

August 2006



The Currahee!

The Newsletter of
The 506th Airborne Infantry Regiment Association
Airmobile - Air Assault

Our Motto: We Stand Together - Then, Now, and Always

President's Message

First of all I want to thank you for electing me as your President for 2006 – 2008. As I am new to this job, my comments will be general. First of all, I want to thank those who got this organization started — President Gene Overton, Treasurer Bruce Moore and Chairman Mike Metzger — for handing off a well run organization that has adequate structure in place to do well in the future. Bruce Moore and Peggy, his dear associate are continuing on while Gene and Mike have both moved to the Board where they will be invaluable. Gene will be making his comments elsewhere in this letter, so I will move on.

Beginning in January I started receiving a lot of informational e-mail traffic from the Association, at the Board and Membership meetings as well as in the hospitality room I also heard a lot. I was struck by how few of our members were actually involved with the organization and the lack of communication within it. My feeling was that we were communicating poorly with each other. The communication avenues available were the web-site, which I believe is organized for one-way dissemination of information and a newsletter that comes out several times a year to all our paying members. At this time, I have introduced a third method of communication within the organization in the form of a report that I intend to issue on a monthly/bimonthly basis as information available exists with additional reports coming out when I need to advise you of something quickly. This report is done by mass e-mail and as of the first real report roughly 75% of our paying members received it in their mailbox. Amazingly, it has been out less than a week as I write this and I have received several responses (e-mail can be two-way) from members with suggestions and/or volunteering to help out in a program area they have heard about. If I can not answer the question myself, I forward the note to a person within our organization that will and the questions are being answered in a timely fashion. Unfortunately, this product is not currently available to about 25% of you because you lack e-mail access or have not kept us current on your address. Please send your address updates to Bruce Moore (TheMOE_A1506@msn.com) as he maintains our formal roster. By the time you receive this, if you have not received a report or message from me, you either do not have e-mail or we do not have a correct address. We get error reports in most cases when an e-mail does not go through. Additionally, I have asked those of you who get a report to pass on the information to friends who do not and have already seen evidence that this is happening. This program is clearly not meant to reduce some of you to second class citizens. It is a no-cost benefit to those of us who have e-mail access.

At this time we are very excited about the 'Gathering of Currahees' during the Week of the Eagles. We hope to have details available for the January newsletter. The Currahee! Newsletter remains a principle means of communication with members who do not use e-mail. Newsletters are targeted for late July/early August depending on how information gathering, printing, assembly and mailing goes and the other comes out around the end of the year.

Please remember that we are on an annual dues system with the year's dues due in January. Year round we also have the Quartermaster Store on the website which we are working at making the best source of CURRAHEE materials available.

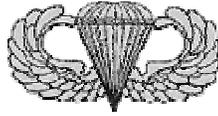
CURRAHEE

Brise Bickerton

1/506 INF APR 67 – APR 69

<brise5804@comcast.net>

Visit the Currahee website - www.506infantry.org



2006 Currahee Reunion

Colorado Springs and Fort Carson

May 17-21, 2006

After Action Report

The 4th Reunion and General Membership Meeting of the 506th Infantry Association was held at the Sheraton Colorado Springs Hotel from Wednesday May 17 through Saturday May 20, 2006. The site was chosen because it was near Ft. Carson, where Currahee troops who had served as part of the Second Infantry Division in Iraq were stationed. The area offered many favorable amenities to make it an attractive destination. These amenities included the standard tourist amenities of Colorado Springs such as nearness to the Air Force Academy and an active duty Army post, tourist attractions such as the Garden of the Gods and Pikes Peak and an available facility for an independent group of the Association to hold a parachute jump.

People started arriving on Wednesday for a chance to get settled, meet old friends in our hospitality area and/or do some local touring time permitting.

People continued to arrive Thursday and those that arrived in the morning were able to join with the members who had arrived before them for a regimental picnic at Iron Horse Park on Fort Carson. For many of us Easterners this was the first time we had seen sun for a week or so. Joining us at the picnic were Currahees who had served with the 1st Battalion, 506th Infantry in Iraq, a reunion within a reunion where older veterans of the 506th had the opportunity to mix and talk with these younger veterans, an opportunity that continued throughout the reunion. The weather was very favorable for being outdoors in the cooler parts of the day and we took advantage of that. The Board of Directors met late in the day for its final meeting prior to the elections on Friday.

Friday was basically a free day for our members. Some went to ground school in preparation for a parachute jump while others visited local tourist attractions. The General Membership Meeting was held late in the afternoon (Election results are reported under the 'Mission/Vision' tab which is contained in the Organization/Membership tab on the home page.)

The evening featured a Regimental Dining Out (Currahee Memorial Dinner). Our dinner speaker was COL David L. Clark who commanded the 1st Battalion from May 2002 through its last months in Korea and then took the unit to Iraq for a full deployment with the 2nd Brigade of the Second Infantry Division. He returned the unit to Fort Carson at the end of the deployment and left the 1/506 in September 2005. His dinner talk was most educational and enjoyable, as was his presence. Following the dinner, some of us adjourned to the hospitality room or quiet spaces in the hotel to talk with friends. The air is a bit thin at the foothills of the Rockies. Some of us were feeling its effects and simply went to bed.

On Saturday, we had the choice of touring the Colorado Springs area or of going to the parachute drop area for a Memorial Ceremony and lunch catered by a fine barbeque restaurant from Colorado City. Following lunch, the crowd pretty much divided with the jumpers and their families staying at the airport while the rest headed off on individual pursuits.

By now, some of us were tiring a bit due to the effects of the Colorado sunny blue sky and breezes or last chance efforts to get the perfect Colorado souvenir. Saturday evening was highlighted by informal unit dinners and easy conversations with friends throughout the hotel. The reunion was effectively over.

Airplanes take off early from Colorado Springs so some of us found ourselves on 6:00 AM flights home. Others managed to get together with friends for one last breakfast. A few parties got together for independent touring of the Colorado area or joint drives that visited sites of interest while heading in the general direction of home. Based on some of the comments, many of our members felt that this was the best reunion we had since we held our first elections in 2000. All in all, it was a bunch of 'happy Currahees' that left Colorado with plans to have a less formal gathering next year at Fort Campbell.

2006 Reunion Award Certificates Presented at the Currahee Memorial Dinner

One of the highlights of the dinner was the presentation by outgoing president Gene Overton of Association awards for service to Currahees.

Certificates of Appreciation were presented to the following individuals, along with a token of appreciation.

Ronald L. Helwig – for your service as Association Quartermaster and on the Currahee Packages Committee

Joseph E. Huesing – for your service to the Association in monitoring various news services and newspapers and providing 506th related articles for use on the Currahee Homepage

CSM(R) Joseph M. Bossi – for your service to the Association in hosting the Reactivation Ceremony Hospitality Room, October 2005, and for representing the Association at the Eagle Remembrance Ceremonies at Fort Campbell, KY

SGM(R) John A. Keene – for your service to the Association in hosting the Reactivation Ceremony Hospitality Room, October 2005, and as the Hospital Visitation Team Leader for James A. Haley VA Medical Center, Tampa, FL

COL(R) Richard M. Seitz – for your service to the Association as the Hospital Visitation Team Leader for Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, DC

ISG(R) John E. Foley – for your service to the Association as the Hospital Visitation Team Leader for Blanchfield Community Hospital, Fort Campbell, KY

John P. Georgiton – for your service to the Association as the Hospital Visitation Team Leader for Brooke Army Medical Center, Fort Sam Houston, TX

MAJ John T. Duckett, III – for your service to the Association as Co-Chairman of the 2006 Currahee Reunion Committee

James M. Nemeth – for your service to the Association as Co-Chairman of the 2006 Currahee Reunion Committee

David J. Sas – for your service to the Association as a Member of the Media and Advertising Committee

Thomas G. Lee – for being the driving force that established the Widows, Orphans, and Wounded Soldiers Fund and for soliciting its initial funding

John O. Lally – for your service to the Association in assuming the position of Currahee Newsletter Editor and ensuring that newsletter publication continues as scheduled as a vital communication link to the Association membership.

Jake Seberger and James McLaughlin – for your service to the Association in fund raising activity in support of the

Currahee Packages Project 2006; these two Culver Academy (IN) cadets [and students of MAJ Tom Duckett, III, B Co, 1st BN, 1971] as their Senior Service Project, sent out fund raising letters which to date has resulted in the Association receiving over \$2,900 in donations for the Currahee Packages Project and \$1,000 in donations for the Widows, Orphans & Wounded Soldiers Fund.

Presidential Certificates were awarded to the following individuals:

Alfred M. May – for your service to the Association as Active-Duty Liaison and Chairman of three key Committees: Scholarship Committee; Currahee Packages Committee; and the Widows, Orphans, and Wounded Soldiers Fund Committee

Michael J. Metzger – for your service to the Association as Chairman of the Board and for raising funds for both the 2005 and 2006 Currahee Packages Projects

The **Currahee Crest Awards** were presented **Eugene L. Overton, Jr.** for his outstanding efforts as Co-founder and first President of The 506th Airborne Infantry Regiment Association. The inscription on the award reads:

*Your dedication and efforts have inspired all.
Currahee! We Stand Together – Then, Now, and Always*

The second Currahee Crest Award was given to **COL David L. Clark**. The text on the award reads:

*Presented to
COL DAVID L. CLARK
by The 506th Airborne Infantry Regiment Association
(Airmobile - Air Assault)
Given on 19 May 2006 at the Currahee Memorial Dinner
in Colorado Springs, CO*

*For outstanding service to the Association while serving as
Currahee 6 in Korea, Iraq, and the United States from May
2002 to Sep 2005*

We Stand Together – Then, Now, and Always

Special Presentation:

And lastly, a special personal presentation was made to **Hoyt Bruce Moore, III** of a Bradford Exchange hand painted limited edition “American Bald Eagle, Forever Proud Patriotic” figurine by from our outgoing President Eugene [Gene] L. Overton, Jr. not only for Bruce’s service and support to the 506th Association over the last eight years but also for his personal support to Gene in ensuring the future and growth of the Association.

Business Meeting Minutes – May 19, 2006

The General Membership Meeting, held at the 2004 Association Reunion in Colorado Springs Colorado was called to order at 4:15 PM, May 19, 2006 by Michael Metzger, Chairman.

Brise Bickerton led the membership in the Pledge of allegiance.

A quorum being established by 25 members present and 78 proxies presented the general membership meeting was conducted.

The minutes from the July 23, 2004 general membership meeting were read by Kyle L. Worrell, Secretary. A motion was made by Ronald Kane to accept the minutes as read. Motion seconded by John Lally. The minutes were approved by the membership by a show of hands.

Michael J. Metzger, Chairman, announced the meeting agenda and protocol.

OLD BUSINESS:

Bruce Moore, Treasurer, presented the Treasurer's Report. A motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Ronald Helwig. The motion was seconded by Octavio Laguna. The report was accepted by the membership through a unanimous show of hands.

Fred May, Director, reported on:

- Active – Veteran Liaison activities.
- College Scholarship Fund.
- Widow and Orphans Fund
- Wounded Soldiers Fund.
- Currahee packages sent

Ronald Helwig, Quartermaster, presented a report of the quartermaster activities, sales, inventory and revenue.

Gene Overton, President, reported on the achievements and progress made since the first meeting in Tennessee 10 years ago.

- Still working on MOH for Major Dick Winters.
- The award of the Air Assault Badge for Viet Nam Currahees pending action by DA.
- Membership urged to keep the Association active; all must work to make it happen.

NEW BUSINESS:

Michael Metzger, Chairman presented the slate of officers and directors to be elected and changes to the by-laws to vote on. Nominees from the floor was solicited, none presented. Election of Officers and Board and change in by-laws was conducted by members present by secret ballot. Ballots and proxies were tabulated by two members present. Results of the election were:

Chairman: Tom Duckett, Major
President: Brise Bickerton
Treasurer: Hoyt B. "Bruce" Moore
Secretary: Kyle L. Worrell

Directors: MAJ(R) John Thomas Duckett, III
J. Brise Bickerton
Hoyt Bruce Moore, III
SGM(R) Kyle Worrell
Christopher D. Garrett
Ronald L. Helwig
Donald E. Thies
John O. Lally
Alfred M. May
Michael J. Metzger
Eugene L. Overton, Jr.

During tabulation of the vote, a discussion to hold gatherings more frequently than the bi-annual reunion was held. The consensus was to have "gatherings" if members wished. These gatherings were independent and not a part of the official Association meetings.

A motion to adjourn was made by Joseph Wisneski. Seconded by John Georgiton. A unanimous show of hands approved adjourning.

The 2006 Membership meeting of The 506th Airborne Infantry Regiment Association (Airmobile– Air Assault) was adjourned at 5:15 PM.

Prepared by:
Kyle L. Worrell
Secretary

Treasurer's Report:

As of June 30, 2006, year-to-date operating income of \$26,084.86 exceeded operating expenses of \$19,803.64 for a net operating income of \$6,281.22.

Total funds in Association Bank Accounts included the following:

Business Shares, Financial 21 Credit Union, San Diego:	\$ 125.05
Checking Account: Unrestricted Funds	14,412.62
Temporarily Restricted Funds:	16,037.61
Currahee Packages Fund Balance	5,960.89
Widows & Orphans Fund Balance	4,154.99
Scholarship Fund Balance	<u>5,921.73</u>
TOTAL ASSETS - 06/30/06	\$30,575.28

The Association had no outstanding liabilities.

Thanks to all of you who responded to the 2006 membership drive and to those who have made additional donations for Association expenses, the Currahee Packages Project, the Scholarship Fund, and the Widows, Orphans, & Wounded Soldiers Fund. As of June 30, 2006, the Association had received 2006 Membership Dues from 484 Currahee veterans and 29 Associates, for a total of 513 dues-paying members.

President's Report

July 18, 2006

I thought this month and in the future not only would I bring you up to date on what we have done or are planning as an organization, but also highlight things that our members have done for others from who share in the '506th bond.' An organization can be and should be measured both by what it officially does and what its members do.

Association Notes:

The Association is still committed to holding 'A Gathering of Currahees' in conjunction with the Week of the Eagles. Currently, the dates have not been set by the Division to the best of our knowledge but once the Division is home and details of the new CG's arrival are set, the dates will probably follow. In the past the Division pattern has been to have a series of events building to a strong final day. We generally have staged our meetings over three days, so it is probably reasonable to expect that the RCT will follow the Division pattern and we will want to be there for the final day. As better information becomes available it will be published on our web page, in this letter and in the newsletter.

Corrections to previous report: In my report of June 19 I erroneously indicated that Ron Helwig did most of the work regarding the Currahee packages. In actual fact, Fred May does most of the work with Ron Helwig as his back-up. As I was starting to get familiar with Association actions, Fred was on vacation and Ron was backing him up, hence my mistake. I apologize to both these gentlemen for my oversight and commend them for a job well done.

Antonio "Tony" Gomes, the son of Jerry and Kaye Gomes, was awarded our first scholarship. Tony will be attending the Oregon State University at Corvallis this fall as a sophomore. Jerry, his father, served in the 3/506 and is an active member of our Association. We wish Tony success in his higher education.

Because the scholarship fund will make its expenditures once a year, we invested the remaining funds that we currently have in two CDs using the laddering principal. The interest earned (We got rates of 3.83% for six months and 4.12% for 12 months.) will be directly credited to the scholarship fund with the hope that as time goes by we will be able to fund one or more scholarships from invested funds and another from annual contributions, as well as slightly raise the amount we invest in our youth.

Certain costs of the parachute jump in Colorado, primarily for souvenirs, were charged to the Association that should not have been. The funds held as temporarily restricted funds for the parachutists were exhausted in making a partial payment on the bill and Association funds were used to make up the difference, as we have a need to protect our name and our credit rating. We hold the remaining inventory as security for the debt and fully expect to recover our costs plus maybe some profit over time.

Remember to visit our website,
<http://www.506infantry.org/> for the latest news and information.

A recent feature is letters received regarding the Currahee Packages we send. Although not all of the 30 units to which the Association is sending packages have responded, most have, so we reworked/expanded the Thank-You's from Iraq 2006 web site section which is accessed from the 2006 Currahee Package Project section of the Scholarship Fund and Special Projects web page.

A final comment about the two funds we have that directly assist our present CURRAHEES: From January 1 through June 30, we spent \$1,792.36 for gifts and financial assistance from the Widows, Orphans and Wounded Soldiers Fund divided among 42 soldiers and their families. During the same period we spent \$7,343.94 on 90 Currahee Packages (totaling over 3,000 pounds) mailed to the companies in the RCT.

Mike Bookser has added a "Looking For" section to the Currahee Forum (www.506infantry.org/forum). This will allow Currahee veterans to create their own "Looking For" entries to help locate Currahees with whom they served.

An issue came up about e-mail distribution of the Association newsletter. For the time being, the newsletter will only be distributed to paid-up members with a very few exceptions as determined by me.

If you have any questions that you want answered about the Association, you can always e-mail me at brise5804@comcast.net and I will either reply to you or ask the owner of the issue to reply to you concerning that issue.

From Correspondence Received:

Larry Bowman, a Vietnam Currahee arranged to bring a group of 101st troops from Walter Reed to a Travis Tritt country western concert near his home in southern Maryland in mid-July. Larry's community has pitched in to cover all costs, transportation and meals for the troops and their family members.

The work of the Hospitality Visitation Team, whose activities are centered on Walter Reed, headed by Bob Seitz draws praise from both RCT and Division Command level. We can all take pride in their achievements. We also have teams at Blanchfield Army Hospital, Fort Campbell and San Antonio which are doing good work.

NEWS: Maj. Gen. Jeffrey J. Schloesser, deputy director for Strategic Operational Planning, National Counterterrorism Center, Washington, D.C. to commanding general, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) and Fort Campbell, Ky. (No effective date given.)

Members Joe Huesing and Don Theis attended the funeral of CPL Ryan Buckley, B, 2/506, July 1st at Hillsboro, IL. . Joe wrote "I actually arrived a little late for the service, probably about 10 minutes before it began. There were four or five 101st troopers standing at the door filling the role as doormen because the funeral hall was filled to capacity. My wife Romy and I walked up and asked if there was room inside and if not that was ok. Well, a young SGT sees my Currahee Crest (he was a Currahee too) on my jacket, opens the door, and announces (he didn't ask), "stand aside; we have a former Currahee that is coming in!" Jeez, I almost felt guilty. As a former SGT myself I'm most im-

Continued on Page 6

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Continued from page 5

pressed that these young men still know how to spit shine jump boots despite being in a brown boot Army!

For those of you who have not seen this, I thought the following note posted to our Guestbook on July 7 should be shared.

Your support to our fallen and wounded Currahees has been phenomenal. We are lucky to have such a strong Association. CSM Mark Atchley ensures the 506th Association flag is displayed proudly at FOB Loyalty, Baghdad.

From the song, "...Lord help the victims of the Sky Train..."

*COL Tom Vail
506th RCT
Stands Alone!
Air Assault!*

Membership renewals are due in January. The funds these generate along with those donated to our special funds are what allow us to continue. Please remember to renew your membership when you receive your December/January newsletter, if not before. Membership forms are always available at our website.

CURRAHEE

Brise

Changing of the Guard

by Gene Overton – Cofounder and Past President
(C 1st Bn – 1967 / 1968)

An important change took place on May 19th at the Reunion General Membership meeting in Colorado Springs, Colorado in that two key officer positions changed. The Association now has a new Chairman – MAJ(R) John Thomas Duckett, III and President – J. Brise Bickerton. Mike Metzger and I did not seek re-election as we felt that it was time for a change and with changes new approaches and ideas to propel the 506th Association further ahead into the future. We both had been involved, for ten years now, in the formation the Association as well as preparing the base / foundation from which it can now grow even further.

The Association, your Association has come a long ways in ten years; from being just an idea that Bob Acklen and I had of finding a way to bring together all Currahees who have served in the Regiment from activation in 1942 to the present and into the future. And to preserve and honor the memory, the history, and the esprit de corps of those who served in the Regiment. As I look back on what has been accomplished I am truly amazed and proud to have been a part of the TEAM that made it happen.

Accomplishments:

- The Currahee Roster has grown from a listing of 450 Currahees in 1996 to 3,000+ today.
- Currahee Home Page (Web Site) – Major repository of 506th Regimental information, documents and photographs.
- Quartermaster Sales Store.
- Scholarship Program (first scholarship award made this year).
- Currahee Package Program.
- Widows, Orphans and Wounds Soldiers Fund.
- Hospital Visitation Teams [at four medical centers across the USA].
- Active Duty Liaison.
- Current dues paying membership of 500+. (see below)

Our new officers bring with them background and experience that will further aid in the Association's growth. Tom had previous to becoming Chairman served as an Association Director and had also served as Co-Chairman of our 2006 Reunion. His management and organizational skills can but only aide in our future growth. While Brise brings with him his experience of having served on the Association's Charter Committee that formed our association and also as having served as its first Secretary. Thus he has a deep appreciation of the association's Mission and Vision Statement.

Now, just because I'm no longer President does not mean that I'll not be involved or that you'll not be hearing from me in the future. Just the opposite, Brise has asked me, and I have accepted, to become Membership Director and develop a membership program. So you'll be hearing from me in the future with way that you can help me and the new management team increase membership.

I'm so very proud to have served as your President for these last six years, from 2000 (when the Association was incorporated) until 2006'; THANK YOU for all you help and support. So long for now and Currahee!!



Excerpt from the CURRAHEE Command Letter

4 July 2006

Dear Currahee Family and Friends,

Greetings from Baghdad on this the 230th anniversary of our Nation's Independence. It is indeed remarkable that our Regiment is once again deployed in our Country's defense, as we have been so many times throughout our history. Like those before us, it is our honor to do so.

Right off the bat, I want to recognize the tremendous support we receive from our Families, Friends, Veterans, the Fort Campbell community and support organizations! The Family Readiness Groups have made a huge difference and the Rear Detachment cadre has performed magnificently! Currahees know their country is behind them and we appreciate the constant letters and packages. In addition, Veterans everywhere have raised money for contributions, visited our wounded Currahees and attended ceremonies all over America. Thanks to all of you.

Currahee!!

COL Tom Vail
Cdr, 506th RCT
Baghdad



Quartermaster / PX Sales Items:

Thanks to all of you who purchased 506th Association sales items featured in the January newsletter. In that newsletter, Association Quartermaster Ron Helwig asked Currahee veterans to let him know what they would like to see offered for sale by the Association, and as a result of your responses, many new items have been added to the PX and are now available for purchase via the various Order Forms found on pages 12, 13, and 14 of this newsletter.

New items for sale include some that were specially designed for the Association: a Challenge Coin; two patches (one is a Currahee Shield with Airborne Wings and the other is a Currahee Shield with Air Assault Wings); a Currahee World Tour T-Shirt; and two new hats (one with the Shield/Airborne Wings patch and one with the Shield/Air Assault Wings patch).

Two outside/adhesive decals are now available: a Currahee Shield insignia decal and a Para-Dice insignia decal. Other items include a small 506th Infantry Knife, a lapel-size Currahee Shield pin, and a neck cooler in the same style as the neck coolers included in the Currahee Packages that the Association is sending to the active-duty Currahee soldiers in Iraq. Another new item is an Association Gym/Duffel Bag -- the same style bag that is being given by the 506th Association to WIA Currahee soldiers in Army hospitals in both Iraq and the US.

SPECIAL OFFERS: purchase a 2 T-Shirt package (a Currahee World Tour T-Shirt and a 2006 Memorial Jump T-Shirt) in any combination of sizes/colors at a cost of \$25 for members or \$30 for non-members. Also, the price of the 506th Association 8"x 5" static-cling/inside decal has been reduced to \$2 for members or \$3 for non-members.

Photos and complete descriptions of all of these items can be found in the Quartermaster section of the Association web site www.506infantry.org.

Trying to Locate:

From Robert Tony Dooley of Hiram, GA:

I am trying to find anyone from D Co, 1st BN, 506th that was there in February, March, and April 1971. I was wounded on April 26th, and James Nicklyn was my RTO and was killed. My eMail is tonydooley53@hotmail.com.

From Perry J. Schroeder of St. James, MN:

Looking for Platoon SGT Elda H. Smith. He was in 1st Plt, C Co, 1st BN, 506th, Camp Evans, Vietnam, 1968. He was a friend of my brother, SGT Lyle W. Schroeder, KIA 1-26-69, same unit. SGT Smith may have been in Vietnam 2 other times, units unknown. My eMail is perryjs@rconnect.com.

From Johnny Morgan, II of Mobile, AL:

My uncle was PFC William F. Richardson, 2nd Plt, A Co, 3rd BN, 506th, KIA April 1970. I am searching for fellow comrades who knew or served with Billy in Nam, October 69-April 1970. My eMail is jmorganii@hotmail.com.

From LeeAnna Tatum from GA:

My grandfather, whom I never met, served in HQ, 2nd BN, 506th PIR during WWII (from 1942-1945). His name was Harry Maxwell Hudgins. If you knew Harry, please email me!! I would like to find out more about him. Thank you! My eMail is mutatannael@hotmail.com.

From Theresa Wedding from MD:

I am looking for anyone who may have known my father-in-law PSG Stephen Winfield (Windy) Wedding. He served a tour in Korea when he was 18 years old and then two tours in Viet-

nam. On his 2nd tour he went from November 1968 - November 1969 and was with C Co, 3rd BN, 506th until February 1969, when he went to C Co, 2nd BN, 506th. He retired in 1970 when he returned. He died a few short years later from cancer. He didn't speak much of his time in the service. He was in the service before he oldest son was even born. None of them saw him too often. They would like to know more about him. They also want to know about his time in Vietnam. They know that he was wounded once on each tour, but know nothing about the circumstances surrounding his injuries. We know he got a Purple Heart and a Silver Star each time. He got quite a few different medals. I would love to hear from you and find out if you knew him, or if you can help find someone who did. My eMail is teacups5@verizon.net.

From our Friends in Europe:

During the liberation of Eindhoven on 17 and 18 September 1944, the beginning of Operation Market Garden, my father took some pictures of soldiers of the 506 PIR. Recently one veteran who visited Eindhoven informed me that one of the soldiers on the pictures was probably LT Herbert Viertel of B company. So now I want to locate Herbert Viertel or his descendants, for I think that they might want to have a copy of those pictures from 1944.

I hope that you can help me with this.

René van Slooten

The Netherlands

eMail: vslooten@hetnet.nl



Last Roll Call:

Frank Hamel, REGT HQ, 506th PIR, WWII; died January 6, 2006

Dean H. Baxter, H Co, 3rd BN, 506th PIR, WWII; died February 28, 2005

Willie C. Pitts, A Co, 3rd BN, Vietnam; died February 19, 2005

David E. Eschenbaum, C/E Co, 1st BN, Vietnam, died December 24, 2005

Howard Williams, 1st BN, 506th PIR, WWII, died 2006

Charles E. Miller, Sr., C Co, 1st BN, 506th PIR, WWII, died December 29, 2005

Paul R. Miller, REGT HQ (Medic), 506th PIR, WWII; died May 23, 2006

Claude E. Barron, HQ, 2nd BN, 506th PIR WWII, died June 19, 2006

Frank Bacchilega, B Co, 2nd BN, Vietnam, died March 30, 2006

Currahee Package Project

by Fred May [A Co. 1st Bn 1970 -1971]
Chairman - Packages, Scholarship and WO&WS Funds

Supporting the Entire 506th Regimental Combat Team

Since the Board of Directors voted to support the entire 506th Regimental Combat Team (RCT), the Association has moved into high gear. The units which comprise the 506th RCT contain approximately 3700 soldiers and are as follows:

HHC 506th RCT

1st Battalion 506th Infantry (Red Currahee)
2nd Battalion 506th Infantry (Renegades)
1st Squadron 61st Cavalry (Currahee Cav)
4th Special Troops Battalion (BTB)
4th Battalion 320th Field Artillery (Tomahawks)
801st Support Battalion (BSB)

All of these units are currently deployed to Iraq and are located in some of the worst areas of that country.

Our support of the active duty 506th RCT consists of three projects / funds:

- **Currahee Packages:** Care packages are being sent to all 30 companies / troops / batteries of the entire 506th Regimental Combat Team as long as they remain in Iraq. As of August 15, 2006 we have shipped 125 bushel sized boxes with a total weight of *over two tons*. Recently, we have increased our rate of shipping from three boxes a week to five a week. This means we are now shipping approximately 800 lbs of "stuff" a month. All items are now being shipped by me from my home in West Milford, NJ. My basement has been turned into Currahee Package Central and is filled with packing materials and all the "stuff" needed by our troops. Our hope is that the items we send make the Currahees stay in Iraq just a little bit better.
- **Scholarship Program:** Established to help provide financial assistance to Currahee veterans and active duty Currahees as well as their family members. The Scholarship Committee met at the recent 506th reunion and wishes to announce that Antonio Gomes from Sandy, Oregon is the winner of our 2006 \$500 College Scholarship. Tony is currently a freshman at Oregon State University located in Corval-



Antonio Gomes

lis, Oregon. The Association would like to congratulate Tony, as this years scholarship applicant pool provided very stiff competition.

- **Widows, Orphans and Wounded Soldiers Fund:** Established to provide financial assistance to spouses, family members and children of Currahees killed in action, missing in action, or wounded in action. Since January 2006, this Fund has provided monetary assistance to a number of family members of Currahees KIA. This assistance has been vital in allowing these members to attend funerals of loved ones far from home. In addition, this fund provides the money for Currahee flags and pins to be presented to KIA next of kin at the Remembrance Ceremony which takes place at Fort Campbell. The WO&WS Fund also funds the visitation teams the Association has at four Army Hospitals in the US. All soldiers at these facilities are now visited on a regular basis and presented with Currahee hats, pins, coins, gym bags and phone cards.

In order to accomplish this mission the Association needs your support in the form of monetary donations. As our fellow Currahees go about accomplishing their assigned tasks in Iraq let's show them that Currahee veterans, family members and friends back home fully support them. Let them really know what is meant by our Association Motto - "WE STAND TOGETHER - THEN, NOW, AND ALWAYS". To get more information regarding any of our support projects or funds, just click the "SCHOLARSHIP & SPECIAL PROJECTS" button on the home page of the Association's web site www.506infantry.org . You may also donate to these Funds by using the donation form found elsewhere in this newsletter.

Iraq feedback

Fred, Ron -

Good afternoon. Hey just wanted to give you a little "downrange feedback" from Iraq reference Currahee Care Packages. First of all, thanks! Those continue to be a great morale boost! The S2 and I were talking the other day about how generous many organizations are at sending stuff (girl scout cookies etc) but we really don't know who sent them or who to send a thank you note to if you choose to do so. One thing you guys do well, and should sustain, is the stickers from the Currahee Association on the individual items. That really helps the soldiers know who is looking out for them. Often we get a box that's in the common area or by the coffee pot and we have no idea who it's from. Hope this is the kind of feedback you guys need. Thank you for all your hard work, please send a thanks out to all those who chip in and donate as well. Take care.

CPT Darin L. Harper
506 RCT Medical Operations Officer
101 ABN DIV (AASLT)

"Currahee!"

The 506th Airborne Infantry Regiment Association (Airmobile-Air Assault)
Use this form to join the Association if you have served in or are currently serving in the 506th
or if you have served in or are currently serving in units attached to or supporting the 506th.

2006 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES/DONATION FORM

Check dues category [X]:

Basic Dues Amount: \$15.00 [] For **The Currahee** newsletter and your **Company Roster Listings**.

Full Dues Amount: \$25.00 [] For **The Currahee** newsletter, **Company Roster**, and **2006 Association Roster**.

Request for Exemption from Dues (VETERANS only): [] Still receive **The Currahee** newsletter.

Additional Postage to Address Outside the U.S. Add: \$ 5.00 []

Optional Donation for Expenses: \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Select [X] ALL that apply:

Company: HHC/HQ [] A [] B [] C [] D [] E [] F [] G [] H [] I []
K [] L [] M [] SV [] Mortar Battery [] CSC []

Regt/BN: REGT [] 1st BN [] 2nd BN [] 3rd BN [] 1st ABN BG [] Bde Command: []

Era: WWII 1942-1945 [] Basic Training 1948-1956 [] ABN BG 1956-1964 [] ABN INF 1964-1967 []
Vietnam 1967-1971 [] AMBL 1972-1974 [] AASLT 1974-1984 [] Korea 1987-2004 []
Iraq 2004-2005 [] 506th RCT 2004-present []

If applicable, your unit which was assigned to or supported the 506th: _____

Dates of Service with each 506th Unit (mm/yy):: _____

Rank (Current or at Date of Separation from Military) : _____

LAST NAME: _____ FIRST NAME: _____ M.I. _____

STREET/POST OFFICE BOX: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

eMAIL ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBERS (Please include area code): _____

HOME: _____ OFFICE: _____

SELECT [X] ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS IF THEY APPLY:

[] Change [] Add: [] Name [] Mailing Address [] Phone number(s) [] eMail [] Other

[] I request my contact information not be listed in either the 506th Association Roster or the Currahee

eMailRoom, nor that it be given to anyone other than an Association Officer without my express consent.

Make your check or money order (no credit cards) payable to:

The 506th Airborne Infantry Regiment Association (Airmobile - Air Assault)

Mail this order form and your payment to: Hoyt Bruce Moore, III -- Treasurer

Phone: (858) 274-4317

4126 Cole Way

eMail: TheMOE_A1506@msn.com

San Diego, CA 92117-1123

The 506th Airborne Infantry Regiment Association (Airmobile-Air Assault)
Use this form to join the Association if you are a spouse or family member of anyone who served with the 506th or if you are an individual who has a special association/connection to the 506th.

2006 ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP ANNUAL DUES FORM

Check dues category [X]:

BASIC DUES AMOUNT: \$15.00 [] For **The Currahee** newsletter

FULL DUES AMOUNT: \$25.00 [] For **The Currahee** newsletter and **2006 Association Roster**

ADDITIONAL POSTAGE TO ADDRESS OUTSIDE THE U.S. ADD: \$ 5.00 []

Optional Donation for Expenses: \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

LAST NAME: _____ FIRST NAME: _____ M.I. _____

STREET/POST OFFICE BOX: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

eMAIL ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBERS (Please include area code):

HOME: _____ OFFICE: _____

Did either you or your spouse serve in the U.S. Military? If yes, please include the following:

Branch of Service: _____ Unit: _____ Dates of Service: _____

Did you have a relative who served with the 506th Infantry? If yes, please include the following:

Veteran's Name: _____ Relationship: _____ Rank: _____

Company: _____ REGT/BN/BG: _____ Dates of Service with the 506th: _____

Other Connection to the 506th Infantry? _____

SELECT [X] ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS IF THEY APPLY:

Change Add: Name Mailing Address Phone number(s) eMail Other
 I request my contact information not be listed in either the 506th Association Roster or the Currahee eMailRoom, nor that it be given to anyone other than an Association Officer without my express consent.

Make your check or money order (no credit cards) payable to:

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Phone: (858) 274-4317

4126 Cole Way

eMail: TheMOE_A1506@msn.com

San Diego, CA 92117-1123

The 506th Airborne Infantry Regiment Association (Airmobile-Air Assault)

Quartermaster Order Form

NAME: _____ **HOME PHONE:** _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____ **CITY:** _____

STATE: _____ **ZIP CODE:** _____ **E-MAIL ADDRESS:** _____

## a "member" is someone who has paid their 506th Association 2006 Membership Dues.				
Quantity	Item	Each (non-members)	Each (members)##	TOTAL COST
	Association Gym/Duffel Bag (23.75"x 13"x 11.5")	\$36.00**	\$32.00**	\$
	FSB Map, I Corps, Vietnam (26.5"x 18")	\$20.00	\$15.00	
	Currahee Flag (3' x 5')	\$40.00	\$35.00	
	Book: <i>The Story of a Soldier</i>	\$12.00	\$9.00	
	Hat: 506th Association: White w/Blue Letters	\$14.00	\$12.00	
	Hat: 506th Association: Black w/Gold Letters	\$14.00	\$12.00	
	Hat: Currahee w/Airborne Wings Insignia	\$10.00	\$8.00	
	Hat: Currahee w/Air Assault Wings Insignia	\$10.00	\$8.00	
	Polo: Original (NO Personalization): Large	\$32.00	\$29.00	
	Polo: Original (NO Personalization): X-Large	\$32.00	\$29.00	
	Polo: Personalized Currahee: Medium	\$32.00	\$29.00	
	Polo: Personalized Currahee: Large	\$32.00	\$29.00	
	Polo: Personalized Currahee: X-Large	\$32.00	\$29.00	
	Polo: Personalized Currahee: XX-Large	\$33.00	\$30.00	
Optional Personalization Information (\$3.00 per Currahee Polo Shirt)				\$
	Name:			
	506th Unit:			
	Service Dates with 506th:			
SUBTOTAL				\$
Shipping (\$4.05 for the 1st item + \$2.00 shipping per additional item)				
**ADD \$4.00 additional shipping for each GYM/DUFFEL BAG				
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED				\$

Photos of all of these items can be found in the Quartermaster section of www.506infantry.org
Make your check or money order (no credit cards) payable to:
The 506th Airborne Infantry Regiment Association (Airmobile-Air Assault)
Mail this Order Form and your check or money order to: Hoyt B. Moore, III, Treasurer
 Phone: 858-274-4317 eMail: TheMOE_A1506@msn.com 4126 Cole Way
Please allow 4 weeks for delivery San Diego, CA 92117-1123

The 506th Airborne Infantry Regiment Association (Airmobile-Air Assault)

Quartermaster Order Form

NAME: _____ **HOME PHONE:** _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____ **CITY:** _____

STATE: _____ **ZIP CODE:** _____ **E-MAIL ADDRESS:** _____

## a "member" is someone who has paid their 506th Association 2006 Membership Dues.				
Quantity Ordered	Item	Price Each (non-members)	Price Each (members)##	TOTAL COST
	506th Association Challenge Coin (1-1/2" diameter)	\$10.00**	\$8.00**	\$
	506th Infantry Knife (2-3/8")	\$7.00**	\$5.00**	
	506th Infantry Bracelet	\$12.00**	\$10.00**	
	Pin: Currahee Shield Full-Size (1"x 1-1/4")	\$6.00	\$5.00	
	Pin: Currahee Shield Lapel (3/8"x 1/2")	\$4.00	\$3.00	
	Decal: Currahee Shield (2.75"x 3.5" Adhesive)	\$6.00	\$5.00	
	Decal: Para-Dice (3" diameter)	\$6.00	\$5.00	
	Decal: 506th Association (8"x 5" Static Cling)	\$3.00	\$2.00	
	Neck Cooler (44")	\$4.00	\$2.50	
	Patch: Currahee Shield (3"x 3.5")	\$6.00	\$5.00	
	Patch: Para-Dice (3" diameter)	\$6.00	\$5.00	
	Patch: Shield with Airborne Wings (4.25"x 2.25")	\$6.00	\$5.00	
	Patch: Shield with Air Assault Wings (4.25"x 2.25")	\$6.00	\$5.00	
SUBTOTAL				\$
Shipping @ \$0.40 per item				
**ADD \$0.65 additional shipping for each COIN, KNIFE, or BRACELET				
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED				\$

Photos of all of these items can be found in the Quartermaster section of www.506infantry.org

Make your check or money order (no credit cards) payable to:

The 506th Airborne Infantry Regiment Association (Airmobile-Air Assault)

Mail this Order Form and your check or money order to:

Phone: 858-274-4317 eMail: TheMOE_A1506@msn.com

Please allow 4 weeks for delivery

Hoyt B. Moore, III, Treasurer

4126 Cole Way

San Diego, CA 92117-1123

The 506th Airborne Infantry Regiment Association (Airmobile-Air Assault)

T-Shirt Order Form

NAME: _____ **HOME PHONE:** _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____ **CITY:** _____

STATE: _____ **ZIP CODE:** _____ **E-MAIL ADDRESS:** _____

NOTES: these items will NOT be backordered, so availability is limited to what is in stock.
 If you participated in the Memorial Jump activities in either 2004 or 2006, contact Quartermaster Ron Helwig at rlhelwig@comcast.net about the availability of special T-Shirts for jump participants.

## a "member" is someone who has paid their 506th Association 2006 Membership Dues.				
Quantity	Item	Each (non-members)	Each (members)##	TOTAL COST
BLACK	Currahee World Tour T-Shirt			
	Medium	\$15.00	\$12.50	
	Large	\$15.00	\$12.50	
	X-Large	\$15.00	\$12.50	
	XX-Large	\$15.00	\$12.50	
**SPECIAL: purchase a 2 T-Shirt package (World Tour T-Shirt and Memorial Jump T-Shirt) in any combination of sizes/colors at a cost of \$25 for members or \$30 for non-members.				
BLACK	GRAY	2006 Memorial Jump T-Shirt		
		Small	\$18.00**	\$14.00**
		Medium	\$18.00**	\$14.00**
		Large	\$18.00**	\$14.00**
		X-Large	\$18.00**	\$14.00**
		XX-Large	\$18.00**	\$14.00**
SUBTOTAL				\$
Shipping (\$4.05 for the 1st item)				\$4.05
Add \$2.00 Shipping per additional item				
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED				\$

Photos of all of these items can be found in the Quartermaster section of www.506infantry.org
Make your check or money order (no credit cards) payable to:
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 Phone: 858-274-4317 eMail: TheMOE_A1506@msn.com 4126 Cole Way
 Please allow 4 weeks for delivery San Diego, CA 92117-1123

Fund Donation Form

Please include the following information:

NAME: _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ **STATE:** _____ **ZIP CODE:** _____

HOME PHONE: _____ **E-MAIL ADDRESS:** _____
(AREA CODE) NUMBER

Make your check or money order (no credit cards) payable to:

The 506th Airborne Infantry Regiment Association (Airmobile - Air Assault)

Mail this form and your donation to: **Hoyt Bruce Moore, III -- Treasurer**

Phone: (858) 274-4317

4126 Cole Way

eMail: TheMOE_A1506@msn.com

San Diego, CA 92117-1123

Currahee Packages Donation

Donation Amount: \$ _____

Scholarship Fund Donation

Donation Amount: \$ _____

Widows & Orphans Fund Donation

Donation Amount: \$ _____

The IRS has recognized the 506th Association as a War Veterans Organization under section 501(c)(19), so donors making contributions to the Association can deduct such donations on their personal or corporate tax filings, as provided for by IRS rules and regulations. The Association is listed in IRS Publication 78, Cumulative List of Organizations described in Section 170(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, the list of organizations eligible to receive tax-deductible contributions. For exemption/deduction purposes, the Association Employer Identification Number (EIN) is 91-2088108.



THE 506TH AIRBORNE INFANTRY REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

(Airborne - Air Assault)

ASSOCIATION MOTTO: WE STAND TOGETHER - THEN, NOW and ALWAYS

Web Site URL/Address: www.506infantry.org

4126 Cole Way
San Diego, CA 92117-1123

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Association Officers / Staff:

Chairman- MAJ John Thomas Duckett, III - duckett@culver.org

President - Brise Bickerton - brise5804@comcast.net

Treasurer- Hoyt B. Moore, III (Bruce) - TheMOE_A1506@msn.com

Secretary - Kyle L. Worrell - kyleworrell@aol.com

Membership Director - Gene Overton - charlie35@si.rr.com

Directors:

Christopher Garrett - c-garrett@msn.com

Ronald Helwig - rlhelwig@comcast.net

Donald Thies - jmmdthies@nconnect.net

John Lally - johnlally@comcast.net

Fred May - alfredmay@aol.com

Michael J. Metzger - mmetzger@capitalbuildersinc.com

Eugene "Gene" L. Overton - charlie35@si.rr.com

Home Page Committee (Web Site) Chairman -

Michael C. Bookser (Mike) - mbookser@earthlink.net

QuarterMaster:

Ronald Helwig (Ron) - rlhelwig@comcast.net

Newsletter Reporters:

1st Bn- Joseph Huesing - joeph.e.huesing@monsanto.com

2nd Bn- Christopher D. Garrett - c-garrett@msn.com

3rd Bn- James M. Nemeth (Jim) - jmn15@earthlink.net

Active Duty/Veteran Liaison:

Alfred May (Fred) - alfredmay@aol.com

Newsletter Editor

John Lally - johnlally@comcast.net