

# ***E-Ivy Leaf Newsletter***

## **National 4th Infantry (IVY) Division Association**

*Supporting Veterans, Soldiers and Friends of the 4th Infantry Division Since 1919*

WWI - WWII - Cold War - Vietnam - Iraq - Afghanistan - War on Terror

**June 6, 2026**

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### **82nd Anniversary of D-Day**



***“In the footsteps of the heroes of Utah Beach”*** The 4ID monument in the courtyard of the Utah Beach Landing Museum, Sainte-Marie-du-Mont, France, was built and is maintained by the National 4th Infantry (IVY) Division Association’s Memorial Committee.

The first Beach stormed by the Allies, led by the 4th Infantry Division on the morning of June 6, 1944, Utah Beach was chosen to establish a beachhead on the Cotentin Peninsula and take the city of Cherbourg and its deep-water port. By the end of the day, more than 23,000 American troops had landed to fight and liberate France.

Built on the very spot where the first American Troops landed, the Utah Beach D-Day Museum preserves the memory of these men today. The museum is open daily 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM. visit <https://utah-beach.com/> for more information.



**The First Command Post of 4th Infantry Division on Utah Beach, France, D-Day, June 6, 1944.** Major General Barton issues the orders for deployment of the 746th Tank Battalion. Brigadier General Teddy Roosevelt, Jr., in soft cap, waits to report on front-line battalions. BG Roosevelt earned the Medal of Honor for his actions on Utah Beach on D-Day.

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## 4ID History – June Key Events

**6 June 1944** – D-Day, the long-awaited assault on German occupied Europe was launched. The 4ID, led by 2-8 INF, led the seaborne assault, landing on Utah Beach on France's Normandy peninsula at 0630 hours. By day's end, all 4ID regiments (8th, 12th, 22nd Infantry) and most supporting troops were ashore. For his actions on D-Day, BG Teddy Roosevelt, Jr., assistant division commander, earned the Medal of Honor.

**7 June 2006** – The long hunted terrorist leader, Abu Musab Zarqawi, was killed June 7 in Diyala province, northeast of Baghdad by a precision Air Force air strike that hit Zarqawi's safe house. Troops from 3BCT of 4ID (1-68 AR) were the first on the scene to exploit the strike.

**7 June 1968** – The Medal of Honor was earned (posthumously) by PFC Phill G. McDonald, team leader with A/1-14 INF, in Vietnam.

**13-14 June 1918** – Orders were received on the evening of 13 June to place the 7th Brigade at the disposal of the 4th French Infantry Division and the remainder of the division was attached to the 164th French Infantry Division and directed to march on June 14 to an area on the Marne River. It was a step nearer to the plunge into action. Training continued with the French through the remainder of June.

**30 June 2000** – The 4ID Monument, on the road leading into Arlington National Cemetery was unveiled. Soil from all the places 4ID has served since 1917 were spread across the base of the monument where ivy now grows. It honors all past, present and future 4ID Soldiers.

*Consult your Ivy Calendar for more daily history of the Division.*

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## 4ID News



### **Four Decades of Thunder: The Paladin's Last Stand at Ivy Mass**

**FORT CARSON, COLORADO, UNITED STATES**

**Story and Photo By Sgt. Kayla Cheesman-Miles**

**4th Infantry Division Public Affairs**

**FORT CARSON, COLORADO** The 3rd Battalion, 29th Field Artillery Regiment, 4th Infantry Division Artillery, 4th Infantry Division, closed out 43 years of dedicated service by conducting its final certification as a Paladin formation during Ivy Mass, May 7, 2026, on Fort Carson, Colorado.

"3-29 FA successfully conducted the first sensor (Army Edge) to shooter (Artillery Execution Suite to M109A6 Paladin) live fire mission," said Maj. Andrew Patterson, operations officers, 3-29 FA, DIVARTY, 4th Inf. Div. "As the Pacesetters close this chapter, we enter the next, poised to increase DIVARTY's operational advantage as a Composite Field Artillery Battalion."

A composite FA battalion combines 105mm and 155mm batteries into one unit, having both light mobility and heavy-hitting precision ready to go. It gives the commander the flexibility to support fast-moving air assaults while still having the organic range to take out high-value targets.

Across multiple tours in Iraq and Afghanistan, 3-29 FA crews relied on the Paladin as their workhorse, answering relentless calls for fire with illumination and lethal indirect rounds. Beyond the battlefield, the

battalion put the guns to work training the Afghan National Army and sharpening skills alongside German and Romanian allies.

“It is fitting the battalion's last field training at Fort Carson was a merger of the past and future,” said Lt. Col. Jeffery Wollenman, battalion commander, 3-29 FA, DIVARTY, 4th Inf. Div. “The battalion participated in the division's Ivy Mass where we incorporated Next-Generation Command and Control (NGC2) and became the first Paladin battalion to shoot the new Artillery Exchange Suite.”

NGC2 is an initiative designed to replace legacy systems with a unified, data-centric ecosystem that enables commanders to integrate sensors and shooters across all domains at machine speed, ensuring decision dominance in high-intensity, contested environments.

While the echoes of the final rounds from the Paladins ring off the mountains, signaling the ending of a trusted platform for 3-29 FA, they also usher in the arrival of enhanced capabilities. The 4th Inf. Div. continues to lead the way in transformation efforts, incorporating NGC2 and preparing for more advanced systems that will ensure the Pacesetters remain at the forefront of the warfighting effort.

“The battalion showed what every artillery platform of the future holds,” Wollenman said. “The Pacesetter battalion motto rings true: ***We set the pace!***”

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## Chapter Events

### B 2/8 Chapter

The B 2/8 chapter has been actively holding annual reunions in a wide variety of venues around the U.S. for many years now, usually in late summer or early fall. **In 2026, we will be joining the National 4th Infantry Division Association reunion in Bettendorf, Iowa, where we have secured a private meeting room at the Isle Casino.** We invite any past members of B 2/8 to join us there to share their experiences with our unit. Contact me for more details, John Shaeffer, Chapter President.

### Ivy Dragoons Chapter

The Ivy Dragoons will hold a combined battalion's reunion during the National Reunion as we have for the last three years. **On Wednesday evening August 5th the Ivy Dragoons Chapter will be having a 'Chapter's Dinner' with a reception and cash bar (from 5:00 PM) for which you must pre-register using the 2026 National Reunion Registration Form.** Our attendance is increasing, and other Unit Chapter groups have joined the gathering as well and we save considerable money and travel time this way. I hope to see everyone in August in Quad Cities. Contact me for more details, 'JD' Smith, Chapter President.

### Lehigh Valley Chapter

The Lehigh Valley chapter will hold the **second annual Doug Foster Memorial Reunion on September 12 at DeSales University** (same venue as last year) from Noon – 1700 hrs. The Lehigh Valley Chapter

will provide all food and beverages. Food will be served 1300 – 1500 hrs.

We cannot finalize our plans until we know how many people will be attending. I am asking for a count of all who plan to attend. Please respond to [jokukitz@aol.com](mailto:jokukitz@aol.com) no later than Friday, 28 August 2026.

We have reserved a block of rooms at the Renaissance Hotel, 12 North 7th St., Allentown, PA. To book a room, call [484-273-4000](tel:484-273-4000) and ask for Angela Solloum. Identify that you are with the “4th ID LV” to receive the guest room rate \$115/night, plus applicable taxes. Reservations must be received before 12 August 2026. Contact me with questions or more details, John Kukitz, Chapter President.

### **Midwest Regional Chapter**

The Midwest Regional Chapter’s next meeting will be held at the National 4th Infantry (IVY) Division Reunion. **We have the Riviera Room scheduled for 4 – 5 PM on Tuesday August 4th.** We are looking forward to seeing you there. Thanks Joe Carter, Chapter President.

### **Redlegs Chapter**

The Redlegs Chapter has several activities planned during the year and will have more details as they get closer. We will conduct a **formal Chapter meeting during the National Reunion on Wednesday, August 5, 2026 at 5pm** and then have dinner together.

**IVY Week at Fort Carson the week of 31 August 2026.** The Redlegs Chapter along with 4ID Veterans are invited to join in the celebration and watch the soldiers participate in activities. We have reserved a few rooms at the Candlewood Suite Hotel on Fort Carson for anyone that is interested in attending the event.

**Veterans Week 2026 at Branson, MO.** We have made arrangements at the Hotel Grand Victoria to again host the Hospitality Room for the 4th Infantry (IVY) Division National Association from **November 9–11, 2026.** I encourage you to make your reservations now as the hotel fills up quickly. Call the hotel [417-336-2935](tel:417-336-2935). Make sure to mention you are with the 4th Infantry Division Association for the special rate with Breakfast included. Special hotel rates are available from November 8–12. Contact me for more details, Paul Bonsky, Chapter President.

### **Western States Regional Chapter**

The Western States Regional Chapter will be holding its **annual fall chapter reunion at the Southpoint Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas from Tuesday, September 15 to Friday, September 18, 2026.** Please contact the hotel directly for your room reservation at [866-791-7626](tel:866-791-7626); the group room rate is \$76 per night by using the **Group code is WES0913.** Be sure to identify yourself as part of the 4th IDA Western States Chapter. Our Banquet and Flames of Remembrance Ceremony will be held on Thursday evening, September 17th. Please contact Scott Moffat, Chapter President with any questions.

### **Wisconsin Chapter**

**The Chapter’s Fall mini reunion will be September 18–20, 2026 at the LaQuinta 444 Wisconsin Dells Pkwy S, Wisconsin Dells, WI 53965.** All reservations had to be made by April 30th (hotel policy) we are hoping those that did receive the info in time will still get the same



## Tuesday – 8/4/2026

**Ivy Dragoons Chapter** – Monte Carlo Room 4 – 5 PM

**Midwest Regional Chapter** – Riviera Room 4 – 5 PM

**Executive Board Meeting** – Riviera Room 5 – 7 PM

Committees that meet with the E-Board: Finance, Scholarship, Nominating, Resolutions, Health/Wellness, and Membership.

## Wednesday – 8/5/2026

**Memorial Committee** – Riviera Room 4 – 5 PM

**Redlegs Chapter** – Monte Carlo Room 5 – 6 PM

**Auditing Committee** – Riviera Room 5 – 6 PM

**Media Advisory Committee** – Riviera Room 6 – 7 PM

## Friday – 8/7/2026

**First Business Meeting** – Riviera Room 9 – 10:30 AM

**Second Business Meeting** – Riviera Room 10:30 AM – Noon

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## *Ivy Matters*

**National Officer Elections – All (4) National Elected Offices will be up for election at the 2026 National Reunion.** To include: The National President, the National Senior Vice President, the Vice President–Communications, and the Vice President–Finance. Contact National President Rick Adams or Nominations Committee Chairman, Jerry Bumpus if you have an interest in serving in an Elected or Appointed position with the Association.

We have three openings for National Appointed Officers – the **National Vice President–War on Terror**, the **National Secretary**, and the **Judge Advocate / Parliamentarian** who would be appointed by the National President, and serve on the Executive Board.

**Chapter Treasurers:** If you need updated chapter rosters, contact the Executive Director.

Remember to check your member status and membership expiration date on your *Ivy Leaves* or the Ivy Calendar mailing label. If you need help confirming your information, contact the Executive Director.

**E-Ivy Leaf Newsletters:** If you know of a topic, an issue or an event that would be appropriate to be included in a future *E-Ivy Leaf Newsletter* or *E-Ivy Extra*, send the information to [admin@4thinfantry.org](mailto:admin@4thinfantry.org) for consideration. Thank you.

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## **From The President**

Welcome to the June 2026 *E-Ivy Leaf Newsletter* on the 82nd Anniversary of D-Day, one of the many significant dates in the long history of the Division, is being remembered with ceremonies on a stretch of the French coast named for



this operation and forever after "Utah Beach".

June 15, 2026 is the deadline to submit Applications and Patriotic Essays for the 2026 Legacy Educational Scholarships to the scholarship committee secretary.

Last month we released our first *Mid-Year Digital Ivy Leaves magazine*, circulated in PDF format by email. and in this *E-Ivy Leaf's* Resources section. We will be creating more new methods to communicate with members through digital and social media platforms in addition to the printed and mailed

magazines. Watch for them!

**We are just one month away from the July 6, 2026 deadline to Register for the 2026 National Reunion with Armed Forces Reunions, Norfolk, VA.** Be sure to make your hotel reservations early so we know you are coming. I'm looking forward to seeing you in the Quad Cities.

As always, Steadfast & Loyal,  
Rick Adams, National President  
[RJAdams90@charter.net](mailto:RJAdams90@charter.net)

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## Resources

[2026 Mid-Year Digital Ivy Leaves](#)

[2026 Spring / Summer Ivy Leaves](#)

[2025 Fall / Winter Ivy Leaves](#)

[Flickr Photo Albums](#)

[Visit Our Website](#)

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[AUSA Member Partnership](#)

In case you missed or want to see a previous issue of the ***E-Ivy Leaf***, you can find past issues on the 4IDA website 'Members Only' section under the *E-Ivy Leaf* tab.

Download and print this **Membership Application** to recruit a new member or update your member information. Membership applications are always published inside the back pages of every *Ivy Leaves* magazine.

[Membership Application](#)

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## National 4th Infantry (IVY) Division Association

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