

# The Essex Troop Newsletter

Volume 114 Issue 1

March 2004

The Essex Troop Association - 1315 Pleasant Valley Way - West Orange, NJ - 07052

## President's Message

The ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING is scheduled for Saturday 3 April 2004 at 1200 Noon at the West Orange Armory. Elections will take place. This is your chance to have your voice heard and catch up on the most recent happenings. We also plan on showing our recently completed DVD History of The Essex Troop. (Copies will be for sale at \$10.00 each). We will also have VHS copies available.

Refreshments will be served immediately after the meeting. Put it on you calendar today so you don't forget. Come on out and meet your old friends. Join in the camaraderie and storytelling that we all are so good at. Bring a picture or other piece of memorabilia. I look forward to seeing you all there. Need a ride? Call a friend or call the office and we'll get you hooked up with someone. Please try to make it.

Ron Fahey

**ACTIVATED!** Once again the call has come for Essex Troopers to serve their nation. Word has come down that the 2/102D Armor NJARNG will be activated very soon to federal service. The men and women of this proud unit are scheduled to deploy to Guantanamo (GTMO) Bay, Cuba in the near future. They will relieve the units there and perform support missions in relation to the prisoners of war being held there. We are confident that they will carry out their assigned duties in a professional and efficient manner as befits the traditions of the historic Essex Troop. We wish them well and Godspeed and say a prayer for their safe return upon completion of their mission.

Shortly, I will be calling upon all the members of our association to pitch in on the home front and assist the families of our brother members who have been called to active duty. I will be coordinating with the battalion family support group to determine how we can best put to work the assets and manpower of our association. I will be forming a committee to help develop a program that will best meet the needs of the members on active duty and the families left at home. They must feel they have someone to come to their rescue should things seem overwhelming. Just a simple task such as babysitting so a mother can get a few hours to herself. Or cutting the grass, or changing a light bulb in a difficult spot. A trip to a park, a day at a pool, or perhaps some economic assistance in needy cases might be appropriate. Mail and care

packages from home are always welcome, too. Please come forward and contact our office and join our team to assist in this worthwhile project. You'd be surprised how much help even a couple of hours a month can mean. We have so much talent out there. So let's put it to work. Above all, don't be shy. I'll be in touch as soon as we develop a plan.

The Essex Troop Association  
 1315 Pleasant Valley Way  
 West Orange, NJ 07052  
 (973) 736-0952 email: etroop@bellatlantic.net  
 www.essextroop.org

**OFFICERS**

President .....Ron Fahey  
 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President.....Dean Spenzos  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President ..... Paul Tavarone  
 Secretary .....Walter Gill  
 Treasure ..... Dave VanBenschoten  
 Sergeant at Arms .....Vernon Pederson  
 Past President ..... Bob Theall  
 Chaplain.....Michael Festa

**TRUSTEES**

Walter Hill - Stanley Krenkowitz - Frank Dulfer  
 Myles Rahill - William Marshall III - Michael Renahan

**Dues Notice**

Annual dues are due January 1 of each year. If you have not yet sent in your dues, please renew your membership as soon as possible. Send in your \$15.00 to the attention of the Membership Committee.

The Essex Troop Newsletter

2

Page

**From The Turret**

**Meetings, Etc.**

A message from the  
 Commander, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 102<sup>nd</sup> Armor  
**EVENT / MEETING** **DATE**

Annual Business Meeting 03 Apr 04  
 Annual Picnic/Meeting - Sea Girt 14 Aug 04

**Army Football Game  
Christmas Party**

**Sep/Oct 04  
18 Dec 04**

**The Global War on Terrorism has called upon soldiers from the active army and the National Guard to serve in ways that are historic in nature. The National Guard has been asked to serve extended rotations and in different occupational specialties in places such as Iraq and Afghanistan. Recently soldiers from the 3-112<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery and 5-117<sup>th</sup> Cavalry were retrained as Military Police Officers and sent to Iraq to perform convoy escort duties. This is just an indication of the changing roles to meet and defeat an invisible enemy.**

**2-102d Armor is also being called upon to served in a role other than as armor crewman and support personnel. In the upcoming months the battalion will mobilize and deploy to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba to support base and detainee operations. During the past several months we have been working multiple issues to prepare for the impending deployment. One issues is to establish a Family Readiness Group to support the families of the deployed soldiers. This group is establishing a chain of concern so that any issue that arises with a family there will be someone to answer and solve problems. The issues can range from pay problems to needing an electrician to work in a house. There is a lot of information on the family readiness group and its goals on the battalion website [www.2-102.com](http://www.2-102.com)**

**The soldiers of the 2-102d are prepared to serve our country. We are dedicated to the final outcome of establishing a lasting peace. The war we wage today will prevent the next generation of Americans from fighting the same issues. I ask all of you to support us in any way that you can.**

**I am proud to lead such fine soldiers as the men of the 2-102d. I am proud to be an American and to serve my country**

**STRIKE WITH STEEL  
LTC John Manfre**

## **Annual Meeting**

**ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING**

**1200 NOON SATURDAY 3 APRIL 2004**

**WEST ORANGE ARMORY**

**1315 PLEASANT VALLEY WAY**

**WEST ORANGE, NJ**

**973-736-0952**

**LUNCH AFTER THE MEETING**

**SPECIAL FEATURE DVD**

**"HISTORY OF THE ESSEX TROOP"**

**WILL BE SHOWN**

**"Please try to make it"**

## **Good News**

**MAJ Dean Spenzos and MAJ Chris Schriecks returned home safely on 20 March after spending a year in northern Iraq with an Army Reserve Civil Affairs unit. Both were awarded the Bronze Star medal for commendable performance of duties.**

**We need your input. Please send in news and articles of interest that can be published in the newsletter. Help spread the news.**

**The Essex Troop Newsletter**

**Page 3**

## **Travel Info**

## **Join The Fun**

**Space available travel is benefit available to active and retired members of the National Guard. Here is a Website that provides some valuable information. Go to [www.spacea.info](http://www.spacea.info) to find the locations where space available travel is available.**

**Mark Your Calendars...**

**National Guard Family Appreciation Weekend  
At Sea Girt  
August 21, 2004  
FREE  
BBQ, rides, amusements, fireworks, entertainment, beach  
activities and much more for the entire family.**

**Murphy's Military Law**

- 1). Never share a foxhole with anyone braver than you are.
- 2). No battle plan ever survives contact with the enemy.
- 3). Friendly fire ain't.
- 4). The most dangerous thing in the combat zone is an officer with a map.
- 5). The problem with taking the easy way out is that the enemy has already mined it.
- 6). The buddy system is essential to your survival; it gives the enemy somebody else to shoot at.
- 7). The further you are in advance of your own positions, the more likely your artillery will shoot short.
- 8). Incoming fire has the right of way.
- 9). If your advance is going well, you are walking into an ambush.
- 10). The quartermaster has only two sizes, too large and too small.
- 11). If you really need an officer in a hurry, take a nap.
- 12). The only time suppressive fire works is when it is used on abandoned positions.
- 13). The only thing more accurate than incoming enemy fire is incoming friendly fire.
- 14). There is nothing more satisfying than having someone take a shot at you, and miss.
- 15). Don't be conspicuous. In the combat zone, it draws fire. Out of the combat zone, it draws sergeants.
- 16). If your sergeant can see you, so can the enemy.
- 17). The enemy diversion you have been ignoring will be the main attack.
- 18). A "sucking chest wound" is nature's way of telling you to slow down.
- 19). When you have secured an area, don't forget to inform the enemy.
- 20). If it's stupid, but it works, it ain't stupid.

**2004 Scholarships**

**Applications for the 2004 Essex Troop Scholarship are available at the Troop Office in the West Orange Armory; you may call the Troop Office at 973-736-0952, or email Walter Hill at ET204Scholar@wmconnect.com.**

**The program remains the same as in the past few years. The Troop has designated specific scholarships for Guard Members and Essex Troop Members. The scholarships for Guard Members are directed toward members of the 2d Battalion 102d Armor and the 5<sup>th</sup> Squadron 117<sup>th</sup> Cavalry. The Matthias B. Garrigan Memorial Scholarship is for the members of the Essex Troop and their spouse, sons or daughters. Each of these scholarships is valued at \$1,000.**

**All applications will be reviewed for the Regimental Scholarship that is valued at \$2,000.**

**Applications must be returned to the Essex Troop no later than May 26, 2004.**

## **Fiddler's Green**

### **Fitting Tribute**

**We regret to announce the passing of two of our fellow Troopers. In January the report came in that Milt Hull made his journey to Fiddler's Green. We don't have any additional details at this time.**

**In February, we received news from the daughter if Bill Glynn that he too passed onto Fiddler's Green. Our younger members should know that LTC Bill Glynn along with hundreds of other Troopers was activated in 1941 and served with distinction during World War II and in the post-war period with the New Jersey Army National Guard. In March 1945, than S/SGT, Bill Glynn, as acting platoon leader of Troop C, 102<sup>nd</sup> Reconnaissance Squadron, was leading the Squadron in a movement to contact against German forces. S/SSGT Glynn and his Troop made contact with enemy positions containing 88MM guns. S/SGT Glynn took stock of the situation and positioned his unit for a counterattack. His personal actions were instrumental in overrunning the German positions, which resulted in the destruction of the positions, and killing or capturing of many German soldiers. S/SGT Bill Glynn, for his actions on this day, was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for bravery. Bill Glynn eventually retired from the NJARNG as a Lieutenant Colonel. Bill was a credit to his family, community, and country.**

**TIKRIT, Iraq (Army News Service, Jan. 6, 2004)**

**When he was forced to fashion statues of Saddam Hussein on horseback, the Iraqi sculptor,**

**Kalat, had no idea that someday he would melt them down to create a memorial for American Soldiers.**

**The two original statues -- which adorned a gate at the palace complex where 4th Infantry Division's headquarters group is located -- were removed with explosives in early July, said 1st Sgt. Mark Anderson, Headquarters and Headquarters Company.**

**The statues were cut into pieces by the 555th Engineer Group and shipped to Kalat who reshaped the chunks of bronze into a likeness of an American Soldier. A small girl comforts the Soldier as he mourns a fallen comrade.**

**The likeness was fashioned from a photograph of 1st Sgt. Glen Simpson, the former HHC first sergeant, who knelt for a picture that has become an immortal portrait in bronze, said Command Sgt. Maj. Chuck Fuss, 4th Inf. Div. command sergeant major.**

**Kalat spent several months sculpting and casting the statue.**

**"Though he created the original statues of Saddam along with another artist, he created the 4th Infantry Division memorial through his own design," Anderson said.**

**The sculpture is based on a scene many in Iraq have witnessed in one form or another.**

**A Soldier kneels before a memorial of boots, rifle and helmet - his forehead resting in the hollow of his hand. Behind and to his right stands a small Iraqi girl with her hand reaching out to touch his shoulder.**

**The statue evokes emotion. The girl was added to the statue to remind people of why the sacrifice was made, Fuss said.**

**"It's about freedom for this country, but it's also about the children who will grow up in a free society," he said.**

**Sitting in a former palace of Saddam now, the statue will soon be shuttled to Fort Hood, where it will become part of a larger memorial project at the 4th Inf. Div. museum.**

**Fuss and Anderson credited the Soldiers' generosity and Simpson's vision for the lasting gift that, in the end, remembers fallen comrades.**

**"I think this is the best way we can honor their families and their memories," Fuss said.**

**"Really that's what it's for - a tribute to all the Soldiers over here who lost their lives," Anderson said. "They will never be forgotten and they will always be heroes in our eyes."**

## **Remembering Comrades**

**Here is a little known fact. At the Vietnam War Memorial (The Wall) sets a flag pole and at its base are the seals of all the services: Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard. Every day throughout the entire year a group from Marine Barracks, Eight & I, Washington, D. C. march to the flag and polish the Marine Corps Emblem. The other services have NEVER touched theirs."**

## **Photo Gallery**

**The Essex Troop Newsletter**

Fort Jackson - 1941

The Essex Troop Newsletter  
Page 6

# Essex Troop Post Exchange

## PRICE LIST

ITEM	PRICE	QUANTITY ORDERED	TOTAL PRICE
New: Essex Troop History DVD or VHS	\$10.00	_____	_____
Golf Shirt w/Crest	\$35.00	_____	_____
Ft. Jackson Marker Video	\$12.00	_____	_____
Blazer Crest	\$15.00	_____	_____
Epaulet Crest	\$ 3.00	_____	_____
Decals	\$ 1.00	_____	_____
Old Fashion Glasses	\$ 3.00	_____	_____
Pilsner Glasses	\$ 5.00	_____	_____
Brandy Snifters	\$ 5.00	_____	_____
Key Chain	\$ 7.00	_____	_____
Lithograph (19" x 25")	\$20.00	_____	_____
Mugs with 1st NJ Crest	\$ 7.50	_____	_____
Mugs with 102d Crest	\$15.00	_____	_____
Tie with 1st NJ Crest	\$14.00	_____	_____
Tie with 102d Crest	\$14.00	_____	_____
ET US Uniform Poster	\$ 5.00	_____	_____
T Shirt	\$10.00	_____	_____
ET Baseball Hat	\$15.00	_____	_____
Tie Tack 102d Crest	\$ 3.00	_____	_____
Watch 102d Crest	\$30.00	_____	_____
Coin Tray	\$ 7.50	_____	_____
Gallop Ho! William Walsh	\$20.00	_____	_____
Reprint Dash to Paris	\$ 2.50	_____	_____

