



## Please join us July 16-21 in Columbus, Georgia for the US Army Ranger Association's 2018 Annual Ranger Muster

The Annual Ranger Muster has been hosted in the Columbus-Ft. Benning area -- Home of the Rangers -- since 2012. In keeping with the constitutional objectives of the US Army Ranger Association, the Annual Ranger Muster serves the purpose of strengthening relationships among all US Army Rangers – past, present, and future; fostering camaraderie among those who have earned the title, US Army Ranger; and providing an extended community for all US Army Rangers and their families. The Association cordially invites all Rangers, as well as their families and supporters of the Ranger community, to join us again this year from July 16-21.

### Registration

Those interested in attending the Annual Ranger Muster are encouraged to register in advance by visiting the Association's website at [www.ranger.org/ARM](http://www.ranger.org/ARM). Registering in advance will permit you to do the following:

- select to receive a collared Polo shirt or hat
- select which, meals and events
- purchase Raffle tickets
- sponsor one or more active duty Rangers at the Ranger Appreciation Reception
- designate transportation needs

- pay registration fees

*In an effort to encourage individuals to register in advance, the cost of attending the 2018 ARM will be discounted for those who register online.*

Although we prefer registrations to be made in advance, members will still be able to register in-person at the ARM.

Registration and packet pick-up will occur in the Magnolia Hospitality Room, beginning at 0900 Monday, July 16, 2018.

### Hats and T- shirts

This year attendees will be able to elect to receive either a Polo shirt or a hat with their registration for the ARM. Shirts and hats will be available during packet

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pick-up for those who register in advance. Shirts and hats may not be available for on-site registrations at the time of registration. In such an event the hat or shirt will be mailed to the attendee at a later date.

### **Raffles**

The Association will conduct two raffles this year. Tickets for the first will be available for purchase in advance of the ARM via the Association's website. You need not be present to win for this raffle. Tickets for the second must be purchased in person during the ARM. You must be present to win the second raffle. Ticket sales are projected to open by mid-May. Prizes will include custom-made knives, AR-15's, handguns, and other items of interest to most Rangers. Please keep an eye on the website for official prize disclosures and additional information.

Those who would like to donate an item as a raffle or door prize, please contact Doc Attaway at [art.attaway@ranger.org](mailto:art.attaway@ranger.org).

### **Transportation**

We anticipate providing transportation based upon need. Please ensure you let

us know during the pre-registration process if you will need help with transportation to events. When planning your transportation needs, please bear in mind that off-site events this year will include the following:

- RHOF Induction Ceremony – Ft. Benning
- National Infantry Museum Tour - Columbus, near Ft. Benning front gate
- Ranger School Graduation and Rangers in Action - Ft. Benning
- NSA Range Day - Cusetta, GA (25 minutes from the hotel and attached to the back side of Ft Benning)
- President's Banquet – Downtown Columbus

Attendees that would like to participate in events on Ft. Benning will need to acquire a visitor pass from the installation's visitor center.

### **President's Banquet and Guest Speaker**

The President's Banquet will be held on July 21, 2018 and will be located at the Rivermill Event Center in historic, downtown Columbus. The banquet will be the first public event for the yet-to-be elected incoming president for the 2018-2020 term. As usual the Raffle will be conducted and many Door Prizes will be handed out.

We are proud to announce that our 2018 guest speaker for the President's Dinner on July 21<sup>st</sup> will be CSM(r) Alfred "Greg" Birch. CSM Birch retired from the U.S. Army in 2007 after over thirty years' service in a variety of Special Operations units, where he participated in numerous combat missions, security, surveillance, dignitary protection and other sensitive operations. His service in Special

Operations Forces included both the 75th Ranger Regiment and the 1st SFOD-D (Delta Force). He participated in numerous contingency missions in the Southern, Pacific, European and Central Command (SOUTHCOM, PACOM, EUCOM and CENTCOM) areas of responsibility. He served in Operation Just Cause, Operation Desert Storm, Operation Joint Endeavor, Operation Joint Guard, Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Repeatedly deployed into combat /hostile fire zones, he has been to more than 70 countries and participated in combat and reconnaissance/security missions in 13 different countries.



As a Senior Leader, CSM Birch served in the 75th Ranger Regiment as the 3rd Battalion Command Sergeant Major, including service in Iraq where he was awarded the Silver Star at the Battle of Haditha Dam, and then as the 75th Ranger Regimental Command Sergeant Major where he was the principal advisor to the Commander and staff for a 2200-man Special Operations unit. An expert trainer, he traveled with over 50 combat patrols in Iraq and Afghanistan to coach and mentor subordinates. He was awarded his second Bronze Star for meritorious service and a Purple Heart upon leaving the Regiment.

His service in the Delta Force extended from 1987 through 2002. While serving as the Squadron Sergeant Major, he received his first Bronze Star for valor at the Battle of Tora Bora. He spent nearly five years as a Recon Team Leader leading numerous small teams on assessments in high threat areas overseas, often working alone in foreign threat areas for extended periods. He routinely briefed high-level government officials.



As an Assault Team Member and Team Leader, he worked as a Personal Security Tactical Supervisor for ambassadors, senior embassy staff members and General Officers in high threat areas. He conducted security surveys and vulnerability assessments on embassies and nuclear facilities. Other duty positions included assault team member, sniper, assault team sergeant, recon team sergeant, saber squadron sergeant major.

Prior to serving with Delta Force, CSM Birch served with the 2/75 Ranger Battalion, where he served in every position from ammo bearer to platoon sergeant. His first duty station was with the 890th MP Company as a Military Policeman.

## **Range Day**

USARA will host a “Range Day” at the NSA Firing Range located adjacent to Ft. Benning, which is about a 20-minute drive from the hotel. Individuals who wish to participate will need to provide their own weapons and ammunition to use during the event. Targets, ear and eye protection, and the Range itself with a Safety Officer will be provided. A Barbeque meal will be provided for a cost of \$15/ per person. Attendees who will be unable to transport their weapon(s) to the event should contact Doc Attaway in advance at [art.attaway@ranger.org](mailto:art.attaway@ranger.org) to request access to firearms locally.

## **Ranger Hall of Fame**

The Induction ceremony for the 2018 Ranger Hall of Fame Class will occur on Wednesday, July 18, 2018 in the Marshall Auditorium at McGinnis Wickham Hall. The ceremony is scheduled to commence at 1300.

## **Ranger Appreciation Reception**

On Friday, July 20, the Association will host its annual Ranger Appreciation Reception at the Doubletree Hotel. Active duty Rangers from both the 75th Ranger Regiment as well as the Airborne and Ranger Training Brigade are invited to attend. As in the past, this event is entirely supported through the donations of members. Attendees can support an active-duty Ranger’s attendance by providing a donation of during the ARM pre-registration process. Donations can also be made at any time through the donations section on the USARA website.

## **ARTB Breakfast**

On the morning of Tuesday, July 17, we will be joined for breakfast by COL Douglas Vincent, commander of the Airborne and Ranger Training Brigade. This will be COL Vincent’s third year presenting to the Association’s members.



## **Rangers in Action and Ranger School Graduation**

Ranger School Class 07-18 graduation will occur at 11:00 am on Friday, July 20 at the Hurley Hill Training Area on Victory Pond. The graduation will be preceded by a Ranger in Action demonstration, commencing at 1000. The events are well attended, and those interested in attending are encouraged to arrive by 0930 in order to find seating. Directions to the location can be found at the [ARTB Website](#).