



EAGLE CHATTER



ROCKY MOUNTAIN EAGLES CHAPTER

June 2022

5512 South Telluride Court, Centennial, CO 80015-2645

<http://www.RMEagles.org>

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Membership – John Thompson

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Bob Burnham

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**From the President**

My Fellow Screaming Eagles, we have been through a tough couple of years. This pandemic has taken a toll on all of us. I hope this finds you healthy and doing well. The last few months have been filled with uncertainty. This virus has mutated with several different variants. I believe that we will have an annual vaccine like we've had for the flu. Do what you have to do to stay healthy.

It was an unfortunate set of circumstances that caused us to cancel our banquet. The Hotel Elegaté was sold and our banquet was cancelled. Tom Beach had worked very hard to set things up. When the banquet was cancelled, Tom worked diligently to find us another venue. It came down to the wire so I decided to cancel our gathering. I want to thank Tom for all of the work he put into trying to make things work.

I'm looking forward to our picnic. I want to thank Linda Keeton for allowing us to continue to meet at the Keeton Ranch for this event. We all have some great memories of our past picnics that Linda and Jim hosted. Don't forget to RSVP along with your choice meal.

We have some business to go over. John Thompson has been wearing two hats. We need to find a candidate to take over the position of Secretary. John will continue in his position of Treasurer. Anyone who is interested please contact me or John Thompson.

In closing I want to thank everyone for their support for our Chapter. It takes us all to make this organization as great as it is. I'm looking forward to seeing all of you on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of July.

**Airborne, Airmobile, Air Assault!**  
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Picnic! Linda Keeton has kindly offered to allow our picnic as for many years at the Keeton Ranch. We greatly appreciate her support. Jim and Linda have always made our Chapter better! If you can attend; and, your last name starts with A-K, please bring a small salad. If your last name starts with L-Z, please bring a small dessert. If you have a special dish that you would like to share, indicate it on the RSVP at the end of this newsletter and let's enjoy! **See you there! (See map attached.)**

Week of the Eagles! Stan Paprocki and I have just returned from Week of the Eagles at Fort Campbell. It rained every day from when we left Colorado until on the way home. However, not one event we attended was rained out. The Association again assisted Division Headquarters with the Honorary Air Assault medal ceremony. Although more than two hundred had signed up, only eight showed up for the presentation. They must have never heard that it does not rain in the Army, it rains on the Army! The others will receive their certificate via mail. One 1st Cavalry Division veteran came all the way from Mexico to receive his. I also got to see past Division Commander, MG (Ret) Brian Winski. He saw me first and came to greet me. He was a good

commander for the Association. Regrettably, I can't say the same for the present commander, MG J. P. McGee. He certainly knows we exist but did not even recognize us in any speech he gave, including the Honorary Air Assault presentation for the Association's work there. It was good to see friends who did come to WoE, including COL (Ret) Larry Redmond, author of "A Dusty Boot Soldier."

National Reunion. Our national reunion is coming up in Grand Rapids, Michigan August 3 – 6. Past President John Sosa and wife, Kathleen, were at Ft. Campbell for WoE and reported that the Michigan Chapter is ready for the reunion with plenty of activities for everyone. One thing about the location of the reunion in Grand Rapids is that there are plenty of things to do within walking distance of the hotel. If you are not registered yet, you can find the printable forms at <https://screamingeagle.org/2022-annual-reunion/>. Join us if you can!

Normandy. I will be representing the 101st Airborne Division Association, speaking at one of the memorials in Normandy, on June 6. I have never been to Normandy and, although I have no family ties to Normandy, it will be an honor to be there. I know of only two WW II members that will be there so we need to think of a future without them soon.

Membership!

More than 8 million people served in uniform during Vietnam and those who are alive are typically in their later 60s and 70s. The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs estimates that **530 Vietnam veterans die every day**. An overwhelming number are buried by family and friends. (As of Nov. 11, 2021).

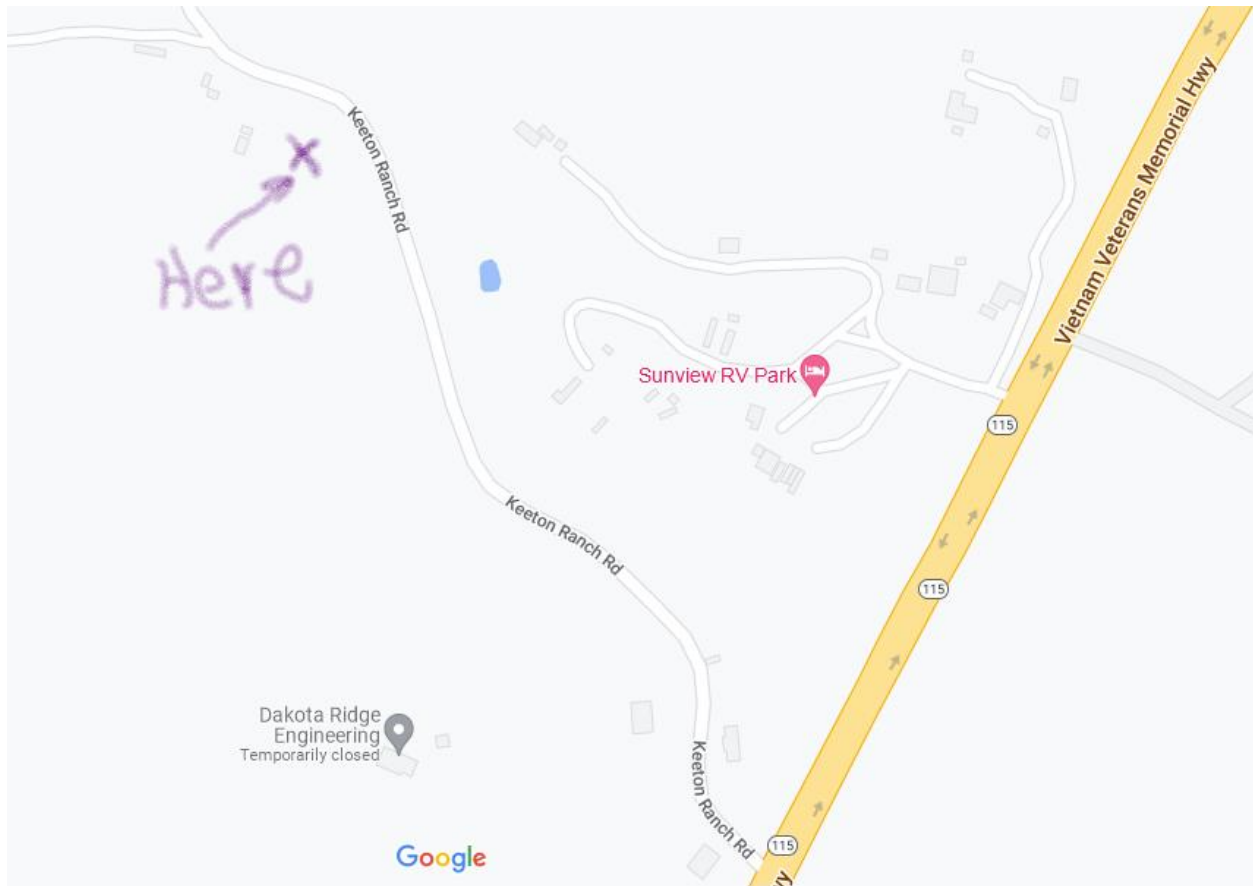
It is never good to lose contact with members; but, as happens each year, some members do not renew. Several were dropped from our roster after repeated requests to renew. Certainly, as we age, we will lose members due to natural causes. Our membership now stands at sixty-five members. We need new members to maintain our great Chapter! Wear your cap! You will be surprised at how many ex-101st you will meet that way. I met an Air Force veteran in Lowes the other day and missed a great opportunity. He was attached to the 101st during Desert Storm and was with the Apaches that fired the first shots to take out the radar sites. He made them "invisible" with EMI. **I was so busy listening to him that I didn't even give him a card that was right there in my pocket.** I also met a young man in King Soopers yesterday (as I write) that said his Dad was in the 101st. His Dad had passed. Be ready to press the flesh and take names. Our recruit card is a good tool; but, after handing out hundreds, they just don't prove that effective so get information and send to me. I will follow up. New ideas are needed. Your challenge is one new member this year. Make every effort to make it so!

We have eighteen that need to renew membership in the Chapter this year by June 30. If you find a short renewal form in this packet, you need to renew. Please heed and send it back. You can include it with your picnic RSVP.

Charitable Organization! Remember! Your Chapter is now a 501 (c) 3, non-profit organization! Donations to the Chapter are now tax deductible. No! Your membership fees are not deductible! Our current income is very good! We just made two donations to charitable organizations. One of \$1,200 to the Wings of Liberty Museum and a \$1,000 donation to our Association's operating fund to help maintain our Association's future. I also just renewed our state requirement to register our chapter as a non-profit. There will be a full financial report at the picnic. This also means that we should probably add to the June 25 business meeting agenda a discussion on what our future philanthropic works or charity purpose will be. Get some ideas ready for that discussion.

Help Wanted! We are still looking for a Secretary. This person would also be responsible for this publication, the quarterly article in *The Screaming Eagle* magazine, collecting membership dues; and, safeguarding of our funds.

Website. Our website costs have gone up exponentially every year to where our costs are out of site. Let's discuss options.



Proceed south on Hwy 115 about 5.8 miles from Gate 1 of Fort Carson. When past the entrance to Sunview RV Park, watch on the right for the sign KEETON ROAD on your right.
RSVP FOR THE CHAPTER PICNIC 7/23 @ 1200 Hours !!

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R S V P

Member Name _____

Guest _____ Guest _____

Guest _____ Guest _____

Guest _____ Guest _____

(# - **PLEASE INDICATE NUMBER OF MEALS**) All will be grilled.

Beef Brat #____ **Chicken #**____ **Hot Dog #**____ **Hamburger #**____ **Diet drink** _____?

BRING MY OWN _____?

Each entrée will be served with baked beans and potato salad. Buns, condiments, water and sodas are provided.

I will provide a _____ for the picnic.

(If you would like to make a cash donation instead of a meal, please do!)

Please send RSVP to: **Rocky Mountain Eagles, 5512 South Telluride Court, Centennial, CO 80015-2645**; or, e-mail me **by July 15th**. Questions? JohnT@ITCommon.com or 303-522-6608.