



**WELCOME MICHIGAN CHAPTER**



101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division Association,  
Michigan Chapter



*THE MICHIGAN SCREAMING EAGLE*  
*Volume 2 (4)*

October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022

*"No one left behind!"*

Greetings Screaming Eagles,

I am Dr. Ed Hirsch and I am honored to serve as your new Chapter President. To accept this high honor is almost overwhelming, considering the dedication and accomplishments of our most recent past Presidents Keith Sousa and Dr. Patrick Kavanaugh and the longstanding commitment and involvement of our Secretary/Treasurer John Sosa who has given so much over the years to our chapter. During their respective terms in office, each has served tirelessly and achieved much. With your assistance and guidance, I hope to continue in this tradition and maintain the high standards that our members have come to expect as we move forward.

In the months ahead, we shall strive to meet the goals and objectives of "Operation Lone Eagle," our chapter's Rendezvous with Destiny! We will continue reaching out and connecting with former and current members of our Airborne/Air Assault family, provide them with helpful information about how and where they can receive care, and invite them into our chapter and the warmth of camaraderie and friendship. This endeavor involves each of us taking on some responsibility so we might succeed in this great task and not leave anyone behind!

We meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month for our "Gathering of Eagles" (except for July and August). We have lunch at 12:00 noon followed by a guest speaker or a program on some aspect of military history. This luncheon meeting provides us with the opportunity to come together for camaraderie and meet new members and guests in attendance. Post cards and emails are sent out as reminders about a week before our meetings. If you are aware of any Airborne/Air Assault personnel or veteran that has not heard about our meetings, let them know and invite them to attend: They are "Welcome in the Michigan Chapter!"

At our 35<sup>th</sup> annual reunion in Brighton, MI, we held our 2022 elections. I would like to introduce your newly constituted Executive Committee: 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Cal Kirschner (2022-2024); Secretary/Treasurer, John Sosa (2021-2023); Sergeant-at-Arms, Henry Heatley (2022-2024); Chaplain, Dave Kelly (2021-2023); and, Executive Committeeman (Past President), Dr. Patrick Kavanaugh (2022-2024). Herman Kasoff and John Malejan will continue in their respective positions as Senior Advisors to the President, providing input if and when called upon. Each of these people have committed themselves to our Chapter and its future.

The executive committee thereupon considered a policy-change proposal from the editor of our newsletter, *The Michigan Screaming Eagle (MSE)*. Given the ever-increasing costs associated with printing, postage, and mailing out the newsletter and, moreover, that every edition of the *MSE* is now published, available, and downloadable from our website (101st Airborne Michigan Chapter) the following Digital/Print policy was proposed, considered and adopted by the committee:

Each quarterly edition of the *MSE* will be digitally published on our website and can be downloaded at no charge. For those who would like to receive (4) print copies of the *MSE* in 2023, please complete the subscription form and mail it with a \$15.00 check to Jeanette Novak, our administrative assistant (see the next article). This Digital/Print policy will go into effect with the next edition of the *MSE* (January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023).

In closing, I ask each of you to become more involved in supporting your chapter. There are many ways you can do so. Consider volunteering to serve on our membership, publicity, program, executive, or other committee. Contact me, let me know your area of interest. Also, consider making a financial contribution in support of “Operation Lone Eagle” or to help defray the chapter’s operating costs (p 10). Or, consider making a year-end tax-deductible financial contribution to the chapter (p 8-9) as part of your personal legacy. We need your support, financial and otherwise, and especially your presence at our monthly Gathering of Eagles in Livonia during the year.

I look forward to seeing and meeting with each of you during the next year. I am also available by phone [(248) 477-4606] or via email at [dc61sf65ret86@gmail.com](mailto:dc61sf65ret86@gmail.com).

Ed Hirsch, Col. (ret.), President  
Michigan Chapter, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division Association  
Life Member

Airborne/Air Assault!

***The Michigan Screaming Eagle (MSE):***  
**Digital & Print Policy (Effective January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023)**

For all chapter members who wish to receive (4) print copies of the *MSE* in 2023, please complete the subscription form below and mail it along with a \$15.00 check to:

*The Michigan Screaming Eagle* Newsletter  
Jeanette Novak, Administrative Assistant  
427 Covington Court  
Northville, MI 48168

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ e-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Submission of Articles and Print Schedule (*MSE*)**

1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2023  
January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 -Submission Date

2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2023  
April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 -Submission Date

3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2023  
July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 -Submission Date

4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2023  
October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 -Submission Date

**Submit All Articles to the *MSE*  
and the *Markers & Milestone* Section to:**

Editor, *MSE*: (email) [camsufism@aol.com](mailto:camsufism@aol.com)

All articles and contributions must be in a text file such as Microsoft Word.  
(Please ensure that all submissions can be edited.) Thank you.

Patrick B. Kavanaugh, Ph.D., Editor,  
*Michigan Screaming Eagle*  
Life Member

***Markers & Milestones:***

Received from Kathy Sosa – Life Member

To Members of the Michigan Chapter,  
As you may know, my mother passed away in July. She knew how much being a Screaming Eagle means to John and how important being a member of the Michigan Chapter and the national Association is to him. So, I would like to make a contribution to the Chapter in memory of my mom and in honor of my dad, who served in the Army as a Combat Engineer with General George S. Patton’s Third Army during WW11. My mom used to look forward to attending the lunches to which the ladies were invited. If he were still with us, I know my dad would have enjoyed tagging along and telling “war stories” with everyone, even though he was not a paratrooper.

A huge thank you to all of you for protecting our country, our rights, our families, and our freedoms. I truly understand the meaning of the phrase, “Freedom isn’t free!”

Received from Henry Heatley – Life Member  
(From *Army*, August 2022)

Former Pfc. Jim “Pee Wee” Martin is one of the last of the paratroopers who trained at Camp Toccoa, Georgia, and jumped into WW11 with the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division’s 506<sup>th</sup> Parachute Infantry Regiment. On June 6<sup>th</sup>, 1944, he jumped into the Allied invasion of Normandy, France. In September, 1944, he jumped into Operation Market Garden in the Netherlands. In December, 1944, he fought in the Battle of the Bulge in Bastogne, Belgium. Martin, now 101 years old, only recently stopped jumping out of airplanes, but he found a new gig with country music singer and passionate military supporter Karen Waldrup, who met Martin in 2021 when she performed at his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration in Xenia, Ohio. Inspired by Martin’s story, Waldrup wrote “Normandy,” a song based on his experiences as a paratrooper during WW11. The song was released on June 6<sup>th</sup> to mark the 78<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D-Day. (See below...)

Received from John C. Sosa – Life Member  
(September 2022)

The latest Currahee News from the 506<sup>th</sup> Airborne Infantry Regiment Association (the “Currahees”) regretfully informed its members that “Pee Wee” Martin died on September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 101 years of age. (See his personal Facebook page and in the Dayton Daily News.) Bob Leibecke represented the association and was joined by COL (R) Joe Alexander in presenting the Currahee Battle Flag and miniature lapel pins to his family members. LTC Dale Marrou, Commander, 2-506 Infantry Bn, was in charge of the ceremonial detail of active-duty troopers. Governor Mike DeWine was in attendance to help bid farewell to this remarkable man and paratrooper. ... R.I.P.

Received from Robert P. Walsh, Atty. -Life Member

Currently there are 29 Veterans Treatment courts in Michigan for any veteran involved with the criminal justice system. These courts use a hybrid integration of drug court and mental health court principles to serve military veterans, and sometimes active-duty personnel. They promote sobriety, recovery, and stability through a coordinated response that involves cooperation and collaboration with community and state-wide partners. Veterans Treatment Courts also rely on U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs health care networks, the Veterans Benefit Benefits Administration, volunteer veteran mentors, and veterans’ family support organizations. Any chapter member with the time and interest should consider serving as a mentor. Attend a few sessions at your local court and see

how they operate. (For further information, contact Lauren Fetner; Veterans Treatment Court Analyst (517) 373-7351.)

Received from Cal Kirschner -Life Member

Edward E. Lindberg passed from this life on Thursday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at the age of 82. He was a resident of Livonia, Michigan. Edward was in the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division at Fort Campbell and then served *ca.* 1962 as a weapons specialist in the 7th ID near the DMZ at Camp Casey, ROK. He continued his life of service as a police officer with the Wayne Co. Sheriff's Office (MI) and member of Sheriff William Lucas' pistol team. He was a senior detective, the highest seniority detective in the Airport Sheriff's division, and retired as a Sheriff's police sergeant. Edward was the beloved husband of Eileen for 57 years and proud father of four sons, grandfather of nine, and great-grandfather of one. He is also survived by his brother Bill (Betty) Marcotte. He received full military honors at the Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly (MI). ... R.I.P.

Received from Robert P. Walsh, Atty. -Life Member

Born April 4, 1943, George Claxton died on August 22, 2022 at the age of 79 after a lengthy illness. He served his country from 1965-1970, including a 2-year tour of duty in Vietnam with the 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division (TROPIC LIGHTENING). In 1973, George received his Bachelor of Science degree (with honors) from Northern Michigan University and later attended Cooley Law School (1974-1975; 1978-1980). He was a committed and dedicated veterans' advocate, focused on those exposed to herbicides in Vietnam (Agent Orange), emphasized the need for institutional recognition of the problem, and forced them to provide treatment and benefits.

George served for 10 years as State Service Director for Vietnam Veterans of America and chaired its National Agent Orange/Dioxin Committee; participated in the class action suit (1983) against the chemical companies who manufactured the herbicides and insecticides used in Vietnam; and, was one of ten plaintiffs in the suit that forced the VA to reformulate its Agent Orange adjudication rules. He also worked with incarcerated veterans and fought for their right to receive treatment while still in prison.

When the State legislature authorized the Michigan Agent Orange Commission, they appointed George as a member. He authored *The Michigan Physician's Guide on Agent Orange* and participated in the "First Citizens Conference on Dioxin." Twice he returned to Vietnam to participate on the "Symposium on Herbicides in War." Unfortunately, his health prevented him from understanding that President Biden signed the PACT Law on August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022, the provisions of which he worked to attain throughout his adult life. George Claxton was a lifetime member of Vietnam Veterans of America, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans, American Legion, and AMVETS. ... R.I.P.

Received from Cal Kirschner -Life Member

(Originally published in *Army* magazine in response to the proposed name change of Fort Bragg to “Fort Liberty.”)

Fort Bragg is the “Home of the Airborne and Special Forces.” It was originally named after General Braxton Bragg, the only General from North Carolina during the Civil War. The 2021 National Defense Authorization Act, however, mandates renaming Department of Defense property that commemorates any individual who served with the Confederate Army during the Civil War. The current administration’s blue-ribbon committee proposes that Fort Bragg should be renamed “Fort Liberty.” Their explanation for doing so, however, is vague and ambiguous, not even rising to the level of partisan jargon. Their reasoning is little more than a series of nebulous *non sequiturs*, comprised of vague generalities. If the name must be changed, I recommend “Fort Gavin.”

Lt Gen James M. Gavin will be long-remembered by all who knew him or served with him in an airborne unit, as “The Jumping General,” “Slim Jim,” “The Soldiers’ General,” and the man who successfully eliminated racial discrimination in his Army command, 2 ½ years *before* the presidential military desegregation order was issued. The commission’s proposal ignores this relevant history. It proposes instead that Fort Bragg be renamed “Fort Liberty,” a vague and amorphous “buzz word” with fuzzy connotations and is -in my opinion, an insult and stab in the back to his family, memory, and legacy. Lt Gen Gavin was a graduate of West Point (class of ’29). He was a visionary, a Soldier, and a General who made the installation of his beloved 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division remembered as a *sacred place*. Its name should be Fort Gavin!

Received from Robert P. Walsh -Life Member

(From the Governor’s September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022 Press Release. For more information, contact [press@michigan.gov](mailto:press@michigan.gov).)

Governor Gretchen Whitmer recently announced a \$1.2 million investment in veteran suicide prevention programs, improving the health and well-being of Michigan’s more than 550,000 military veterans and their families. The investment was announced following a roundtable discussion with veterans and veteran advocates attended by Lt. Governor Garlin Gilchrist II and Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency (MVAA) Director Zaneta Adams. It expands funding for suicide prevention efforts in Michigan and builds on the ongoing efforts of the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency to keep veterans and their families safe and healthy.

If you’re a veteran in crisis or concerned about one, call the Veterans Crisis Line at 988 and press 1; text 838255; or chat online confidentially at [www.veteranscrisisline.net](http://www.veteranscrisisline.net).

## **2022 Tax Planning and Beyond: Donations, Gifts, and a Continuing Legacy**

With the 2022 tax planning season upon us, many chapter members are once again looking for charities to which they might contribute. Keep us in mind! We are a 501(c)(19) veterans' organization, a non-profit to which any donation, gift, or endowment is not only tax deductible but deeply appreciated! You can help us fulfill our commitment to *Leave no one behind!* In so doing, our Lone Eagles in Michigan can experience some life-enriching opportunities they might not otherwise have. Consider making a contribution to our "Lone Eagle Fund." Together, we can make a significant and meaningful difference in their lives!

Your contribution is an opportunity to make a statement about your principles, beliefs, and values. All contributions received will be used in some way to help underwrite the costs involved in reaching out into our local communities, connecting with our Lone Eagles, and involving them in life-altering opportunities like attending the Association's 78<sup>th</sup> national reunion in San Antonio, TX (August 2023) or our own 36<sup>th</sup> annual reunion in Fenton (September 2023).

For those in the position to do so, please consider creating a perpetual legacy in your estate planning or making a reoccurring pledge. Your life's work (and subsequent legacy) is an opportunity to make a statement about your principles, beliefs, and values. For those interested, some important year-end considerations include:

- If you are 59½ or older, you can make a distribution from your IRA and then make a gift to the Michigan Chapter or Association without penalty. If you itemize your deductions, you can take a charitable deduction for the amount you wish.
- If you are 70½ or older, you can give or transfer any amount up to \$100,000 per year from your IRA directly to the Michigan Chapter; a married couple can give up to \$200,000. You will not pay income taxes on the gift or transfer. And if you are 72 or older, you can use this transfer to satisfy your required minimum distribution (RMD).

We must receive your gift by December 31<sup>st</sup>, for your gift to qualify this year. If you have check-writing privileges on your IRA, please mail your check by December 18<sup>th</sup> to allow time to process your gift.

For those interested, you might consider making a future gift as part of your legacy. You could continue your generosity long after your lifetime. Some options include:



- *Percentage giving.* Through your will, you can designate percentages of your estate as you see fit. For example, designate 5% of your total estate to the Michigan Chapter, while leaving 95% to loved ones.
- *Blended giving.* Give an outright gift of cash or other assets today, combined with a future gift, such as naming the Michigan Chapter in your will.
- *Beneficiary designation.* A simple form is all it takes to name the Michigan Chapter or the national Association as a beneficiary of your retirement plan assets, unneeded life insurance policy, or donor advised fund.

Be sure to consult with your tax consultant, CPA, attorney, or adviser to determine how to best implement your wishes. Whatever you decide, we are here to help you fulfill your goals.

*"No one left behind!"*

-Donation Form-

Our mission is to establish our chapter's presence in Michigan's local communities; develop satellite groups and community-based outreach programs for those who have been left behind -our "Lone Eagles;" and, tell the story of the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division Association to the next generation of young Americans. In so doing, we -at once, interweave our core values of *patriotism, equality, liberty, and justice for all* ever more tightly into the social fabric of our local communities and promote a deep and abiding respect for all who serve -past, present, and future, for our great nation, and for our Flag and all it represents.

Your generous participation in our appeal for donations can help make a significant difference in the lives of those in Michigan's Airborne/Air Assault community who gave and sacrificed so very much to protect our individual freedoms, cherished liberties, and preserve our national and individual sovereignty! Life-altering opportunities that might not otherwise exist for them and their families can happen through your compassionate giving and caring.

We are duty bound to uphold our oath to the Constitution; we are honor bound to help and support each other. Contribute whatever is possible; support our mission so that no one is left behind. Your gift can be influential in shaping our local Michigan communities and the everyday lives of our brothers and sisters who have been left behind! For an even greater impact, consider making your gift a pledge or recurring gift.

Please fill out the following information and earmark where you want to direct your gift:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell) \_\_\_\_\_ (Home) \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_ **\*\*\*Please update my information: \_\_\_\_\_**

CORPORATE GIFTS	LEADERSHIP GIFTS	SUSTAINING GIFTS	_____ GREATEST NEED
_____ \$25,000	_____ \$5,000	_____ \$250	_____ "LONE EAGLE FUND"
_____ \$15,000	_____ \$1,000	_____ \$100	_____ CHAPTER SUPPORT
_____ \$10,000	_____ \$500	_____ \$25	_____ IN MEMORY OF...

Please send your contribution to:

John Sosa, Treasurer  
1569 Mill Street  
Lincoln Park, MI 48146-2358

... Thank You!