



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team



PARACHUTE REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM

MailCall No. 2409

March 10, 2019

*517th Parachute Infantry Regiment
460th Parachute Field Artillery Battalion
596th Parachute Combat Engineer Company*

Sgt. David T. Hines (KIA) – E Company

In Nice France, 1944:



L to R: Lt. Joe Kisolwicz, Roy Landreth, Lt. Andy Jorgen, Dave Hines, unknown



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I am writing a book about a close friend of **Dave Hines**, and I am trying to find out all I can about his service in WWII. I know he was in Company E and died on 21 Jan. 1945 in the final days of the Battle of the Bulge.

The friend I am writing about was a fellow wrestler with Hines at San Jose State College in 1941 and 1942.

In any event, the only photo of Hines I have been able to find on your website archives was a group shot taken on the streets of Nice, France, like in the fall of 1944.

Four of the five soldiers in the photo are identified. The man at far right is not, but I think it might be **Lt. Charles Whitley**, who was killed in early January 1945. I have seen at least one other photo of Whitley, and the smiles look similar.

Whatever information you can offer regarding Dave Hines would be greatly appreciated. I know much about his time at San Jose State but little of his war service.

Thank you for your assistance.

Regards,
Frank Marqua

Hi Frank,

I found a few things on **Sgt. David T. Hines (KIA)**:

We know David Hines was a Sergeant as listed in the December 1944 roster: http://517prct.org/documents/xmas1944/xmas_1944_company_e1.jpg

We have some info on David Hines and Company E as compiled in one of our MailCall newsletter in 2007: <http://www.517prct.org/mailcall/2374.pdf>

This was from **Kathryn S. March** from Ithaca NY.

Also see this from **Mark Landreth**, whose father was a close friend of David Hines: http://517prct.org/documents/chronology/Chronology_of_the_517th_PIR_with_emphasis_on_2nd_Battalion_and_E_Company.pdf

And here is another writeup from **Bill Myers** which includes notes and a photo of David Hines from Camp MacKall. http://www.517prct.org/bios/bill_myers/bill_myers_journals.pdf

Finally, I have attached copies of morning reports

21-Jan-1945 reported MIA

30-Jan-1945 Hines reported Staff Sergeant as of Jan 02

02-Feb-1945 Hines from MIA to KIA on 21-Jan-1945

Note: 7745 means paratrooper rifleman.

Bob Barrett



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

DAVID HINES

write
BUDDY



Hines

OUTFIT 517th PRCT C.T.

MY SELECTEE

California AGE 22

ADDRESS

STATE California

PHONE

Taken at Marshall MAR. 44

85 Complexion L Color of Eyes blue Hair Blond

inton Boating Pool

Fatigue Fishing Golf

tsu. Skiing Boxing

ning Wrestling Bowling

Football



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I also found these reports on the [San Jose State College newspaper Archiives](#):



Dave Hines is listed in the San Jose State College Athletic Hall of Fame, as a wrestling champ in 1941 and 1942. He was with the class of 1943.

And this must be the same Dave Hines, mentioned in October 5 1942 Spartan, as the new Judo coach for San Jose State:

**SPORTS
SCRAPS**
By
"SCRAPPY" SQUATRITO

If Sparta's new student coaches are as good at teaching their respective sports as they were participating in them, Washington Square's water polo, soccer, and judo teams are going to have to be reckoned with. Here are a few sketches of the young mentors recently appointed by P. E. Head Tiny Hartranft.

DAVE HINES, the new judo professor, is a San Jose high school product and Pacific Coast wrestling champion. He is the fellow who came down with the measles on the eve of the National Wrestling Championships in the East last year. He also holds a black belt in judo.

Judo Teacher Says Men In Reserves Should Learn Sport

"All students enrolled in some military reserve class should learn judo," stated Dave Hines, newly appointed judo coach.

Hines, Northern California judo champ and a "black belt" winner, pointed out that we are now dealing with an enemy well versed in this type of self-defense. Once the defensive weapon of the aristocracy, judo is now taught every Japanese male from early childhood on.

"There is nothing mystical whatsoever about judo," says Hines. Most people seem to think that it involves trickery and some sort of "black magic."

A small man armed with a knowledge of judo can easily overpower a much larger man. Because of this it will prove invaluable in hand-to-hand combat. "The Navy and Marine corps have included judo in their programs," says Hines.

SGT. DAVE HINES, STATE ATHLETE, KILLED IN ACTION

Paratroop Sgt. Dave Hines, former Spartan football and wrestling star, was killed in Belgium January 21, according to a War Department telegram.

Hines distinguished himself in wrestling while attending State, twice winning Pacific Intercollegiate titles. He captained the SJS team in his senior year. Although lacking in previous experience, Hines won several honors in varsity football.

Before his entrance into the service, he became the Guard of the Spartan Knights.

Sgt. Hines was engaged to Miss Dorisse Thomassen, music major here. He is survived by his mother, Wilma J. Hines, and his two sisters, Mildred Hines, secretary to the Naval commandant in San Francisco, and Laura Mae Hines, connected with the U. S. Embassy in Bolivia.

And one more note in the same newspaper edition:

At right guard Joe Juliano and Bob Cheim, local high school stars of last season, loom as potential offensive stalwarts. At the other guard slot Dave Hines, wrestling champ for the last two years, donned grid attire and waltzed away with starting honors for the first game. Sal Lombardi, a Bay Area product, should see plenty of action in the next few games.



Dave Hines Quits Wrestling Team For Duration

From February 19, 1943

Announcing that he plans to save his final year of collegiate eligibility until after the war, Dave Hines, mainstay on the Spartan wrestling team, declared Wednesday that he will not wrestle under the San Jose State colors this year.

A member of the Army Reserve Corps, Hines expects to be called to active duty before the coming wrestling season gets well under way. If he were to wrestle for State in but one meet this year, he would be barred from further intercollegiate competition.

At the same time, Hines stated that he would enter the Far Western tournament March 6 in Oakland unattached. After the war, Davey plans to return to San Jose State and complete his education. He is working for a degree in physical education.

As a member of Sam Della Maggiore's wrestling team for the past two years, Hines has brought honors to the Washington Square school and to himself as twice Pacific Coast titleholder in the 165-lb. division. Besides being a top-notch wrestler, Hines is an expert judo man, and is coach of the

Spartan judo team. He is now teaching this Oriental art of self-defense in several PEV classes.



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It's surprising what you can find on the internet. I also found this mention of Dave Hines from a 1998 interview with Yoshihiro Uchida, recounting his experience as a Japanese American during the war.

-- BB

From:
[Regenerations Oral History Project: Rebuilding Japanese American Families, Communities, and Civil Rights in the Resettlement Era : San Jose Region: Volume IV](#)

Interview

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Yoshihiro Uchida recounts his childhood years in Southern California, his college years at San Jose State University, and postwar resettlement in San Jose. He describes his long involvement in judo, including participation in youth clubs, his years as a college and Olympic coach, and efforts to establish judo as a sport in the United States. Uchida also details his work initiating judo into the Amateur Athletic Union [AAU] and the National Collegiate Athletic Association [NCAA] and discusses his experiences starting a successful business of medical laboratories after the war. Dr. Alexander Yamato conducted this interview in San Jose, California on February 20, 1998.

Yamato

You mentioned earlier that you had been drafted. Tell us about December 7, 1941—did that affect you? How did that affect you and then—?

Uchida

Well that was a real shocker. Maybe it shouldn't have been a shocker because we knew that Japan and United States relationship had been cut off. The ambassador had been pulled out of Japan. The Japanese consul general and the Japanese ambassador had gone

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home, so it should not have been a surprise for us. But when it did hit it just really . . . shook us all up because we wanted to know what's going to happen now?

Yamato

What did happen to you and your family in the days and months after Pearl Harbor?

Uchida

Right after Pearl Harbor there was a—you might say a blackout and period that the Japanese could not travel too far—they have to be home by 8:00. And they couldn't stay out all night. We as students used to gather around and ask, "What's going to happen to us?" And . . . nobody had the answer. I couldn't leave San Jose because of the travel restriction.

But I had a fellow named **Dave Hines** who was on the wrestling team, and I had been teaching him some judo. So he said, "You know, Yosh, I'll drive you home all the way to Orange County." So [I] got in his car and he took my roommate and myself all the way down to Orange County. He in turn went—visited his sister who he had in San Diego. And when the time came for us to come back, he picked us up and brought us back. We couldn't travel on the train or anything, and I guess if we had gotten caught; we might have been jailed. I don't know.



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And one more edition of the San Jose Spartan. On the left, **Dave Hines** prepares the wrestling team for "dirty fighting" with judo techniques. On the right, the Army Air Corps is recruiting students.

Reservists Replace Boxing Antics With Wrestling And Judo Holds

The PEV reservists threw a last left jab at their opponents last week and pulled off their gloves for their next and more strenuous activity, wrestling.

Under the direction of Dave Hines, senior PE major, Pacific Coast wrestling champion, an expert wrestler and judoist, the class will spend the first three weeks in wrestling trunks, grunting and straining for balance and holds that will prepare the young fighters for judo and "dirty fighting." "The wrestling and judo will be more strenuous than the last activity," declared Hines, "because of the hand-to-hand contact."

In three weeks the class will be ready for judo which includes everything not in the books. Hines stated that he will teach the reservist tactics of self defense including wrestling, judo, holds, and punch-throwing that will put a painful yap in the Japs.

On the staff, including Hines, are Hans Wiedenhofer, Bert Robinson, John Dahl, and Anthony Sota.

Army Air Corps Men Face Immediate Call To Service; Students Receive Orders To Stand Ready; ERC Candidates May Still Transfer To Air Corps

From two sources Dean Paul M. Pitman, Armed Services representative, learned yesterday that Army Air Corps reservists face immediate induction. One source was a telephone call from Lieut. F. P. Roerber, Air Corps recruiting officer in San Francisco. The other source was students who have already received notice to stand ready for further orders.

If Air Corps men have received no instruction, they may expect them within several days, according to Lieut. Roerber.

Of those inducted, reservists who enlisted before mid-September, 1942, will go immediately to cadet training at Fresno. Those sworn in since then will be given three months of basic training, after which they may be sent to designated colleges to take technical subjects before receiving flight instruction.

Cadets receive \$75 monthly, plus \$1 a day subsistence and expenses. Dean Pitman is not sure how much the reservists who enter basic training will receive.

Mr. Pitman believes the Ninth Service Command has received orders from Washington calling for the change in plans.

"It apparently ties in with the order from Manpower Commissioner Paul McNutt that the air corps can't keep all these men waiting for call. The air corps either has to induct them or release them. As the cadet training fields are probably full, the air corps has decided to place those it doesn't have room for in this basic training program.

Budget Hearings Set For Next Week By Council

Highlighted by a call for revision of budgets and the resignation of Vice-President Bob Jennings, the Student Council returned to action in the Student Union last night after a week's absence.

Back wielding the gavel after a siege of the mumps was President Tom Taylor. Because of the war, many budgets have been af-

THE NOBLEST MOTIVE

THE PUBLIC GOOD



Spartan Daily
San Jose State College

VOL. XXXI SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1943 Number 80

DACH BEETHOVEN DRAMAS WILL BE DRESENTED

Other MailCall News

Thanks so much for including the Group Photo of First Battalion. I haven't seen this one before.

Yes, I can definitely see **Bill Boyle**. My father, **Hoyt Kelley**, was Staff Sergeant in the HQ Company - I can see his photo in the Company on the far-right grouping.

Brian

Brian H. Kelley

The picture is the 1st Battalion at camp Mackall. We got our wings and wore our pants in our boots. At the time I was the tallest kid in the Battalion. I am the one alone in the Upper left corner of the picture.

Zoot Snyder doing fine in the warm Yuma weather.



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Bob: you are a superb sleuth with a gift for storytelling. Enjoyed this email especially learning about the make-up of battalions. It was as if a light of understanding went on in my head. Thank you.

Also enjoyed the “it’s a small world” introduction to **Lt. Worthington Thompson** — the write up on his medal gave me a vivid picture of his heroism. Thank you for that.

It was great to read **Theresa Pugh**’s recollections and see her picture. Reminds me of our visit to Nice airport with Dad the year after the 60th anniversary. Dad was unable to go to the Anniversary celebration because my stepmother was so ill, so after she recovered we took Dad to walk his battle fields with him. What a moving trip that gave us the opportunity to meet in person our outstanding supporters in France and Belgium. We will always be grateful to them for their kindness, hospitality and passion for preserving the memory of the 517th’s heroes.

Pat Seitz



I’m sure you are right that this first photo is of the entire 1st Battalion with HQ and ABC companies organized in the rear. In the blowup, I’m pretty sure I found my father **PFC Gerald Nelson** in that first group (HQ) which is the unit he in which he served. Believe he is in the second row, sixth from the right.



The second photo attached also seems to be the entire 1st Battalion. http://www.517prct.org/photos/toccoahq_1.htm

I also attached a photo that **George Rumsey** (who was in HQ 1st with my Dad) sent to me a while back. That’s my Dad in his shorts

Cotton Nelson

T. Cotton Nelson

Manager, Public Relations
National Cotton Council
7193 Goodlett Farms Parkway
Cordova, TN 38016



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Bob: meant to say I was sending you those scanned images in the event you didn't have them and wanted to send them to anyone like Mr. Morris. Also, no need to publish the photo of my Dad in his shorts if you don't think appropriate. I didn't know if that was his undershorts or workout shorts ...you probably know 😊 Cotton



Cotton,

It's not the first time I've seen men of the 517th in their undershorts.

Bob B

I received this photo from **Fred Harmon**, 'H' Co. Platoon Sgt. I would like for you to post on your web site. From left to right, Unknown soldier, **Richard Huggler**, Unknown, **Howard Hughes**. Obviously there is something unusual about the dress of Richard Huggler. I turned the picture over and the writing was: "The fish we got with hand-grenades". Mr. Huggler was the apparent retriever of the fish. The picture was made in France. I hope everyone enjoys the picture.

Respectfully, **Morris McDowell** (2005)





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Members of the 509th Parachute Infantry Battalion shortly after landing in southern France. (Author's collection)

I recently ran across this note from **Charley Pugh** regarding the photo above, as recorded in the 596th Wings newsletter, January 1988. **Ed Phillips** was the Wings editor at that time:

The enclosed photocopy is from the new book by Bill Breuer. It is Operation Dragoon. [Jim] Moses wrote me to say the he believes the first three men (left to right) in the photo are 596 men – [Martin] Costello, [Bill] Christian, and [Alfred] Kunzer. The fourth man is from the 517th or 460th. I too believe his identification is correct. Perhaps you can run this photo in Wings and get the opinion of others. – Charley



Phillips - Pugh - Hild - Moses

I know I've seen this photo before. Probably many times, and almost always identified as the 509th. On the right is a copy from

<https://warfarehistorynetwork.com/daily/wwii/operation-dragoon-second-d-day-in-southern-france/>

I had forgotten until I just looked it up, but we have written about this photo before in a MailCall. (See next page.) –

Bob Barrett

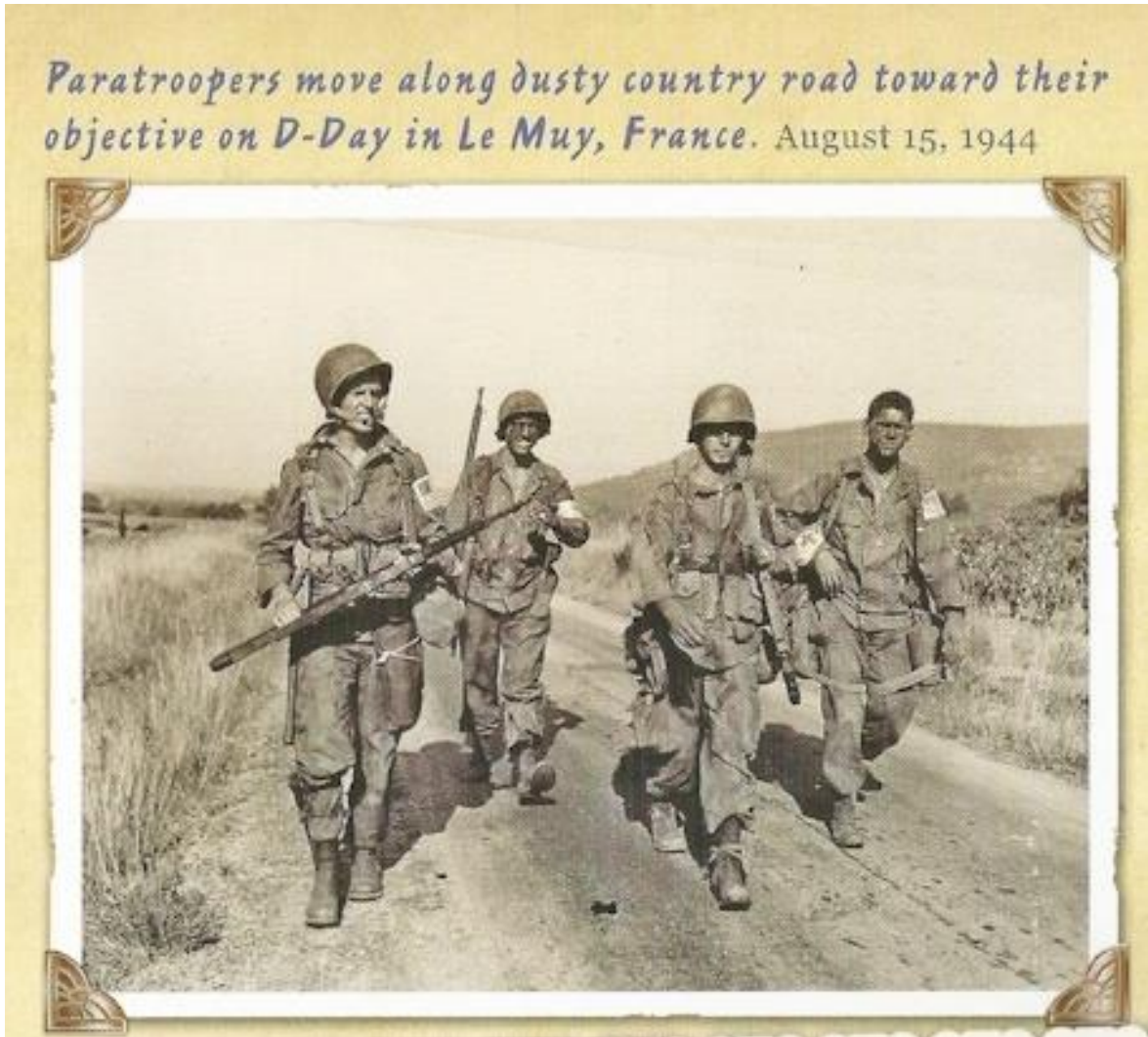


Near the French town of Le Muy, American paratroopers of the 509th Parachute Infantry Battalion hurry down Route D7 on the morning of August 15, 1944.



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From [MailCall 2225](#), August 3, 2014:



Dear Sirs,

Enclosed attachment is a photocopy of one of the pictures featured in the National WWII Museum Calendar 2013-2014 edition. My Father, **William "Bill" T. Christian**, was one of the soldiers featured for August 2014. I know he felt very blessed to have survived the War and to have come away with friendships that lasted him a lifetime. When the calendar first arrived my Father was fairly near the end of his life having fought valiantly against cancer for 8 years or so. His motor skills and memory had deteriorated quite a bit in those last few months so when he showed us the calendar and was insisting that one of the pictures featured was of him, our family, shamefully, did not believe. Still, every time we visited he would bring the calendar out maybe tell a story or two and stare at it sometimes with tears in his eyes. For him, being a someone, was very important.

In the days after his death on Sept. 25th 2013 while one of his granddaughters was looking through the family albums for pictures to be used in the memorial video she came across the very same picture. There, alongside **SGT. Martin Costello, PFC Al Kunzer and PFC Owen Dorman** all with the 596 ENGR's 517th Parachute Combat Team was my Father, **PFC Bill Christian**. We all stared in disbelief and then laughed. Damn if that old man was right, right up till the end. He really was a somebody... well, that, we all already knew.

Regards, **Nitsa "Christian" Cuevas** on behalf of the Christian Clan



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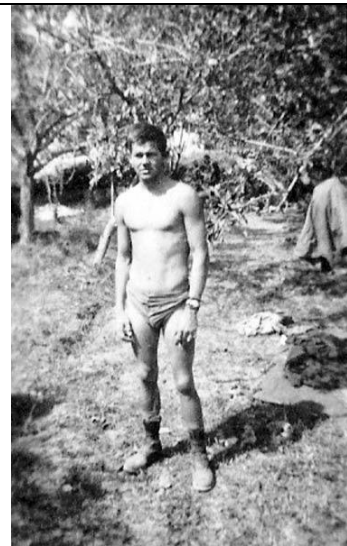
Sgt. Martin Costello



PFC Bill Christian



PFC Al Kunzer



PFC Milton O. Dorman

Greetings, Bob - I am getting caught up on Mail Call! It's a snow day here in NJ.

Had a great chat with **Morris McDowell** the other night - really looking forward to seeing him in France in August. We agreed that we really miss the reunions and the regular opportunities to reconnect, and we're so glad we did it when we could.

We also reminisced about dear **Lory Curtis**, who probably held the record as reunion host. I miss him so - such a great guy for our guys.

I know that the plaque at the Nice Airport was moved around, I think perhaps because of construction. However, when Dad and I finally had the time to find it in 2016, I am pleased to report that it was in great condition and VERY prominently placed at the front terminal entrance. You really couldn't miss it if you used that door.

People are starting to plan trips for the 75th anniversary this summer. I've heard from **Karen Frice Wallace** - she will be there with Wayne and grandson Fisher. Love that guy! Morris (aka Luther) McDowell and the Black families are also planning to go.

I am copying **Eric Renoux** so maybe he can post some information in Mail Call, and also **Patricia and Roland Orengo**. They will be in Sospel and need to know who needs accommodations - they will help arrange.

Let's start to get a Jump List together, as **Gene Frice** called it 10 years ago. That was a great trip. <happy sigh>

Airborne all the way!

Claire Johnson Giblin
daughter **Kaare Allan Johnson**, 596



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Bonjour Laurène ,

I am not the “owner” of that image. I’m not sure where the original came from, but that image has appeared in many books and places. I believe it is from US Army video or photographs, and I think that make it in the public domain. In fact, I know that the picture is from this video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ax5Mt6X5Vd4>.

I am still in touch indirectly with Bill’s wife, Babbie Boyle, and his friends, so I will relay your message to them. I am sure that they will all be honored to know that “Wild Bill” Boyle and his Battalion are to be honored in Les Arcs. I also expect that some friends and family of the 517th are hoping to attend Operation Dragoon commemoration ceremonies in August this year, to celebrate the 75th anniversary. So please let me know more about the dedication of the plaque, and especially its exact location.

Best regards,
Bob Barrett

Administrivia

If you miss any MailCalls, they are all available online at <http://www.517prct.org/mailcall/>

- At any time, if you want to be added or removed from the MailCall list, just let me know, or just click on the unsubscribe link on the email.
- Send any news, stories, or feedback to: MailCall@517prct.org
- If you send me email that you do not want included in MailCall, just label it as FYEO.
- I now understand how Ben could get confused about what he already posted and what he didn’t. If I miss something, please just send it again.

Website	www.517prct.org
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MailCall Archives	www.517prct.org/archives
2018 Roster (updated!)	www.517prct.org/roster.pdf
Thunderbolt Archives	www.517prct.org/archives

