



BAND OF BROTHERS NEWSLETTER



The Villages, Florida

September 2022

FROM THE DESK OF YOUR PRESIDENT

Last month's Newsletter notified the membership that the existing terms of office for the President, Vice Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer would be ending at the end of the year. At that time I requested that all of you think about stepping in and/or nominating other individuals to fill these positions. We currently have several individuals who have expressed an interest the positions. Please let us know if you might have a personal interest in exploring any of the positions or if you would like to nominate another individual. I am requesting that you reply to the Band of Brothers email address at BandBro0817@gmail.com by **October 1** so that we have sufficient time to address the issue at our **General Membership Meeting on October 16th**.

Additionally, I think it would be beneficial to let you know of the ramifications that would affect the Band of Brothers if we disband the 501(c)(3) corporation. Without Officers, this corporation can no longer exist. Please read the below carefully and think long and hard on how you would like to proceed ... it affects the outcome of our organization and the entire membership.

The impact of not being a 501(c)(3) organization is enormous. If we do not get nominations and have officers elected, we must terminate our 501(c)(3) status. The IRS requires us to have Officers to manage the organization, By-Laws to govern, and financial policies in place to ensure compliance with their rules and regulations. The following are things we will lose if our 501(c)(3) statute is removed:

- *We will no longer be a tax-exempt organization, and all donations and purchases will be subject to taxes at the Federal and State levels.*
- *We will no longer have the public legitimacy of IRS recognition as a tax-exempt organization.*
- *Any donations that are given will not be tax-deductible to the donor.*
- *We will not be able to have a Store selling items without charging and paying taxes.*
- *We will have to close our bank account since it is open as a non-profit account.*
- *We will have to distribute the monies prior to closing the tax-exempt status. This will require a vote from the membership on how to distribute the funds.*
- *We will no longer be able to hold our own or create an identity.*
- *We will no longer be able to make a difference in the lives of others with our donations.*



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- *We will not be able to sell 50/50 tickets at our Social Meetings since we will not have the capability to collect money tax-free and the monies would be subject to taxes.*
- *We could sell the tickets; however, ALL monies would have to be redistributed at each meeting.*
- *We will not have the capability to purchase flowers for our sick and bereaved members at a tax-free status.*
- *We will not have our monthly birthday cakes since we have no way to pay for them without individuals paying for them.*

On another note, the vote on the lawn service for a Band of Brothers member was completed on 8/2/22. The vote finalized as follows: 157 responded with 137 yes, 15 no, 2 abstentions and 3 votes coming in past the cutoff deadline. Thanks to all who voted.

The Scholarship Committee is now in receipt of all applications for the candidates who applied for this year's awards. Towards that end, the application process was closed as of 8/15/2022. There have been 6 requests for consideration with only 4 being eligible to apply according to the criteria that was set in place when the program was instituted. Those who will receive the awards are (in alphabetical order) Brooke Dynda, Amelia Mullee, Aden Oakes and Christian O'Brien. Congratulations all and good luck on your future endeavors.

Our Golf Tournament, held on Saturday, August 27th at Harbor Hills, proved to be a success and much fun with good food and much camaraderie. 18 foursomes participated. Special thanks to the ProShop for their work in coordination of the event and for their contribution of 18 holes of golf to four (4) foursomes including carts, to the Captains who headed up each team, and to City Fire for their donation of four (4) \$50 gift cards and cocktails following the event. Thanks again ... and nicely done all!

Ben Vasquez
President

HONOR THEIR SERVICE

**"Greater love hath no man than this - that a man lay down his life for his friends."
John 15:1**

NEW MEMBERS IN LATE JULY/AUGUST

Andrew Bobincheck – USA
Stephan Chable – USN-USAF



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Robert Christensen – USAF

Marvin Daggett – USA

Don Feeney – USAF

Kenneth Gasbarro – USAF

Daniel Keane – USAF

Joel Krasnosky – USA

Dan Latello – USA

Charles “Chuck” Thorson – USN

John Perrott – USN

Terry Piell – USAF

Eugene “Rick” Reaktenwalt – USA

William Service – USAF

Daniel Shawler – USN

Thomas Thompson – USAF

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Carol Ann Baum – Honorary

Louise Bonomo Goldberg – Honorary

Dani Carlson – Support

Betty Thompson – Honorary

WELCOME ALL TO THE BAND OF BROTHERS

NOTES FROM YOUR SECRETARY

Last year Wayne and Katheen Gierum hosted an open-house at their farm for the Band of Brothers. This year their “LAZY K RANCH SOUTH”, located in Lady Lake, will be presenting a Tribute to Vets from **September 15-18** with a Concert and Cookout. There is no charge and is open to the public. Attached is a flyer outlining the event. Donations for this cause are welcome. *Please Note: This is not a Band of Brothers sponsored event.*

Once again, Cricket Cruise & Travel, LLC is coordinating a Band of Brothers Group Cruise scheduled for **May 12-20, 2023** at a mid-balcony, double occupancy rate of **\$2914.98 for 2 individuals**. We have attached a flyer with additional information for you to review. Kindly direct all questions to LeAnne, the contact on the flyer for questions regarding the Cruise. *Please note: This is not a Band of Brothers sponsored event.*

Ed Moldenhauer, our new Color Guard Commander, is also a member of the Leatherneck



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Warriors dragon boat team. He is attempting to staff an entire boat of veterans for competitions with other veterans-only boats around Florida. It is difficult to reach athletically active veterans to join his squad. If interested or for additional information, please reach out to Ed directly at ejmoldy@gmail.com.

COLOR GUARD

The following quote was received from Color Guard Commander, Ed Moldenhauer. He has requested that we share this information with the membership. If able to assist, please reach out to Ed directly at ejmoldy@gmail.com.

*"The Color Guard has been tasked with supporting the POW/MIA Recognition Day event at Veterans Memorial Park beginning at 1000 (arrive at 0945) on **September 16th**. The Band of Brothers Color Guard will be performing all of the event presentation modules – presenting the Colors, service flags and the commemorative wreath.*

Due to the timing and sequence, it will be very difficult for our members to transition from Colors to the service flags. Recently, we had one member depart from our group and two members will be unavailable. Therefore, only five current members will be there for the event.

As Commander, I am hoping to identify five of our brothers/sisters to assist in this POW/MIA event. All I would ask is that they have a BoB polo shirt (they do not need to be matching, just have the BoB logo) and be able to carry a flag and staff for a small 30 yard walk to set the flag in its respective location. It would be really nice if we had the BoB member that represented their service affiliation (we hardly ever see get a Coast Guard member and one of us squids usually steps up for our brown water peers!).

The Band of Brothers proudly wears the POW/MIA patch and I feel it is a great way to support our brothers and sisters. Also, it may serve as a recruiting tool for other BoB members to observe the Color Guard and also to increase the BoB participation at the event."

*Thank you in advance,
Ed Moldenhauer
Commander, Band of Brothers Color Guard*

Additionally, the Color Guard will participate in two events during the month of September, the POW/MIA Recognition Day Ceremony as mentioned above and the Patriots/Remembrance Day event. (See the Calendar of Events for dates and details.) Additionally, on **October 7th**, the Color Guard will be marching in the Octoberfest Parade (officially the



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German/Italian Heritage Parade of the past) at Spanish Springs from 1300-1700. The “TANK” will be participating and golf carts and marchers are invited to attend. Come on down (or up – whatever the case may be) and join in on the fun!

BLOOD DRIVE

John Salmon has sent us the report on the August blood drive. We netted 9 pints with 4 donors being deferred for various reasons. There were a total of 6 appointments and the rest were walk-ins. This figure was down from the 15 pints for the second quarter. Our next drive is scheduled for **December 2, 9 am – 3 pm** at Laurel Manor Recreation Center.

SECRETARY’S NOTE: With a total membership count of 957, this is a very poor showing. Let’s get out there on December 2nd and up our numbers. Hopefully none of us will need blood transfusions in the future!

SICK CALL & BEREAVEMENT

Sending sympathy, our condolence and prayers to the Syme Family – Tracy, JR and Ronnie on the loss of her father, Ronald Nelson, on August 20. Please know that we are thinking about you at this very special time. Additionally, there will be a Celebration of Life for Ron on Monday, September 5 from 1pm – 4 pm at The Silver Springs Moose Lodge at 7165 SE Maricamp Road, Ocala, FL, 34472. The Brothers are welcome to attend.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| September 11 th | - | Patriot’s Day/Remembrance Day
Color Guard Event
10:00 am, Assist in Posting Flags
Spanish Springs, Veterans Memorial Park |
| September 15 th -18 th | - | A Tribute to Vets
Free and Open to the Public
Lazy K Ranch South
37800 Illinois St. Lady Lake, FL.
Hosted by Wayne and Kathleen Gierum
989-544-1543 or
lazykranchsouth@gmail.com
See attached flyer. |
| September 16 th | - | POW/MIA Recognition Day,
Color Guard Event
10:00 am, Primary CG Posting Colors |



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Spanish Springs, Veterans Memorial Park

- October 7th - Octoberfest Parade, 1:00 – 5:00pm
Spanish Springs
- October 19th** - **General Membership Meeting, 7:00 pm**
Lk. Miona Recreation Center, Members Only
Nomination of Officers
- December 2nd - Blood Drive, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Laurel Manor Recreation Center
- May 12th – 20th, 2023 - Band of Brothers Group Cruise
Mariner of the Seas
Contact: Cricket Cruise & Travel
LeAnn @ 979-836-6600

Social Meetings are held at City Fire, Lake Sumter Landing, every Tuesday, 2-4 pm and at City Fire, Brownwood on every Thursday, 2-4 pm.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

The Band of Brothers Birthday Cake for all members who have birthdays in the month of **September** and **The Band of Brothers PX** will be held on **Tuesday, September 27th at City Fire, Lake Sumter Landing** and on **Thursday, September 29th at City Fire, Brownwood**. The PX will be opened in its entirety on both dates.

The Band of Brothers sells 50/50 tickets at each Social meeting on Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning at 2:00 pm. To obtain your tickets, see your Sergeant-at-Arms. Cut-off for ticket sales is at **3:45 pm**. We have three (3) prizes each week pending the amount of funds collected.

Band of Brothers Members: Our main way to communicate with membership is via email. We try to send out minimal emails per month. One in the form of a Newsletter; however, there are other emails for emergencies or important announcements that need to be sent out immediately. If you do not wish to receive emails from the Band of Brothers or do not wish to continue your membership, please let us know. You can unsubscribe at the bottom of any email you receive from us and you will be eliminated from the Club Roster.



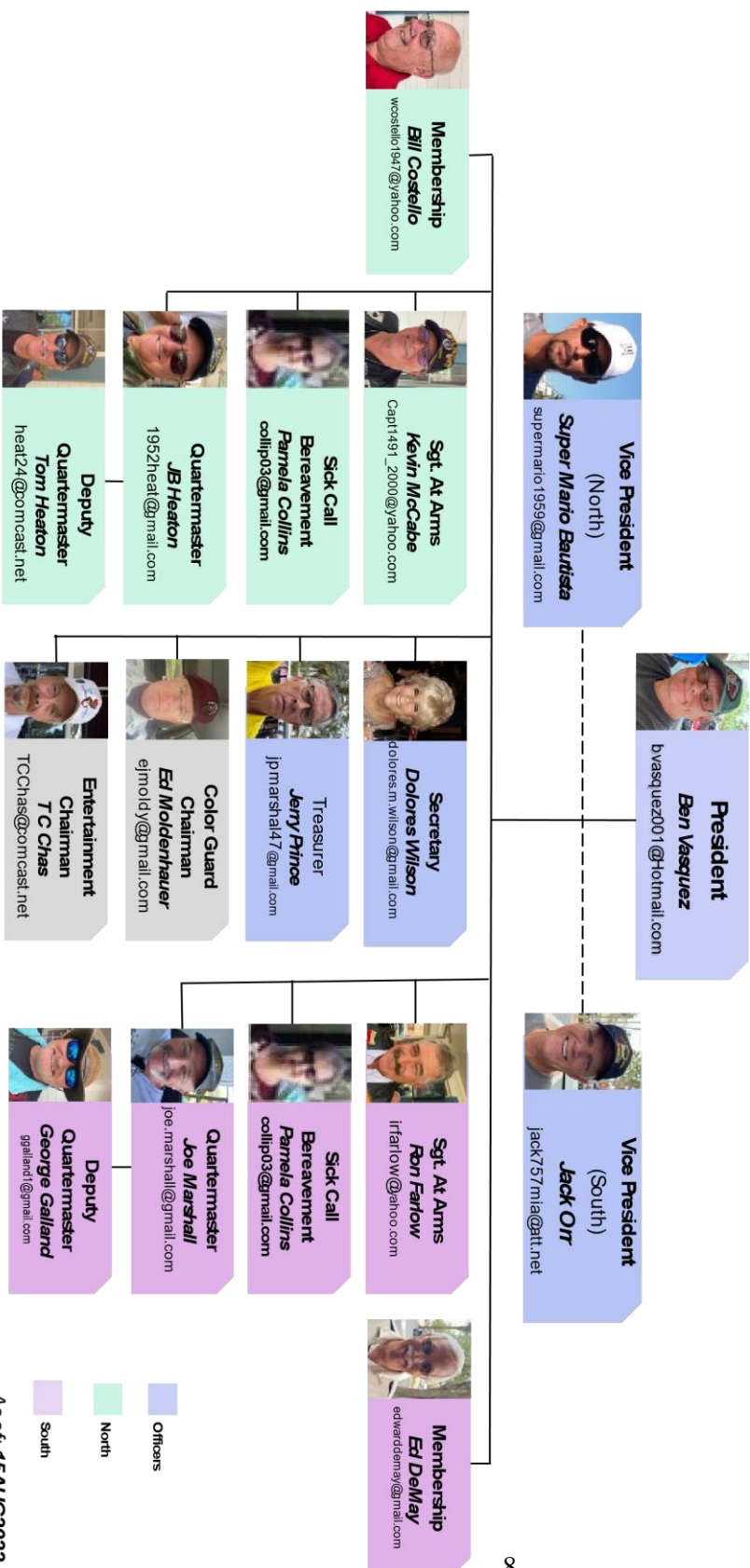
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The New Organizational Chart for the Band of Brothers follows and can be used to contact the Officers and Executive Board members. It includes the names, positions, photographs, and email addresses. If you have a question about a particular area, please refer to the chart which has been **revised as of 8/15/2022** and is subject to change.



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