

From: jbkranger@aol.com
Subject: Fw: Photo of the First Lunch?
Date: Feb 13, 2023 at 6:35:10 AM
To: James Toohey jamestoohy@icloud.com

Hey

Cris had a photo of the first Ranger lunch!

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: cris neely <cris_neely@yahoo.com>
To: "jbkranger@aol.com" <jbkranger@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2023 at 04:20:34 AM CST
Subject: Re: Photo of the First Lunch?

Sure. September 3rd, 2016

Cristopher W. Neely

The two most important days in your life are the day you were born, and the day you find out why.



Rangers & guest L to R: Jim Burns, Mike Hall, Mike Wagers, Cris Neely,

After Action Report Minatra Ranger Base Lunch 14 Aug 2021

Howdy Tennessee Rangers:

We had a great lunch today at the Minatra Ranger Base! Former head of the 75th Ranger Regiment Assoc (and 2020 Ranger Hall of Famer), MSG Richard Barela came for a return visit from his home in Kentucky. We had 3 newbies Steve Collins, Gus Vargas, and John Cargan. We hope you come again soon.

Unfortunately, TN State Senator Dawn White could not make it. Her mother-in-law is not doing well. She is the senator who pushed through the legislation authorizing a Ranger license plate in Tennessee. We hope to get her into a lunch meeting soon to give her a letter of thanks signed by the USARA president next month.

Commander Wagers and I are having a Zoom meeting with representatives with the American Legion in Pulaski TN on Tues. Hopefully, we can convince them to donate to the Ranger Minatra Scholarship in 2022. We plan on meeting with their Legion membership in September.

Rangers Steve Brown (SE Regional Director of USARA) and Bob Scurlock are planning on having a Ranger lunch in Crossville on 11 Sept. This has been a long term attempt to expand our Ranger footprint to east Tennessee. Unfortunately, this will conflict with the middle TN lunch in Sept, but they are working on getting a recurring date with the local Rangers there. If you know of an East TN Ranger who would be interested, please link them up at: brown175@mctc.edu and/or bob.scurlock@openrangesoftware.com.

Of course, we encourage you to join the United States Army Ranger Association Southeast Region Facebook page. Lots of good Ranger info gets posted there. Also, you are welcome to join the US Army Ranger Assoc. Simply go to www.ranger.org and get the process started.



Rangers left to right: Jim Toohey, Richard Aldridge, Joey King, Danny Drake, Richard Barela, Steve Brown, Gus Vargas, Jim Burns, Mike Hall, John Cargan.

From: jbkranger@aol.com

Subject: Rangers in Action Waverly, TN
Date: Aug 28, 2021 at 6:53:39 PM

Rangers Ward, Burns, and King from the Minatra Ranger Base of Middle TN can be seen volunteering in Waverly TN recently. Waverly was hit by record flooding which left nearly 20 people dead. Ranger Burns is the Post Adj for American Legion Post 34 in Waverly which was instrumental in coordinating much of the clean-up effort. Please keep the people of Waverly in your thoughts and prayers. RLTW!



Ranger Ward volunteered to help in Waverly, TN



Rangers Joey King and Jim Burns volunteered to help in Waverly, TN



Water and items for distribution in Waverly, TN

From: jbkranger@aol.com

Subject: AAR for the Old Glory Relay 1 Nov
Date: Nov 2, 2021 at 8:36:03 PM

On 1 Nov 2021, members of the Minatra Ranger Base of Middle Tennessee participated in the Old Glory Relay as it passed through the Nashville area. The relay started at Ground Zero in NYC on Sept 11 and will end in Atlanta on Veterans Day. We were proud to help get the flag across the country. Below are some photos (Ranger Thomas Payne not pictured).

Below, Ranger Gus Vargas shows his pride!



Rangers Nick Basquill-White and Joey King
AAR: Minatra Ranger Base Veterans Day Festivities November 11, 2021

Howdy Tennessee Rangers

Members of the Minatra Ranger Base of Middle TN participated in our first-ever Veterans Day activities. We chose to lay a wreath at the grave of our namesake, Ranger John D Minatra, in Pulaski TN. Special thanks to Ranger Toohey for providing the canopy. Also, a special "shout out" to the Pulaski American Legion, the Giles County Honor Guard, and the citizens of Pulaski for their support. We had about 25 people in total in attendance.

RLTW!

Joey B King
XO, Ranger Base Minatra



L-R: Ranger Joey King, COL (Ret) Michelle Stewart, Ranger Bryan Stewart, Ranger Jim Toohey (wearing his original Ranger black beret from his days at the Ranger Camp in Dablonaga with Ranger Minatra!)



Wreath made especially for the occasion by Linda Luna PhD



L-R: Linda Luna PhD, Ranger Mike Wagers, Barry Minatra and Larry Minatra (twin sons of Ranger Minatra)



L-R: COL Michelle Stewart, American Legion Post Commander Turner, Ranger Jim Toohey
From: jbranger@aol.com

Subject: AAR Ranger Lunch 13 Nov 2021

Date: Nov 14, 2021 at 1:01:31 PM

About 15 Rangers and friends gathered for our monthly lunch in Franklin TN on 13 Nov. Special welcome to Ranger Larson who visited with us for the first time



The Minatra Ranger Base extended a special thanks to TN State Senator Dawn White for spearheading the passage of legislation for a Ranger License plate in Tennessee. We were thrilled to be able to give her a letter of appreciation signed by US Army Ranger Association President Travis West. We will keep you posted on when the plate will become available.



Finally, if anyone is interested in shadow boxes, I have a friend in the Cookeville area who makes them. His contact info is: Tommy Sandlin 931-265-0486. Here is the one he just made for me
RLTW!

Joey B King
XO, Minatra Ranger Base

From: jbkranger@aol.com

Subject: After Action Report: Minatra Ranger Base December 2021

Date: Dec 11, 2021 at 9:13 PM

Members of the Minatra Ranger Base welcomed special guest Ranger Rene Kepperling today. He is the last living member of the 5th Ranger Battalion in WWII. Below are some photos of this very special lunch. Twenty-two Rangers, family, and friends were in attendance.

RLTW

Joey B King

XO, Ranger Base Minatra (Middle TN)



German Luger captured by Rene Kepperling 5th Ranger BN WWII. According to Ranger Kepperling, the German soldier didn't need it any more.



The German SS officer who owned this pearl handled item did not need it anymore



Rucksack carried by Ranger Rene Kepperling 5th Ranger Battalion up Pointe Du Hoc and across Europe



SS Officer's map case

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Nazi Flag captured by Ranger Rene Kepperling 5th Ranger Battalion at Hitler's HQ



Ranger Rene Kepperling last surviving member of 5th Ranger Battalion WWII



Front Row Ranger Rene Kepperling 5th Ranger Battalion WWII. Back Row: Mike Wagers, Preston Grantham, Richard Aldridge, Joey King, Kent Farmer, Thomas Payne: Back Row Nathan Lyons, Bobby Hampton

From: jbkranger@aol.com
Subject: Wreaths Across America, Murfreesboro, TN
Date: Dec 18,2021 at 6:05:55 PM

Minatra Ranger Base members Joey King and Gary Ward were part of the annual Wreaths Across America ceremony at the Stones River Battlefield in Murfreesboro TN today. The weather held for our part of the ceremony! Gary is in the local Civil Air Patrol:

