

BY-LAWS

509TH PARACHUTE INFANTRY ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE I Name; Aims & Purposes; Newsletter.

Section 1 Name:

The name of the organization shall be 509TH PARACHUTE INFANTRY ASSOCIATION and is organized under the provisions of PARAGRAPH (g) OF THE ARTICLE EIGHT of the ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION of the 509TH PARACHUTE INFANTRY ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION, INCORPORATED, filed in the State of Maryland on June 7, 1982.

Section 2 Aims & Purposes:

- A. To establish a permanent organization that will further develop the common bond existing between all who have served with the 509th Parachute Infantry Battalion and all units organized by the Army under the lineage of the 509th Parachute Infantry Regiment.
- B. To maintain records and publish the history and achievements of the 509th Parachute Infantry Battalion and all units formed by the Army following the lineage of the 509th PIB.
- C. To maintain a close relationship with the families of deceased 509th Parachute Infantry.
- D. To perpetuate the memory of the members of the 509th Parachute Infantry who have died in the service of their Country.
- E. To maintain contact with all members of the 509th Parachute Infantry who have become disabled in the service of their Country.
- F. To be of assistance and service in matters pertaining to Veterans= benefits.
- G. To encourage the Airborne aspect of national defense.

- H. To maintain close liaison with the active units of the 509th Parachute Infantry Regiment. To recognize, by appropriate presentations, the Noncommissioned Officers and Troopers-of-the-Year of the Battalions.
- I. To provide administrative and financial support to the memorials and museums honoring 509th Parachute Infantry in order to assist in maintaining the history and artifacts of the 509th Parachute Infantry.

Section 3 Newsletter:

- A. To carry out these aims and purposes, the Association shall publish a newsletter, with the goal of a quarterly publication.
- B. The Editor of the newsletter shall be appointed by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE II Membership.

Section 1 Classes and Qualifications:

Membership in the Association shall consist of six (6) classes, as follows: Charter Members, Regular Members, Associate Members, Legacy, Active Duty Members and Honorary Members.

CHARTER MEMBERS: Charter Members shall consist of all officers and enlisted persons assigned to the 504th Parachute Infantry Battalion, the 2nd Battalion 503rd Parachute Infantry Regiment (from February 24, 1942 through November 2, 1942) the 2nd Battalion 509th Parachute Infantry Regiment and/or the 509th Parachute Infantry Battalion, between October 4, 1941 and March 1945. Charter members shall also be life members, no dues being necessary to continue their membership in the Association.

REGULAR MEMBERS: Any officer or enlisted person, who has been assigned or attached to, and honorably served with, the 509th Parachute Infantry by whatever designation and whatever location since 1963, under competent orders, shall be eligible for membership in the Association. An applicant for membership shall first file with the designated representative of the Association, an application for membership on such forms as shall, from time to time, be prescribed, accompanied by payment in full of the then current dues. No applicant, having made proper application and possessing the foregoing qualifications shall be denied membership in the Association providing, however, that the Executive Committee may, in its discretion, refuse membership to any applicant who, at any time during or since their service, has been guilty of any conduct unbecoming a member of the 509th Parachute Infantry.

LEGACY MEMBERS: The widows and children of deceased Charter and Regular Members of the 509th Parachute Infantry.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS: Any family member of a deceased Charter and Regular Member of the 509th, other than Legacy Members, or any other individual who supports the

aims and purposes of the Association may become a member of the Association with approval of the Executive Committee.

ACTIVE DUTY MEMBERS: Any soldier currently serving in the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps or Coast Guard who is or has been assigned to a properly constituted unit of the U.S. Army organized under the heraldry and lineage of the 509th Parachute Infantry Association.

HONORARY MEMBERS: Any person, whose life and activities has fostered the ideals of the 509th Parachute Infantry to the general public or whose service to the Association has been exemplary, may be elected an HONORARY MEMBER of the Association by majority vote of the Executive Committee. Any member of the Association may propose a candidate for Honorary Membership by written recommendation to the Executive Committee, outlining detailed qualifications of the candidate. Each such recommendation shall be certified to any member of the Executive Committee not less than sixty (60) days prior to the annual meeting of the General Membership. Any Honorary Membership may be withdrawn by a majority vote of the Association at a duly-constituted General Membership Meeting.

Section 2 Voting Privileges:

Any Members of the Association, as defined above, shall be entitled to one vote, in person, on each matter submitted to the vote of the membership.

Section 3 Termination of Membership:

The name of any member may be stricken from the roll of members: (1) upon written resignation of a member, accepted by the Executive Committee, (2) upon direction of the Executive Committee, based upon any reason which would warrant refusal of membership to a new applicant, or (3) the Executive Committee, by affirmative vote of four-fifths of the officers, may suspend or expel a member for cause after an appropriate hearing by the Executive Committee held prior to the General Membership Meeting. Notice of proposed termination, with supporting documents, must be served on such member at least sixty days in advance of the hearing, by certified mail.

Section 4 Dues:

Regular dues are as follows:

- A. Charter Members-\$20.00 per year;
- B. Regular Members-\$25.00 per year;
- C. Legacy Members-\$20.00 per year;
- D. Associate Members-\$25.00 per year.
- E. Active Duty Members-\$25.00 for as long as the individual is on active duty.

Dues for all members may be increased to such amount as shall from time to time be fixed by the Executive Committee; except that all Honorary Members are exempt from paying dues.

ARTICLE III Management and Finance.

Section 1 Management:

The business and affairs of the Association shall be managed by the Executive Committee. The President handling all issues requiring immediate attention and shall notify the other members of the Committee at the earliest practicable date.

Section 2 Bills, Obligations, Accounts and Investments:

All bills or obligations of the Association shall be paid by the Treasurer of the Association.

Section 4 Loans:

No monies shall be borrowed or loaned by the Association nor shall any notes be given by the Association unless authorized by vote of the Executive Committee in regular authorized session.

Section 5 Dissolution Statement:

In event of the dissolution of the 509th Parachute Infantry Association, Inc., the Executive Committee will determine the disposition of all assets of that Association.

Section 8 Interpretation:

Nothing in these By-Laws shall be construed to modify or alter the express direction of this Article.

ARTICLE IV Officers.

Section 1 Number:

The officers of the Association shall be a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Membership Secretary, a Historian, a Newsletter Editor and a Board of Trustees. These officers, hereinafter named, shall comprise the Executive Committee. Only a veteran who had been assigned to a unit whose lineage falls directly under the 509th Parachute Infantry Regiment shall serve as President and Vice President. Nothing in this Article shall be construed to limit any one person from holding more than one office, except that the President, Vice President and Treasurer shall not hold any other office.

Section 2 Election and Terms of Office:

The officers of the Association, except for the Historian, shall be elected annually by the Association members present at the annual General Membership Meeting. The Historian shall be appointed by the President, such appointment being subject to the approval of the full Executive Committee.

Section 3 Removal:

Any officer or agent may be removed by the Executive Committee or the members of the Association at the General Membership Meeting whenever, in their judgment, the best interests of the Association would be served thereby.

Section 4 Vacancies:

Any vacancy shall be filled by the President for the unexpired portion of the term.

Section 5 President:

The President shall be the principal executive officer of the Association and shall, in general, supervise and control all of the business and affairs of the Association. The President shall also preside at all meetings.

Section 6 Vice Presidents:

The members of the Association may choose to have up to two Vice Presidents. In the absence of the President, or in the event the President's refusal to act, the Vice President shall perform the duties of the President until such time as the Executive Committee can appoint someone to fill the position until a successor the next General Membership Meeting, at which time a successor can be elected.

Section 7 Secretary:

- a. The Secretary shall be responsible for and keep minutes of all meetings of the Association and of the Executive Committee;
- b. The Secretary shall perform such other duties as may be directed by the President or the Board of Directors.

Section 8 Treasurer:

- a. The Treasurer shall have charge of and be responsible for all funds and securities of the Association; receive and give receipts for monies due and payable to the Association from any sources whatsoever, and deposit all such monies in the name of the Association in such banks, trust companies or other depositories as shall be designated from time to time by the Executive Committee.

- b. The Treasurer shall be required to submit quarterly reports to the Executive Committee detailing the income and expenses of the Association for the previous quarter.
- c. The Treasurer shall be required to submit annual reports to the Association at the General Membership Meeting detailing the income and expenses of the Association for the previous year.
- d. Upon request the Treasurer shall provide a copy of the annual report to any member unable to attend the General Membership Meeting. The Treasurer shall submit a summary of the annual report for publication in the first newsletter published following the General Membership Meeting.
- e. The Treasurer perform all duties as from time to time may be assigned to the Treasurer by the President or the Executive Committee.

Section 9 Membership Secretary

- a. The Membership Secretary shall maintain a roster of active members and the official roster for Association mailings. He shall be responsible for membership cards for all members and transmitting those cards and one Association decal for each member. At the General Membership meeting he shall be responsible for insuring that only dues paying members are allowed to vote.

Section 10 Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees shall consist of no more than five veteran members and should include one member from each active unit of the 509th PIR when possible.

Section 10 Historian:

A Historian shall be appointed by the President of the Association and approved by the Executive Committee. The justification for appointment shall be based on the individual qualifications of the appointee (noted author, historian, researcher, etc.). The Historian shall sit with the Executive Committee, without vote, and apprise the Officers on those pertinent matters concerning the unit and Association=s history.

Section 11 Newsletter Editor:

A Newsletter Editor shall be appointed by the Executive Committee for an unspecified term and shall sit with the Executive Committee, without vote.

Section 12 Compensation:

No compensation shall be authorized any Officer other than in payment of reasonable compensation for services rendered.

Section 13 Emergencies:

The Executive Committee shall have the power to act in all emergencies, and shall give the members notification of any such action at the earliest possible occasion.

ARTICLE V Elections.

Section 1 Qualifications:

An Officer must be a voting member of the Association.

Section 4 Nominations:

The members of each veteran chapter may nominate candidates at each. Each such nomination shall be certified to the President by the Chapter Chairperson not less than thirty 30 days prior to the election date, via registered or certified mail, and shall include a descriptive paragraph of the nominee to include not only past qualifications, but also include a statement as to what the nominee proposed to do for the good of the Association, if elected.

Section 5 Elections:

At a meeting of the members of the Association, nominations for Officers will be accepted and introduced. Individuals nominated for any office should be, but is not required to be, present at the General Membership Meeting when such election takes place.

Section 6 Vacancies:

Any vacancy shall be filled by the President for the unexpired portion of any term.

ARTICLE VI MEETINGS.

Section 1 Meeting of Members:

Meetings of members of the Association may be called at any time by the Executive Committee. Voting at meetings of members shall be by individuals who are present and voting members of the Association.

Section 3 Meeting of Executive Committee:

A regular meeting of the Executive Committee shall be held, without other notice than this By-Laws, on any or all day(s) of the annual reunion at the location of the annual reunion. Special meeting of the Executive Committee may be called by or at the request of the President or any three (3) Officers.

Section 4 Place of Meetings:

Meetings of members and meetings of Officers may be held anywhere in the continental limits of the United States provided at least ten (10) days notice is given. Notice as to Officers meetings may be waived by consent of all of the Officers.

Section 5 Quorum:

At meetings of members, the voting members present in person at duly scheduled business meetings shall constitute a quorum. At meetings of the Executive Committee a majority of Committee members shall constitute a quorum. The quorum of the Executive Committee shall not be affected at any time by the absence of any or all of the active unit Trustees.

Section 6 Order of Business:

The order of business at all meetings of the Board of Directors shall be as follows:

Roll Call.

Reading of the minutes of the preceding meeting and action thereupon.

Reports of Officers.

Reports of Committees.

Unfinished Business.

Miscellaneous Business.

New Business.

ARTICLE VII FISCAL YEAR.

The fiscal year of the Association shall begin on the first day of January in each year and end on the thirty-first day of December in each year.

ARTICLE VIII ANNUAL REUNION.

The reunion site for succeeding years shall be awarded based upon a voice vote of members in good standing present at the General Membership Meeting of the Association or by absentee ballot as outlined below:

- a. A letter by the member with that member's top three choices will be submitted to the Association's Membership Secretary no later than one week prior to the beginning of the annual Reunion;
- b. In lieu of a mailed ballot an e-mail may be sent to the Membership with the top three choices of that member no later than one week prior to the beginning of the annual Reunion;

- c. Copies of all absentee ballots will be brought to the Reunion and all those voting will be verified as members in good standing by the Membership Secretary and the President;
- d. The votes shall then be tallied prior to the meeting by the Association's Board of Trustees;
- e. Those members in attendance will then be polled. The votes of absentee ballots and those at the reunion will be combined to determine the top three choices of reunion locations.

The Association shall, when practicable, determine the site of the reunion at least two years in advance.

ARTICLE IX AMENDMENTS.

These By-Laws may be amended or replaced and new By-Laws may be adopted at any General Membership Meeting of the Association, by a two-thirds vote of those present at the meeting. No action can be taken to amend these By-Laws unless:

Proposed amendments have been mailed or delivered to the President at least sixty (60) days prior to the meeting.

The Executive Committee will then put such amendments into proper wording or phraseology.

The proposed amendments will then be published in the Association newsletter prior to the General Membership Meeting at which it will be voted on.

ARTICLE X RULES OF ORDER.

Except where herein provided for, Roberts Rules of Order will prevail.

NOTE: The titles of Articles and Sections in these By-Laws is for identification only and should not be used in interpretation or application of these By-Laws.