

E-Ivy Extra

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

September 1, 2026

4th Infantry Division News



In late July, the final remaining M1A2 Abrams tank left Fort Carson, Colorado, for Fort Irwin, California, as the 4th Infantry Division's 3rd Brigade Combat Team supported the Project Convergence capstone exercise. It was one of the final steps for the brigade as it transitions to a Stryker brigade, and it comes as the Division is reassigned to I Corps to support U.S. Army Pacific. With the conversion, the 4th Infantry Division becomes the Army's only pure Stryker Infantry Division. The transition is "exciting," but "we absolutely honor the legacy of the 3rd Armored Brigade and [its] storied history," said Col. Nick Sinclair, the Brigade Commander.

2026 National Reunion a Huge Success



The 108th National Reunion in the Quad Cities was a tremendous success, bringing together 187 registered attendees for a memorable week of fellowship, tours, meetings, and celebration. The Isle Casino Hotel in Bettendorf, Iowa, located along the Mississippi River, proved to be an excellent venue for this year's event.

Activities began on Tuesday, August 4, with a combined tour of the Rock Island Arsenal Museum, lunch, and a visit to the Lock and Dam system. The Rock Island Arsenal Museum, the Army's second-oldest museum, opened to the public on July 4, 1905, and features many unique and unusual artifacts. The Lock and Dam tour was also very informative and gave the group a better understanding of the system's operation and importance.

On Wednesday, August 5, attendees enjoyed a four-hour lunch cruise aboard the Celebration Belle, which quickly became one of the favorite outings of the reunion, offering a relaxing and enjoyable time on the Mississippi river. The following day, Thursday, August 6, the group visited Cinnamon Ridge Dairy Farm in Donahue, Iowa, followed by a stop at the famous Iowa 80 Truckstop in Walcott, Iowa.

Cinnamon Ridge Dairy Farm was a highlight for many attendees. Known for its innovative practices and commitment to environmental stewardship, the farm tour included a look inside the robotic dairy barn and cheese plant, followed by a cheese sampling. The Iowa 80 Truckstop offered plenty to explore, including nine restaurant choices, a convenience store, a gift store, and a trucking museum.

On Friday, August 7, the Business Meetings and Ladies Brunch were held. During the meetings, a new slate of National Officers was elected: National President Ray Rocho, serving a two-year term; National Senior Vice President, currently open, also a two-year term; Vice President–Communications Gary Ladd, serving a one-year term; and Vice President–Finance Jim McCarthy, serving a one-year term.

National President Ray Rocho also announced several new appointments who will serve on the Executive Board, naming Bill Redmond as Parliamentarian/Judge Advocate and Bruce Wesley as Vice President–Vietnam & Cold War. He later appointed Galen Peterson as Vice President–War on Terror. Congratulations to all!

That evening, the Flames of Remembrance Banquet always provides a meaningful close to the reunion. Special thanks go to the 4th Infantry Division and Commanding General MG Pat Ellis for supporting the reunion with a live video address, as well as for sending members of the 4th Infantry Division Band to provide entertainment during the banquet. Appreciation is also extended to the outstanding Color Guard from the Rock Island Arsenal, who presented the colors for the ceremony.

The 2026 Ralph E. Lingert Service Award was presented to two deserving recipients: Larry D. Brainerd, recognized for member recruiting and his role in helping establish the Redlegs Chapter; and Joseph L. Carter, National Sergeant-at-Arms and a dedicated National and Chapter officer.

Photos from the reunion events are available through the Flickr Photo Albums link below.

Finally, sincere thanks go to Linda Dufek, manager of reunion operations, and to all of the reunion volunteers whose hard work and dedication helped make this another truly special National Reunion. Thank you all!

Save the Date

The 2027 National Reunion will be held in the Springfield Missouri, August 2-6, 2027, at The Oasis Hotel and Convention Center, Sleeping room rate \$132/ night plus tax and Includes a hot breakfast buffet.

Chapter Events

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. Contact John Kukitz Chapter President with questions or more details.

Redlegs Chapter

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 Paul Bonsky, Chapter President for more details.

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 rates. The hotel number [608-253-9700](tel:608-253-9700) request 4th ID. We will be sending the registration form with all the reunion details. Contact me for more details, Linda Dufek, Reunion Committee.

Ivy Matters

October 1, 2026 is the deadline to submit articles and content to Editor John Harris, to be included in the 2026 Fall / Winter Ivy Leaves Magazine.

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 for consideration. Thank you.

Resources

2026 Mid-Year Digital Ivy Leaves

2026 Spring / Summer Ivy Leaves

2025 Fall / Winter Ivy Leaves

Flickr Photo Albums

Visit Our Website

See us on Facebook

4th Infantry Facebook Page

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

National 4th Infantry (IVY) Division Association

PO Box 1914
St Peters, MO 63376-0035
USA

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