
Buffalo Soldiers Research Museum Newsletter

April 2013

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***The Greater New Orleans Area Chapter #22 presents
The 9th and 10th (Horse) Cavalry Association 147th Anniversary Reunion
July 22-28, 2013***

The Greater New Orleans Chapter of Buffalo Soldiers will host the 147th anniversary reunion at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in downtown New Orleans. They are planning to share their culture, traditions, history, and hospitality. The details include –

Schedule of Events -

Monday, July 22	3-6 pm	registration
	8-11 pm	hospitality suite
Tuesday, July 23	8-5	executive board meeting
	9-noon	ladies auxiliary executive board meeting
	9-5	registration
	3-5 pm	media day
	8-11 pm	hospitality suite
Wednesday, July 24	9-5	registration
	9-noon	chapter residents meeting
	9-noon	ladies auxiliary general membership meeting
	1-4 pm	Jackson Barracks dedication ceremony
	8-11 pm	hospitality suite
Thursday, July 25	8-12:30	general membership meeting
	9-1	registration
	1-3 pm	welcome luncheon (tickets required)
	5-7 pm	church service
	8-11 pm	hospitality suite
Friday, July 26	9-noon	registration
	9-5	WWII museum tour
	7-11 pm	Zulu Mardi Gras night (Zulu Lounge)
	8-11 pm	hospitality suite
Saturday, July 27	7-9 am	prayer breakfast
	10-1	historical presentation
	6-7 pm	cocktail hour
	7-10 pm	banquet (ticket required)

Speaker - Dr. Norman C. Francis, President of Xavier University

Hotel information -

Hyatt Regency Hotel
601 Loyola Ave.
New Orleans, LA 70113
888.421.1442

Make your reservations early - no later than **June 21, 2013**. Inform the hotel that you are a "2013 Buffalo Soldier Reunion" attendee. Check in at 3:00 pm and check out at noon. All rooms are non-smoking. The hotel does not have airport pick-up.

Room rates -

Single or Double	\$99.99
Triple or Quadruple	\$109.00

Registration information -

Associate Member	\$40.00
Spouse/Guest	\$35.00
Non-Association Member	\$50.00
Non-Association Spouse/Guest	\$50.00

If you have questions, contact -

Trooper Milton Wiltz, President	504.329.9240	mjwiltz@yahoo.com
Trooper Clarence A. Becknell, Sr., Vice President	504.615.8655	Clarence.becknell@us.army.mil
Trooper William Giles, Recording Secretary and Co-chair of souvenir book	504.228.7642	wgproduction@cox.net
Trooper Melvin McElwee, Co-chair of souvenir book	504.351.2816	mcelweebro@att.net

Deadline date -

Return all registration information, contact information for medical emergencies, and check/money order no later than June 1, 2013.

Send to -

2013 Buffalo Soldiers Reunion
Greater New Orleans Chapter #22
Attention: Registration Committee
P.O. Box 13868-3868
New Orleans, LA 70185-3868

<https://reweb.passkey.com/go/buffalosoldiers>

Photos from the 9th and 10th (Horse) Cavalry Reunions Past...

We attended several 9th and 10th (Horse) Cavalry Association Reunions in Portland, OR, Kansas City, KS and Tampa, FL.

Members of the Portland chapter led a parade with their horses. We visited the grave of a Buffalo Soldier and held a memorial ceremony. The theme was "Down by the River" and it was the start of our reunion adventures.



In Kansas City, we met Trooper Fred Jones from Los Angeles, CA (pictured to the left). Jones was instrumental in helping us get the chapter started in Cincinnati. He served with the members from the Heartland chapter and was proud that they got involved with the national organization

In the late 1990's, Jones visited his friends in Cincinnati when we held a celebration with Vision Quest. Members of Vision Quest marched in a parade with many soldiers on horseback.

We also met Trooper William Waddell (pictured at right with George Hicks). Waddell was the speaker at the luncheon in Kansas City and he described his life as a Buffalo Soldier and a veterinarian who worked with horses. He published several books. We have two of them – *People are the Funniest Animals* published in 1978 and *Some Bastardly People...* published in 1995.



We ordered a used copy of the book *People are the Funniest Animals* from amazon.com and was delighted that it has a treasured note in the front. It says –

To Carla and Monique -

As you grow in age – you must grow in grace. Remember the world owes you nothing. You must earn everything. Be a role model – God Bless

Wm. H. Waddell

Buffalo Soldier

When you go home – tell them of us. Say that for your tomorrow – we gave our today.

When we attended the 2005 reunion in Tampa, we made an effort to interview as many WWII soldiers as possible. Here are a few stories...

Trooper Ernest H. Collier, 9th US Horse Cavalry, was stationed at Fort Clark, Texas and Camp Lockett, California. His grandfather was a Buffalo Soldier. He was a member of the San Diego Chapter.



Trooper Henry Washington was born in Culpepper, Virginia and went to Camp/Fort Lee, Virginia near Petersburg, Virginia. He worked with horses on post for an Army Colonel. Later the same Colonel helped his get into the horse cavalry. He was sent into the desert on horseback. He saw a snake and fell off his horse and stayed in the desert for 4 days. He spent 4 months in the hospital. At the time of our meeting, he had 7 boys, 1 girl and 15 grandchildren.

Trooper Turl Covington, 10th Cavalry Troop A.
Fort Riley, KS - 1941

Trooper Covington played the bugle in the band and was a company clerk. He was born in St. Louis, MO on April 12, 1916. His grandson was there with him at the reunion. Covington was one of the founding members who started the 9th and 10th (Horse) Cavalry association in 1966.



We had a grand time!

Many of these soldiers are no longer with us but their stories must be saved for future generations.

Military Headstone is Added to Grave of Buffalo Soldier



Honored, At Last Ambrose Skinner, Buffalo Soldier

Arizona Secretary of State, Ken Bennett stands with Ambrose Skinner's great granddaughter, Diana McClinnon at the dedication ceremony.

Ambrose Skinner was born in North Carolina and enlisted in the all-black infantry in 1863. He fought in the Civil War and ended up in Louisiana where he joined the Buffalo Soldiers. From there, he was stationed at Fort Quitman, TX until 1874. There are no government records for Skinner for the next 15 years until he applied for a military pension. He was denied.

Skinner married a woman of Mexican descent and the couple had four children in Phoenix. He was eventually granted a military pension but his life was hard. One of his sons committed suicide and one daughter died attempting an abortion.

Ambrose Skinner died in 1922 and was buried in an unmarked grave in Greenwood Memory Lawn, Phoenix, AZ. The Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War secured a military headstone from the US Department of Veterans Affairs. On Saturday, February 2, 2013, about 60 people gathered around Skinner's grave to pay a tribute for his military service. The ceremony ended with a three-gun salute.

Thanks to Parthenia Weaver for this contribution.

For more information about the Buffalo Soldiers and other
African American soldiers, contact

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