



THE MICHIGAN CHAPTER

Keith Sousa, Chapter President

Greetings from the Great Lakes State. I hope that everyone is enjoying the winter weather. Of course, we're secretly hoping for spring to come and provide us some warm weather. I think that most of us would prefer to mow our lawns rather than shoveling snow. This year while a few of us (John Sosa, Don Reddeman, Jim and his wife Evie Gawrich, and myself had a chance to escape the cold weather and participate in the Snowbird Reunion in Tampa. While we were enjoying the 85-degree weather in Tampa, our area of Michigan got upwards of 10 inches of snow. It was one of the few instances when our timing was good.

Our chapter continues to meet the third Wednesday of each month for our monthly "Lunch Bunch". We normally have a guest speaker after our meal, and our speaker for February was one of our active WWII Veterans; Mr. John Nasea (See Picture Below). John was a member of the 1st Battalion, 321st Glider Field Artillery Battalion (GFAB), and he participated in fighting in France. He was injured when his glider crashed during "Operation Market Garden" in Holland. His injuries were severe enough that he was evacuated to England to recover, which kept him from participating in this operation. John gave a very informative briefing on the make-up of the 321st GFAB, which included; its history (originating during WWI as a part of the 82d Infantry Division), how the battalion operated, and its participation in WWII. He also described how the battalion was inactivated at Fort Campbell, and later re-organized as a part of the 8d2d Airborne Division at Fort Bragg.

Our speaker during the March "Lunch Bunch" will be Mr. Jim French, who is the director of the Holly National Cemetery in Holly, Michigan. In April, we will give a briefing on the "Doolittle Raid", which will mark the seventy sixth anniversary of the bombing of Tokyo, Japan, by American forces. We are looking forward to having our annual Michigan Chapter reunion, which will be held in Fenton, Michigan from the 20th to the 22nd of July. The reunion is an annual event which allows the members of the chapter to share camaraderie and maybe even tell some war stories. We also look forward to participating in the 101st National Chapter reunion which will take place in August 2018 in Lombard, Illinois. We are continuing to find new members through the use of our calling cards, which give a description of who we are and where/when we meet each month.

We have established a "Facebook" page, and are trying to reach out to younger Screaming Eagle Veterans in our area to let them know that we are here. Please keep in mind those who are currently serving in the military, and especially those who are deployed in harm's way.

