



# 2nd Battalion 1st Infantry Chapter, Americal Division Veterans Association (ADVA)



WEBSITE: [www.2-1-196th.com](http://www.2-1-196th.com)

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Volume 12

“A Soldier Once And Always”

December 2022

**Commanders Corner:** Greetings to all my Brothers and Sisters and families of the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> 196 Infantry Brigade. I also send greetings to all the brothers and families and Friends of our sister units that participate with our organization. I hope this letter finds everyone doing well and that you all had a wonderful fall season with your families and friends. Fall has always been my favorite season with the beautiful fall colors and generally pleasant weather. I send my best wishes to any brothers or sisters that may have been impacted by the Hurricanes that affected Florida and other parts of the country.



As we move into the busy Holiday season, I want to extend my best wishes that everyone will be able to enjoy quality time with your Families and friends. Since Thanksgiving will have come by the time you receive this Newsletter, I hope everyone had a Very Happy Thanksgiving. I know that everything related to the Holidays cost us all much more this year I hope everyone will be able to enjoy the season as much as possible. I for one always think that the opportunity to get together with Family and Friends is the most important aspect of the Holidays and the motto that its always better to be able to give than to receive is the most important thing to remember.

I have requested That John Woyansky draft a summary of the First Infantry Regiment Monument project and include action items to be in this Newsletter so that everyone will be kept up to date and any assistance that can be contributed to this important project. John has been working hard to advance the project and we all owe him a big Thank You! Unfortunately, these types of endeavors involve a lot of Red tape which make the project more complicated than it should. Also, there will be a need of donations by our members as we move forward and hopefully everyone can contribute as much as you can as we progress. Obviously as none of us are getting younger it would be great if we can complete this project as soon as possible

I also want to say a big Thank You to Rich Heroux for all the time he devotes to preparing our Newsletters. I know that from the feedback I receive from members everyone looks forward to them and appreciate Richs efforts. As I have said before I know Rich will appreciate any input that members can contribute which will make his job easier. Even short stories are appreciated.

I hope everyone Has a very Merry Christmas and take time to remember any of your brothers that may be struggling with health problems. I also wish everyone a Happy New Year in 2023 and let's hope that our economy improves from the tough 2022 year.

Best Keep safe and may the bond of battle never be broken!

Dwight Sybolt  
Commander

*Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year!*

**From H Duckworth O'Brien's "A Grunt's Life":** From the World: *“Christmas in the Bush,* Only a grunt would hump an artificial Christmas tree and ornaments into combat. Shows how far we went to stay connected to traditions back home. In the boonies, Christmas dinner was delivered in marmite containers. If you were one of the lucky ones, the ice cream was still solids enough to resemble ice cream. If not, you just drank the watery mess. It was, after all, Christmas.

**News from the Home Front:** We just received a text from Linda Petitt that her husband “Ronnie” has dementia that has gotten worse and had to put him into the memory Care unit at the Grove in Tulsa. Please keep him in your prayers and ask Almighty God to watch over him and care for his family during this period.



Another significant person who has produced an awful lot of our Chapter activities is having a great deal of physical problems is our dear Eileen Boney. You will remember her as the always supporting companion of Jesse Mendoza. Jesse and Eileen have used their many and diverse talents preparing and operating our Hospitality accommodations across the country as we attend our annual Chapter reunions. Behind the scenes they have devoted much time, energy and capacity to accommodate the variety of needs that pop up during the turbulent reunion activities. Eileen is dealing with continued ailments requiring much of Jesse's support. Please ask Almighty God to watch over these two great people and bring their conditions to a successful conclusion.



**First Infantry Regiment Monument (Proposed):** First a little background. Rich Heroux and John Woyanski, members of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Chapter, Americal Division Veterans Assoc. (ADVA) attended the dedication of the 196<sup>th</sup> LIB Monument on the “National Infantry Museum’s Walk of Honor” at the home of the U.S. Army Infantry at Fort Benning, Georgia. While observing the monuments of all units on the Walk of Honor, it became clear that the place of honor for the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Regiments were proudly displayed. However, Absent from this hallowed location was the monument representing the 1st Infantry Regiment. The 1st, 2nd & 3rd Infantry Regiments trace their lineage to 1791 following the Revolution War, They are the oldest Infantry units in the Army. After some preliminary discussion and research the attending Chapter members decided to initiate a plan of action be developed and presented at the Chapter’s annual membership meeting in August 2022. The initial plan was developed and the members attending the meeting voted to start working toward raising funds in support of acquiring a monument to be erected on the ground of the Infantry Museum. A three-member team were selected to start the research and development of the details of how we were to attack this project that would include all soldiers who are (were) assigned to the 1st Regiment. There are three battalions of Infantry currently in the U.S. Army inventory stationed throughout the U. S. Army. We would require their support to help raise funding and approve the monuments design. The three members have been working to draft the supporting documents and plans that will be presented to all of you as they are drafted. I have included in this months Newsletter the proposal presented to the membership at our annual meeting. We are looking for suggestions and helpers to see this project to completion. At the end of this Newsletter please find the latest information prepared by John Woyanski identifying action required and assistance necessary to initiate important and long over due tribute to the numerous American soldiers who sacrificed preserving freedom.

**New Easier-to-Remember Veterans Crisis Line Number:** The new 988 National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, which launched July 22, 2022, isn’t aimed specifically at veterans, but advocates are hopeful that the resource will provide an easier venue for veterans and military members facing mental health emergencies. “The new shorter number: **Dial 988 then 1.**”

**BO Borysiak sends the following concerning Bravo 2/1 Commemorative Bricks:** I will come up with a HCVVO "Healing Field" article, it is getting harder to keep all of Bravo 2/1 Memorial Bricks, just near to one another. More Bricks are being placed in the next available spacing there working from Top Left, then filling across each row from Left to Right. Which means these past few Reunions we have been able to place Our Bricks to the left side, as new L to R rows are being filled. "Chappy" HCVVO' Chaplain, calls out Bravo's Fallen Brothers Names specifically in order of Placement, so we can place all new Bricks , to the Left Side & as Centered as possible to the Largest Grouping of B 2/1 Bricks( from previous years). I will try to film a video of where all Bravo 2/1 bricks have been placed. Sometime, yet this year..

That trip (One-Way) takes between 4 & 5 hours depending on weather, construction & time of day, as Primary Factures. From where I now am located.

Wishing You & Yours a safe & prosperous Holiday Season, Bo.

The basis of Murphy’s Law is that no matter how idiot-proof something is, there will always be an idiot who rises to the challenge...

**December 7, 1941:** should always bring great sorrow as a special day in the lives of all Americans because it is the day that our once safe and free land was invaded by another country. Without notice, the imperial nation of Japan launched an early areal encounter along the island of Hawaii destroying almost the entire Western defense of our great nation killing and wounding a large number of our sailors and civilian inhabitants. The U.S. devoted the better part of 4 years recovering from the ill effects of this dastardly attack. The nation has mourned this catastrophe ever since that day. Everyone who receives this notice please take a moment to ask our Creator to never allow this incident to be washed away from our consideration as we commemorate the events of this day. Pray for the service personnel who perished that day asking Him to be ever watchful for our to remain free and safe.



**Veterans, Retirees get 8.7% Social Security Cost-of-Living Boost:** Veterans and retirees will see an 8.7% cost-of-living increase in their Social Security benefits starting in December, the largest increase in 42 years, federal officials announced recently. The big boost reflects the rising cost of inflation throughout the last year. In a statement, acting Social Security Administration Commissioner Kilolo Kijakazi said the move will give beneficiaries “more peace of mind and breathing room.” The move will directly affect about 65 million Americans receiving Social Security benefits. Administration officials said the average beneficiary will see an increase of about \$140 in their monthly payouts.

**Veterans Day is not always easy for our Heroes:** Most of America's service members do not seek the spotlight. To do so would seem absurd with their initial motivations for raising their hand, their reasons for sticking out the tough times and their means of transitioning back to civilian life. These men and women chose to join the military — not for money or fame, but for ancient virtues like honor, duty and sacrifice. They did it because they love serving their country, not because they love receiving attention for it. As a result, some veterans can feel uncomfortable with the extra attention they will be receiving on Veterans Day — this Friday, Nov. 11 — especially those who served in Vietnam and Korea and endured horrible treatment once they got home. The tiniest ripple you start this Veterans Day could create a wave that informs, changes and blesses others. Don’t think about it as doing it for you — I know the humble soldier in you wouldn’t. Instead, do it for the man with whom you served; stand in *his* place.

Acknowledge the veteran by repeating the following:

**‘I see you, I respect you, I value your service’**

Warriors are not always the fastest or strongest men. Strength and speed can be developed through training. Warriors are those who choose to stand between their enemy and all that he loves or holds sacred.



**VA Expands Survivor Benefits to include more same-sex couples:** Some same-sex spouses of veterans who were previously ineligible for survivor benefits will now be able to receive the assistance payouts under policy changes announced by the Department of Veterans Affairs recently. Officials said the move is designed to support same-sex couples who had been together for years but were unable to be legally married until 2015, when the Supreme Court required states to recognize same-sex relationships in the same way as heterosexual unions. "VA is closing a gap in benefits for surviving spouses of LGBTQ+ Veterans, righting a wrong that is a legacy of the discriminatory federal ban on same-sex marriages," said VA Secretary Denis McDonough in a statement. "It is VA's mission to serve all veterans — including LGBTQ+ veterans — as well as they've served our country, and this decision is a key part of that effort."

**3 inspiring Veterans Running the NYC Marathon:** On Nov. 5, 50,000 people arose at the crack of dawn and saunter down to a chilly Staten Island starting line, where they'll take off on the 26.2 mile run of a lifetime. These athletes are some of the fastest in the world, who have trained for months to build up the endurance to handle the race. Each year, a number of military veterans throw their hats in the ring as well. And this year, there are three in particular that have inspiring stories outside the marathon. Carla Drumbeater, who served in the Army, overcame her diabetes and the sadness of serving as an ICU therapist during COVID-19 to run in this year's New York City Marathon. The pool of octogenarians that run the marathon each year is small but mighty. Among them is Vietnam War veteran Stephen Wertheimer. Now 84 and an orthopedist, he's running his 39th New York City Marathon. He will run this year with his daughter, Erin. Another Vietnam War veteran, Richard Newman worked as a field surgeon. This is his 26th New York City Marathon, even after suffering a heart attack in 2015. Now, at 75, he is completing his 75th marathon overall, and he credits his ability to do this to his wife Julie.

**Supplier who sold \$20 million in counterfeit Air Force gear faces Jail:** A clothing wholesaler faces more than three years in federal prison for selling \$20 million worth of counterfeit military gear to be issued to American airmen, the Justice Department said in a release recently. Ramin Kohanbash, 52, of Brooklyn, New York, passed off tens of thousands of unsafe, Chinese-made uniforms and other equipment to the U.S. military, the government said. "Some of these products lacked crucial safety features or failed to meet safety specifications, endangering the health and safety of the military personnel who wore them," the department said in a press release. "At least 13,332 counterfeit jackets not resistant to enemies' night vision goggles and 18,597 non-flame resistant hoods were among the counterfeit products that entered the military supply chain, destined for U.S. Air Force bases around the world."



**Pentagon 'Cautiously Encouraged' by 15% Drop in Military Suicides:** Suicides among active-duty troops in 2021 dropped about 15% compared with the record high recorded the previous year, but defense officials warned the annual Pentagon report released Thursday also showed the military's suicide rate remained on an upward trend during the last decade. The Pentagon reported an active-duty suicide rate of about 24 suicide deaths per 100,000 service members last year, down from about 29 self-inflicted deaths per 100,000 troops in 2020. Defense officials said they were cautiously optimistic the slowing annual suicide rate was an indication efforts to address the issue were finally working. "While we are cautiously encouraged by the drop in these numbers, one year is not enough time to assess real change," Beth Foster, the executive director of the Pentagon's Force Resiliency Office, told reporters Thursday. "The year-to-year trend provides helpful preliminary insight, but there is still a gradual increasing trend for suicide in the military over a 10-year period, and we need to see a sustained long-term reduction in suicide rates to know if we're really making progress." The Defense Department's fourth annual "Suicide in the Military" report showed 519 service members died by suicide in 2021, down from 582 in 2020. While the active-duty rate dropped, rates for the Reserves and National Guard remained about the same last year as in 2020, according to the report. Suicide rates dropped from 2020 to 2021 in all the military services except for the Army, which remained at the same rate — about 36 deaths per 100,000 soldiers, the report showed. Foster said the Air Force dropped in suicides last year from almost 25 deaths per 100,000 airmen to about 15 suicides per 100,000 airmen. The Marine Corps' rate dropped from almost 35 suicides per 100,000 troops to about 24 deaths per 100,000 troops. The Navy's dropped 19 to about 17 suicides per 100,000 sailors.

**The VA Secretary looks for Progress on Veterans Suicide, Homelessness soon:** Veterans Affairs Secretary Denis McDonough said he expects to see significant progress soon in efforts to reduce homelessness and suicide among veterans, despite the complexity and long-term challenges of both issues. In a wide-ranging interview with Military Times just before Veterans Day, McDonough said department leaders are pleased with recent progress on both issues, two of the top policy focus areas for VA staff over the last decade. But he also noted that the recent improvements are not enough, and veterans cannot wait decades for the problems to be resolved. In September, VA researchers announced that the number of veterans suicides in America fell to fewer than 17 a day in 2020, the lowest rate since 2016. The total number of veterans who took their own life was down nearly 10% from 2018 to 2020, a decrease which they attributed to more mental health resources and intervention programs for veterans. For both suicide prevention and housing assistance, McDonough said the key is to "shorten that period from distress to care" for veterans. That means more contact with veterans before they reach a crisis point, and more emergency resources to help them in times of distress. "On suicide, there's just no question that we have to get to zero," McDonough said. "So this will be our number one clinical priority until it's zero," he added. "We're not going to rest on this. And you see the kind of progress we're making. I think we can accelerate that progress."

**The battlefield selects its own Generals. No school or board can replace it.**

## **New life insurance program for disabled vets to launch in January:**



A new Veterans Affairs program, available starting in early 2023, will provide guaranteed access to life insurance policies for disabled veterans. The move opens up basic coverage for a population of roughly 4 million individuals who in the past have struggled to qualify for life insurance plans because of their injuries and illnesses. VA officials said the new program will be open to any disabled veterans age 80 and under with no disqualifications for medical reasons. “This is going to create more access to life insurance than ever before,” said Dan Keenaghan, executive director of the Veterans Benefits Administration’s Insurance Service. “And we are really, really excited about getting our veterans all the benefits that they’ve earned.” VA currently operates the Service-Disabled Veterans Life Insurance program for individuals whose military injuries make eligibility for other life insurance offers difficult. But veterans must apply for that program within two years of receiving a disability rating and cannot enroll later. The new Veterans Affairs Life Insurance (VALife) program will eliminate that timeline and sunset the S-DVI program. Officials will close enrollment into the S-DVI program on Jan. 1, 2023. The changes were mandated by Congress in legislation passed last year. Veterans will be able to buy up to \$40,000 in coverage at “competitive” rates, according to Keenaghan. The program will not earn a profit, but the costs are designed to ensure the program doesn’t create new deficits for the department.

**Transferable Skills Help Veterans Find Success at Wegmans:** One of the newest businesses to take root across the U.S., Wegman’s Supermarket, has filled their staff with veterans. Organization, teamwork, leadership, high standards, and dedication to serving our community are all skills valued by Wegmans. They are also just a few of the skills that define members of the United States military and its veterans. Wegmans is proud to employ hundreds of current and former service members, who use their skills to find success here. The service members are happy to be working for a company that shares their values and appreciates their skills and backgrounds. As an indication of sharing their tribute to the veteran community, they have often provided a variety of products to foster patriotism and public service. A sample of this gesture was demonstrated on the evening of October 22, 2022 by the delivery of a gorgeously trimmed sheet cake to a gathering of veterans at the American Legion Hall where a Veterans Coffee and Community Outreach program was in session. Thank You Wegman’s.



**WOKE; A state of awareness achieved by those dumb enough to find injustice in everything except their own behavior.**

**A N AMERICAN SOLDIER:** In May of 1861, 9 year old John Lincoln “Johnny” Clem ran away from his home in Newark, Ohio, to join the Union Army, but found the Army was not interested in signing on a 9 year old boy when the commander of the 3rd Ohio Regiment told him he “wasn’t enlisting infants,” and turned him down. Clem tried the 22nd Michigan Regiment next, and its commander told him the same. Determined, Clem tagged after the regiment, acted out the role of a drummer boy, and was allowed to remain. Though still not regularly enrolled, he performed camp duties and received a soldier’s pay of \$13 a month, a sum collected and donated by the regiment’s officers. The next April, at Shiloh, Clem’s drum was smashed by an artillery round and he became a minor news item as “Johnny Shiloh, The Smallest Drummer”. A year later, at the Battle Of Chickamauga, he rode an artillery caisson to the front and wielded a musket trimmed to his size. In one of the Union retreats a Confederate officer ran after the cannon Clem rode with, and yelled, “Surrender you damned little Yankee!” Johnny shot him dead. This pluck won for Clem national attention and the name “Drummer Boy of Chickamauga.” Clem stayed with the Army through the war, served as a courier, and was wounded twice. Between Shiloh and Chickamauga he was regularly enrolled in the service, began receiving his own pay, and was soon-after promoted to the rank of Sergeant. He was only 12 years old. After the Civil War he tried to enter West Point but was turned down because of his slim education. A personal appeal to President Ulysses S. Grant, his commanding general at Shiloh, won him a 2nd Lieutenant’s appointment in the Regular Army on 18 December 1871, and in 1903 he attained the rank of Colonel and served as Assistant Quartermaster General. He retired from the Army as a Major General in 1916, having served an astounding 55 years. General Clem died in San Antonio, Texas on 13 May 1937,



**U.S. Ships seize \$100 Million of Hash, Heroin in the Gulf of Oman:** A U.S. Navy destroyer and a Coast Guard cutter operating in the Gulf of Oman seized close to \$100 million worth of hashish and heroin from two separate vessels according to statements from U.S. Naval Forces Central Command. The destroyer Delbert D. Black intercepted a fishing vessel that was transporting \$10 million worth of hashish in international waters, according to the statement. The destroyer is supporting operations in U.S. 5th Fleet and began patrolling waters in the Middle East. “This seizure is a testament to the professionalism and determination of the ‘Trailblazer’ team,” Cmdr. Mark Gallagher, commanding officer of Delbert D. Black, said in the statement. “I’m proud of our commitment to regional security and countering illicit activity on the high seas across the Middle East region.” Black’s seizure came just a day after U.S. Coast Guard cutter Charles Moulthroppe intercepted more than 2,000 kilograms of heroin recently. According to NAVCENT, the Charles Moulthroppe was operating as a part of the Combined Maritime Forces, the largest multinational naval partnership. According to NAVCENT, the heroin was worth more than \$85 million. Over the course of the year, CMF has intercepted 13 vessels, resulting in more than \$300 million worth of heroin, hashish and amphetamines.



**Black Veterans earn more than Civilian Peers, but not as much as Whites:** Black veterans typically have higher incomes than peers who never served in the military, but the advantage still isn't enough to help them catch up financially with white Americans, according to a new analysis from the Rand Corp. recently released. “Military service is associated with a number of quality-of-life benefits for Black Americans, but it remains striking that Black Americans still do worse than white Americans across many outcomes we examined,” said Stephanie Brooks Holliday, a senior behavioral scientist at Rand and an author of the report. In past decades, the report authors noted, the percentage of Black enlisted accessions into the military has exceeded the percentage of civilian Black Americans in the U.S. population. However, officials at Rand said little research exists on the impact of military service on minority groups' quality of life. Using census data, they found that Black veterans averaged more than \$50,000 in annual income, compared to less than \$40,000 for Black Americans who never served. That held true for both men and women. Military service for white men in America had the opposite effect, decreasing their average annual income from about \$80,000 for nonveterans to around \$70,000 for veterans.

**If Supreme Court ends Affirmative Action, how will the Military Adapt?** The Supreme Court will hear a pair of cases that many legal experts expect will overturn the legal basis for affirmative action and, perhaps, upend how the military chooses its officers. The Army, Navy and Air Force academies practice affirmative action — the policy of using race as a factor in admissions — to boost diversity, as do many colleges and universities that offer ROTC programs. The two cases before the court could change that, challenging Harvard College and University of North Carolina admissions practices as racially discriminatory and asking for a legal ban on affirmative action. The petitioners, anti-affirmative-action organization Students for Fair Admissions, allege that Harvard discriminates against Asian American applicants in favor of other minority candidates. As part of its evidence, Students for Fair Admissions points to lower acceptance rates for Asian American applicants than for non-Asian Americans. If the group prevails and affirmative action is found unlawful, the result could be less diversity in ROTC programs at private and public institutions alike, defenders of affirmative action have argued. In the University of North Carolina case — which could apply to the service academies — Students for Fair Admissions maintains that it is unconstitutional for any public school to use race in its decisions. Dozens of former flag officers and the top Pentagon lawyer already have started raising concerns that a less racially diverse officer corps would reduce military effectiveness. At the same time, hundreds of veterans have argued in a separate legal filing that affirmative action itself hampers the services' effectiveness. But a ban on affirmative action would more or less render military leaders' beliefs about the policy irrelevant: The military will simply have to adapt. In interviews with Military Times, legal experts and former military leaders have pointed to ways the service academies might respond to a ban on affirmative action — including ramping up recruitment of minority applicants, prioritizing class rank or seeking a national-security exemption.

**No society ever thrived because it had a large and growing class of parasites living off those who produce.**

**Thomas Sowell**

**Ex-Army Reservist Convicted of Illegally acting as Chinese Agent:** Four years after he was arrested on suspicion of spying, a former U.S. Army reservist has been convicted by a federal jury for acting as an illegal agent on behalf of the People's Republic of China. Ji Chaoqun, 31, was found guilty at the conclusion of a two-week trial that followed a joint investigation by the FBI and the Army's 902nd Military Intelligence Group, the Justice Department announced recently. Once a graduate student in Chicago, Ji enlisted in the U.S. Army Reserves in 2016 under the parameters of the Military Accessions Vital to the National Interest program, which extends enlistment opportunities to select legal aliens who possess skills pertinent to national security. Ji stated he had no affiliation with any foreign government during the enlistment process and in at least one subsequent discussion with a U.S. service member. While serving the Army, Ji acted as an agent reporting directly to high-ranking intelligence officers in China's Ministry of State Security, according to evidence presented in the case and a criminal complaint. Ji was tasked with providing his superiors with biographical information on prospective recruits who could be of value to China's Jiangsu Province Ministry of State Security, a regional foreign intelligence arm of the national intelligence apparatus headquartered in Nanjing, China. Charges of acting as an illegal agent carry a maximum prison sentence of 10 years. Conspiracy and false statement offenses are punishable by a sentence of up to five years. A sentencing date has not yet been set.

**Sergeant Major of the Army to Leaders:** Stop using behavioral health as a universal band-aid for problems: Sergeant Major of the Army Michael Grinston urged leaders last week to stop using behavioral health appointments as a band-aid for any problem their soldiers might be having. During a forum with Army families at the Association of the U.S. Army's annual conference in Washington, D.C. alongside Army Secretary Christine Wormuth and Chief of Staff Gen. James McConville, Grinston said he recently sought out behavioral health for himself after a “tough summer.” “It's okay to seek help if you need help,” Grinston said. “But I do want to caution you that that is not the panacea for all your problems.” “Maybe seek behavioral health, maybe you can talk to a chaplain,” he continued “I think when we use all the resources that we have, I think we're all going to be in a better mental state. We can't just use only one resource.” Grinston brought up the issue of behavioral health appointments again in a conversation with noncommissioned officers on the same day, during which he said Army leaders are looking at implementing “annual wellness checks.” The Army needs to “improve our utilization of our Army wellness centers,” Grinston said, and part of that will require leaders to engage with their soldiers to determine what resources could actually help them. What the Army doesn't want to do, he said, is require everyone to have a behavioral health appointment and end up taking appointment slots away from those who might actually need them, a challenge that's particularly important to avoid when the Army is already facing a shortage of mental health providers. Behavioral health staffs are “already overworked,” Grinston told reporters so the Army “can't just say everybody, even if you don't need behavioral health, you're going to behavioral health. That will not be productive.”

**The fact that there's a highway to hell and a stairway to Heaven says a lot about anticipated traffic numbers.**

**1st U. S. Infantry Regiment Association, Project Status, as of November 22, 2022**

1. Before going into the status of the 1<sup>st</sup> RGT Project, lets review some of the motions on the project from the 27 August 2022 Annual Membership meeting.
2. The 1<sup>st</sup> INF RGT slides were shown to all in attendance. Discussion surrounded the specified motions that were displayed. These included:
  - a. THAT THE 2<sup>ND</sup> BN 1<sup>ST</sup> INF ASSOCIATION TAKE UP THE PROJECT TO ESTALISH THE 1<sup>ST</sup> U.S. INFANTRY REGIMENT ASSOCIATION TO ULTIMATELY PLAN FOR, DESIGN, AND EMPLACE A MEMORIAL AT THE NATIONAL INFANTRY MUSEUM WALK OF HONOR, FT BENNING GA.  
**Discussed and APPROVED by membership.**
  - b. THAT THE 2<sup>ND</sup> BN 1<sup>ST</sup> INF ASSOC OFFICERS ASSUME THE 1<sup>ST</sup> U.S. INF REGT ASSOC POSITIONS FOR THE FIRST YEAR.  
**Discussed and APPROVED as Interim Officers by membership.**
  - c. THAT THE 2<sup>ND</sup> BN 1<sup>ST</sup> INF ASSOC COMMIT UP TO \$1,000.00 OF ITS TREASURY TO PROVIDE FOR THE REGIMENTAL WEBSITE/DOMAIN, EIN, OTHER ELEMENTS RELATED TO ESTABLISHING THE ORGANIZATION.  
**Discussed and APPROVED by membership.**
  - d. THAT THE 2<sup>ND</sup> BN 1<sup>ST</sup> INF ASSOC IMPLEMENT ACTIONS TO INVOLVE ALL VETERAN MEMBERS OF ALL BATTALIONS THAT HAVE OR ARE SERVING.  
**Discussed and APPROVED by membership.**
3. The following attendees signed up to help on the Regimental Project: Spencer Baba, Edward Bennis, Young Ruff, Rich Renaldo, Tome Ellis, and John Woyansky.
4. Actions taken since 27 August.
  - a. Contacted our **website** managers WEGOTYOURBACK LLC and discussed building a 1<sup>st</sup> US INF RGT ASSOC site (Under Construction) with link to our current site. No progress yet.
  - b. Contacted the **Americal Legacy Foundation (ALF)** for possible funding of initial steps of the project. Discusses with Roger Gilmore, ALF, to provide a means to collect funds for the project under their auspices. Talked with Spencer Baba, 2-1 member and ADVA/ALF financial supporter as well.
    - i. Donations to **ALF, FOR 1stUSINFREGT Project**
    - ii. Sent to: Roger Gilmore, P.O. Box 830662, Richardson, TX 75080
    - iii. Spencer Baba will also keep track of this special account and project.
  - c. Contacted the US Army National Infantry Museum (**NIM**) to find the coordinator for memorials on the *Walk of Honor* behind the museum.
    - i. Contacted 1SG (RET) Michaela Tyndel, Manager of Unit and Family Relations, NIM, around 14 Sept 2022.
    - ii. 1SG Tyndell was able to determine that there were three available plots for a monument near the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> Regiment memorials in late Sept 2022.
    - iii. Currently there are at least three plots for the size of a regimental memorial available.

**1st U. S. Infantry Regiment Association, Project Status, as of November 22, 2022**

- iv. 1SG Tyndell provided on late OCT 2022 the NIM *Monument Placement Policy*. The “Policy” specifies an 18-month timeline
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