



April 2020



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The "BULL SHEET"

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900 Palms Avenue
Ishpeming, MI 49849

Welcome to the Soo, Home of the 1437th Engineer Company(MRBC)

The 1437 Engineer Company (MRBC) would like to cordially invite you to the 59th Annual Reunion of the 107th Engineer Association. The Soldiers and families of the 1437 EN CO look forward to hosting this long standing traditional gathering of the Association. This year's Reunion will be 7-8 August 2020 in Sault Ste. Marie.

On Friday, August 7th, beginning at 1400, registration will commence. This is a great time to catch up with old friends, and get to know the new faces. The bar will be open. At 1800 hours the social mixer will kick off with a free fish fry – the food will be compliments of the 1437th Engineer Club.

On Saturday, plan on enjoying yourself. From 0730-0900 we will start it off with a hearty breakfast. Our company leadership is planning on ensuring you start your day right, for a low price of \$5 per person. For those of you that had too much fun on Friday, there will be Bloody Mary's available in lieu of breakfast (for a much lower price).

At 1030 hours, as it is customary, we will meet at the flagpole for the Memorial Service. Immediately after the Memorial Service, there will be the Annual Business meeting.

Following the Memorial Service, we will have a lunch on the lawn overlooking the St. Mary's River. We will be serving a standard cook-out menu, \$5 per person. Bar services will be provided during lunch. Feel free to enjoy static displays of the unit's equipment.

We encourage you to explore our end of the Upper Peninsula. Those interested will be taken to the downtown area to do a tour of the Soo Locks, and check out the local tourist strip. There will also be demonstrations of the Dry Support Bridge and Rafting Operations at their respective training areas. Lastly, we will offer rides through the Soo Locks on our raft for those interested.

As always, the bar will be open at the armory.

The day's events will build up to the banquet. Cocktails will begin at 1700, and the colors will be posted at 1800.

Immediately following the introduction of the Reunion Committee and the honored guests, there will be a dinner meal. The cost is \$20 per person and will include 2 drink tokens. There will be music for your entertainment.

As a free service, the unit will supply Soldiers to provide transportation. So for the duration of the weekend, you can enjoy yourself to the full extent, and take advantage of our designated drivers. They will provide a taxi service from your hotels in the morning to retrieve vehicles as well.

Please RSVP as soon as possible, so that we may adequately plan for the weekend's activities. If you have any questions or requests, please feel free to contact SFC Jacob Simonetti at the Sault Ste. Marie Armory (906) 259-6068 or jacob.m.simonetti.mil@mail.mil. We are looking forward to host this year's Reunion. See you there!

Good As Done!

Benjamin A. Rodenberg
CPT, EN, MIARNG
Commander, 1437 EN CO (MRBC)



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.*



Name	Date Of Death	Unit(s)
AMBROSE, David SGT(ret)	18 Oct 2003	Det 1, Co B
CAGLE, Forrest "Jack" SSG(ret)	4 Jul 2019	Det 1, Co B
COLLINS, Ronald J. SFC(ret)	5 Mar 20	HHC
DOTO, Ralph	28 Oct 19	HHC
FRASER, Mike, SFC(ret)	15 Oct 19	HHC
GOMAN, Alvin SSG(ret)	1 Oct 19	Co D
GONZALES, Ruben	24 Jul 19	Det 1, Co A
HANMER, Mike SFC(ret)	26 Jul 19	Det 1, Co B; Det 1, Co A; Co C
JONES, Issac	12 Oct 19	1432nd
KOSKI, Norm, SGT(ret)	9 Jan 19	Det 1, Co A
LEKATZ, Joe	9 Nov 2016	Det 1, Co B
LEKATZ, Paul SSG(ret)	17 Feb 2016	Det 1, Co B
POULOS, John SGT(ret)	28 Feb 2016	Det 1, Co B
RAJALA, John	16 May 2011	Det 1, Co B
RAJALA, Marlin	16 May 2011	Det 1, Co B
REILLY, Dan CPT(ret)	25 May 19	Co B; Det 1, HHC; Co A
REINERT, Rob	12 Oct 19	Det 1, HHC
SERBINSKI, David SGT(ret)	Feb 2017	Det 1, Co B
VIAU, Bill ISG(ret)	25 Jan 20	Co C

Association Information

1. Our internet web address is www.107thengineers.org. The minutes from the 2019 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.org

2020 New Life Members. BATES, Chris, SFC, Houghton, MI; BOHLINGER, Rick, CW4(ret), St. Clair Shores, MI; HADFIELD, Brent, SSG(ret), Charlotte, MI; ILENICH, Hank, COL(ret), Laurium, MI; LAHTI, Bill, Pelkie, MI; LEAHY, Jessica, SFC, Marquette, MI; PECK, Freeling, Belding, MI; PROEHL, Ben, Rapid River, MI; ROSS, Ron, CPT(ret), Meredith, MI; STONEHOISE, Fred, LTC(ret), Marquette, MI; WAARA, Kristina, L'Anse, MI; WHITLOW, Bill CW4(ret), Sunset Beach, NC

Every year some of our members send in extra money for expenses along with their dues. I hope I didn't miss anybody. AUDETTE, Gerv, Naples, FL; BATES, Chris, Houghton; BEARD, Tom, Marquette; BEAUCHAMP, Duane, Escanaba; BEAUDRY, Bob, Kingsford; BECKMAN, Jim, Marquette; BESSNER, Todd, Hancock; BOHLINGER, Rick, St. Clair Shores; BROWN, Joe, Greenland;

Donations (continued): DOWD, Bill, Iron River; EHRHARDT, Fritz, Vulcan; FLORIANO, Joe, Iron Mountain; REDRICKSON, Jim, Livonia; FRYE, Jack, Traverse City; GILLAHAN, Dave, Holt; HAGER, Eric, Three Rivers; HENDRA, John, Calumet; HUTCHESON, Jim, West Peoria, IL; INJASOULIAN, Pete, Lake Placid, FL; IRON COUNTY NATIONAL GUARD CLUB; JARVI, Joel, Brooksville, FL; JEANOTTE, Rob, Hancock; KESANEN, Fritz, Eagle Harbor; KOLJONEN, Bucky, Lac La Belle; KROT, Greg, Indian River; LaCHANCE, Dick, Perkins; LATURI, Phil, Iron River; LIEANU, Jim, Green Bay, WI; LUETZOW, Bill, Ishpeming; MAKI, Dean, Negaunee; McGUIRE, Bob, (WW II), Centerville, IA; MILLER, Tim, Marquette; PROULX, Justin, Soo; RULE, Larry, Laurium; RYAN, John, Calumet; SCHMITT, William, Norway; SMALL, Marge, Marquette; VUKONICH, Tom, Oxford; WESOLOSKI, Dave, Menominee; WHALEN, Eldon, Newberry; WILLS, Dick, (WW II), Marquette;

Registered members who attended the 2019 reunion in Calumet:

Baker, James/Ruth	L'Anse, MI
Balwinski, Sharon	Linwood, MI
Bates, Chris	Houghton, MI
Beckman, Jim/Andrea	Marquette, MI
Bessner, Todd/Tami	Hancock, MI
Bohlinger, Rick	St Clair Shores, MI
Bramble, Matthew	Calumet, MI
Breen, Megan	Gwinn, MI
Brown, Gary/Sue	Laurium, MI
Brown, Joe	Greenland, MI
Burton, Steve/Gina	Grand Ledge, MI
Bussiere, Don/Dorothy	Ontonagon, MI
Carlson, Steve/Sandy	Nisula, MI
Cronkright, Richie	Sidnaw, MI
Crowley, David	Laurium, MI
Dahlgren, Eric/Sally	Munising, MI
DeForge, Lee	Atlantic Mine, MI
DeVerney, Butch/Joyce	Midland, MI
Dougovito, James/Linda	L'Anse, MI
Ehrhardt, Fritz/Mary Kay	Vulcan, MI
Floriano, Mike/Debbie	Kingsford, MI
Floriano, Joe/Marilu	Iron Mountain, MI
Fontaine, Fred	Calumet, MI
Fredrickson, James/Diane	Livonia, MI
Gassittie, Dennis/Sue	Laurium, MI
Gillahan, Dave	Holt, MI
Guse, Britta	Lake Mills, WI
Hadfield, Brent	Charlotte, MI
Hendra, John/Cheryl	Calumet, MI
Herriman, Rebecca	Ishpeming, MI
Houle, Tim	Skaneateles, MI
Hutcheson, James	West Peoria, IL
Ilenich, Henry/Mary	Laurium, MI
Injasouljian, Pete	Howard City, MI
Jachimski, Ed/Annette	Negaunee, MI
Janssen, Leonard/ Inge	Wakefield, MI
Johnson, Tom	Kenton, MI
Kay, Trevor	Marquette, MI
Koljonen, Bucky/Liisa	Mohawk, MI

Attendees (continued)

Krot, Greg	Indian River, MI
Lahti, William	Pelkie, MI
Lanczy, Bela	L'Anse, MI
LaRochelle, Eugene	Calumet, MI
Leahy, Jessica	Marquette, MI
Lienau, James/Mary	Green Bay, WI
Maki, Edward	L'Anse, MI
Marcotte, Gary	Hubbell, MI
Niemi, Don	Hancock, MI
Nora, Perry	Ishpeming, MI
Nyquist, Jake/Jessica	Gladstone, MI
Perez, Luis	Barbeau, MI
Perry, Tom/Tonya	Ishpeming, MI
Pietila, Steve	Iron River, MI
Plitz, Walter	Sault Ste Marie, MI
Rogers, Paul	Farmington Hills, MI
Rolling, Jason	Negaunee, MI
Ross, Ron/Donna	Gladwin, MI
Rowe, Jim/Sharon	Lake Linden, MI
Rule, Larry/Lynn	Laurium, MI
Sackman, Alex	Bessemer, MI
Solberg, Ross	Bessemer, MI
Sullivan, Jim	Nisula, MI
Swenor, Kimberly	Ishpeming, MI
Thomas, Patty	Kingsford, MI
Touchinski, Michael	Marquette, MI
Turunen, Jim/Sue	L'Anse, MI
Wakeham, Tom	Ishpeming, MI
Wallner, Jason	Negaunee, MI
Whitlow, William	Sunset Beach, NC

Note: If you were at the reunion and your name is not on this list, there could be three reasons. One, I made a mistake and I apologize. But the most likely reason is: YOU DIDN'T REGISTER. Or your name was illegible on the sign-in roster. Please register with the front desk if you attend the reunion, even if you don't stay for the banquet. We want to keep your contact info up to date.

Future Reunion Locations, Here are the PROPOSED locations, subject to acceptance by the units and approval of the membership, for the next 3 years; 2021 Gladstone, 2022 Traverse City, 2023 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:

You will note from other lists and comments in this Bull Sheet, that there are still at least two WW II vets alive and well and corresponding with us; Bob McGUIRE and Dick WILLS. I didn't hear from Howard NICOLA this year, but I believe he is still around too!

“Short Snorts” (continued)

In the listing of the Executive Board for 2019-2020 you see that we have a new Association Chaplain. MAJ (ret) Ed JACHIMSKI, a battalion and Association icon, has stepped down from that position which he held for a very long time. He is 93 years old and thought it was time to get some younger blood involved. Steve PELLINEN has volunteered to fill the role. Thanks to him for stepping up.....Jim BECKMAN had his display of Boy Scout patches at the reunion again last year. It keeps growing.....A battalion change of command ceremony was held at the Calumet reunion. MAJ Lucas LANCZY assumed command. His roots run deep in the battalion. He served as an SMP in Co A when ye' old editor was the company commander. He went on active duty and served overseas at least once that I know of in Afghanistan. He returned to the MIARNG and served as commander of the 1431st and as an AGR officer in Ishpeming. He is the son of MAJ(ret) Bela LANCZY, D.O., former battalion surgeon. He is also the nephew of COL(ret) Tibor LANCZY, a former battalion commander. Good luck Sir!.....Another one of the former battalion helicopter pilots joined us at Calumet, CW4(ret) Bill WHITLOW came all the way from North Carolina to attend the reunion. Welcome Chief.....We also had the honor to have MG Paul ROGERS, MI-TAG, be the keynote speaker at the Calumet reunion. He got his start in the MIARNG in Co. A and went all the way to the top of the organization. Congratulations Sir!

2019 Business Meeting Highlights:

1. We are still looking for individuals who are interested in helping organize our historical files and memorabilia. Contact the secretary if you are interested.
2. We continue to publish and update the website, www.107thengineers.org
3. MAJ M. Breen, FTSF OIC/S-3, committed to get the 107th Engineer Battalion plaque designed and sent to the Army Engineer Association for fabrication and display in the USAES Museum at Fort Leonard Wood, MO. This project has been dragging on since 2015. (Editor's note: As of Feb 2020, mission accomplished. See the website for more information. Good As Done by MAJ Breen!)
4. The membership affirmed a previous directive to have some of our funds deposited in an investment account to increase our return on investment. This will be accomplished before the next business meeting.
5. A motion to hold the 2020 reunion at the Traverse City Armory, home of the 1430th Engineer Co, failed. The secretary was directed to find an armory in the U.P. for the reunion.
6. There was a lengthy discussion about the closing of U.P. armories and the moving of one of our units to Traverse City. Many members expressed disappointment with these moves.
7. There was also a discussion regarding changes to the Engineer Song. Some of the verses are no longer appropriate and needed to be edited or deleted. (See more information on this topic in the discussion paper later in this newsletter.)

CHANGE!

...the times they are a changin'.... Bob Dylan

A timeless statement of fact, that applies to our Association as well. The 107th Engineer Association was formed in 1961 by the WW II vets of the battalion, 16 years after the end of the war. The primary mission of the Association is hosting an annual reunion. That mission has been an overwhelming success for the last 59 years. We've developed a lot of traditions and comradery over the years. Many friends have come and gone, with many more to come in the years ahead. But as any organization that wants to continue to exist, we need to adapt to changing situations, times, mores' and acceptable social behaviors. We as Army veterans understand the concept of "situational awareness." "Attention to detail" will keep you and your team/organization alive in training and in combat. We, individually, may not embrace the changes, but we as an organization must change, if we are to survive.

So where are we going with this train of thought? Those of you that attended the reunion in Calumet in 2019 witnessed one of the biggest changes to date, a different Engineer Song. Some verses were removed and some were edited. There are those who will say we have caved to the politically correct movement. But I submit to you, that some of the language in the song doesn't fit with today's culture and Army regulations and hasn't for a long time. We don't need to offend anyone within our ranks to have a good time. There is a small group of folks editing an updated version of the song. It will be posted to the website soon. We've always had a pretty static version of the Engineer Song over the years, but new verses keep getting submitted. Our members will probably continue to be creative and write more humorous, self-deprecating verses to be included and sung after "drinking 37 of 40 beers." Stay tuned and attend a reunion see the evolution.

The second point of change is harder to define. We need to modify how we host and staff the reunions at our different armories. From the beginning of the Association until now, a different unit/armory volunteered to host the reunion each year. That means that retirees and former unit members don't need to do anything except show up and have fun. Meals, drinks, entertainment and the banquet are planned by the unit and current Soldiers at a nominal cost for the members. This has become an undue burden on the units with the current OPTEMPO and military requirements on any given drill weekend. The units can't afford the time away from their military obligations to properly plan and staff the reunion activities.

One way to help out is to get more Association members who are retired involved to help out, especially when the reunion is in their hometown or local armory. This would alleviate some of the planning and staffing burden on the unit. Retirees would work along with the current unit Soldiers to make their armory's reunion a success while allowing the unit Soldiers to participate in their training, etc. We don't know what this new management plan looks like going forward, but we need to do something. If we don't change we run the risk of not having our annual reunions in the very near future.

One idea that's been talked about is having the Saturday night banquet catered away from the armory. That would take a burden off of the unit in terms of cooking, set up and cleanup. The unit members could then participate in the festivities and not have to be on a work detail. This idea will likely result in a modest increase in price for the banquet.

Things we like about the reunion that we don't want to change, (unless we have too):

1. Hosted at an armory:
 - a. at least for Friday afternoon/evening and Saturday morning/afternoon, to allow retirees and visitors a chance to see the changes at the armory and also see static displays of current unit equipment.
 - b. On a drill weekend. The retirees like to be around the current unit Soldiers during the reunion. We like to meet them, talk about what the unit is doing and get to find out what's new with the Guard. This will continue to expose the Soldiers to the Association and encourage them to join.
2. Rotate the reunion between all the current armories. Most Soldiers, who attend reunions, only do so at their armory. Most don't travel to reunions at other armories. If we only rotated reunions to one or two armories, we wouldn't get to see a lot of former battalion members from the other locations around the U.P. and downstate.
3. The Saturday (mostly) formal banquet in dress uniform.
4. Sing the Engineer Song!



YOOPER STRONG



107th ENGINEER ASSOCIATION
Executive Committee for 2019- 2020

President	CPT Ben Rodenberg	1437 th Engr Co.
Vice President	SFC Jacob Simonetti	1437 th 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	CW5(ret) Joe Floriano	Co D/HHC 107 th Engr Bn
Historian	SSG John Peterson	HSC, 107 th Eng Bn
Chaplain	SGT(ret) Steve Pellinen	HHC, 107th Eng Bn
Permanent Director	MAJ Lucas Lanczy	Cdr, 107 th Eng Bn
4 Year Director	BG(ret) Pete Injasoulian	HQ, 107 th Engr Bn
3 Year Director	MSG(ret) Joe Batisfore	HHC/1431st/Co A, 107th Eng Bn
2 Year Director	SFC (ret) Bob Groop	HHC, 107th Engr Bn
1 Year Director	1SG(ret) Jeff Gibson	1432/Co B/Det 1, Co D, 107th Eng Bn

There is limited space to park travel trailers, campers and tents at the armory. Call ahead of time to the armory to reserve a spot.

Partial listing of local Soo Campgrounds near the armory:

[Soo Locks Campground](#), 1001 East Portage Ave, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783, Phone: (906) 632-3191, [Visit Website](#)

[Aune-Osborn Campground](#), 1225 Riverside Dr, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783, Phone: (906) 632-3268, [Visit Website](#) [Email](#)

There must be 100 motels/hotels in the Soo. Here is the link to the Chamber of Commerce for information on individual businesses. Good Luck!

<https://www.saultstemarie.com/places-to-stay/hotels-motels-condos/>



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

1. **Before 15 Jul 2020** mail the notice below to: 107th Engineer Association, 900 Palms Ave., Ishpeming, MI 49849-1064
2. **After 15 Jul 2020** Call the SFC Jacob Simonetti at the Soo Armory (906) 259-6068 or jacob.m.simonetti.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 59th Annual Reunion of the 107th Engineer Association at Sault Ste. Marie, MI.
(circle your choice)

2. Reserve _____ place(s) for me at the banquet / dance on Saturday, 8 August 2020. 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 _____

Please also update the following information:

6. My phone number is: _____.

7. My Email address is: _____.

8. For more info please check the Association web site at "www.107thengineers.org"