22nd Infantry Regiment
GUEST SPEAKER	CSM Sean J. Rice Command Sergeant Major U.S. Army Security Assistance Command
BENEDICTION	CH (MAJ) Jorge Budas



Mark was one of two featured keynote speakers at the event where 141 legacy pavers from our Regiment were recognized and dedicated, including 57 pavers honoring our brothers and sisters who were killed in action and paid ultimate sacrifice during the Iraq and Afghanistan wars.

We have included many of the photos (a picture is worth a thousand words) showing those who attended to be a part of this



memorable event and our Section 22A paver area. We have done our best to ID all in photos and apologize for anyone we missed.



We hope you enjoy the photo history from that day and look forward to seeing you all this in person May 2023 at our Regiment Reunion to be held at Ft Benning's National Infantry Museum. That reunion will be dedicated to 20th Anniversary of veterans of both 1/22 Infantry and 2/22 Infantry deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan in 2003. Details on that reunion will be forthcoming.



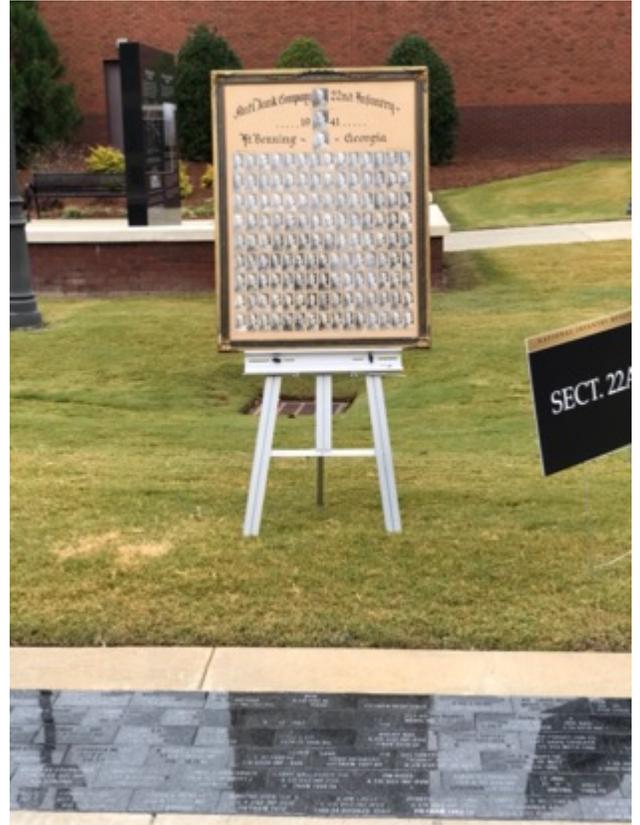


L to R 3 former 22d vets, Dennis DiBon grandkids Coulter and Easton Smart their mom Natalie DiBon Smart (Dennis daughter), Dennis & Mary Pat DiBon, Skip Fahel, Retired CSM Rob Fortenberry, Steve Russell, Lon Oakley, Bill Lechner and his wife, CPT Sherwood, and Society President Mark Woempner Missing from photo is Pete & Marten Gaworecki. NOTE: The frame depicts member of 22nd Infantry Regiment Anti-Tank Company that landed on Utah Beach June 6, 1944.





Coulter and Easton Smart, Dennis DiBon grandsons doing etching of his paver.



Infantry Bench



22nd Infantry Regiment Legacy Tree



Pete Graworecki, Mark Woempner, Lon Oakley, Skip Fahel, Steve Russell, Rob Fortenberry

Brothers

Such a wonderful ceremony, it was more than I had anticipated. Special thanks go to both **Martin Celestine** and **Ilene Kent** they did



an admirable job putting things together. Mark, as usual, one can never go wrong with you Mark, thanks. Then what can I say about **CSM Sean Rice**, what hasn't

he done. His remarks were on point and very meaningful.

I was unaware of who the Patriot Guard was, standing respectfully along the sides, very patriotic. Then the foreign dignitaries, I assume part of NATO? I had the opportunity to speak with a Dutch Master Sargent then a British Lt Command General, I assume in the British military there must be a Rt



Foreign Dignitaries

Command General since he said he was 'left' Command General 😂😂 yes I know. Both

raved about the NIM. The Brit said he didn't know who sent him the invitation but when he got it he said he was coming. I wish I could have met and spoken to others.



My grandkids were excited to go since I had taken them to the museum in 2016 which prompted my daughter to re-pose a couple of pictures which I'll attach.

Noting space for more pavers might it be a good idea to talk up the ceremony in the next newsletter and suggest another opportunity for others to participate?

Very memorable Veterans Day

Deeds not Words

Dennis DiBon
B/2-22 Vietnam



"Old Goat" Staff Car



Steve Russell, Pete Graworecki, CSM Rice, Lon Oakley

You Forget—What the 22nd Infantry Regiment Did for You:

1. Gave you the opportunity to serve your country in a proud and prestigious national unit.
2. Gave you buddies who stuck by you and helped you endure fear, horror, and hardship.
3. Gave you good reason to harbor a personal feeling of high accomplishment and pride.
4. Gave you treasured lifetime friends markedly improving the quality of your life.



MG (Ret) John F. Ruggles Former Honorary Colonel of the Regiment

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MG Donohue, Lon Oakley

*Selected pictures provided by Marten Gaworecki and National Infantry museum photographer