



RED DRAGON

Newsletter of the Red Dragons Veterans Association **February 2011**

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Note: Newsletters sent out by email and US mail contained a roster of Association membership. It is not included here out of respect for those who might not want their personal contact information posted on a website open to the general public. If there is anyone you want to locate, please email Walt Eldredge; there are email button on the Association website www.red-dragons.org and on my website www.dragonscribe.com

2ND CHEMICAL GETS M1135 STRYKERS

The 2nd Chemical Battalion vehicle inventory now includes the Stryker Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Reconnaissance vehicle (NBCRV). This armored, rolling laboratory can identify a range of chemical liquid and vapor hazards as well as biological agents. Learn More at <http://www.army.mil/news/2010/12/21/49766-soldiers-train-on-new-stryker-variant/>

REUNION
JUNE 8-12 2011

The reunion for
Red Dragons of all eras
will be held
June 8-12
at
Fort Hood, TX
home of the Red Dragons
of today.

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO:

1) Make reservations at the Hilton Garden Inn

1749 Scott Blvd.
Temple TX 76504
(254) 773-0200

Be sure to say you are with the Red Dragons (Group Code "DRAGON") reunion, so you get our **group room rate** of \$87 per night, plus 13 % tax for a total of \$98.67. Get your room Before May 4! The hotel will not hold our block of rooms past **May 4!**

2) Travel arrangements.

You can fly into Austin TX, about 80 miles away, or Waco, TX about 40 miles away.

3) Send \$55.00 per person to

Red Dragons
c/o Walt Eldredge
12124 N. Oak Hills Pkwy
Baton Rouge, LA 70810

This will cover one buffet, the main banquet, and the hospitality room costs. (DRAGON'S LAIR)

4) Bring Stuff

Bring your mementos, souvenirs, pictures and scrapbooks. Also bring items for the Saturday evening raffle, which helps pay for expenses.

REUNION SCHEDULE

Wednesday, June 8

Noon until exhaustion

Meet and Mingle in the Dragon's Lair

Thursday, June 9

0915-1100 Visit 1st Cav Museum, Brigade Change of Command Ceremony

1100 – 1300 Lunch at Club Hood

1300-1600 Battalion Conference room, story swapping with veterans and active duty soldiers, show pictures and mementos.

Mix and Mingle in Dragon's Lair until exhaustion

Friday, June 10

0900-1115 Display of battalion vehicles and systems for chem/bio detection & decontamination, discuss operations with vehicle crews

1130-1300 Lunch

1300-1600: Fort Hood Training Facilities Tour (MYSTIC, IED simulator, EST, etc.)

1700 Light Buffet -- special invitation to active duty troops.

Mix and Mingle in Dragon's Lair until exhaustion

Saturday, June 11

0915-1100: Fact and Fiction – share stories of yourself, your family, your service

1500 – 1700 Presentation on History of Battalion by Walt Eldredge returning for a second year in spite of popular demand.

1830 Memorial Banquet
(COAT AND TIE PLEASE!)

Raffle

Mix and Mingle in Dragon's Lair until exhaustion

Sunday, June 12

Close station. March Order

WHY FORT HOOD?

New Orleans was first choice for the 2011 reunion and Fort Hood the second choice by a narrow margin. While making arrangements for New Orleans, I became very concerned about the level of violence, and I just did not feel good about bringing our people into that situation.

WHAT'S TO DO AROUND FORT HOOD

In Temple, TX

- Railroad Heritage Museum
- Czech National Heritage Museum

In Waco, TX

- Dr. Pepper Museum & Gift Shop
- Texas Ranger Hall of Fame

In Austin, TX

- Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center
- Texas State History Museum
- Natural Bridge Caverns

NEWS FROM 2010 REUNION - PIGEON FORGE, TN

This was the first reunion held for veterans of all eras. There were WW II veterans, Korean War Veterans (two of which served in WW II) and active duty soldiers from fort Hood. The younger folks found out a lot about their forebears, and the rest of us found out a lot about the modern army and deployments to Iraq. By the end of the reunion were no longer three groups of Red dragons – there was one group that spread across seventy years of Red Dragon history.

The Memorial Banquet was truly a memorial, with a moving ceremony led by CSM Ken Kraus, a member of the Executive Committee of the Association. A new completely new contribution was made by Sgt. Adam Eisenhower and his wife Jeanette, who sang the Star-Spangled in a beautiful duet, and then shared several other songs including a remarkable Louis Armstrong rendition. Then Michael Eldredge sang a ballad of his own composition, about a war veteran's whose life and death are symbolized by an empty bird feeder he leaves behind for the children whose family moves into his house.

A meeting was held to discuss future reunions. It was decided to continue holding a single reunion annually. They will be in the latter part of June, when school is out. Younger veterans can't bring children while school is in session. Older veterans

often need children to bring them, and that is a problem if the grandchildren are in school



Red Dragons of 46th Cml Co in Tikrit, Iraq

FINANCES

Opening	Balance	
12/31/09		\$ 1,234.96
Mailing	Permit	
(one time)		\$ (370.00)
Spring	2010	
Newsletter		\$ (578.37)
Donations		\$ 1,390.32
Reunion Payments		\$ 1,250.00
		\$
Reunion expenses		(1,218.10)
Sale of Red Dragon		
Items		\$ 20.00
Closing	Balance	
12/31/2010		\$ 1,728.81

REUNION RAFFLE

The Saturday night raffle raised \$250 for Dragon fodder. Please bring curios, small household items, works of art, books, you name it – we raffle them all off to each other. Everybody wins, or at least has fun, and the dragon gets fed!

WEBSITES

Don't miss the website for the Red Dragons Veterans Association at www.red-dragons.org. You'll find information battalion history, memoirs from individuals, and links to related sites.

You can even use PayPal to donate to the Association, and get a receipt for tax purposes.

Also Walt Eldredge finally has his new website up, at www.dragonscribe.com.

Both websites have email buttons you can use to contact me. (Yes, I know I said that twice!)

Finally, if you have not seen it, look at Bruce Elliott's website at www.4point2.org. There is more information about the 4.2 mortar here than...well maybe anywhere!

TOXIC INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS



Red Dragons train with toxic industrial chemical protection and detection equipment, known as TICPDE. TICs are found often in Iraq and pose a severe threat to U.S. soldiers. Chemical troops identify TICS and eliminate the threat by transporting, destroying, or neutralizing the toxic agents.

GOT HISTORY?

We're looking for it.

We are assembling historical displays for the 2nd Chemical HQ at Fort Hood. If you have any mementos, pictures, or anything else from your service that you would be willing to include in the display, please contact Walt Eldredge.

Many of you have pictures, memoirs, personal or official records stashed in some closet or attic. These can have more historical importance than you might think. Your offspring removed by one or by many generations may have a sincere interest in your story and will search for these things that you may view as having little import. In my own research, I found many such items, either originals or copies. Children and grand children grandchildren contact me and say "Do you have any information on my dad, or grand dad or uncle? He was in the unit but he's gone and I don't know anything about his service." Many times I have been able to provide personal information, or something about the man's company or platoon, because minor items had been preserved for me to find. One of these went all the way back to World War I.

If you have items like this please contact me. There are many collections that will preserve them and provide public access to them through their displays and catalogs including the Chemical corps Museum, and the Army Heritage and Educational Center. I will help you organize them and make copies if you want to keep the originals. There is no charge for this, it is a small payment on the debt I owe to all of you for your service.

Bring these things to the reunion, too. Many people there would like to see them and hear your stories. We will have several occasions dedicated to this kind of sharing.

TAPS

Name	Date	Company
Alfred Blanchard,	2008	C 1951-52
Robert Copper	4 Dec 2008	
John C. "Jack" Foust	1 June 2009	Med 1942- 1945
Robert Hewitt	2010	B 1951-52
William Hadaway	20 Sep 2009	C 1951-52
Robert Pugh	29 Apr 2009	A/B WW II
Kenneth Rictor	3 May 2006	A WW II
Stanley Rising	19 Dec 2009	D WW II
Edward Talarski	4 Apr 2006	C 1949-51

As you can see, some of the names above reached us late.
If you know of the death of a Red Dragon please let us know.



The U.S. Military cemetery at Anzio-Nettuno Italy,
 final resting place of eighteen Red Dragons.

PIGEON FORGE REUNION PHOTOS



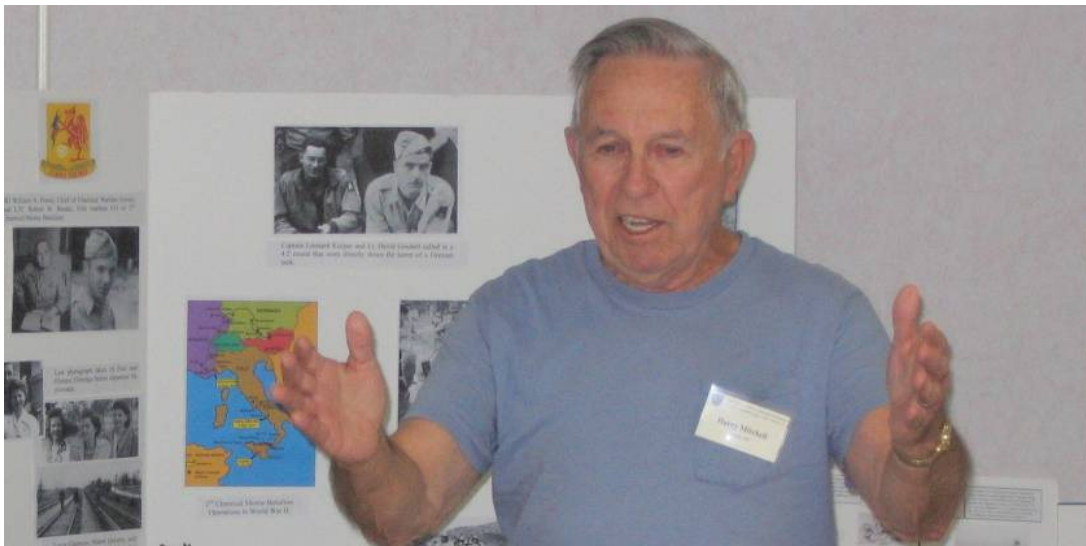
CSM Ken Kraus and Ed and Pat Fladeland listen as Carl Hulsman recalls his time in Korea with the battalion



SPC Jessica Vestal relates an experience from her time in Iraq.



CSM Ken Kraus, Executive Committee Member, discusses the battalion's current mission.



Korean veteran Harry Mitchell describes how big something was...or how far away it was, or...oh, who cares, Harry tells a hell of good story!



Pigeon Forge TN Reunion: World War II Veterans with active duty personnel from Fort Hood



SPC Jodi Brady and SPC Jessica Vestal with Norm DeRosier, Korean War Veteran

WORLD WAR II VETERAN VISITS FORT HOOD

Leon Crooks started as a clerk in B Company and returned home in 1945 as company First Sergeant. In between he was in combat in seven campaigns including three amphibious invasions. In November he visited Fort Hood for two days.



Captain Lopez tells Leon about his company's operations. Behind the captain is one of the battalion's new Stryker vehicles.



Leon relates an event from the fall of 1944 when the Red Dragons were with the First Airborne Task Force defending Seventh Army's flank in the Maritime Alps.

DO YOU RECOGNIZE THIS INSIGNIA?

This DUI pin from an unknown unit was obviously inspired by the Red Dragon of the 2nd Chemical Battalion arms. It has clutch back fasteners, not the older hinged stick pin. What unit wanted to be associated with us, yet have their own identity? (It's not the 461st Infantry, pictured at right.) If you know, please tell us.

THE REVEILLE GUN...

...roused Red Dragons at Edgewood Arsenal for years.
It figures in one of the most inspiring "He actually got AWAY with that?" stories in our history.
"His" identity remained unknown for 56 years.
Learn the truth at the reunion!



LIVENS PROJECTOR



The Livens Projector pronounced (LIE-vins), named for its British inventor, was the first weapon to replace simple industrial cylinders to deliver chemical agents on the enemy. Tubes were buried by thousands, often in front of Allied lines, and fired simultaneously by electrical signal. The 30th Engineers and the 1st Gas Regiment used these in combat in WW I and Red Dragons trained with them as late as 1941.

THOSE WHO DID NOT RETURN THE RED DRAGON ~ KOREAN WAR							
BENSTON, WILLIAM L. 1LT	2 Nov 50	FIELD, ROBERT L. PVT	7 Mar 51	FRANKS, THOMAS P. 2LT	12 Aug 52	TYNDALE, BRADSHAW B. 1LT	16 Jan 51
BOYLAN, HUGH J. PFC	26 Nov 50	FRYXETER, ROBERT N. SGT	26 Nov 50	PANNER, ALMER H. SGT	12 Sep 52	VANDER, JOHN E. CPL	20 Nov 51
BRAMANTE, FRANCIS SGT	2 Nov 50	GODFREY, EARL J. PFC	27 Nov 50	PERERINE, JULIO I. CPT	2 Nov 50	WANCE, RALPH R. CPT	14 Jul 53
BROTHERS, HERMAN L. MSgt	2 Nov 50	GREEN, EDWIN L. PFC	18 Sep 52	PRATT, EDWARD J. SFC	2 Nov 50	WARDZINSKI, RED R. PVT	14 Jul 53
CALI, FRANK M. PFC	2 Jul 52	HOVSADAT, DONALD C. PFC	26 Nov 50	PROULX, ARMAND H. CPL	2 Nov 50	WARREN, TR. SFC	2 Nov 50
CHAPMAN, RICHARD A. CPL	31 Jan 51	LESZCZYNSKI, JOHN JR. PVT	6 Jul 53	RYENOLDY, THEODORE A. CPL	1 May 51	WELCH, ARTHUR R. SFC	30 Apr 51
CLOUD, EVANS JR. PFC	20 Oct 51	MAAS, MILTON D. CPL	30 Sep 51	RYEARS, JOHN E. CPL	24 Feb 51	WHITAY, JAMES F. PFC	19 Jul 53
COONEY, EDWARD J. WO	12 Aug 52	MCCLETSKEY, RONALD P. PFC	1 Jul 53	SCHULTZ, DANIEL J. CPL	2 Nov 50	WHALLEN, FREDERICK CPL	2 Nov 50
DANKIEWICZ, DANIEL J. PFC	15 Nov 52	MCDANIEL, WENDIE B. PFC	14 Jun 53	SDMGONS, THOMAS SGT	15 Jun 53	WHITAKER, HUGH D. MSgt	26 Nov 50
DEMERS, RICHARD L. CPL	2 Nov 50	MCGEEVER, THOMAS W. Jr. 1LT	21 Sep 52	SMITHSON, LEWIS SFC	2 Nov 50	WHELEIGH, MAURICE E. CPT	2 Nov 50
DISORDON, NICHOLAS A. CPL	13 Jul 53	MCGUIRE, JAMES P. SGT	30 Apr 51	SWIFT, HARRY S. SFC	2 Nov 50	WILLIAMS, THOMAS H. PVT	23 Jul 53
DILBO, NICHOLAS P. PFC	13 Nov 52	MCGUIRE, ERIC R. SGT	9 Dec 51	SMITH, SHADRACH B. Jr. SGT	2 Nov 50	WILSON, JAMES W. PFC	23 Jul 53
DORTCH, GILBERT CPL	13 Nov 52	MONTAYA, BENJIN SGT	2 Nov 50	SPAIN, FRANCIS E. CPL	2 Nov 50	WOLFE, THOMAS F. SGT	31 Jan 51
DULD, ROBERT CPL	2 Nov 50	NAYLOR, LEWIS J. MSgt	26 Nov 50	TAYLOR, RALPH R. CPT	24 Apr 51	WOODCOCK, FRANK E. 2LT	17 Aug 52
FARRILL, WILLIAM F. SGT	2 Nov 50	PARKER, ANDREW CPL	14 Jun 53	TURNER, LORENZO PFC	14 Jun 53	WORLDINE, CLARE E. CPL	26 Nov 50
						YELLE, LOIS B. SFC	2 Nov 50

FREEDOM IS NOT FREE

WWII CASUALTIES					
FLAMMIS VINCIMUS					
HDO / HDO CO					
CO A					
S/SGT	ZURAUSKY EDWARD M.	3/22/45	CPL	TERLECKI MICHAEL	7/20/43
T/5	GARVEY FRANCIS P.	3/22/45	T/5	HOWLE WINN T.	10/17/44
PVT	CAIN WALTER L.	7/17/43	PVT	MASSEY HIRAM M.	2/14/44
CO B					
SGT	MALECKI EDWARD A.	1/17/45	CPL	MAJORS GORDON	12/15/44
SGT	HART GLEN E.	9/11/43	PFC	JEFFRIES WILLIE K.	12/03/43
PFC	KIEWITZ LOUIS F.	3/30/45	PFC	MEMAHON MICHAEL P.	11/24/43
PFC	SPILLMAN ROY A.	2/27/44	PVT	BAECHER NELSON H.	10/25/43
PVT	BYWALSKI JOSEPH A.	9/11/43	PVT	CAUVIN IRVIN C.	9/15/43
PVT	COLE CHARLES O.	12/17/44	PVT	DAVIDOW BERNARD	11/24/43
PVT	HENNINGER GEORGE	8/03/43	PVT	HIGGINS ARTHUR R.	12/03/43
PVT	KNOSE HERMAN O.	9/11/43	PVT	SLOVITSKY JOSEPH W.	7/12/43
PVT	WRAY ROBERT L.	9/12/43			
CO C					
PFC	COYNE JOHN P.	9/15/43	PFC	DESORMEAU ALBERT J.	10/04/43
PVT	BURRUS JAMES C.	1/14/44	PVT	CHANDLER ELDRIDGE	8/06/43
PVT	DECENSO FRANK A. JR.	9/15/43	PVT	DOBY POSIE R.	2/12/44
PVT	HAYES ELMER B.	2/11/44	PVT	LEEVEY ISAAC K.	2/12/44
PVT	MOORE ALFRED A.	11/07/44			
CO D					
T/5	BROOKS RICHARD H.	12/19/43	T/5	FARLEY JOSEPH R.	2/06/44
T/5	MCADYEN JAMES G.	9/23/43	PFC	PHILLIPS HOWARD W.	12/19/43
PFC	POWERS KELSEY J.	1/21/44	PFC	WINCE DALE F. JR.	5/14/44
PFC	WITMAN WARREN F.	4/11/45	PFC	WOOD CHARLES B.	7/28/43
PVT	HACKER LUTHER	12/19/43	PVT	KENNEDY MARSHALL L.	1/21/44
PVT	LALONDE BERNARD A.	12/28/44	PVT	OHNS JOHN M.	7/28/43
PVT	PICARD PAUL E.	2/10/44	PVT	WYRICK ROY S.	7/28/43
CO E					
SGT	BRUCCOLERI JOSEPH A.	8/06/43	SGT	HARNER BENJAMIN	11/11/43
SGT	PUGH ARCHIE A.	10/13/43	SGT	RIBINSKY EDWARD	8/29/44
T/5	MCNAY WILLIAM JR.	10/29/43	PFC	JACKSON RALPH	2/14/44
PVT	FIVEASH CECIL A.	11/11/43	PVT	GRAY MARVIN R.	11/11/43
PVT	MAZUREK JOHN J.	11/11/43	PVT	SANTIBANEZ LEONARD	11/11/43
YOUR SACRIFICE IS REMEMBERED AND HONORED					

A dark blue commemorative plaque for the 1st Gas Regiment, 30th Engineers. At the top, a large feather is mounted horizontally. In the center of the feather is a shield-shaped emblem containing the number '1'. To the left of the feather, the year '1917' is inscribed, and to the right, '1919' is inscribed. Below the feather, the text '1ST • GAS • REGIMENT' is prominently displayed, followed by '-30TH ENGINEERS-' in a smaller font. Underneath this, the title 'ROLL OF HONOR' is written in large, bold letters. The plaque is divided into two columns of names. The left column lists names from FRED L. ALLEN to JOHN V. FLEMING. The right column lists names from GEORGE PARTRIDGE to ELMER H. ZOELLER. At the bottom of the plaque, a horizontal line of text reads 'FLANDERS - LYS - LORRAINE - AISNE-MARNE - ST MIHIEL MEUSE-ARGONNE'.