

THE MAINE TROOP GREETERS SPRING NEWSLETTER



Volume 1 issue 1

BANGOR
INTERNATIONAL
AIRPORT

HOME OF THE MAINE
TROOP GREETERS

FLIGHTS MET: 6462

TROOPS GREETED:
1,324,859

AS OF APRIL 1, 2012

Welcome to the first issue of our Maine Troop Greeters Newsletter. It's our plan to put out a Newsletter every three months. We know that this will be a work-in-progress for some time to come, and we urge everyone to make comments and suggestions because it will be only thru your help that we get this right.

OUR MISSION

The mission of The Maine Troop Greeters is to express the Nations' gratitude and appreciation to those Troops going overseas for a safe return and for those returning, for a joyful homecoming and to make their (hopefully) brief stay in Bangor as comfortable and pleasant as possible.

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

One of the on-going problems that we have in our organization is the spreading of misinformation and rumors. It is easy to see how this happens. We don't see each other often and the times when we do get together aren't the best for sharing information. We tend to break-up into different groups and everyone gets a different slant on things. Solid information just isn't being properly distributed. One of the steps we are taking to correct this problem is to publish a **NEWSLETTER** each quarter with this being our first issue. I hope we can do a better job in keeping you, our **GREAT Troop Greeters** involved and informed.

THE TROOPS NEED US MORE NOW THAN EVER. DON'T SLOW DOWN MEETING THEM BECAUSE FLIGHT NUMBERS ARE DOWN. WE NEED TO SHOW THEM THAT AMERICA STILL CARES.

Charles Knowlen

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

WELCOME NEW TROOP GREETERS

Luke Krummell	1/12
Matthew Pratt	1/12
Carlin Puckett	1/12
Stacy Rudnicki	1/12

Jerry Lyden	2/12
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Jim Burks	3/12
Carroll Payne	3/12
Hollie Smith	3/12

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| April 21 | Zimmerman Fitness Challenge, if interested call Nory Jones (207)-299-8872 |
| April 28 | General Meeting 10AM till noon; door prizes, at the Bangor Parks & Rec. Bldg., 647 Main St. ALL MEMBER PLEASE ATTEND |
| May 19 | Armed Forces Day, 1PM till 4PM, Bangor International Airport, Open house for the Greeters' families and community |
| May 26 | Veteran's Grave Flag Day 9AM, Maine Veteran's Cemetery, Augusta (Togus), plan on attending, bring a friend or a carload you will not regret it. |
| May 28 | Memorial Day, attend your local ceremonies and parades |

GUESS WHO!!!!!!



The photo you see is the high school graduation picture of one of the handful of people who formed The Maine Troop Greeters into the organization as we know it today. In the spring of 2003, he along with this small group spent countless hours meeting plane after plane, often handing snacks to the troops. He is still one of our more active Greeters and has served on numerous committees. Today, you will often find him manning the phone desk in our room at the airport. Have you guessed his identity yet? Its' *Marion Rudnicki*, known to everyone as Rud.

The oldest of eleven children, Rud is a lifetime resident of Bangor, and in fact the farthest he has ever moved is 200 feet from the house where he grew up to his present home. He began working at the age of 8 helping his dairy-farmer Dad, make deliveries, and by 12, due to his fathers' illness, he was driving the truck by himself. Yes, driving at age twelve was illegal then just as it is today, so how did he do it? According to Rud "the police looked the other way as I drove down the street."

After serving in the Army 1954-56, he returned to Bangor and the family dairy business, where he spent the remainder of his working career. An avid snowmobiler, Rud and his club once rode 2100 miles from Bangor thru Canada to northern Wisconsin; that will make you tired just thinking about it. As many of you know, 2011 was not a good year for the Rudnicki family, when in the span of a few weeks, Rud lost his mother, wife of 54 years, Jeanne, and his son Dennis age 48. When you are out and about town and you see Rud, say Hi to one of our **Great Troop Greeters**.

LETTER OF APPRECIATION



I want to thank you for everything you and The Maine Troop Greeters have done for the Troops. I have been lucky enough to be greeted in Maine 4 times now. I know a few weeks back, we came home and we were greeted by everyone again.

I remember back in 2010 when you guys let me borrow a cell phone to call my parents and tell them I was finally in the states. They definitely appreciated the call. So again Thank You for all the hard work you guys do.

It really makes me and my brothers and sisters happy to see that there are people in America who truly care.

Thank You Maine Troop Greeters!
Job Well Done!
March 25, 2012



Security & Communications

Some of you are listed as a participating member with a pager, receiving flight information through our pager system. We have a problem that affects you and must be attended to right away.

Federal security officials have informed us that we can allow only the people who greet regularly to receive flight information. To achieve that goal, we are terminating all pager service on Monday, April 16 at 10 AM. Your pagers will not receive pages after that time. We deeply regret the inconvenience, but the safety of our troops is our number one concern.

If you are an active greeter, please return your pager with your name and phone number to Peter Perry or at the back desk of the Greeter Room, prior to April 16th. You will be placed temporarily on the Call-Em-All system and your pager will be reconfigured for your use.

We value your active membership and look forward to seeing you frequently at the airport. If you are not an active member, the pager is yours to keep, or you may return it to the Troop Greeters as a gift.

NOW WE NEED YOUR HELP!

So this is our first newsletter. Now we need your help with the next one, please help us with some feedback so we can start preparing for July.

Is there any Greeter that you feel should receive special recognition? Please let us know! We are also looking for permanent name for the newsletter please help us in our search.

You can drop us a line or two by **mail, email or leave us a note in the Troop Greeters room.**

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We would like to give a Special Thanks To Luke Krummel and Sharon Slamons for all their hard work in putting this newsletter together. This would have not happened without them.

Thanks again