



# LIBERTY JUMP TEAM

**“KNEES IN THE BREEZE”**

Spring/Summer 2019

## A RECENT SUCCESS

Jump School and Refresher

42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Airborne Awards

WWII Heritage Days

AOPA 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Flyin

## Up Coming Events

Normandy D-Day  
Anniversary

Greatest Show on Turf

Operation Market Garden

Embry Riddle Aeronautical

CAF Wings Over Dallas

## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

I hope everyone is having a great first few months of 2019. As we all know, this is a big year being the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D-Day and I know many of you are ramping up and excited for the trip over to Normandy to commemorate the heroes that came before us.

Unfortunately, with my military commitments, I will not be able to attend, but I will be there in spirit. With that, I wish you all a safe and memorable trip.

The team has started off with a busy few months so far. Thanks to Karl and his cadre for conducting a successful, professional, and safe Jump School and refresher. Huge thanks to all the jumpers and ground crews that made that 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual All Airborne Awards at Fort Benning, and WW2 Heritage Days in Georgia a huge success. Professional, Sharp, Exciting, Amazing, are all things we hear after every performance. So, thank you for keeping Liberty Jump Teams reputation extremely high.

You have an amazing group of talented and experienced men and women that make up your Board of Directors, and they are always working hard to get things done for the team. I am proud to be a part of such an amazing group of men and women, not only on the BOD, but the team as a whole. I hope to see many of you this year at various events, be safe airborne.

I hope everyone has had a chance to visit our website [www.libertyjumpteam.com](http://www.libertyjumpteam.com). When I update events, I only am able to do so with pictures that pop up on my Social Media, or that I have taken personally. Please do me a favor and send any pictures you love and would like to see on the website to [ljpgpictures@gmail.com](mailto:ljpgpictures@gmail.com). If you could please in the subject line just put the event the picture was from, as this will allow me to easily sort through pictures and keep our page up to date.

Thank you  
**BRAD KREWENCH, CD**



**LIBERTY JUMP TEAM**



*Please share our web site and Facebook Page  
with everyone you meet!*

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## AN INCREDIBLE JUMP SCHOOL AND REFRESHER

This year Jump School and Refresher was the largest group in Liberty Jump Team history. Our jumpers were here from the Czech Republic, Canada, France, Switzerland and from all over the United States. All of the students were focused and determined to succeed. All of our students were able to get a few jumps in but weather didn't cooperate, cutting our jump time short. Congratulations to all our students!!



## AIRBORNE AWARDS AT FORT BENNING

The Liberty Jump Team is dedicated to the memory and heritage of all that served and are currently serving. There is no better place to celebrate and honor all paratroopers past and present than at Fort Benning at the 82nd All Airborne Awards! Thank you to the staff at the Airborne School at Fort Benning for all your efforts to have the Liberty Jump Team participate. We look forward to our next visit.



## LIBERTY JUMP TEAM

## WORLD WAR II HERITAGE DAY

The Commemorative Air Force's World War II Heritage Days was an incredible success for the Liberty Jump Team. Our team was able to make jumps from the C-47 "That's All Brother" the C-47 that lead the Invasion of Normandy. It was truly a memorable event where our team got to meet some amazing veterans, volunteers and future Paratroopers.



## AOPA FREDERICK MARYLAND FLY-IN

The AOPA Flyin was truly an amazing event! The Team made jumps from a multi bird formation. The Liberty Jump Team was a crowd favorite!!





## LA FIERE

The jump at La Fiere is one of the most incredible events during the Normandy Anniversary. Although the actual drop zone was between La Fiere and Sainte Mere Eglise (DZ O) the current DZ at La Fiere is large enough to handle the airborne events for the anniversary. The history of the area, the battle and the heroics of the paratroopers are legendary. Jil and Dom Launay own the home known as Chateau La Fiere and we will be spending the day in the area, here is the history of the home.

La Fiere

By Jil Launay

The summer of 2002 Dominique, our son Corey and I stayed at a beautiful B&B at 1 La Fiere. It is called "Chateau La Fiere". It was built in 1689 by Baron Emmanuel DeBeausse. It has another name on the maps from WWII, "Chateau Le Bosc" or House in the Woods.

We were there for the DDay commemorations and are just down the road from "Iron Mike II" Memorial at La Fiere about 3k outside of Sainte Mere Eglise.

Dom and I had been looking for a home in Normandy. A couple months after our stay there our good friends the Poissons who own the historical Manoir de La Fiere call to tell us that this chateau had come up for sale! We put in an offer immediately and to our amazement it is accepted.

Owning a home like this comes with a lot of hard work and we have lovingly restored it over the years. We also own a chapel that was built after the French Italian war but have not been able to start restoring it. My dream has been to dedicate it to the 507<sup>th</sup>... many of who landed on or near our property.

We have had the pleasure of hosting many friends, military members as well as a US Ambassador and even a former Director of Homeland Security. But one of our greatest pleasures was to have our dear friends Barbara and Clancy Fauntleroy as our houseguests in 2009. Barbara is the daughter of LTG James M. "Jumping Jim" Gavin. Our parents were long time friends so being able to host Barbara and her family was a special pleasure. But also to be able to share a little bit of history about her father with her was even better.

On the night of June 6, 1944 the owner of home, Maurice Salmon answered a knock at his door. There stood U.S. soldiers with their bayonets pointed at him demanding entry into the house to search it. The house has a distinct vantage point of the causeway and the soldiers were certain that since the Manoir de La Fiere had been taken by the Germans that this chateau was occupied as well. After a search, they told Mr. Salmon that their commander needed to use his home ...and in walked LTG Gavin. He was joined by Gen

## Normandy Checklist

- Driver license
- Passport
- Global Entry Card, if you have one
- Airline Ticket & Documents
- Exchange Dollars for Euros
- Credit Card
  - Make sure they know you will be in Europe so it is not locked out
  - In separate location have card phone number and PIN available if lost
- Emergency Contacts/Insurance
  - Copy in your M42s pocket
  - Copy in suitcase
- Europe Power Adaptors
  - For France
- Cell Phone and Charger
  - Check providers service area for Europe
- Doing laundry can be a challenge pack accordingly
- Weather changes from hot to cold to rainy pack accordingly
- Check jump items, clothing, main and reserve
- Parachute packing tools
- Develop a Tour Plan
  - Normandy is huge plan trips to separate areas so you don't just drive back and forth
  - Weather could change drop plans don't waste your day sitting around
- Check on extra car and health insurance for your protection
- Exchange information with several LJTB Members to coordinate getting around in Normandy

## LIBERTY JUMP TEAM

Ridgeway and they sat at the kitchen table and planned their next assault. Mr. Salmon was asked to taste the food and drink before they were served!

Years later, as the US Ambassador , Gavin returned to France and sent his aide to see Mr. Salmon as he wanted to visit and thank him for his kindness that night. Mr. Salmon told the aide that he was not asked permission in 1944!

Barbara was thrilled to learn that her father had sat in the very kitchen she was sitting in as I told her the story. Later June 6 night a German 88 shell hit the top floor of the house killing a young woman named Julliette Brissette as she stood at the top of the stairs. Flash marks and shrapnel are still on the stairs and in our stone walls.

Recently Dominique had a visit from Mr. Salmon's grandson who verified what we were told by others....that there is a medieval tunnel system from our home going across the land towards Chef du Pont to Chateau Ilse Marié.

He also showed Dom where there are crypts around the base of our chapel!

It is a privilege to own a home such as this with all the history behind it. I look out the front door and see across the marais where my father should have landed near Amfreville with the 507th. Then I look east and look towards Fresville where he did land and was shot.

On a full moon night in June I can sit on the front steps and see hundreds of parachutes in the sky over the flooded pastures and the paratroopers as they hit the ground. It is haunting but strangely comforting.



WW II, house center right.



The house today



WWII drawing of drops



Dad in our home  
in his 507th  
basketball jacket



Front yard



packing chutes



Back yard

## LJT VETERAN AFFAIRS RETURNS TO NORMANDY

By Dale Lindley

Normandy +75

We are approaching one of the most significant anniversaries in the history of the world. 75 years ago, 19 and 20 year old men jumped into the darkness from C-47's, landing in hostile, foreign territory with a mission. That mission was to liberate France, push the Germans out of France, back into their homeland and force a Nazi surrender. Those men helped save the world, went home, tossed their duffle bags into the corner, put on their "civvies", went to work and raised families. They "did what they needed to do over there" and now they are picking up and continuing their lives. That is the "Greatest Generation". That is what they did, never asking for anything in return.

### Normandy Points of Interest

- American Cemetery  
Overlooking Omaha Beach
- Omaha Beach
- Utah Beach
- Saintre Mere Eglise
- Carentan
- Pointe Duy Hoc
- Beuzeville-au Plain
- Brecourt Manor
- Angoville-au-Plain
- Pegasus Bridge Museum
- Gold, Sword and Juno Beach
- Canada House
- La Fiere Bridge
- Timmes Woods
- Filthy 13 Monument
- Foucarville
- Amfreville
- D-Day Experience Museum
- Airborne Museum
- Utah Beach Museum

There are so many places to see and walk around. Do a little research and planning. It is going to be a GREAT TIME in FRANCE!!!

Bob Noody and Dan McBride are 2 of these men. Bob Noody, of Star Lake, New York jumped as a member of the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne, F Company 506 PIR. Dan McBride, of Silver City, New Mexico, jumped as a member of the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne, F Company 502 PIR. Both men jumped in Holland at Market Garden and then fought in Bastogne during the Battle of the Bulge. I met Dan on an Honor Flight of Southern New Mexico mission and we became fast friends. He needed someone to travel with him back to the 72<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of D-Day and the rest is history. During this trip I had the honor of meeting Bob Noody because Bob, Dan and I were all staying at the home of David "Irish Dave" Ashe off Utah Beach. I also met Peter Plank of the Veterans Services side of the Liberty Jump Team at Irish Dave's home. In the front yard of the home of Irish Dave, stands an amazing memorial. There are 3 pillars dedicated to the men of the 101<sup>st</sup> and 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne that fought and died in the battle of Ravenoville. The pillars were constructed with the sand of Utah Beach. The area directly in front of the pillars is a circular representation of the 28-foot parachute canopy the troopers used when they jumped into Normandy. There is a walking bridge that is the representation of the risers of the chute. Surrounding the memorial are olive trees dedicated to the veterans honored at the ceremonies held every year at the Ravenoville Eternal Heroes '44 Memorial.

At the 74<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D-Day, the Ravenoville Eternal Heroes '44 Memorial ceremony was conducted with the assistance of active duty 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne members, active duty 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne members and active duty Bundeswehr, the unified armed services of Germany. This marked the first time the 3 groups have been on the grounds of the Battle of Ravenoville since June 6 and 7, 1944. Once again, for the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary, these 3 proud groups will meet on the battlefield where they were enemies so long ago to remember and honor all who fought. This time, they meet as friends.

This road I have traveled is absolutely amazing. I have taught middle school in a little town in southern New Mexico for 28 years and how I have gotten to meet and become friends with some truly great people is beyond me. To think that all of this started with my mother-in-law bringing my attention to an article in the local newspaper about Honor Flight Southern New Mexico needing guardians for their next trip. I applied, was accepted, and went. My veteran was also from Silver City and was a friend of Dan's.

I was around them both the entire time and had more fun and learned more than I could have ever dreamed. To this day, when I go visit my veteran, Bill Harrison, the second part of my trip always is a visit with Dan. What a true blessing it has been to get to know these heroes and to consider them great, true friends. That newspaper article has taken me to DC 7 times with Honor Flight, Normandy 4 times with Dan and Peter, Bastogne with Peter and a group of veterans, and has guided me to become an actual jumping member of Liberty Jump Team.

As much as I would love to be able to jump in Normandy, my mission is to take care of these 2 veterans as well as the others that travel in the name of Liberty Jump Team. I am honored to accompany Bob and Dan once again to the battlefields where they fought as young men.

I am, in the spirit of Robinson Crusoe, their guy “Friday”, ready to do what is needed to make this trip one for the ages. I am honored to accompany Peter and Linda Plank as part of the Liberty Jump Team Normandy trip once again and I am very honored to be able to do all this as an official member of the Liberty Jump Team.

Peter Plank will be escorting George Merz (828<sup>th</sup> Military Police) and Bill Van Osdol (US Navy), both have made the trip to Normandy before and are looking forward to returning for the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

## **TOURING NORMANDY**

By Scott Freund

I visited Normandy last year for the first time. The excitement was overwhelming, and I wanted to visit every location I had ever read about or saw in a documentary. Well what quickly became a reality is that the area is HUGE and it is impossible to see everything. If you add in the fact that during jump days, you will be busy most of the day which will limit longer sightseeing trips. One other thing I learned last year is that from June 4<sup>th</sup> to about June 10<sup>th</sup> there are parades, events and other festivities that will limit your ability to travel around. Last year, on non-jump days, we would leave early in the morning to get out of Sainte Mere Eglise and start sightseeing. We would attempt to focus on a specific area. Some of the beach areas can take most of your day just walking around. By us focusing on a specific area we could plan each day and not overlap outings since time is valuable. During some of our trips last year we ran into dignitaries at certain locations and those locations became off limits to tourist. With this being the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this is going to be a problem for the most popular locations, so my plan is not to visit the really popular locations until after June 11<sup>th</sup>. My suggestion is to plan sightseeing trips each day remembering that June 4<sup>th</sup> to June 8<sup>th</sup> many locations will be hosting dignitaries for special events. There are a lot of museums, towns and historic markers all around Normandy. If you do a little research on the internet, you should be able to find some very interesting locations.

## **PLEASE HELP US PRESERVE THE MEMORIES OF THOSE WHO GAVE US THE FREEDOMS WE ENJOY TODAY**

Liberty Jump Team is a Non-Profit organization that strives to keep the history alive. We do everything as volunteers, and we need help from people and businesses to assist in keeping these memories alive. If also want to make sure the new generations know about the history and importance of these heroes, you can help support this mission by telling everyone you meet about our team—ensuring that these heroes’ sacrifices will never be forgotten.

We are always looking for donations and sponsors, all proceeds will go towards helping the Team bring history alive over the next year, by performing commemorative parachute jumps in the US, Canada, and Europe. the freedoms we enjoy today are because of the heroes that fought for them 75 years ago.

Let us NEVER let anyone forget these men and women for their service and sacrifices.

**LIBERTY JUMP TEAM**