

MEMBER'S NEWS ITEMS



The 101st Signal Battalion held its first annual holiday formal at the Polish Community Center in Yonkers on 10 Dec 05. There were over 200 members and veterans from the Battalion in attendance. It was great to see over 180 enlisted soldiers attending this great event. A good time was had by all.

The 42nd Infantry Division troops have returned to New York after a most successful and meaningful tour in Iraq. Welcome Home!



Col Dan Travers, a member of the Liberty Chapter and the G6 for the 42nd Infantry Division Task Force Liberty, returned home after spending 12 months in Iraq/Kuwait. Dan a project Officer for the New York State Technology Enterprise Corporation (NYSTEC) was the first NYSTEC employee to see active duty in Iraq.



LIBERTY CHAPTER OFFICERS
PRESIDENT: Joseph P. O'Leary
VICE PRES : Edward D'Anna
TREASURER: Carlos Rodriguez
AWARDS: Paul Suchanyc
MEMBERSHIP: Matt Bayless
EVENTS: George Desimone
SECRETARY: Frank Letizia

He recently spoke about his activities in Iraq. "We were stationed at Forward Operating Base (FOB) Danger, which is in Tikrit, Iraq," said Travers. "You may have seen it on the news lately as it was returned to the Iraqis."

His duties involved a federation on communications and automation networks, both voice and data, secure and non-secure. It provided service to over 23,000 service members and civilians in operations. He said he was assigned to install communications covering a land mass the size of West Virginia. "Working conditions were dangerous on and off the road," Travers noted. "However, I believe many had it worse. Suffice it to say that we received regular hostile fire; it was part of the work environment.

In addition to installing and maintaining the telephones, computers, servers, video teleconferencing and television transmission equipment, his staff installed and maintained the ancillary equipment behind these items. He supervised an immediate staff of 45 service members and eight civilian contractors, spread between three separate command posts. He had operational control over two full signal battalion's worth of soldiers & equipment. "Our networks comprised of both military and commercial equipment, provided both local and worldwide connectivity for the Task Force Commander and his staff to shape and determine the flow of the operation in a 24/7 daily operation," he explained. The communications equipment installed was cutting-edge technology. It comprised the most complex tactical set of networks on earth. It was the military's latest tactical communications system, the Joint Nodal Network (JNN) was tested and placed into combat operations.

Visit our Web Site at
www.nysignal.org

The e-mail address is:
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e-mail notices, please
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The Liberty Chapter newsletter will be published 4 times a year prior to each scheduled meeting. Contributions, comments and suggestions should be e-mailed to: psuchanyc@yahoo.com or to nysignal@nysignal.org All Address corrections should also be forwarded to the above address.

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LIBERTY CHAPTER



Volume 8, Issue 1

A Message From The President MG Joseph P. O'Leary (Ret)



On Saturday, 10 Dec 05 the 101st Signal Battalion sponsored their First Annual-Holiday Formal (Military Ball) at the Polish Community center in Yonkers. Over two hundred soldiers and their families were in attendance. They were joined by many retired members of the Battalion including two former Command Sergeants Major -- Ed Liebespach and Ed D'Anna. The former commander of the New York Army National Guard, MG Robert Rose and the NY state Command Sergeant Major Bob VanPelt and his wife also attended.

General Rose and CSM VanPelt are former members of the 187th Signal Brigade. The banquet hall was tastefully decorated and at each table setting was found a piece of history - A brief description of one of the actions from the battle streamers carried on the Battalion Colors.

The history at my table concerned the Battle of Ypres from World War 1. And, of course, our table napkins were Signal Corps Orange. After welcoming remarks by the Battalion Commander LTC Jackie Russell and party chairman MAJ Tom Kilmartin. The evening was given over to talking among the guests, dancing and enjoyment.

The number of enlisted personnel was impressive. PFC's SP4's and junior NCO's helped make this a special night for the battalion. I have received many favorable comments concerning the ball along with requests for future social gatherings

Functions such as this one help cement the relationships formed during duty hours and afford personnel of all ranks the opportunity to interact in a relaxed setting.

Congratulations to LTC Russell and the committee who put this affair together, It reminded me of "The Old Days" only better.

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

**Monday
9 Jan 06
1930 Hrs
Orangeburg
Armory**

**Monday
10 Apr 2006
1930 Hrs
Camp Smith
Annual
Elections &
Food Buffett**

**Monday
10 Jul 2006
1930 Hrs
Yonkers
Armory**

**Thursday
26 Oct 2006
1930 Hrs
Polish C.C.
Yonkers,NY**

**ANNUAL DUES
ARE
\$12.00 E6 & Up
\$2.00 E-1 to E-5
Due in April
Each Year
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Expiration Date**



Winter 2006

Tricare Problems? Contact
Mrs. Iris Medina - Beneficiary and
Assistance Coordinator
Fort Hamilton, NY
718-630-4602
office next door to ID Card Center



Upcoming Events

The Enlisted Association New York National Guard will conduct it's annual conference in Utica, NY on 6-8 Apr 06 at the Radison Hotel.

The Liberty Chapter will conduct its annual elections for chapter officers on 10 Apr 06 at the Camp Smith annual meeting. All members are invited to participate, both as voters and as chapter officers.

The Annual boat trip on the hudson river from West Point, sponsored by the Association of the United States Army (AUSA), the Liberty Chapter, and the 42ID Association will be held on 10 June 2006. A flyer will be posted on the Liberty Chapter web site giving full details.



Obituaries

MG Joseph Healey passed away on 5 Dec 05. He was the former commander of the 42nd Infantry Division and the Troop Command.

CW3 Tom Demakakos passed away on 23 Dec 05. He was a member of the 244th ADA & the 9th Regiment NYG. He also was the brother of COL Bill Demakakos.

To Promote the Espirit de Corps and Fraternity of the Signal Corps