



# THE DISPATCH

102<sup>nd</sup> Cavalry Regiment Association - The Essex Troop



17 February 2025

## What's Going On!

Since the Christmas Party and the completion of another holiday season the Troop has been busy. Several projects are ongoing, one was completed and two are under negotiations with different parties.

In January the Association was approached by the Junior Essex Troop, about a Frederick Remington statue they had in their possession. They wanted to donate the statue to the Essex Troop. The statue is entitled the "Trooper of the Plains," by the famous American artist Frederick Remington.



There are two statues of the same subject. One, the smaller of the two, is considered a tabletop version, or recorded as "Regular" size, which measures 20.5" h x 21" lg, weighs about 45 pounds. The real pleaser of the set is the larger statue, it stands at 58" h x 54" lg. Both of these statues were picked up and transported to the West Orange Armory. The larger statue is currently on display in front of the Memorial Area on the second floor.



During the January RHI a platform was assembled to accommodate the statue, lifting it off the floor by about 4". The Essex Troop Association is grateful to the Junior Troop and Mr. James Duva for this donation.

The Troop continues with the Rhino Plow display effort. Several years back, the Essex Troop began an effort to get our story out there

1315 Pleasant Valley Way, West Orange, New Jersey 07052

Mailing address: P.O. Box 997, Scotch Plains, NJ 07076-0997

Office phone: 973-736-0952

Email: essex.troop@yahoo.com

Website: [102cavalry.org](http://102cavalry.org)

to the general public. A major part of this effort is to tell the story of the famed Rhino Plow, invented by SGT Curtis Cullin, with design and manufacturing assistance from CPT James Depew and CPT Stephen Litton and many other of the 102<sup>nd</sup> CRS, during WW II operation in Normandy, France. Our first effort was completed through fund raising, researching the Rhino Plow specifications and negotiating with the National World War II Museum in New Orleans. Funds were raised through donations from the membership and other civic organizations and a sizeable amount dedicated by the Troop. The replica of the Rhino Plow was dedicated in New Orleans on 1 June 2023. Since then, a Rhino Plow was installed at the Cavalry Armor Museum in Ft. Moore, GA.

Thanks to the efforts of Alex Jeyschune, the Association was able to purchase at a discount enough steel to manufacture two Rhino Plows. This steel we help us to plan for the next replicas, as we are in negotiations with the D-Day Memorial in Bedford, VA and the Mounted Warrior Museum in Ft. Hood, TX. For the Virginia replica, we will most likely manufacture the Plow in Jersey and run it down to Bedford. For Ft Hood, we have two options, send the plans to Ft Hood and have it made there, or manufacture it here and ship it. The cost factors are under review.

Other smaller projects continue to be identified around the West Orange Armory. Recently, John Festa and Joe Shedlock scrubbed and cleaned the kitchen floor, removing years of greasy build-up on the floor. John didn't stop there with paint available from the Armory Staff, John painted the kitchen, giving it fresh; and long overdue, make over.

Frank Dulfer continues to search through our archives, scanning those documents, organizing them and posting them on our website. So far, it's estimated that Frank has scanned over 5000 pages and photos to our website. You can check out Frank's dedicated efforts at our website: [102cavalry.org](http://102cavalry.org).



The RHI committee meets every first Saturday of the month, and the official/unofficial meetings are every Wednesday morning.



(above) Home Page of the Troops Website

**102cavalry.org**

Visit the website and browse through the pages. The archives are packed with documents dating back to the 1890's, pictures covering the last 135 years.



## 102<sup>nd</sup> Cavalry Squadron News Update

As we know the 102<sup>nd</sup> was deployed to Syria and has since returned home – safely! Currently, the Troops are on leave from all training obligations until March. For the past several years the Squadron has held the *“Spurs and Sabers Diner”*, this is the annual award dinner for the squadron.

This year's dinner will be held on:

Spurs and Sabers Dinner

March 22, 2025

Cocktails: 6:30-7:30

Reception: 7:30-11:30

Hilton Parsippany

1 Hilton Ct

Troy Hills, NJ 07054

\$125/person, including dinner and  
5-hour open bar

For reservations:

<http://www.nj.cavalryandarmor.org>

The Spur Dinner back in 2023 was a very nice affair and well worth the cost.

### MEMBERSHIP DUES

Annual dues for the 102<sup>nd</sup> Cavalry Regiment Association – The Essex Troop are due each January, invoices were sent out last November. If you haven't paid your dues for 2025, please do so as soon as possible.

Annual dues are \$20 per calendar year. Make checks payable to the Essex Troop.

### REMEMBER THE DATES

1 MARCH	RHI	0830-1300
5 APRIL	RHI	0830-1300
26 APRIL	Annual Business Mtg 1400 hours WOA	
3 MAY	RHI	0830-1300
17 MAY	St Joan Award Luncheon 1400 hrs WOA	
7 JUNE	RHI	0830-1300
14 JUNE	Annual Baseball Social 1830 hrs Somerset Ballpark	
12 JULY	RHI	0830-1300
2 AUGUST	RHI	0830-1300
6 SEP	RHI	0830-1300
4 OCT RHI		0830-1300
18 OCT	Annual Muster of the Regiment 1400 hours WOA	
1 NOV RHI		0830-1300
7 DEC	Annual Christmas Social Christmas Hawaiian Style	

### St Joan Awards

The Association is proud to sponsor this award for our deserving spouses. As we all know, for the many years we served and the times away from home, our wives served along with us, just at different duty stations.

Nominate your wife for the St Joan award, if selected she will be honored at an award ceremony on 17 May at the West Orange Armory. This will be our third ceremony as we attempt to shorten the long list of recipients. There is no cost to this award, the Association is proud to sponsor the award and hold a well-deserving luncheon in their honor.

Send your nomination to:

**[essex.troop@yahoo.com](mailto:essex.troop@yahoo.com)**

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