

Robert opened the 1 April 2023 ENCOM Association meeting @ 0901 hrs. (9:01 am) with the Roll Call of Officers. Robert reported all Officers are either present or accounted for.

Roll Call of Officers

President	(COL-Ret)	Robert Chevas	Present
President (Elect)	(COL-Ret)	Eric Larson	Present
Vice President of Membership	(CSM-Ret)	Knute Weick	Absent
Treasurer	(LTC-Ret)	Edgar Montalvo	Present
Secretary	(SGT-Ret)	Chip Wood	Present

## Directors At Large

Appointed by the President and serve a two-year term concurrent to the Association Board.

Position	Rank	Name	Contact
Director at Large (Senior) (P09-11)	MG (R)	Robert Heine	<a href="#">email a board member</a>
Director at Large (Programs & Events) (P13-15)	COL (R)	John Gessner	<a href="#">email a board member</a>
Director at Large (Eastern Chapter)	COL (R)	Lee Pryor	<a href="#">email a board member</a>
Director at Large (Eastern Chapter)	SGM (R)	Michele Marsden	<a href="#">email a board member</a>
Director at Large	COL (R)	Gerald Meyer	<a href="#">email a board member</a>
Director at Large (Newsletter)	LTC (R)	Robert Mittelstaedt	<a href="#">email a board member</a>
Director at Large (Historian & Death Notices)	CH (COL)	Robert Carter	<a href="#">email a board member</a>
Director at Large (VP Membership Assistant)	CSM (R)	Ed Evans	<a href="#">email a board member</a>
Director at Large (Co-Treasurer/501c focused)	COL (R)	Ken Yoshitani	<a href="#">email a board member</a>
Web Master (non-voting position)	Mr.	Shaun Murphy	<a href="#">email a board member</a>

The first order of business was the approval of the minutes of the meeting held last month. Robert commented that Chip did a good job. Only 1 correction needed, the next month's meeting should have said 1 April instead of 6 May that's all. Any other comments? Do I hear a motion to approve the

minutes? Eric Larson- I propose a motion to approve the minutes as published. Lee Pryor seconded it the minutes are approved as published.

Robert stated - Edgar, you're next on the agenda with the financial statements. I did not see anything posted. Edgar stated that he just e-mailed them about 2 minutes ago. Edgar gave a summary for the Financials for the month of April. It all looks good. Robert commented- do I hear a motion to accept the Financials that Edgar has put together. Lee Pryor stated "So Moved" do I hear a second; Gerald and Lee seconded it. Financials statements are approved.

Robert stated that the big event next month is the Eastern Chapter event at Fort Belvoir and US Army Museum Visit 19-21 May 2023. I will turn it over to you. Lee stated that everything is pretty much finalized, we tied down the dinner location for Saturday night May 20. Edgar made the down payment for the dinner at Maggiano's. We got the box lunches tied down we are all set on this, tentatively they have given us the use of conference rooms A & B. It's on contingent of the weather; it appears that they have planned a wedding outside on that day so if the weather is inclement, they will need the conference room and that will put us in the main cafeteria. Lee stated he has another possibility, I do not have it confirmed a while back 2 of the East Coast Members Rick Dean and Louis Berman it turns out that they have been working together to improve and refresh the Korean War Memorial which is near the Vietnam Wall. Rick has offered to make a presentation during lunch which would last about 15 minutes. Lee asked if this would be a good idea to come from the committee.

Lee stated that the restaurant is confirmed. Not too far from the hotels, about a 20-minute drive. It should be easy to park, it's in a mall so parking should be easy. The lady has been very cooperative and very patient with us. I need to know if MG Highkamp is going extemporaneous from notes or if he is going to have some kind of presentation and then I must arrange for a projector and screen and maybe a laptop if necessary. Eric stated that he did not have enough time to check with MG Highkamp but will check with the General.

We have Friday evening starting at 1830; we're having an informal get together at Staybridge in the lobby. We'll have snacks and mixers for anybody that wants to join us. Dinner Friday night is on your own. Saturday morning everyone moves to the museum, so everyone meets on the steps around 0930. So, we can hand out tickets and box lunches. I have not heard any interest in going to Arlington National Cemetery. Maybe we can go together or not. I will put together the information if anyone would like to go.

"How are we doing on the hotel status Michele? The message that I got from you earlier in the week stated that we only have 3 people set for the hotel." Michele responded, she has no information yet, but she will follow up with her contact. She also stated she has no details yet. I am going to follow up with my contact to see who is at what hotel. We might have locals checking in not sure I will check with my contact at the hotel.

Here is more information from Lee that he e-mailed from Pauline Bonilla from the National Museum of the United States Army.

## Hello Lee

We are excited to welcome you for your upcoming trip to the National Museum of the United States Army, Order # **143150-126661**.

Attached in this email, you will find our policy and procedures, boxed lunch options (must be pre-ordered), and our "Recon Mission handout." (Scavenger hunt).

Tickets should now be in your email as a collective PDF. 416th ENCOM Association-25 on Saturday, May 20, 2023, at 09:00 am for 25 guests.

We are a public museum that offers a general overview of docent-led tours at 1015 and 1315 for groups of 10 people or fewer and on a first-come, first-serve basis. With our public mission, the museum is designed to allow guests to flow easily through the galleries telling the story of the U.S. Army from the Soldier's point of view. Audio tours are also available for checkout at the Welcome Desk.

- Present digital or physical copies of these tickets for Museum entry.
- To change your reservation, contact Pauline Bonilla at [Pauline.bonilla@armyhistory.org](mailto:Pauline.bonilla@armyhistory.org).
- Please make sure to read our Policies and Procedures.
- Remember to visit our Army Action Center. Information can be found here [US Army Museum - Simulator Experiences \(thenmusa.org\)](https://www.armymuseum.org)

Visit [theNMUSA.org](https://www.thenmusa.org) and check out the latest [COVID-19 information](#), [Tips for Your Visit](#), [Directions and Parking](#), and [FAQs](#). For general questions or assistance, you can also call 800.506.2672.

We look forward to seeing you and your group.

416 TEC Annual Dinner update 4 November 2023.

John Gessner states that we are locked at "The Argonne" on 4 November 2023 for the Association Dinner. Gen Heine has agreed to speak since it's the 20 Year anniversary for Operations Iraqi Freedom, we'll get him to talk to us. He also said that the 416<sup>th</sup> TEC Commander could speak MG Brian Miller. For the menu we have had in the past the executive dinner, which is basically Beef and Chicken, with all the vegetables, salads, and desserts. We can try something else, or we could go with the executive dinner. Any comments? It will be buffet-style, everyone seemed to like the menu and style. We will have the names of everyone that will attend the dinner; the cut-off day for registration for the dinner will be Wednesday, 1 Nov 23. We need to get the information to front gate security. John Gessner will get this information to them. Jim Murphy, the CXO, will pass it on to the CG and DCG that we are "A GO" for Argonne this year in November and let them know that Gen Heine will be the guest speaker gave them a verbal update 2 days ago.

New 416 ENCOM coin (Knute).

Please review this and let me know your thoughts. I have done this with all the coins I have designed. This card can go with the presentation, it would be a 3" x 5" size card printed in heavy stock and in color.

Thanks,

Knute



2.25"



- raised shiny brass metal
- recessed metal
- 357c
- 485c
- black
- white

- raised shiny brass metal
- 3D
- 357c
- 485c
- black
- white
- 286c
- 463c

BLACK SIDE

- 50 -stars one for each state
- Red for the Engineers
- Castle for the Army Corps of Engineers
- Green for the Army and Army Logo
- Official Date of the inception of the Army Engineer Branch
- Army Corps of Engineers, Sappers, Essayons, De Fleury

GOLD SIDE

- 416<sup>th</sup> ENCOM Association Castle/Logo
- 37 Engineer Map symbols around the rim for the current units assigned to the 416<sup>th</sup> TEC.
- Red / White rims, Colors of the Engineers
- Patches of the 416<sup>th</sup> TEC
- 301<sup>st</sup> MEB, 372 EN BDE, 420 EN BDE
- Presentation message from the President and board.



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IN RECOGNITION of your contributions, the 416th ENGINEER COMMAND (ENCOM) ASSOCIATION presents you with this. Association coin for your Merits and Support to our Mission and Goals.

ON BEHALF OF THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF THE 416<sup>th</sup> ENCOM IS HEREBY RECOGNIZED AS A SUPPORTER OF our Warriors. and Families.

**“Essayons”**

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Update on 416 ENCOM newsletter (Michele). Robert asked Michele that it just went out to the board members. We need to let Shaun know that it needs to be updated. We need to put it in a .PDF form and get it on the Website and e-mail to all members.

Unfinished Business for the TEC giving assistance for our soldiers.

Yesterday (2 April 2023), Chip and Robert had a good conversation with Maj Cockburn & also COL Boguslawski (the 416 TEC JAG). He explained why 416 TEC JAG does not like the grant form. The grant could be considered a gift and be over the limit for gifts for government employees (including USAR TPU). The limit is \$300. The grant amount is \$250 and a possible second \$250 putting over it the limit. This will be a onetime grant of \$250 maximum.

The information requested by finance could lead to action resulting in loss of security clearance. (Similar to when someone declares bankruptcy.) The distribution of the form could be considered endorsement from the 416 TEC.

COL Boguslawski was straight forward and said he would pass the information on to 416 TEC CXO.

There was a Major present, who initially said he could not tell the TEC objection to the grant form to us only to the CXO. Chip can correct me on this, it seemed odd. His Name was Maj Cockburn

Keith Eichorst opened the floor and stated I was with Gen Heine as his acting historian during the 2003 deployment. At the 416<sup>th</sup> TEC, there used to be a couple pieces of pipe, I was collecting artifacts to bring back from the war. The pipe was part of the oil pipeline. We had not gotten complete confirmation that the pipe we had laid was the longest amount of pipe since the Vietnam war or maybe even WWII. So, there were a couple pieces of pipe that I was able to get back from the deployment. They are probably laying around somewhere at the TEC, not sure where they may be, in a case or in a caged area. We were together from January to July 2003.

Eric Larson stated we need to be thinking about the new Officers. As President -Elect, once I take office at the November meeting, we will need to fill the other positions within the Association.

Gerry Mayer stated that CSM John S. Stanley has passed away. This information was sent to me.

It is with great sadness that I announce the death of Command Sergeant Major John Stanley Werner on 25 March 2023 at the age of 72.

He was born on September 20, 1950, to parents, Thomas & Patricia (nee; Dulinski) Werner. John was born and raised in Duluth. Foreshadowing his future military career, John would march his 4 younger brothers around his parents' yard behind a makeshift flag, making sure nobody was out of step. He met a fetching young girl, Barbara Sue Anderson, in the fourth grade. She used to beat him in a game of marbles on the playground. Little did John know then that he would marry "Barbie Sue" years later. He graduated from Duluth Central High School in 1969 where he was a football standout his senior year. After an injury ended his community college football career, John shifted his focus to another of his passions, service to his country. He enlisted in the United States Army, became a paratrooper, and served his country in the Vietnam War. Upon his return from the war, he married Barb, the love of his life, on October 14, 1972. They moved to Fort Bragg, North Carolina shortly thereafter. John recalled over the years with a laugh, "my wife thought she was in a foreign country because of the strong southern accent." John's service to his wife and country was a constant throughout his life. He continued his Military service for another 40 years. During a distinguished Army career, he was the First Sergeant of Charlie Company, 367th Engineer Battalion for 10 years. John continued impacting Soldier's lives after promotion to Command Sergeant Major (CSM). He served as the CSM for multiple battalions, notably to the ENCOM Association with the 367 and 397 EN BN's, an Area Support Group, and the 88th Regional Support Command. After a short retirement from military service, his country called him back to duty during the Global War on Terror. John helped lead the formation of the 372nd Engineer Brigade and finished an illustrious career, serving a year in Afghanistan as the CSM for the Army Corps of Engineers, Afghanistan Engineer District South in 2009-2010. CSM Werner was awarded the Legion of Merit in recognition of the thousands of Soldiers he led with distinction spanning 4 decades and 4 wars.

In civilian life, John worked as a heavy equipment mechanic at Ziegler for 36 years and was a selfless servant in his community. He was an active Boy Scout volunteer serving as Cubmaster of Pack 7 and Scoutmaster of Troop 7 from 1985-2003. John was active in the Duluth Combined Honor Guard and served on several boards and committees in the community. He was devout in his faith, a life-long parishioner of St John's Catholic Church and a member of the Knights of Columbus.

Family was extremely important to John. Barb and John raised 3 children together. John imparted strong values to them that he had learned from his father and mother including a strong work ethic, integrity, a can-do attitude, and selfless service to something greater than yourself. John continued his life of service as a Town Supervisor of Rice Lake Township. He successfully led the township through the

transition to becoming a city in 2015. That same year, John was elected the first Mayor of the City of Rice Lake, MN.

He is preceded in death by his parents, and sister-in-law, Vera Werner. John is survived by his wife of 50 years, Barb; children, Tom (Tiffany), Julianne (Ryan) Blazevic, and Andrew (Candy); grandchildren, John & Courtney, Abigail & Alyssa, Seth, Mackenzie & Kylie; siblings, Kathleen (Clifford) Bird, Roger, Richard (Judy), David (Nancy), Duane (Lorie); and many nieces, nephews, extended family, and friends.

VISITATION: Tues., April 4th from 5-7:00 p.m. with a Rosary starting at 6:30 p.m. in Dougherty Funeral Home, 600 E Second St., Duluth; and continues, Wed., April 5th from 9:30 until a Mass of Christian Burial at 11:00 a.m. in St. John's Catholic Church, 4230 St Johns Ave, Duluth, MN 55803. Interment with full Military Honors at Calvary Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to the Rice Lake Memorial Park for Veteran's.

American Legion  
c/o Duluth Honor Guard  
5814 Grand Ave  
Duluth, MN 55807

The Next Meeting is on 6 May 2023 @ 0900, so if there is no further business; do I hear a motion to adjourn? A member made a motion to adjourn; do I hear a second? All those in favor, say "aye". The motion has passed, we're adjourned.

1 April 2023 Association Meeting was adjourned at 0945 Hrs. (9:45 am)

The Next Get Together is scheduled May 20-21, 2023, at Fort Belvoir, VA