

Post 1982 Commander Chris Buchanan

Greetings fellow Legionnaires,

I wanted to take a few minutes and highlight some of the successes and one of our members from David Chavez Post GR1982 in Ansbach, Germany. We have grown our membership from 92 in 2012 to 101 currently in 2013. We are building on our Past Commander, Johnnie Walkers successes and have been busy supporting the community. On April 19th we joined the Ansbach community in completing the Wall of Heroes, a memorial dedicated to the fallen Soldiers of Ansbach.



Later that day COL. Kelley Lawler the USAG Ansbach Commander recognized our oldest member Paul Parent (93) at the Holocaust Remembrance Ceremony with a certificate of appreciation. I was able to present Paul with the NCO Creed from CSM Leeford Cain, Garrison CSM, who was unable to attend the ceremony. SFC (Retired) Paul Parent joined the Canadian Army in 1939. Paul became a member of the Cambron Highlanders of Canada, where part of their uniform was to wear a kilt. In 1940, Paul's unit was sent to Reykjavik, Iceland to act as a defensive force against the German 5th Columnists who were attempting to enter Iceland. After 11 and a half months on duty, his unit was replaced by U.S. forces, and his unit was sent to Aldershot, England where they went through rigorous training in preparation of war. In 1942, Paul's unit participated in the "Diepe Raid" where they suffered heavy losses and moved on to participate in the Italian Campaign Invasion of 1943. Perhaps the most infamous invasion during the war was "D" Day in 1944, where Paul was on the 2nd wave, left flank at Juno Beach, Normandy, and can remember his Lieutenant on the boat telling everyone on board, "You better get off this boat, or I'll shoot you myself." At the end of the war, Paul decided to leave the Canadian Army, and in 1950 enlisted in the United States Army. Paul retired from the U.S. Army in 1970, and is now currently residing here in our community of Ansbach.



On 5 May 2013, Post 1982 gave out 12 JROTC medals during a promotion ceremony at the Ansbach Middle/High School and attended the JROTC change of command on 23 May. Also in May, Post 1982 held their first night of bingo. The bingo party was a 10 on the fun scale and almost all participants won a prize. May 29, 2013, Dick Miller 1st VC and Ken Aungst 2nd VC participated in the 12th Combat Aviation Brigade and USAG Ansbach Memorial Day Dedication Ceremony where an engraved stone was dedicated to CW5 John Pratt and CPT John "Jay" Brainard; two



deceased pilots who were killed last year in combat operations in Afghanistan.

At our May meeting NECman John Miller swore in our new post officers. I am honored to be elected the new Commander and look forward to learning from my fellow and past commanders. The year ahead should be a fast and fun filled time. If you would like to keep up to date with Post 1982 "Like" us on Facebook; just search, "American Legion Ansbach Post 1982". We are growing in numbers and activities and look forward to supporting the Department of France.



Chris Buchanan, Post GR1982

Commander

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