



SABER

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The President's Corner



Troopers of the First Team Association, I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year celebration. The wife and I wish all of you a happy and a blessed 2013. I wish to thank all of the members of the Board of Governors and the members of the Chapters of our Association for doing a superb job last year. We have started a new year and I look forward to seeing all of the members of the Board of Governors in February for our meeting here at Fort Hood. If you have not made your reservations, time is running out.

Troopers of the Association don't forget that this year our annual reunion is in June, which is just five months down the road.

Dennis and I, along with the rest of the Crossed Sabers Chapter are working and planning your reunion. With most of the Division in town, this will be a great reunion. It has been a while since we have had most of our Troopers home during a reunion. So, I look forward seeing you in June in Killeen.

Jerry F. Eller, 808 S. 2nd St., Killeen, TX 76541-7703, (254) 526-6400, <JerryRo4@aol.com>

THE DIRECTOR'S CHAIR



Dennis E. Webster
302 N. Main St.
Copperas Cove, TX 76522-1703
(254) 547-6537
FirstCav@1cda.org



2013 is here and the Association is off and running towards another historic year. If the history books ultimately show that this (2013) was a good

year, we get the credit and if they show it to be a bad year we get the blame. Let's do what we can to make sure that this page in our history is a good one.

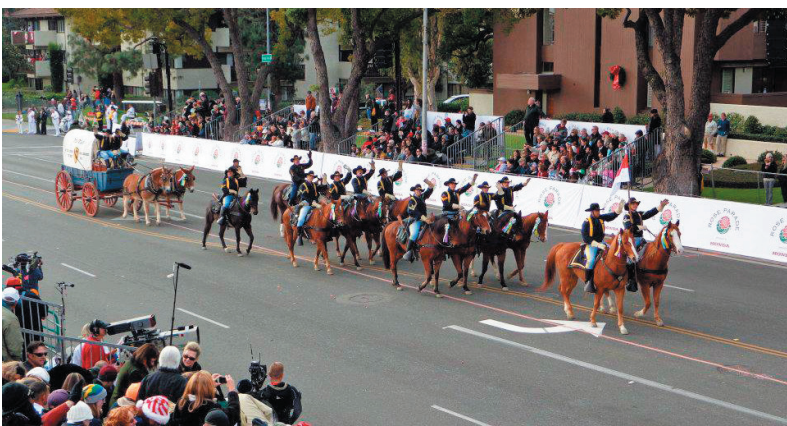
Coming up very soon is our regular, last weekend in February, meeting of the Association's Board of Governors and the Trustees of the Foundation and the Museum Foundation. Those that choose to run for office in the Association or either of the two foundations, meet twice yearly, first in February at Fort Hood and then at the reunion, wherever it is held. Since these are all volunteer positions, no compensation is provided to them for travel or lodging. The officers, board members and trustees come from all over the country; from Oregon to New Jersey to Florida to Wyoming to Texas and all parts in between. Our Association and the two Foundations could not function without them and their service is greatly appreciated. We elect all three Vice Presidents, half of the Board of Governors and a third of the Trustees of the Foundations every year at the Annual Reunion. If you are interested in serving the Association or one of the Foundations now is the time to submit your paperwork. An Official Election Notice is in this issue and is also posted on our web page <www.1cda.org/election_notice.htm>. You will be asked to provide proof of service with the 1st Cavalry Division and a short biographical sketch to the Nominating Committee.

Our Association will meet for the 66th consecutive year at the Reunion in Killeen/Fort Hood from 5-9 June. Reunions are always special and as good as the small unit reunions are there is something about a Division reunion that makes it special. If you have not attended one, block the dates and make the trip to Texas.

We have five different locations from four Chapters and a group of First Team Veterans bidding to host the 2016 Reunion and I will be scheduling site visits to several of the locations to see how well they can meet our needs. I'll then compile a site comparison for our Reunion Site Selection Committee to review. They will likely pare the list down to the top three locations and the vote on where we hold the 2016 Reunion will be held at the General Membership meeting during the reunion in Killeen in June.

You may be a member of other military associations, like the Combat Infantryman Association, the Military Order of the Purple Heart or the Korean War Veterans Association. The KWVA is looking for all that served in Korea to join. Visit their web page at <<http://kwva.org/>> for details and an application to join.

Horse Detachment by 1LT Jason Vaughn



The Horse Cavalry Detachment in the 2013 Rose Bowl Parade.

2013 Rose Bowl Parade in Pasadena, California. To close out the year, the Horse Cavalry detachment participated in the Veterans Day Parades in Elgin, Texas and also one in Dallas to honor those who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces. We also participated in the Christmas in the Country Parade in Lorena, Texas and also the Copperas Cove Christmas Parade to open up the holiday season.

Right before our block leave period, Troopers worked night and day and sometimes on weekends to ensure no stone was left unturned to prepare for our three-day trip to California. Everything from loading trucks to shoeing horses, these troopers excelled in every way possible. Right before our departure, MG Anthony Ierardi, the Commanding General of the 1st Cavalry Division recognized two troopers for their exceptional performance at the Cav Cup in Fort Riley, Kansas. We would like to congratulate SGT Jessie Hurst and SGT Janessa Kabelo once again for their accomplishments.

Our trip to Pasadena and participation in the Rose Bowl parade was a magnifi-

Continued on pg. 2.

DIVISION DOINGS

The following stories have been written by the 1st Cavalry Division Public Affairs office to provide an overview of some of the First Team's recent activities. Most of the 1st Cavalry Division is currently at Fort Hood or involved in training at the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, California or other installations. The 4th Brigade Combat Team is currently deployed in Afghanistan while all other elements of the First Team continue to train for the future. For additional stories and information visit the Division's web page at <www.hood.army.mil/1stcavdiv/> and like the 1st Cavalry Division Facebook page.

Long Knife Soldier Watches Birth via Skype by 1LT Rachel Sykes, 4th BCT, PAO



SPC Christopher Chavez at the keyboard in Afghanistan.

LAGHMAN PROVINCE, Afghanistan (Jan. 7, 2013) -- While many are familiar with the 1970s song "Love Will Keep Us Together" by The Captain and Tennille, the title can be tweaked for the 21st century to "Technology Will Keep Us Together."

SPC Christopher Chavez, a 20-year-old intelligence analyst from A Company, 4th Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, witnessed the birth of his first child via Skype, from Forward Operating Base Gamberi, Afghanistan.

Alice Renee Chavez was born January 3, to Chavez and his wife Paige, both from Buckeye, Arizona.

In a perfect world, Christopher would have been physically present to welcome his baby girl into the world. Fortunately, Skype was readily available to connect the father to his wife and baby during this exciting time.

"It was one of the best feelings I have ever experienced," he said. "Seeing both my wife and my newborn while in Afghanistan was incredible."

Christopher's chain of command was equally excited about him becoming a father. "I know it is difficult to miss the birth of a child, and a father's firstborn is particularly special, but Specialist Chavez has proven to be a vital member of our company," said CPT Eric Francis, A Company commander, from Muscatine, Iowa. "While I wish he could be home to help his wife with their daughter, I am certainly glad to have Specialist Chavez on our team."

Christopher, who was recently recognized as the 1st Cavalry Division's hero of the week, experienced the usual stress and anxiety that goes along with having

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ADDRESS
CHANGE

Don't Keep it a SECRET, Let us Know About It.
To submit by e-mail, send to membership@1cda.org.
Clip and Mail to 1st Cavalry Division Association
302 N. Main, Copperas Cove, TX 76522-1703

Last 4 #'s of your SSN _____ DOB _____
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Rank and Name: _____
New Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Unit: (1) _____ and (2) _____
Date of Assign: (1) _____ and (2) _____
E-Mail: _____

I served with the 1st Cav. Div. in (Circle one or more) Pre-WWII WWII
JAPAN KOREAN WAR KOREA '57-'65 FT BENNING VIETNAM
FT HOOD GULF BOSNIA AFGHANISTAN IRAQ FT BLISS
I DO/DO NOT authorize release of my personal info to Assn. members.
I served with another military unit during a war time period? YES NO

SABER

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e-mail: firstcav@1cda.org

Home Page: <http://www.1cda.org>

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ASSISTANT EDITOR: Martha E. Fisher

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Dennis E. Webster

SNOWBIRDS

If you have two addresses during the year, we need to know them. Please give us the dates and addresses for both households.

(Circle one) Winter Summer

Rank and Name: _____
LAST 4#s SSN: _____ DOB _____
1: Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Dates: _____ Tel: (_____) _____
2: Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Dates: _____ Tel: (_____) _____

Calendar of 1st Cavalry Division Association Events
2013

June 5-9 66th Annual Reunion, Killeen, Texas
November 8-11 Veterans Day Gathering, Arlington, Virginia and
Washington, DC

Horse Detachment
Continued from pg. 1.

MG Ierardi, SGT Hurst, SGT Kabela and
1LT Vaughn during CG's visit.

cent event that few service members get to experience. Our week began with our attendance to the Equestrian Reception followed by the Equest-fest at the Los Angeles Equestrian Center and finally the Rose Bowl Parade on 1 January. We would like to thank all the individuals who helped us with the organization of the parade to make it a success.

2013 brings even more excitement for the Horse Cavalry Detachment; immediately after our return to Fort Hood, the detachment will be traveling to Fort Worth, Texas to participate at the Fort Worth Stock Show parade on January 19th and then performing a demonstration at

the Fort Worth Stock and Rodeo on February 4th, make sure you come out and support the Cavalry if you are in the area.

As always, we conduct practice demonstrations at the detachment on Thursdays at 1000 hours, this is the time we use to train new mounts and troopers and invite the public to come out and enjoy the show. Feel free to call ahead and reserve some seats at (254) 287-2229. You can also find us on facebook (Horse Cavalry Detachment) where we post pictures from the barn and let you know about upcoming events and ceremonies.

OTHER REUNIONS

B Co., 1-8th CAV, 1969-1970, "Pig Iron", 15-17 March 2013. La Quinta Inn, Fort Lauderdale, FL. Contact Dan Houmes, <prov227@aol.com>, (954) 489-0684.

B Co. 2-8th CAV 1967-1968, "Eager Arms". 1-5 May 2013. Homewood Suites, Nashville, TN. Contact Gene Hedberg, <ghedberg@midiaowa.net>.

Aerial Rocket Artillery Association, 5-9 June 2013. Days Inn, Hershey, PA. Information at <www.araassociation.com/2013_reunion.html>.

8th Cavalry Regiment Association and Angry Skipper, 19-23 June 2013. Holiday Inn Bayside, San Diego, CA. Information at <www.8cavalry.org/info-cmrn.htm>.

5th US Cavalry Association, 20-24 August 2013. Park Vista Hotel, Gatlinburg, TN. Information at <www.5thcav.org/2013reunioninfo.html>.

New Members Listing

E-4 AVERY, RICHARD SD MED 8C 5407
COL BAUMER, RICHARD E. CA 62INF 6801
E-4 BEHRNES, GARY L. KS E 1-8C 6912
SSG BOQUIN, KENNY M. TX HHC 2BCT 1206

ARTICLE SUBMISSION

Manuscripts should be originals or clear copies, either typed or printed double-spaced in near-letter quality printer mode. Word processor submissions are accepted via e-mail or a mailed CD in WORD. Please include a printout. Attach a self-adhesive label with photo information to the back of photos and cutlines for each photo (and where you would like them placed). Include name and address if the photo is to be returned. Please do not send panoramic photos wider than 8.5 in.

Articles should be received at National Headquarters no later than the 1st of every odd month. Any article received after the 1st of the month will be put in on a space available basis.

Opinions expressed are the writers and not necessarily those of the *Saber* or the 1st Cavalry Division Association.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To be considered for publication, letters should net exceed 300 words and should be of general interest and in good taste. Letters express the writer's opinion, not that of the *Saber* or the 1st Cavalry Division Association.

Political endorsement, "thank you" notes and poetry cannot be used. Form letters or third-party letters are not acceptable. Letters which contain libelous or obviously untrue statements will be automatically rejected.

All letters must be signed with addresses and telephone numbers included. Names will be used with the letters but addresses and phone numbers may be omitted. Letters also may be edited for length or clarification.

We reserve the right to reject for publication any letter received. Unused letters will not be acknowledged.

Letters to the Editor



Dear Editor,

I am a retired First Sergeant and a member of the 1st Cavalry Division Association. I served with B Company 1-7 Cavalry from December '65 to November '66 in Vietnam.

Just saying - eventually we all get our names called out on a final roll call, and my choice was to be a little better prepared than some others. I wanted my ashes to be interned at my father's grave site in an ammo can, but found out there are state laws that prohibit certain urn materials. I contacted Honorable Memories, a company that specializes in military urns; and they made me a look-alike ammo can urn that is above and beyond the ordinary. I am including a photo of the urn and contact info for Honorable Memories so that others who might have the same line of thought that I had will not struggle looking for an urn that is already there for purchase. Contact info is: Philip or Curt Miller: (701) 751-3975, E-mail <honorable.memories@gmail.com>, web site <www.honorablememories.com>.

Garryowen to us all!

Respectfully, Van R Wilson, 1SG, USA (Ret)



Dear Editor,

I just wanted to take a moment to express my gratitude towards this scholarship program. Without the efforts of this fund helping me with my tuition, I would be nowhere near my goal of completing college with a degree in business. This program has lifted a huge weight off my shoulders and I feel so grateful for being able to depend on this program each semester. I also know that this program has lifted a huge weight off my parent's shoulders too. I know they work so hard to keep a roof over my head and food on the table, so I know how appreciative they are to have one less thing to worry about. I honestly feel that there is no imaginable way I could make this up to my generous and bighearted Paw Paw Denny, whom is the reason I have this scholarship program in the first place. I thank God every day for having him in my life. This scholarship has given me so much motivation towards college and I cannot even fathom how lucky I am to do so much in college and have this experience without any student debts. Thank you, thank you, thank you for this opportunity you have given me. I intend to make you all proud.

Sincerely, Alyssa Blankenship



Dear Editor,

I am grateful for this scholarship from the Foundation of the 1st Cavalry Division Association to help continue my education. I love college and learning and with this scholarship I get to continue on my quest for a degree from my university. When I get out of college I will always remember what the 1st Cavalry Division Association Foundation scholarship did for me and my family to lessen our financial burden and I will be and am eternally grateful.

Sincerely, Brian Ruth



Dear Editor,


I would like to take this time to thank everyone in the 1st Cavalry Division Association for awarding me one of the scholarships for the 2012-13 academic year. This scholarship will help me and my family with the stifling costs of books as well as allow me to finally earn my BS in Fire Protection Engineering at the University of Maryland. I am truly grateful for the assistance you have provided for myself, my family and countless others over the years and want you to know that we all thank you for everything you have done and continue to do.

Respectively, Kevin Ruth.


BG BRIDGES, MIKE AK HHC 1BCT 06
SP-5 BUKOWSKI, LAWRENCE JAMES MI HHC 1-8C 6903
MR. CICERO, BARRY C. IL 1-ASSOC
SGT COULTER, DANIEL F. NC 545MP 6705
SP-4 CRECELIUS, DAVID TX B 1-12C 7504
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LIFE APPLICATION/SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL BUSINESS STYLE CARDS are available at 200 for \$15.00. No hassle with having to carry legal size sheets of paper (Life Membership Applications) or sub forms. Orders will be sent to printers for printing when 3-4 are accumulated. Please be patient with us. Sample below. (Actual size 3" x 2")



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\$25 makes you a D-Troop member plus a one year subscription.

\$50 makes you a D-Troop member plus a one year subscription and you receive a suitable poster or print.

\$100 makes you a D-Troop member plus a one year subscription and you receive a First Team print.

\$500 makes you a Silver Brigade member plus a 10 year subscription.

\$1,000 makes you a Gold Brigade member plus a 20 year subscription.

All D-Troopers receive certificates suitable for framing.

Brigade members receive handsome 1st Cavalry wall plaque.

All donors (\$25 or more) receive mention in the Honor Roll column and may dedicate gifts. D-Troop milestones can be achieved cumulatively. We will keep track of your contributions..

Associate Membership - for those with no service with the 1st Cav. Div.

\$15 one year Associate membership plus a one year subscription.

\$150 Life Associate plus a five year subscription and you receive a framed certificate.

LAST 4 NUMBERS OF SSN _____ DOB _____

Rank _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Phone (_____) _____

Dates Assigned (1) _____ (2) _____

I served with 1st Team in Unit (1) _____ and (2) _____

E-mail _____

I Authorize release of information to: No one____ Other Members only____

Other Members and USAA Only____.

I served with the 1st Cavalry Division in (Circle one or more)

Pre-WWII WWII Japan Korean War Korea '57-'65 Fort Benning

Vietnam War Fort Hood Gulf War Bosnia Afghanistan Iraq Fort Bliss

Have you served with any other military unit during a war time period? YES NO

New Members Listing
Continued from pg. 2.
E-5 DAVIS, BENNIE E. SC C 2-8C 68
CSM (RET) EUGSTER, MICHAEL G. CA HHC 1-7C 5805
SGT EWINGS, II, WILLIE EDWARD TX C 27BSB 1112
SFC FRIZZELL, JACK MS B 2-17FA 6705
PFC GOMEZ, JOE NM 6-14FA 6510
E-5 GRONDIN, GEORGE OR C 227AVN 6810
MSG HAYES, JOHN OK MED 5C 5210
SPC HOLMAN, MIRANDA TX HHBN 1CDH 1206
LTC JERNIGAN, DAVID S. VA 191MI 7105
SSG JOHNSON, DONIELLE TX HSC 615ASB 1008
CPT JONES, DAVID P. IL HHB DIVARTY 6901
SP-4 KLEIN, JOHN C. MI A 5-7C 6905
SP-4 LaGIOIA, GUY NV HHC 15TC 6507
MSG LEE, EDWARD CA B 1-9C 8002
SPC MARTIN, MICHAEL NM C 2-7C 9503
CW2 McBRIDE, DEON C. TX I&S HHBN 1208
MR. McSHERRY, ROBERT MD 1-ASSOC
CPT MEEHAN, SHANNON P. PA D 1-12C 0605
SP-5 MEISMER, KENNETH A. CO HHC 2-5C 6611
SGT MICHALAK, DAVID MI D 1-5C 6804
LTC PAGE, BERTRAND A. VA 11PATH 6706
SSG PULS, MARIA FEDELEZ D. TX I&S HHBN 1211
SFC RASCHLE, RICHARD R. WA 228AVN 6509
SFC (RET) RUUD, GERALD L. GA A 15TC 7101
SP-4 SCHAEFER, GREGORY LAYNE PA HHC 1-12C 7903
SSG SISSON, TRAVIS CO 1-9C 0802
E-5 SMITH, RODNEY L. ID C 227AVN
SP-4 SPOTTS, CHUCKSEY NY A 1-50INF 6709
MSG THOMAS, STEPHEN TX E 2-8C 12
E-5 TILLMAN, ROBERT ALLEN FL C 1-7C 68
SFC TORRES-DIAZ, RENE TX HHT 1-7C 9206
PFC WEIGAND, DONALD H. OH B 5C 4602

Thank you for joining the 1st Cavalry Division Association!
Once Cav - Always Cav!

CHAPTER NEWS

JAMES J. MASON WEST MICHIGAN CHAPTER
The Chapter hosted our annual end of the year potluck dinner at the Armory NCO Club on 20 December. We again had the privilege of hosting Bingo at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans on 30 December with 71 residents in attendance. They are a lively bunch with decades of service represented by all branches of service.
In the last report, I erroneously reported that Ed Henk had been elected as Vice President when in fact it was Steve Lowery that received that honor. Our next scheduled meetings will be on 18 April and 18 July at 1900 hours at the GV Armory (no change). Please visit our web page at <www.jjmwmc1cd.com> to see what we are up to or for more information. Robert Anderson, Secretary

NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY CHAPTER
On October 20, we were honored to have LTC Andrew T. Poznick as speaker for our meeting. LTC Poznick is a student in the U.S. Army War College. He shared his experience with the 1st Cavalry Division as a battalion and brigade S-3 and battalion commander during two deployments to Iraq in support of Operations IRAQI FREEDOM and NEW DAWN. He was the Commander of the last combat battalion, 1-12 Cavalry to leave Iraq in 2011.

Also speaking to the chapter, at our meeting was Dr. Nicholas Molnar of the Rutgers Oral History Archives. The Archives seeks to record the narrative of New Jersey residents who served during times of conflict. Over 27,000 pages of full-text, searchable oral histories are just a click away at <http://oralhistory.rutgers.edu/>! The primary source material collected by the Rutgers Oral History Archives since 1994 is available to students, teachers, researchers and scholars free of charge and without restriction. Long-time staff member of the Rutgers Oral History Archives, Jesse Bradell also spoke about his experiences in Iraq with the New Jersey National Guard. Bob Arbasetti, President

NORTH CAROLINA TARHEEL CHAPTER



The Chapter meeting on December 8, 2012.

The Chapter met at Mariani's Restaurant in Pembroke on 8 December. During our meeting, Tommy Blankenship was recognized as the "Lieutenant General John Tolson Trooper of the Year" for 2012. His service to our Chapter resulted in his receiving this award. Tommy served in 1-7 Cavalry and the Division Headquarters in Vietnam in 1969-70.

Our next meeting will be held on 9 March in the Fayetteville area. This meeting

will mark our 20th Anniversary as a Chapter of the 1st Cavalry Division Association. Our Chapter is bidding to host the 2016 Reunion of the Association in Fayetteville. Allen Norris, President

Division Doings Continued frompg. 1.

an expecting wife, not to mention being deployed more than 7,000 miles away. "To be honest I feel the same as I did yesterday, but a weight has been lifted off my shoulders now that my baby is out and healthy and my wife is perfectly fine," he said.

Paige Chavez looks forward to her husband's redeployment later this year. She is finding out that the task of taking care of a newborn by herself can be quite an undertaking. Thankfully, both sets of little Alice's grandparents are there to help her mom out.

"I was happy that my husband could join me, even if it was on Skype," she said. Although many of Christopher's family and friends are stateside, he appreciated the support from his fellow soldiers.

"The support from my co-workers was a real boost as well as the large amount of congratulations," he said. Christopher looks forward to his future in the army and adding to his family.

"I plan to remain in the Army until I can retire at 20 years," he said. "If not, I plan on going to college and getting a degree in psychology, sociology or zoology. As for my family plans, we want to have, at most, another two children, one boy and one girl. I hope for another two boys, but I won't stop until I get at least one."

Medics Certify New Lifesavers, Gain Instructor Skills by SGT Quentin Johnson, 2nd BCT, 1st Cav. Div. Public Affairs

FORT HOOD, Texas – The Army Combat Lifesaver is a bridge between the first aid given to all Soldiers during basic training and the medical training given to combat medics, according to the Medical Simulation Training Center, Fort Carson, Colorado.

Ensuring cavalry scouts with the 4th "Dark Horse" Squadron, 9th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, are prepared to aid medics during combat trauma situations, approximately 50 Dark Horse Soldiers completed a combat lifesaver course here, December 4 to 7.

Continued on pg. 4.



B Troop Soldiers strap PFC Richard Roach into an improvised litter during CLS training.

61st FA News



Gordon Cress
6562 Windflower Dr.
Carlsbad, CA 92011-2508
(760) 918-0470
Gordon@DLSea.Net



We l -
come to the
New Year!
Hope you
all had a
great holi-
day season.

Here's looking forward to a terrific 2013. And please don't forget Valentine's Day.

From Dick Weakley... "Hello Gordon, a few items for you. New address for James M. McKie, 1100 Linda Street B 207, Fort Morgan, CO 80701. Some sad news regarding Richard Martens. He was first informed that he had Parkinson disease and was unable to walk. Later they found he had water on his brain. It was removed and he's doing very well as reported by his sister, Shirley. He's now at Wynwood Care Center, 721 Northeast 27th Street, McMinnville, OR 97128 and the phone is (503) 435-0100. Bobby Stouts daughter reported that he's not doing so well and is now in a rest home." The passing of George Reberman (May 25, 1931-June 19, 2012) was reported in the last *Saber* article, but Dick sent along this additional information... George took basic in 1952 at Fort Smith, Arkansas and was then assigned to the 61st. He served in Korea and Japan and was discharged at Camp Carson, Colorado in July of 1954. He was buried in Baldwin, Kansas." Thanks, Dick, for the note and information on our 61st friends and comrades.

Just a reminder that these articles on the 61st FA are available via e-mail attachment in PDF format. The pictures are much bigger, mostly in color and the font is larger, making it much easier to read. Anyone interested in receiving them via e-mail just has to drop me a line or give me a call and I'll be glad to add you to the distribution list.

In early November, we held the San Diego Ride for Kids motorcycle charity ride event. We had nearly 300 riders show up to support the great work done by the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation. About a half dozen kids who were brain tumor survivors joined us for the 50-mile ride. It was truly inspiring to meet them and hear their stories. It was a great cause and our local Gold Wing motorcycle riders chapter hosted it.

My wife and I took another week off from this hectic retirement life in Carlsbad right after Thanksgiving. We stayed at a place called Desert Breezes in Palm Desert. That's in the Palm Springs area for those of you not familiar with Southern California. We had a very nice time in a spacious condo. The daughter and granddaughter Jillian (7 years old) spent a couple of days with us. Jill is really into her swimming these days and naturally grandpa had to join her in the pool. Let me assure you that two hours in the pool with a 7-year-old is as good a total body workout as anyone could ask for! We also had some very nice dinners and took in the Fabulous Palm Springs Follies. It's an old-fashioned song and dance revue with all the performers on the northern side of 55. The oldest show girl was in her mid-70s and the oldest song and dance man was 84. The show is in its 22nd year and still going strong. I also took time to join the Palm Springs Senior Slowpitch Softball league fellows for some batting practice. That was fun and I met some really nice guys.

In early December, I joined about 30 other Can-am Spyder motorcycle riders in Oceanside for a group ride up to Long Beach to attend the International Motorcycle Show at the convention center. It was quite a sight to see those 1000s of motorcycles in the parking lot. We had more than 30 Spyders on the ride and it caused a few eyebrows to be raised along the I-5 as they watched our group go by. The motorcycle show was great with many many bikes on display from all the major manufacturers as well as a whole bunch of vendors hawking all sorts of motorcycle paraphernalia. I had a great time wandering around taking it all in.

Received this notice from Dennis at the 1st Cav Division Association... "Leslie Arthur Newman, Jr. another World War II combat veteran has passed away. Les, born in Riesel, Texas on July 5, 1921, passed away in Austin, Texas on November 27, 2012. Les graduated from Jefferson High School in San Antonio, Texas in 1938 and Texas A&M in 1942. On the same day that he graduated from college, he was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the US Army and married his high school sweetheart, Sybil Rollett. Les was an officer in the 61st Field Artillery Battalion, of the 1st Cavalry Division and participated in combat in both the Admiralty and Philippine Islands during the war. He was also part of the 1st Cavalry's initial occupation of Japan on September 2, 1945. Among a number of awards, Les received the Bronze Star and a Purple Heart for his war service in the Pacific. After World War II, Les remained in the Army Reserves until his retirement as a Colonel. Les lived in San Antonio for almost 60 years and for many of them he worked for the Ziegler Glass Company where he retired as Vice-President. He moved to Austin, Texas in 2002 and became an expert model ship builder. He also enjoyed spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren and playing contract bridge. He was dearly loved by many people and will be greatly missed. Les was preceded in death by Sybil, his wife of 60 years and a daughter, Shelley. He is survived by two other daughters, Sybil Raney and Lorraine Newman; a son William Newman, three grandchildren and a brother Russ Newman. A graveside service with full military honors took place on December 3, 2012 at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery.

On December 11th received this sad note... "Dear Mr. Cress, I am writing to inform you of the death of my father, T-5 Lynn E. Hall of Evansville, Indiana. He died peacefully on November 21 at the age of 94. Dad was so proud to have been a member of the 1st Cavalry Division before and during WWII. He joined in 1941 when there were still horses. He told many stories of his time in the Army. He served in the South Pacific. The staff at the nursing home loved to hear his stories and they even brought school kids in to talk with him. He was living history and he loved to share. He always looked forward to reading the *Saber* to see if there was news of anyone he knew. He had a wonderful military funeral by the Vanderburgh County Retired Veterans. My brother and I were and are proud of him. Thank you for all that you do to keep the lines of communication flowing among all the men and women who have served and are now serving. Sincerely, Carol L. Hall." Thanks so much to Carol for letting us know about her Dad and our condolences to her and the family.

From Bill Stewart... "Gordon, Pat and I just got back from Branson on December 13. We had a few loose ends on the reunion and we got them finalized. We have

planned something new this year since the Belle has the same show. We will try out the Music Hall buffet for our evening meal on Tuesday evening and then walk down the hall to see their evening show featuring "New South". They have a very good show that Pat and I really like. As for the motel and hospitality room, it is all the same. For those who attended last year, they know all about that and they all liked it very well. Had some more bad news though, Jane Mohr, wife of Percy - A Btry, 1949-51, passed away in November. She was a regular attendee with Percy and will be missed by us all. Our Indiana weather hasn't been too bad so far but I am waiting for old man winter to get mad at us. We will get all the information on the reunion to you later. As always, any of the 61st Younguns



Warren Sand and his 1927 Ford Coupe and Pickup Truck.

are welcome to join us for the fun!" Thanks for the update, Bill.

Received a very nice letter from Warren Sand... "Hi, well it's Christmas again and that's good. It was a good year as I'm still on top of the grass. I've enclosed some pictures from yesterday. I was on



SFC Ewald Spehling, Warren Sand and Ernest Osborn in the A Btry motor pool.

gun #3 until late March of 1954, then I got in the motor pool; no more KP. The model T Ford I'm standing by is my 1927 pickup with 21-inch tires and a big 4 cylinder engine that puts out 20 hp. It will do 35 mph, but will last longer at 25 mph. The coupe is a 1927 model also. We



Warren Sand and Conrad Koble.

drive them around in the summer a bit. My farm is 14 miles from town so I don't need to worry about cops. Have a good one, Warren." Thanks a lot, Warren. Appreciate hearing from you and your sending along these photos.



SGT Slone and Warren Sand on his first trip downtown.

I'm assuming that first trip downtown was to the fair city of Jinmachi.

Received this from Pete and Shirley Coppock... "A note about Paul Welsh. Just wanted you all to know that we shared the recent e-mail edition of the *Saber* article with Kathy Jo and inquired about Paul. The following is her response. God bless you and your families with a Great Christmas. Pete and Shirley." Here's the note from Kathy Jo... "Shirley, hope this finds you and Pete enjoying better health. Paul is better now again. He was real sick and in the hospital where he lost a lot of weight, his teeth and his glasses. He can no longer seem to form words so he doesn't talk much, just sits and wastes away. I hope his memories are pleasant! His daughter moved him to the Schuyler County Nursing Home in Queen City closer to his stepdaughter. I don't get to talk to him on the phone anymore because he gets so frustrated. All he says is "come get me, come get me." It is heartbreaking! Thank you for the e-mail about the reunion etc. It is nice to remember those happy days together. Have a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year. Kathy Jo Rinderknecht."

Along the way we've received wishes for a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from Dick Weakley, Ted Covington, Bill McSpadden, Rex Lockhart, Grady Tucker, Pete Coppock, Jim Brown, Jim Miller, Hill and Sandy Hansen and others. Always nice to hear from you 61st folks.

One last sad note to report... Russell Schafer of Fairfield, Iowa passed away on December 23rd at the age of 89. Russell served with C Battery of the 61st from 1942 to 1945 and was wounded in the Admiralty Islands. He is survived by his wife, Raberta. Our condolences to her and the family.

Take care, 'Sta Bueno and keep those cards, letters, phone calls and e-mails coming!

Division Doings

Continued from pg. 3.

The first of the year squadron-wide CLS class included lectures, slides, hands-on, practical exercises, lane training and a written test, SFC Celester Harris said.

Soldiers learned advanced first aid procedures in controlling bleeding, pressure dressings, tourniquet applications, airway management, and tactical care operations such as care under fire and assessing wounded on the battlefield, Harris, a Dark Horse medical platoon sergeant, explained.

Combat lifesavers are vital during deployment in the fight against a battlefield threat Harris calls "blood loss."

One of the most important things taught in class is control the bleeding while not trying to cause further harm to the wounded, PVT Tyler Debozy, a Dark Horse cavalry scout, said.

"Statistically, 60% of all preventable deaths in combat are due to blood loss,"

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5th CAV News



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First Season
Back: Fall
is here and
almost gone.
The colors are
a treat. They
encourage me

to get back into hunting. I love squirrel hunting. For those of you that don't know, squirrel hunting involves finding a beautiful place in the woods, sitting down and leaning back against a big oak or hickory tree, putting your gun across your lap and lightly snoozing; waiting to snap off a quick shot. It's a small thing that anyone can do that is 'rest for the soul'. I received my first rifle (pellet gun) at about the age of 8. Although my father was recovering from a serious heart attack and could no longer hunt, he taught me the two rules of shooting. (Dad's Rule # 1--never point your gun at anyone unless you're going to shoot them). I taught myself to hunt. I became a self-taught pellet gun 'snap shooter'. I would walk up frogs, tadpoles, insects, dove, chipmunks, songbirds, pigeons, squirrels, woodchuck and rodents at the local dump. Through trial and error I became very accustomed and very good at walking up game with a light low caliber weapon that could be brought to the shoulder smoothly and quickly and fired accurately all within the blink of an eye. I could catch most game sitting in that moment just before they exploded into the air or bounded off. When I was about 12 my grandfather gave me his shotgun. It was a double-barrelled 1906 Parker. It was a big, beautiful, heavy, old-fashioned 12 gauge goose gun with a 32 inch barrel. It delivered shot with such energy and power that game would explode into nothing but feathers or fur. The kick knocked me about so much that I developed a stubborn flinching habit. My father recruited his best friend to teach me to hunt and shoot. Ed Austin was a larger than life character. He was a World War I combat veteran; a National Trap and Skeet Champion, a Tournament Casting Champion, and a bona fide guide hunter, trapper and fisherman. Respected outdoorsman such as Ed Austin were often called 'Snake-Hunters'. Snake-hunters always brought game home. Ed was a real life combination of John Wayne, Woody Hayes and Zane Grey. Even in his 60's Ed made shooting a shot-gun look as smooth as dancing. He used smoothness, rhythm and great follow through to control the big shot-guns and heavy loads. On an average day he would usually shoot at least 45 out of 50 clay pigeons. Ed spent a number of weeks working with me to smooth out my shooting style. To no avail though, I never hit more than 10 out of 50 clay pigeons. He invited me on one pheasant hunting trip. The men that Ed hunted with were old friends and all were WWI combat vets. They were all experienced hunters and gunners. They shot big shot-guns and shot them well. Ed would plan the excursions like a pro guide. He brought all the right things together at the right time: the right corn field, the right hunters, the right wind, the right cover, the right dogs, the right time of day, etc. They also brought a new guy. The new guy was a WWI combat vet. But, he was different. He was very hesitant, no self-confidence, overly cautious and very nervous. It was like he was walking wounded. I was too young, inexperienced, insensitive and self-centered to figure out the new guy. Ed and his compatriots knew. WWI Vets called his condition 'shell-shock'. The day we spent hunting was perfect, lots of warm fall sunlight, lots of standing corn, lots of pheasant, lots of good hunting dogs and good guys. Afterwards, I looked at the new guy and his demeanor had changed. Although still a little pensive and anxious, he was enjoying the day, not living in the past. At the end of the hunt, the guys celebrated his good day afield and a little healing. The dogs and I were sent to hunt a small nearby field, while the men talked and shared 'coffee' from the trunk of Ed's car. Sadly, I never had the privilege of hunting with any of these guys again. That day I got my first pheasant. I 'snap-shot' it with my grandfathers goose gun.

Middle School, High School and a couple of years at OSU went by quickly. I was drafted in 1966 and sent to Sand Hill, Fort Benning, Georgia. Sand Hill was a mothballed WWI basic training area located 'out in the boondocks'. It was primitive, but not that bad. I was in good shape so the physical challenges of boot camp really did not affect me. What did bother me was rifle qualification. They ran us out to the range, lined us up and gave us our rifles. My memory is not what it used to be, (not that it ever was). But, I think my first Army qualification was with a bolt-action rifle. If so, it had to be an 03' Springfield. If not, it was a M-1 Garand. Either way it was a big gun, with a really big kick. Plus, it had been fired and cleaned so many times that it was loose. You could not get a good shot group. My shooting flinch returned after a couple of shots and I did not qualify. Later, about the third time, I did marginally qualify. I had the same marginal qualification results in AIT with a M14. I never did get proficient with the big Army rifles. I didn't like any of them, including the M-14. On the plane going over to Vietnam I was sitting there worrying (a bad habit of mine). What was I going to do in a war zone? I couldn't hit the broad side of a barn. Plus, I had heard all the lies and propaganda out of Moscow and Beijing about how the M16 was a below par weapon. And, how that if it got even one little bit of dust, sand or lint in the firing mechanisms that it would fail completely, at the very worst possible moment. And, how that the Viet-Cong and NVA would be armed with the best combat rifle ever made, the AK-47. Communist propaganda asserted that revolting peasants around the world could throw the AK into a mud puddle, kick it around, jump up and down on it, pour wet sand into the breach, drop it into the bottom of their out-house, pull it out again and make a 350 yard head shot with ease! When I got to the base at An Khe, they took us to the range and gave me my new M-16. It was as though the clouds parted and voices came out of the sky. I liked everything about that little rifle. It was clean, it was quick, it was light, it was responsive, it was smooth and it had enormous velocity. It was a rifle that you could hug to your shoulder, lean into and fire accurately; no kick and no flinch. The perfect rifle for a snap shooter. The range NCOIC put us into the prone shooting position, ordered us to lock and load a three round clip and had us fire our first group for zeroing-in. After firing I went down range and could not believe my eyes. My first three shots were dead center, bulls-eye. The shot group was the size of a dime. The NCOIC looked at my shot group and said, "you are good to go". I had qualified in less than 5 minutes. And, I knew I was 'good to go'; either at 25, 50, 100, or maybe even a lucky 150 yards. When I got to the field I was still

worried about reliability, even though the old guys said that reliability was not a problem. Regardless of the counsel of the old guys I decided to super clean that M16 at least once a day. I was still listening to the anti-M16 propaganda. After about 5 or 6 days of super cleanings one of the old guys, SGT Napier (a Bronze Star recipient from Kentucky, a good soldier, my squad leader and sometimes platoon leader), commented to me, "Foster, I think that is the cleanest rifle I have ever seen!" I was a classic new guy, I just couldn't or wouldn't hear what the old guys were saying. That same day I went to a far foxhole, sat myself down and cleaned my rifle yet again. CPT Carpenter my company commander was a mysterious guy. He never missed anything. He was always watching and listening; aware of what was going on out in the surrounding swamps, jungles, sand hills, mountains and also very aware of what was going on inside the Company. He could walk the company perimeter as quietly as a stalking hunter. You never knew when he would just show up. This was one of those times. Just as I was finishing cleaning my rifle, I brought it up to port-arms and let the bolt slam forward; simultaneously CPT Carpenter had just come up behind me and a little to the left. I had broken Dad's Rule # 2, "always treat every gun as if it was loaded." When the bolt slammed forward it fired the bullet that I didn't know was in the breech. The bullet whizzed by CPT Carpenter's head so closely that you could see his hair part. He looked pale, but kept a poker face as he turned on his heel and went back to the Headquarters pit. SGT Napier came down to the fox hole about a half hour later and ordered me to HQ to see CPT Carpenter. He was waiting for me. He went through military legal procedures and informed me that I was getting an Article 15. I knew I was wrong, and deserved whatever I got, no complaints. Just then 1SG Charlevoix, the First Shirt, walked up. He was a decorated Korean War Vet (maybe also WWII?) and a wise old combat leader (none better than 1SG Charlevoix, best soldier I have ever known). He asked about what was going on. He then pulled CPT Carpenter aside and they talked for about 15 minutes while I stood there. CPT Carpenter changed his mind after talking to 1SG Charlevoix. I didn't get an Article 15. But, I did get assigned to Field Mess KP duties.

Serving food and cleaning up didn't bother me. Plus, food servers were first in line for seconds. I always gladly volunteered for that duty. Being a new guy I did not know that whenever we came out of the field and went to a LZ someone from our company would be assigned to latrine duty. That someone was me. Latrine duty consists of pulling a very full half-of-a-50-gallon-drum from underneath a portable latrine seat, pouring about a quarter gallon of diesel fuel into the full pot, stirring it until appropriately mixed and throwing a lit match into the pot which causes it to flame up and turn the contents of the 'honey pot' into a burning, smoking, spitting, smoldering, stinking mess. There were about ten latrines. The other unlucky fellow who was assigned to latrine duty that day was a black guy from Georgia. He was an experienced combat soldier, older than me. He wore a red bandana, sunglasses, chains, a big expensive Seiko wristwatch and his front tooth had a gold cap with a diamond on it. After a while we worked out a good system that was very efficient and before too long we were mainly just standing around, leaning on our shovels and talking. Every half hour or so we would move stuff or stir one or more of the burning honey pots, but generally we just talked. Finally, I wondered and talked about all the crazy stuff that was going on back in the states. I asked him what he thought about all the media's 'counter-culture heroes' and what they were saying about the war. He walked away. He began stirring a honey pot with his shovel and said, "You know, the more you stir the pot, the worse it stinks." He didn't have much more to say. The day was just about over. I never saw the guy again. (Whoever you are, if you are still out there give me a call. We can talk about the 'good old days'.) He made a great point though. Whenever you get that awful aroma in your nose it's because somebody is 'stirring the pot'. I never got latrine duty again.

My experience with my M16 was that it was a very reliable, accurate and tough little rifle. It was my constant companion. When I slept, I held it with my right hand. My company was almost always in contact with the enemy. We had many small engagements and firefights. We also had a number of larger engagements. The firepower of the many M16's coupled with CPT Carpenter's excellent tactical planning and coordination proved overpowering for the NVA at the Battle of Dong Ha just south of the DMZ. In one night 'D' Company annihilated a NVA battalion. The Korean War Vets often talk about their kill rates being so high that "we stacked the dead bodies up like cordwood". When I talk with them they always seem to have a better spiritual/psychological handle on these types of engagements than I do. For instance, SGT John Bowen, a WWII and Korean Vet (one of the Frozen Chosin of the 5th) and I were talking about this on the phone last week and he told me a way to solve this problem is to spend a lot of time seriously studying the Bible. Especially Genesis 18 and 19. (Also, like Gene Lang, he was injured, patched up and sent back to combat without a Purple Heart.) Anyway, I was right in the thick of the fighting. My shooting style and that excellent little rifle caused more enemy casualties than I had ever imagined that I could ever be responsible for. I spent nine months in Vietnam. When my tour was over I said goodbye to my squad and platoon, I said goodbye to my great little rifle and I got on a big plane and headed home to my wonderful wife.

The plane ride back across the Pacific was very sweet and a little bitter. When the plane lifted off everyone was in an odd state of disbelief. I think very few of us ever allowed ourselves to daydream about getting out. But, once the plane leveled off and the pilot told us to release the seat belts, everyone exploded with shouts of joy, celebration and victory. Everyone was out of their seats, shaking hands, shouting, singing and hugging one another. The poor stewardess got hugged to death. The pilot put everyone back into their seats. We all settled down. Oddly, now that I have time to think about it, I forgot to send up even a little breath-prayer of thanksgiving. But, we all had a lot on our minds. Once all the hooting and hollering stopped everyone settled in. Comparatively speaking, to a guy like me, the airplane seemed a quiet, sterile, empty place. I was accustomed to living outdoors. I had been completely in nature for 9 months, not in an aluminum tube crossing an ocean at 400 mph. I had been living in an incredibly tight intense inter-dependant social fellowship. I knew everyone in my squad and platoon as well as you know your brother, maybe better.

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12th CAV News



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'pac-o'lips' the talking heads played up for more than it was worth? That might be 5 or 6 now we have survived since I became aware and there is probably many more uncounted, or yet to come. Has the fiscal cliff taken you like a buffalo herd or has congress bridged the cliff they made? Always plenty of questions when one year ends and another starts, playing out and being answered as we go along. You do know the year could end/begin in April or June just as well, don't you; that no day/time point is finite? Seems to me that the political medicine show in all areas is more inflamed recently, that local logic and stump-water no longer cures the diseases it once did. If you are thinking all problems have been self-constructed and then hyper-inflated, you do catch my drift.

0130 Reunion So, new year, new Reunion. You have less than five months to do your planning, make your reservations, comb your hair, adjust your spats, and get to the 66th annual affair, June 5-9 in Killeen, Texas, you all! To all intents and purposes it looks to be a big, bold, and bounty affair, well planned by the Division Association and the Crossed Sabers Chapter. Fort Hood looms like a monolith and surely you can find plenty to do, if only sending the family shopping and then haunting the hospitality room, chewing the fat with other veterans; the main reason for reunions, anyway. The planning for your pleasure has been finalized, all you need do is sign-up, plan-up, travel-up, and show-up in central Texas with your male and female friends, your luggage and a change of underwear, your camera and medications, and avail yourself of a once in a lifetime vacation. All you could wish to know is in this *Saber* and on the website, so, "Make it so." (All vacations are a once in a lifetime vacation, just saying.)

0330 Colonel (Ret) Al Freeland, of Elizabethtown, Kentucky has been asked by the Association to be our new Vice President, filling the remaining portion of the term David W. Clemons relinquished to become President. Trooper Freeland has accepted this call to duty and been installed into his office. COL Freeland served in Vietnam with A 2-12 Cavalry, in 1968-69. The membership will vote on this office at the Association meeting in Killeen, Texas in June.

0530 Sergeant Dick H. Lupo, C Troop, 12th Cavalry Regiment, 1944-45 passed to Fiddlers Green on August 13. He was 86. He is survived by daughters Tori and Joi, and several nephews and nieces. He enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1943 and served honorably for two years during World War II in the Pacific Theater with the 1st Cavalry Division. After the war, he worked in local movie theaters as an usher and manager, and was a lifelong fan of Hollywood and the movies. He later became a brick mason and remained so until he retired. Some of his legacies are the many homes, buildings, and churches he built in Phenix City, Columbus, and the surrounding area. <Columbus Ledger-Enquirer>



Dave Bialk

0730 SP4 David R. 'Dave' Bialk, 56, of Greensburg, Indiana passed to Fiddlers Green on April 21, 2011. Dave was a member of the U.S. Army and served his country for 5 years. During part of his military service he served with the 3-12th Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Armored Division in Germany. He was retired from Valeo. Dave was born to ride. One of his greatest loves in life was his motorcycle and the open road. He is survived by his wife, Dawn; daughters and son. <Facebook>, <greensburgdailynews.com>.

<meaningfulfunerals.net>.

0930 Sergeant Vance N. Means, F Troop, 12th Cavalry Regiment, 90, of Brookhaven, Mississippi, passed to Fiddlers Green on September 22. SGT Means and his older brother, Oswald, joined the 1st Cavalry Division on August 7, 1940. During World War II, Trooper Means served, along with his brother, in the Philippines, Luzon, Bismark-Archipelago and New Guinea. He was awarded the Combat Infantryman's Badge, the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with four Bronze Stars, the Philippine Liberation Medal with two Bronze Stars, the Good Conduct Medal, the American Defense Service Medal, and a Purple Heart with two Oak Leaf Clusters. Following his discharge he went to work as a surveyor with the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey. He and his wife lived an extraordinary life, having lived, worked or visited almost every state in the union while traveling with a Coast Survey party. During his retirement years, he continued to work as a self-employed carpenter. Survivors include his wife Rachel, and daughter Juda. <weatherforddemocrat.com> <Trooper Winston A. McQuaig>.

1130 Technical Sergeant Daniel Larion, Floresville, Texas passed to Fiddlers Green sometime last year. We were notified when his Christmas card was returned by a daughter. To date we have been sent no corroborating details and have been unable to find anything online. Dates, survivors, and the military record of TSgt Larion are also unknown. We did however find this reference: "Technical Sergeant Daniel Larion, United States Army, was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action while serving with Troop F, 12th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division in the Pacific Theater of Operations on 30 October 1944. General Orders: Headquarters, 1st Cavalry Division, General Orders No. 14 (1945) Action Date: October 30, 1944" <militarytimes.com/citations-medals-award>

1330 Staff Sergeant Edward John Bickel, 62, of Harvard, IL passed to Fiddlers Green on August 17. He is survived by his wife Carla and son Earl, among others. Edward was drafted into the Army in 1968, serving in B 2-12 Cavalry. He continued Active and Reserve service until 1993. He was a 100% disabled Veteran. He had an Environmental Engineering Degree and retired as an Environmental Engineering Tech from Great Lakes Naval Training center in North Chicago, Illinois. <Legacy.suburbanchicagonews.com> May all of our fallen know peace, joy, and rest eternal. Our brothers and fellow troopers are never forgotten.

1530 Trooper Winston A. McQuaig of Columbus, Georgia gave me a telephone shout and notified me of the passing of his good friend and fellow F Troop trooper, Vance Means and also that of Daniel Larion. Trooper Winston took to heart my message to pick up the phone and notify me or the Division Association about the changes of life status of our cavalry friends and comrades. It was touching

0001 Journal opened: Hey Sailor, new in town? You all are looking mighty strange this year. Almost like you did last year. Did you survive the new year and Mayan calendar 'a-

to have Trooper McQuaig recall how everyone in F Troop knew each other and got along, and how the brothers Oswald and Vance looked each other up after each fire fight and battle, to relate what had transpired with each, and to see that the other was alive, well, and hearty. (Each survived the war but Oswald died within 5-6 years after returning.) Winston recalled being a 105mm gunner and never seeing one for the rest of the war after training, traveling 4 days and nights by troop train to get to the West Coast, being 27 days on a troop transport headed to Australia and one day out being diverted to the island where the Cav actually was by then. He also remembers getting mail every 4-5 weeks! He wished to find a Huntly with whom I could not help him, and a PFC Ralph McBride who was registered with the Div Association. Trooper McQuaig called me to tell me he had called Trooper McBride, found him in good health and had a quiet conversation for the first time since February or March of 1945. So grateful these two were



Christmas in Afghanistan

reacquainted and that I could help each!

1730 1-12 Chargers "Chargers and Charger Families, Your Chargers have been great over the last 2 weeks! Our time in the field doing CO STX was awesome - all 6 companies performed superbly, and most of us had a little fun along the way! Our busy time continues as we are packing containers, recovering our equipment, and we still have some Chargers out firing our make-up gunnery. As if this wasn't enough, we also have Echo Company moving company HQs to a new location, right in front of our 3rd Brigade HQs. Next week we'll continue more of the same, but we'll also be taking many of our vehicles through the process to be loaded on trains to go to NTC. I could not be prouder of your Charger soldier, or of the opportunity to serve with these great American men and women! Thanks to you for your support and I ask you to slow down and be safe as you prepare for the Holiday season!" ~ Charger 6, 12-7



1-12 Cav Spur Ride

1930 2-12 Thunderhorse deployed in Afghanistan. I will try to highlight a few of the activities of the battalion since last issue. (11-13) All Thunderhorse Troopers arrived safely in Afghanistan. (11-21) Three Soldiers from HHC, 2nd Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment won the Cav's first Pegasus Gran Prix run, November 21, at Fort Hood. The winners were SSF Wyatt Karney, PFC Kevin Lewis, and PV2 Danes Omosa. The team ran approximately 2.5 miles in 12-minutes and two-seconds. (11-28) Thanksgiving in Afghanistan. "Today is a day of thanks and the Thunderhorse Battalion celebrated Thanksgiving today with lots of food and desserts. We also recognized SPC Braye for his achievement in the First and Last Annual Turkey Shoot Out in which he placed first." (12-7) The Thunderhorse Battalion conducted their deployment patch ceremony today. All Soldiers were officially authorized to wear the 1st Cavalry Division patch on their right shoulder as proof of combat service. (12-9) BG Funk visited FOB Mehtar Lam for a situational update and presented coins to various Thunderhorse Soldiers. (12-13) "Congratulations to our 2-12 CAV Volunteers of the Month! Thank you Ladies for all you do!" Anjali Benjamin, Luciana Herman, Genesis McCormick. (12-12) "We had such a great time during our Christmas Party with Families and Friends of the Thunderhorse Battalion. Thank You Rear Detachment, Santa and Family Members for such a lovely event. We appreciate all you do!" ~ Michelle Rone. (12-15) FRG Christmas Party. (12-17) Combat Action Badges and Coin Ceremony - COL Benson, 4BCT Commander, presented Combat Action Badges and Long Knife coins to some outstanding Soldiers. (12-21) "Happy Holidays and Best Wishes for the New Year! The gift of love, the gift of peace and the gift of happiness. May all these be yours in 2013. ~ Love the Rone Family" (21-25) Christmas celebrated at Fob Mehtar Lam and a Christmas basketball tournament was held. Dates in parentheses are either actual or the posted Facebook date. All material from Facebook.

2130 The 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cav Division joined Regional Command-East and operate in Laghman and Kapisa provinces as a security forces Advisory and Assistance Brigade. Just under half of the 3,800 Long Knife soldiers are deployed. "It's a unique mission," said COL William Benson, brigade commander. He said it is similar to what the brigade did in Iraq during its 2010 to 2011 deployment. Soldiers will be working with Afghan Security Forces, police and military, to ensure the Afghans are ready to take control of their country by the U.S. president's 2014 withdrawal timeline. "The conditions are certainly different, but the tasks we are being asked to do have some familiarity," he said. One challenge Benson said he foresees is performing the mission with a smaller force. This means soldiers may be required to perform more than one job. "We have to be able to do a couple of things really well," he said. Then the challenge will be for Americans to assist less, to let Afghans do more. "This is the way forward and this is the strategy. We have to build the Afghan security forces," Benson said. <Continued>

2230 To prepare for the mission, soldiers have undergone about six months of intensive training, including a month at the Joint Readiness Training Center, where Benson said the Army did a great job of making Fort Polk, Louisiana, look like Afghanistan. "This is an exceptionally prepared unit," said MG Anthony Ierardi, First Team commander. "To the soldiers ... you are trained and ready. Use your skills and best judgment." This is the fourth deployment for Long Knife brigade since the unit was activated at Fort Bliss in 2005, the previous three were to Iraq. Families were offered training for the deployment in the form of Strong Bonds retreats, said MAJ Steve Prost, brigade chaplain. <kdhnews.com>

2359 Journal closed. If you need the full version with pictures not found here, e-mail me and I will see you get it in your e-mail. I am on a fast train out of town, headed to the mountains to ski, Alaska for glaciers, Cape Cod for scrod, and to Waco to see my Dr. Pepper. "Nobody believes the official spokesman... but everybody trusts an unidentified source." ~ Ron Nesen. Consider me that unidentified source, in between times I am working my fingertips on the keyboard to the bone, for you. Write if you get work!

7th CAV News



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It's the start of a New Year with thoughts and prayers being sent to our warriors scattered in

places that many of us have never heard of, far from home and hoping that this year will see peace and goodwill in the world. It is the soldier perhaps more than any other person who thinks these thoughts because we are the ones, who shoulder arms, stand a post and gaze into the distance ever vigilant.



Jim Brigham with Iraq WIA veterans during Veterans Day festivities in Washington - 2004.

The 7th Cavalry lost another leader this past November when President Emeritus Jim Spooner Brigham, Jr. made his final air assault into Fiddlers Green. In his memory, I dedicate this column and for many this will be your first notice of his passing and it is with a heavy heart that I post this tribute. Jim burst onto the Association scene in 2000 when he was elected Vice-President of our Association at the Fort Bragg reunion. As I was between jobs at the time, it was a few years before I actually met Jim. He was elected President in 2002 and served in that capacity for 8 years, finally stepping down in 2010. During his tenure, the financial health of our Association grew to record highs, primarily as a result of projects that he instituted. Some of these projects were: An expansion of 7th Cavalry Belt Buckles to include the 1-7; 2-7 and 3-7 which were and continue to serve in OIF and OEF; the Tartan Tie project and along with Jim Savage (our Web Manager) the Stetson Project. He also worked hard and achieved Tax Exempt status for the Association. Jim served as the Support Platoon Leader for the 2-7 during the first year of Vietnam service and later as told to me by his good friend Bud Alley was also the HHC Company Commander and Battalion S-4. Jim's stories were wonderful to listen to and told with that down home Oklahoma twang. He was also a great advocate for veterans and their benefits although I never could get him to file his application. "It's right here on my desk, Bob" he would always tell me, "I'll get to it one of these days." Jim lost his beloved Judy in May of 2012 and I suspect that the fight left him then, although he was always upbeat when we chatted. He told me once that he was in on the first shots being fired at LZ Albany when the Chinook he was on was hovering close by when that terrible day and night started. And the time about finding a piano, when COL Bob Little wanted one for the Battalion Officers Club and I thought where in the world could you find a piano – he just laughed. The story about their cook, who he and Bud were trying to get promoted so the guy would receive some sort of pension after 20+ years in the army were unbelievable to hear but all true. In the last years Jim had been experiencing knee troubles, which I attribute to a story he told me about a parachute malfunction that he had one time, finally getting his reserve opened with literally feet to spare. Jim retired from the Reserves after attaining the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He joins Miss Judy, Miss Deurice and Sergeant Major Plumley in Fiddlers Green. Garryowen old friend and I look forward to hearing some more of your stories one day. If you would like to sign Jim's guest book you can go to <www.legacy.com/guestbook> and search for: J.S. "Jim" Brigham, Jr.

Bud Alley reports from 1965: Forty seven years ago this Christmas Eve I was recuperating in a hospital in Okinawa far from the sounds of guns and further away from home. My head still pounded from the fevers and every bone ached and the nightmares that came like waves every time I closed my eyes. I was lonesome, still scared and overwhelmed by what happened to me and the men of the 2nd Battalion of the 7th Cavalry. I was in a ward with five other men but only one was like me, unable to sleep. I watched his cigarettes glow as the minutes turned into the endless hours of darkness, he glanced over toward me and noticed my glowing cigarette. "Can't sleep?" he finally asked. "No I can't." Every time I close my eyes I feel the fever and chills of that night of 17 November. I hear the screams of the dying. I see their eyes. He said he understood. He had been part of the 25th Infantry Division Wolfhounds in Korea that had gotten overrun. When do the nightmares stop I asked. They don't he replied. We didn't even know each other's name, but after a long silence, he said, "Merry Christmas." Two days later he was moved and I never saw him again. I still see the ghosts of the green grass every night though but through the love of the caring brotherhood of those I served with, we manage to get to sunlight still. Kind of puts the words Merry Christmas in a new light. Best Wishes to all this Christmas. Thank you Bud for this heartfelt post. My Christmas of 1969, just 4 years removed from the battles at X-Ray and Albany was so very different in that I was selected to attend the Bob Hope Show in Bien Hoa. This was a great experience for those of us in attendance to see Connie Stevens and the Gold Diggers and to get away even for just a day or two was rejuvenating.

I received from R. J. Roberts a YouTube video from October 1967 taken at An Khe and many of you will recognize the scenery <www.youtube.com/watch?v=oeFq4ju31wI&feature=watch_response>.

Russell Carbone sends us this very chilling report from 48 years ago April 3, 1965. This turns out to be an amazing prediction by the famous ABC radio commentator Paul Harvey. Millions of Americans listened to his programs which were broadcast over 1,200 radio stations nationwide. It's short less, than three minutes – "Good Day." <http://stg.do/9LDc>.

This coming June we will have an election for President during our reunion luncheon as Bill Richardson, our current President will be stepping down. Bill has served as Association President on at least three different occasions and also served a stint as President of the Division Association as well as being a member of the Board of Governors for multiple terms. If you have an interest in running for President of the 7th Cavalry Association and are a Life Member, please let me know as soon as possible.

It has been some time since I made reference to maps that we used in Vietnam. Most of us Infantry and Artillery types were using the 1:50,000 L 7014 series maps with each grid square covering 1,000 meters on a side. About eight years ago I ordered a number of maps to complement my collection from the US Geological

Survey and they cost me \$7 per map plus a small charge (\$5) for shipping and handling. I originally got the index from Michael P. Kelly's excellent reference book – Where We Were In Vietnam Map 13 but you can also go to the following <www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/topo/vietnam/>. These maps along with Kelley's book and S2/3 reports will serve you well as an historian or in filing or helping others with a claim.

I would like to report on trips that any of you have taken back to battlefields from the past like: The Pacific during World War II; Korea, Vietnam, Bosnia. This is part of our lineage and would be of interest and serve as an inducement for others to share. My sister and I have been doing additional research into Civil War ancestors and we had a Great-Great Grandfather killed during the Siege of Vicksburg on 11 June of 1863. He was a private with Company K of the 43rd Mississippi Infantry. I had another Great-Great Grandfather who served as a 2nd Lieutenant in the 3rd Mississippi Cavalry who survived. To me these bits of history are fascinating and I'm sure there are many more such stories out there that would be of interest.

From Bill Franklin via Shortround Migut: Chaplain Nevin Snyder, my old friend and 1-7th Chaplain during the First Shift in Vietnam has a new home in heaven. I have continued to stay in touch with his sister over the past two years since he left the Melbourne, Florida area for his home in Pennsylvania. He was a gentle and kind man of God. He'll be missed. Chaplain Snyder passed away on 2 January.

From a Marine friend of mine comes this: Stolen Valor Law 2.0 Passes in Senate December 4, 2012 as reported from Military.com by Bryant Jordan. A law designed to punish those who boast battlefield medals for heroics they never performed passed the Senate on Monday, marking the second bid by Congress to outlaw lying about war records. The first so-called Stolen Valor Law was declared unconstitutional in June by the U. S. Supreme Court, which ruled that lying about military service was protected speech. This time around lawmakers have anchored the law on lying about awards and decorations for "tangible benefit or personal gain," not strictly lying for the sake of lying. The bill was filed by Senator James Webb, D-VA., a Vietnam combat veteran, shortly after the high court knocked down the original 2006 law. "For someone who has not served to come in and get material benefit from something they did not do is just not right," Webb said in an interview with Norfolk TV station WTKR in July, when he filed the legislation that is now set to become part of the 2013 National Defense Authorization Act. The House of Representatives already passed its own version of the law, so final language has to be worked out before it can be signed. Under the Senate version anyone found guilty of violating the Stolen Valor law would be fined and possibly jailed for not more than 6 months or both. The House version would put violators in jail for up to a year. The new law states that benefits include any provided by the local, state or federal government for military service, earn a job, run for elective office or attain an appointment to a board or position on a non-profit. Webb's bill was cosponsored by Senator's Scott Brown, R-MA, and Joe Lieberman, I-CT. The 2006 version of the Stolen Valor Act made it a crime to make any false statements claiming military awards and decorations. A California man, Xavier Alvarez, was convicted of violating the law for claiming to have earned the Medal of Honor. He was ordered to pay a \$5,000 fine but appealed the case up to the Supreme Court, which struck it down. Webb and others argued the law is necessary to protect the integrity of military decorations, since those who earn them are held in high regard by the public. False claims of receiving such medals or serving in the military, the bill language states, "are especially likely to be harmful and material to employers, voters in deciding to whom paid elective positions should be entrusted and in the award of contracts." "Military service and military awards are held in such great respect that public and private decisions are correctly influenced by claims of heroism," the bill states, arguing that making false claims about military service and heroism are "an especially noxious means of obtaining something of value." James Webb a former Secretary of the Navy and an accomplished author was awarded the Navy Cross for exceptional valor in Vietnam.

Shortround Migut sends in this medical alert: Ranbaxy Pharmaceuticals is the only US manufacturer for the generic form of Lipitor "Atorvastatin". They are recalling certain batches due to fragments of glass. This is the statement from their USA website and the link to their listing of the lots affected. If you or a friend or family member is taking a generic Lipitor and the bottle is other than the manufacturers – contact your pharmacy and ask if that prescription is affected by this recall. <http://ranbaxy.com>.

The 5th Battalion, 7th Cavalry Association is planning Reunion XII – Springfield, Missouri – July 13-20, 2014 – University Plaza Hotel & Convention Center as reported by Karl Haartz. After many years of voting to go to Branson, Missouri, we finally found a way to do it. Branson still doesn't have a venue big enough to hold us but Springfield is only 35 miles from Branson and all the shows, shopping and whatever. This hotel is giving us the biggest Hospitality Room we have ever had even bigger than St. Louis. Here's the good part: it's only \$92.00 per night, including a (almost full) buffet breakfast, internet and parking. The hotel is setting up a reservation web site and will be ready after January 1, 2013. For you 5th Battalion guys, they do a great job with organization and helping with claims (ed) as well.

I received a call a few days ago from a credit card company asking some questions about an application that I had "filed." I was curious at first and then finally hung up because I thought the call was a phishing scam. I then went to the website and double checked the number to find out that it was legit but I then called the fraud line. After chatting for a few minutes they passed me back to another person and in a few short minutes it was determined that someone had applied for a card in my name. When the company checked through the Credit Bureau much of the info didn't match up so they called me. The long story is that you might want to double check your credit history to determine if there is something funny going on. Be ever vigilant is the phrase to go by.

If you want to be kept up to date on military happenings, consider "joining" <www.military.com>. Sign up is free and you get up to the minute e-mails of interesting tidbits regarding military topics. Our first column of the New Year is now closed and with the marvel of the internet will be in Copperas Cove within a short few seconds. Garryowen!

8th CAV News



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Hi again,

I trust you had a great holiday season and are looking forward to this New Year. Thinking about your "New Year's Resolutions" for the year ahead? I would like to lose the 60 pounds I've put on because of my recent medical challenges, but that would necessitate a renewed devotion to a very active/aggressive exercise regimen. OK – maybe I'll just try 10 pounds to start. Hooooaaahhhhh!!!!

Lest We Forget: In the "Lest We Forget" segment that I began in the last issue, I would like to highlight those of our Regiment who received our nation's highest decoration, the Medal of Honor. The source for these citations is www.8cavalry.org. In this issue we remember the following trooper:



PFC JAMES H. MONROE: Bong Son, Hoai Nhon (Sp?) Province, 16 February 1967. The citation reads as follows: "For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty. His platoon was deployed in a night ambush when the position was suddenly subjected to an intense and accurate grenade attack and 1 foxhole was hit immediately. Responding without hesitation to the calls for help from the wounded men, PFC Monroe moved forward

through heavy small arms fire to the foxhole, but found that all of the men had expired. He turned immediately and crawled back through the deadly hail of fire toward other calls for aid. He moved to the platoon sergeant's position where he found the radio operator bleeding profusely from fragmentation and bullet wounds. Ignoring the continuing enemy attack, PFC Monroe began treating the wounded man when he saw a live grenade fall directly in front of the position. He shouted a warning to all those nearby, pushed the wounded radio operator and the platoon sergeant to one side and lunged forward to smother the grenade's blast with his body. Through his valorous actions, performed in a flash of inspired selflessness, PFC Monroe saved the lives of 2 of his comrades and prevented the probable injury of several others. His gallantry and intrepidity were in the highest tradition of the U.S. Army and reflect great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of his country."

Reading this citation reminds me, with a mix of sadness and pride, of my medic, Dempsey Parrott, when I was a Platoon Leader with Blackfoot Platoon, Bravo 2-8 Cav in 1967 and so many others like him who also lost their lives responding to the needs of wounded men on those battle fields so many years ago. Rest in Peace brave young men! Yours is a special place of honor in heaven. [John 15:13] Young medics continue to brave hostile fire to this day in Afghanistan and in other areas where our troops are deployed. God bless them.



Camp Crawford, Japan

T-5 Ed Reed, a "Horse Cav Trooper" at Fort Riley Kansas and who went with the Cav for the occupation of Japan after WWII, is Chapter member of The Horse Soldier. Participating in the Missing In America Project, volunteers find the unclaimed remains of lost military men and women after their deaths, and give them a proper ceremony and burial. Those interred hold varying ranks and served in different wars, but for whatever reason, their remains were never claimed. Ed had the honor of receiving the flag for 12 Army Veterans laid to rest at the

Iowa Veterans Cemetery on June 29, 2012, giving them the military burial that

they so deserved. Bill Lauchlin, the Iowa coordinator for the Missing in America Project stated, "This is for the veterans. They have no family, no next of kin we could find. So we as veterans want to make sure they don't go without some family with them. And we are their family." Ed says that the flag he received at this ceremony is in a case on the wall at the local AMVETS; he says, "I felt the Flag belonged to all of us, not just to me." He wore his WWII uniform with his Cav patch with pride to the ceremony. Thanks for sharing this with us, Ed.

Jim Godwin, who served as a squad leader in Commo Platoon, Headquarters Company, 8th Cav Regiment in the '50's sent these photos:

This first was taken in January, 1952 at Camp Crawford, Japan near Sapporo. Do any of these fine young troopers look familiar to you?



Christmas Chorwon Valley

This next was taken at Christmas time, 1951 in the Chorwon Valley, Korea. Thanks for the photos, Jim. Jim reports being stationed for 18 months. They went to Korea, then to Japan for R&R and training and then back to Korea. Our thanks and respect go out to these brave men for their honorable service in the "Forgotten War."

As a young Infantry Captain in 1968, I was awestruck by the CIB with two stars worn by several of my NCO's. Wow – the action they must have seen and the stories they never told!

How I wish they would have shared their experiences with us younger soldiers, but that was not their way – they just quietly and bravely served their country. Theirs was the very definition of selfless service to God and Country.

Steve Cook called me recently from his home in West Virginia. He says he served as a Senior Pathfinder on LZ Becky in July '69 and would really like to reconnect with anyone who served there and then. His e-mail address is <Currahee67@hotmail.com>; if you would like his phone number, let me know.

The Davis Award: The Davis Award is presented each year to a member of the 8th Cavalry Regiment Association for exceptional dedication and contributions to the organization. The recipient this year is none other than



Mike McGhie

Mike "Mouse" McGee (RIP). The Davis Award program provides recognition for Association personnel who have selflessly and significantly performed exceptional service and active productive work contributing to the success of the 8th Cavalry Regiment Association. All who knew Mouse also know this recognition is well deserved. Mouse touched a lot of veterans as he worked tirelessly reaching out to organize reunions, and helped reconnect men who served with D 2-8 Cav (Angry Skipper) in Vietnam. From organizing and working the reunions to creating and running the web site, Mike worked tirelessly in the cause of and for veterans. As most of you know, Mouse died at our reunion at Fort Benning, surrounded by his veteran friends. Nominations are open until April 2013 for the next award. See our web site.

It's not too soon to mark your calendars for upcoming reunions:

Bravo Company (1967-68), 2-8th Cav (Eager Arms) will hold their next reunion May 1-5, 2013, at Homewood Suites (Hilton), 2640 Elm Hill Pike, Nashville, TN. For more info, contact Gene Hedberg at <ghedberg@midia.net>.

The Division Association Reunion will be held 5-9 June at Killeen/ Fort Hood, Texas this year. See further information at <www.1cda.org> or elsewhere in the *SABER*.

The 8th Cavalry Regiment Association and "Angry Skipper" will host their next reunion 19-23 June 2013 at the Holiday Inn Bayside, 4875 North Harbor Dr., San Diego, CA 92106-2304. When calling the hotel for reservations, mention that you are with the Angry Skipper Association. Hotel Reservations: (888) 465-4329.

Until next time, "Honor and Courage!"

Division Doings

Continued from pg. 4.

Harris, from Coney Island, New York, added. "A CLS can bring these numbers down while allowing medics to work on the severe trauma cases."

Helping medics during combat is a Dark Horse priority as its goal is 90% of all Soldiers in the squadron CLS certified," he added.

"With medics spread throughout the squadron's troops, CLS trained Soldiers are needed to support them during deployments as 'force multipliers.'"

As force multipliers, a CLS must be confident and proficient in the training, not forgetting they are assisting medics in saving lives.

"The CLS class is not a 'check the list' class, it's important and makes a difference in combat especially when medics are busy with the severely wounded," SPC Cesar Rodriguez, a Dark Horse medic with Troop B, said.

Debozy agreed saying anything can happen in a deployment including the loss of a medic at which point a CLS would be the next step in treating the wounded, and the more CLS certified the greater chance for success.

"A friend of mine deployed last year to Iraq. He conveyed to me wounded were treated faster because of the efforts from medics and combat lifesavers working together," Debozy who hails from Detroit, said.

Helping the wounded in combat is part of lessons learned during the class as part of the tactical combat casualty care, Harris said.

"CLS training is not just advanced first aid. It incorporates casualty care under fire, assessing patients and prepping them for transport," he explained. "This is knowledge required to successfully pass the class and be certified."

In addition to Soldier's certification, the class afforded the medics an opportunity to build on their skills, confidence in instructing and inspire confidence in Soldiers.

"The class is very significant to medics as it provides a train the trainer concept. My senior medics lead the class and are assisted by two qualified junior medics," Harris explained.

To become a CLS instructor, medics must successfully pass a combat lifesaver

instructor course at Fort Hood's Medical Simulation Training Center, he added. As instructors medics also keep refreshed and effective on their skills.

"Instructing keeps (medics) refreshed on our medical training as we get to incorporate real life scenarios into training and ensure our equipment works properly," Rodriguez said. "We need that hands-on training ourselves and face to face experience with Soldiers we work around."

As instructors, medics transfer some of their knowledge onto the Soldiers allowing them an active role in the life of a medic and building their confidence as lifesavers, Rodriguez, from Klamath Falls, Oregon, stated.

"I become more confident as the Soldiers do ... when you evaluate others you start to evaluate yourself, looking for small mistakes," Rodriguez said.

Self-evaluation paid off as the morale was high and Soldiers continued to excel during the class.

"(The class) was taught really well. The instructors were competent and knowledgeable," Debozy said. "I retained more in this class than in any other class I have been in during my career. I am confident because of the teaching and confident I will do well treating wounded under the stress of combat."

Another squadron-wide CLS class is scheduled for February.

1st Cav Band Treats Fort Hood Community to Holiday Sounds by SPC Angel Turner, 4th BCT, 1st Cav. Div. Public Affairs

FORT HOOD, Texas—The time of year for holiday cheer, togetherness and famous Christmas songs has arrived.

Soldiers assigned to 1st Cavalry Division's Band performed a holiday concert for the Fort Hood community at Palmer Theater, here, December 8.

"The holidays are a time for family and celebration," said MG Anthony Ierardi, commanding general, 1st Cavalry Division. "We can think of all sorts of images for this time of year but it's the sounds, those special unforgettable notes that always get us in the right mood."

The concert, themed "Christmas Through the Years," drew in the crowds of

Continued on pg. 9.

9th CAV News



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who did a great job after we lost Lou "Rocket" Rochet. I am hopeful that all 9th Cav veterans and those currently serving will want to submit stories and articles for the column. My experience with the 1st Squadron, 9th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division, began in May, 1967 when I flew on a C-130 from Long Binh to An Khe and reported in to the G-1 around 2200 hours. As I recall, there were 4 of us WO-1's reporting in and we were asked if any of us were married. A few of us raised our hands and the officer in charge of processing us stated that married men should not volunteer for the 1st of the 9th Cav. Never one to shrink from a challenge, I immediately volunteered for the 1-9. I jumped in a Jeep and was taken to the 1-9 rear area. I was put up in a hooch that wasn't bad and promptly fell into a dreamless sleep. The next morning I processed in to the 1-9 and was assigned to A Troop. After I drew my TA-50 and a side arm, I was on an afternoon flight that was headed for LZ Dog. When I arrived at the LZ, I reported to the HQ and was assigned to the lift platoon, "The Headhunters" and was paired up with Bob Phipps, the best helicopter pilot I ever flew with and the best pilot ever

to defecate between a pair of combat boots. I spent the next 4 months flying with "The Headhunters" learning the craft of flying in combat and eventually working my way up to Aircraft Commander. My buddy Jim Volheim came to me and asked if I'd ever considered flying guns and beyond that had I considered becoming the CO's pilot? Well, I hadn't given much thought to either prospect, although I vividly recall the first time I landed in a hot LZ and heard bullets hitting the helicopter that this was no place for Wade and Mildred Bond's oldest boy to be. So I spent the next couple weeks flying gunships (another story for another time) and then began flying with MAJ Archie Rider as Apache 6 X-Ray. Now the 6 ship, the CO's, was a C model gunship and spent most of the day flying around the AO as a single ship. The relationship between 6 X-Ray and the CO is unique. A lot of radio traffic is covered by the CO's pilot along with actually flying the aircraft so after awhile the CO and 6 X-Ray meld into one entity. MAJ Rider and I flew together, along with 1LT Al Tyre, the best Forward Observer in all of Vietnam and a deadly shot with an M-60 machine gun. He could call in artillery while standing on a skid shooting at people shooting at us. In early November, 1967, a Bravo Troop admin bird crashed into a mountain north of LZ English and the Squadron Flight Surgeon was the only survivor and presumed to be evading capture in the vicinity of the crash. Every available aircraft in the 1-9 Cav was out searching for the missing surgeon, including Apache 6. As we hovered along a creek bed, a bad guy wearing a conical hat jumped up with an AK-47 and sprayed the left side of our

helicopter with a hail of bullets, hitting MAJ Rider in the left arm just above the elbow. We flew to the nearest evac hospital and MAJ Rider handed me his side arm and his knife and said "tell Gordon he has the Troop". Gordon being MAJ Gordon Stone who immediately became Apache 6 and I became his 6 X-ray.

MAJ Stone and I flew together for the next three months and we shared some adventures over that period of time. And again, stories for another time. In early February, 1967, I decided that I wanted to transfer to the Scout platoon and so we moved up North to Dong Ha where we proceeded to get our rear ends rocketed and lost a whole bunch of aircraft. MAJ Stone stepped in and found us a home at LZ Sharon near Quang Tri. His quick action saved a bunch of lives and equipment and we are ever grateful for his leadership. I quickly learned that flying Scouts in Bon Song was a lot different in the A Shau Valley and the area around Khe San. For one thing our opponents were hard core NVA not the mixture of NVA and Main Force VC we had faced down south and they were deployed in battalion sized units. Also, they had radar directed anti aircraft weapons and used them very effectively. The job of an Aero Scout is to find the enemy and they do that by drawing fire. This confirms that you have indeed found the enemy and it is a righteous shoot. Then the Blues are inserted and the enemy contact is developed. It seems our modern Army Aviation has forgotten some of the lessons that were learned the hard way. After a couple of months flying Scouts, we ran out of RLO's and I became the S-3 which provided some harrowing experiences for a ground assignment. A few days short of a year in country, I flew to An Khe and then a flight to Saigon and then a plane home. I have to admit, it felt weird not having a pistol on my hip and it took a long time for me to stop staring at tree lines looking for enemy movement. I want to close by mentioning two Apache Troopers we lost in 2012. The first is Bill Murphy, a Scout Pilot



Bill Murphy

extraordinaire that I had the pleasure of flying with a lot after we moved up North. "Murph" was dependable, reliable and a wing man you always count on. He had been in failing health and most of us saw him for the last time at our reunion in Albuquerque, in October of 2011. "Murph" had earned the title "The Tank Killer of Khe San" by landing on an NVA tank and throwing a frag grenade in to the turret (someone inside opened the hatch and threw the grenade out, Murphy threw it right back in and it exploded, no one opened the hatch again). Bill was a great guy and a proud member of Apache Troop, he will be missed. The other loss in 2012, was David Pryce, our Apache White for a lot of 1967, known for his courage and calm demeanor under fire, Dave succumbed to the effects of Agent Orange. Dave had that unmistakable Georgia drawl on the radio and it was always reassuring to hear his voice in a fire fight. Our friend Joel McGinnis once asked Dave if he could fly as a Scout Observer. Dave asked what qualifications he had to fly as an Observer and Joel promptly replied that he had worked at Palisades Park on amusement rides and Dave said he'd never heard that one before. Joel turned out to be one the best Observers to ever fly Scouts. As I said at the beginning, the vision for this column is to provide a space for all members of the 9th Cav to share their stories. My contact information is: Mike Bond, e-mail: <mbluvsrj@msn.com>, snail mail: 3014 Northridge Rd, Hardy, VA 24101 and cell: (540) 815-5004. As my buddy, Jim Volheim likes to say "if you survived a year in the Cav, the real Cav, everything else in life is gravy". Until next time.



Top of the helicopter is Bob Howard in the rear and John Hampton in the front. Moving clock wise is Dana Raaz, Jack Fisher (on the ground), Jim Volheim kneeling, Bob Phipps, and Mike Bond.

ship between 6 X-Ray and the CO is unique. A lot of radio traffic is covered by the CO's pilot along with actually flying the aircraft so after awhile the CO and 6 X-Ray meld into one entity. MAJ Rider and I flew together, along with 1LT Al Tyre, the best Forward Observer in all of Vietnam and a deadly shot with an M-60 machine gun. He could call in artillery while standing on a skid shooting at people shooting at us. In early November, 1967, a Bravo Troop admin bird crashed into a mountain north of LZ English and the Squadron Flight Surgeon was the only survivor and presumed to be evading capture in the vicinity of the crash. Every available aircraft in the 1-9 Cav was out searching for the missing surgeon, including Apache 6. As we hovered along a creek bed, a bad guy wearing a conical hat jumped up with an AK-47 and sprayed the left side of our

THE HICCUP - Health Care Information Committee Report



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This edition's column is actually a response to two questions, recently received by e-mail. Here goes:

Question #1: "I hear that the VA is revising its disability rating system. Will the modernized version have any impact on the compensation I receive?"

Answer: Both the VA and the Government Accountability Office say that the work of modernizing the disability rating system is more than a year behind schedule. (Some members of Congress, by the way, have been heard to say that the job's too big for the VA to handle, period.) In any event, the VA's intent is to reform the rating criteria which are now 65 years old—so as to reflect improvements in medical technology in recent years as well as taking a closer look at average earnings losses for veterans and at cost-of-living projections so as to restructure the compensation schedule. The good news: Current law says that adjustments and modifications to the rating system "cannot result in a reduction

of a veteran's rating." There seems to be no firm date by when the VA says they can complete the work...so stand by.

Question #2: "Can I, a retiree, withdraw from the Survivor Benefits Plan (SBP)?"

Answer: It's best to check with your Retirement Services Officer (at Fort Hood the number is (254) 287-5210)...but here's a general response: Yes, you can withdraw...if you have a service-connected disability and have been rated as totally disabled by the VA for five continuous years from the date of your retirement OR for ten years if the VA rated you totally disabled some time after your retirement. The Defense Department allows you to withdraw from the SBP because the VA will presume you died of a service-connected disability regardless of the actual cause of your death.

We hope the above answers are responsive. All of us on the Health Care Committee hope your 2013 is off to a great start!

Division Doings

Continued from pg. 8.

people. Many families in attendance joined together to hear favorite holiday tunes, a treat from the 1st Cav Division. Band to them.

Accompanied by her husband, a Soldier in the 1st Cavalry Division, and her daughter, Diana Glynn said she looked forward to hearing the band play.

"I never saw a military band perform and wanted my three-year-old daughter to get a chance to experience the fine arts," said Glynn. "It's nice to support them and I think this helps build the morale of other Soldiers."

Within the division's concert band, specialty bands, to include brass, jazz, and rock showcased the variety and capabilities of the band by doing their own rendition of holiday favorites.

"This is good for the holidays," stated Rickey Bell who is retired military. "It's good for people on the installation to have the chance to enjoy a free concert, especially the people that are not able to go out of town for the holidays. Overall this is something good for the community," added Bell who heard about the concert through the Fort Hood Sentinel.

Throughout the concert, Soldiers donned various costumes to resemble famous singers known for performing specific versions of various themed songs. The crowd interacted by singing along and moving to the beat. The theater known for playing movies for the public, for the time being, had a much different at-

mosphere.

"We entertain Troops and we do ceremonies but for some of our groups this is the first time they really had the opportunity to play for an audience," stated CW5 Jeanne Pace, band master and commander of the 1st Cavalry Division Band.

Toward the end of the concert, the band dedicated a song to all those who will be separated from their family and friends during the holiday season.

"That's what we're all about — morale, especially at special seasons like this, to help people kick off their holidays and have remembrances of Family time," said Pace.

Before starting the song, *Home for Christmas*, the audience viewed holiday shout outs from the deployed 4th Brigade Combat Team, who is currently serving in Afghanistan. During the song the reality of the separation of family and friends during this time of year appeared evident.

At the conclusion of the concert, the band received a standing ovation. With the crowd happily cheering, the hard efforts of the band indeed paid off.

"I think it was a success," said SGT Elliot Chodkowski, a keyboardist assigned to the band. "With the limited time to prepare, I think we executed and made everyone ready for the Christmas season."

The group of Soldiers look forward to performing again next year if their deployment schedule allows for them to do so.

Continued on pg. 14.

30th FA News



"HARD CHARGERS"
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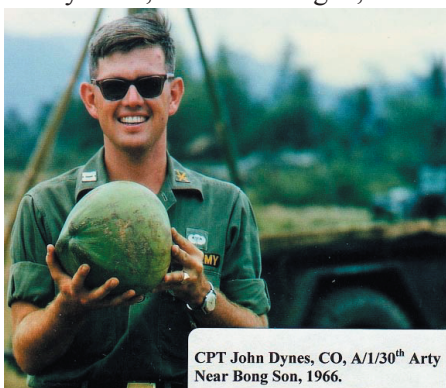
Hard Charger News: As I lay in a heap at the bottom of the Fiscal Cliff looking up, I wish everyone a Happy New Year!



T-5 Joe Brown 30th FA Group WWII receiving Medals in 2004.

Prayer Request: Our oldest Active Hard Charger is T-5 Joe Brown at 88 years of age. In the past, Theresa and I have visited Joe and his family in Chicago. Joe became a Hard Charger in 1943 when he joined HHB, 30th FA Regiment in Anchorage, Alaska as a Communications Wireman. He moved with the Regiment to Camp Picket, Virginia in March of 1944. On 11 May 1945, the 30th FA Regimental HQ was reflagged as the 30th FA Group. In November 1944, the 30th FA Group deployed to Firth-of-Clyde, Scotland and then to Dorset, England. From there, Joe and the 30th FA Group entered the Combat Zone in Villers, France on 10 February, 1945. The 30th FA Group assumed control of several different Artillery Batteries/Battalions including: D-62nd AAA, A-292nd FAOB, the 278th, 630th, 686th, 741st, 883rd, 884th, 935th, 969th and 977th FA Battalions. The highlight of the war was when the 30th FA Group convinced the 40th Panzer Grenadier Regiment to surrender on 28 April 1945. Also, Joe

and his Wire Team liberated a very large black limousine that was "Donated" by a local shop owner. The 30th FA Group Liaison Pilots were able to use it to get back and forth to the airfield. Joe was hit over his left eye by shell fragments on 4 May 1945, near Stadtbergen, Germany, while repairing commo wire to one of the Gun Batteries. He finally returned to the states in late December 1945 and was discharged on 2 January 1946. He returned back to his home in Chicago and has been there ever since. Joe had to undergo heart by-pass surgery on 30 November 2012. The operation was successful, but as of 24 December, he is still in rehab and will remain there until after the holidays. The real kick in the pants was they discovered that he has cancer of the bladder. So he still has an up-hill battle before him. We are asking for your prayers that Joe will be able to complete



CPT John Dynes, CO, A/1-30th Arty Near Bong Son, 1966.

his heart rehab treatments and eventual treatment for the cancer. I told Joe at our reunion this past June that he needed to take care of himself as I've booked him as our Guest Speaker for the 100th Anniversary of the 30th FA Regiment in 2018. The Good Lord willing, Joe will be there as our Guest Speaker.

A message from John H. Dynes, President of the 30th FA Regiment Association: John deployed to Vietnam with the 1-30th Arty in November 1965 as the Commander of A/1-30th FA. John was the Commander of A/1-30th Arty when the first airlift of a 155mm Battery was flown by CH 54 "Tarhe" Sky Cranes



A-1-30th Arty 1st Airlift 155mm, LZ Brass 5 Feb 66.

into LZ Brass on 5 February '66. John wrote: "I hope that as we prepare for the 2012 Holiday Season that this Christmas will be one of your merriest and the New Year full of high expectations and worthwhile resolutions! This time of year always seems to be jam-packed with things that need to be done and not the least of these for me is getting the word out to all about the June {2013} Reunion in Fort Collins, Colorado. But first a bit of nostalgia, as the recent Veterans Day ceremonies reminded me that it was two days before Veterans Day in 1965 that the *Daniel I. Sultan* pulled out of Oakland on its way to Qui Nhon with the 30th on board. The battalion had flown in from Fort Lewis earlier in the day and we shared the ship with a number of smaller units with a similar destination. Moored in Qui Nhon harbor on Thanksgiving Day after crossing the Pacific, we enjoyed our Thanksgiving meal as virtually one of the last we would have on the ship. The Firing Batteries would not see a non-C Ration meal again for almost four months! Fortunately, C-rats will be among the last things to come to mind next summer at the reunion, but that other staple of the Vietnam experience, beer, will be a key feature! Fort Collins is the home of a considerable number of licensed craft breweries (139) and brew pubs (85) and the tentative schedule calls for visits to both the large (Budweiser) and one of the smaller ones, such as Odell or New Belgium. The town of approximately 160,000 people lies 60 miles north of Denver and 46 miles south of Cheyenne, Wyoming. Its northeastern Colorado location means that in early June there will be no issues with heat, as in Oklahoma, but there will be lingering snow in Rocky Mountain National Park, another tentative destination for the reunion attendees. Don't forget to check the web site at: <www.hardchargers.com>. Fort Collins is also the home of Colorado State University, which means that like most college towns, there are a variety of attractions and activities that come with such an environment—music, theater, art galleries and museums. Fort Collins sits just 35 miles from the gateway to the Rockies and some of the most spectacular scenery one could wish to see. The 2013 Reunion will be the 20th one held since we began coming together as veteran Hard Chargers. Since we gathered at Fort Sill last summer, Al Young and Jody Jeaudoin have left us. The opportunities for continued comradeship and hearing the familiar cry of 'Hard Charger, Sir!' continue to diminish. Don't miss out on spending time with those that we still have! Hard Charger, Sir! John."

John your timing was perfect for this message as our reunion registrations will probably be in the mail about the time this issue of the *SABER* arrives.

This EOM on my 95th Hard Charger article. Hard Charger 9G ~ OUT!

5th Cav News

Continued from pg. 5.

Strangely, sitting in that plane, I realized I was and might continue to be a foreigner; someone who is away from his native place. Combat changes you. It stretches you in ways you didn't know, ultimately for the better. It was a privilege being there and doing my part against the 'Evil Empire'.

The first season after I got home from Vietnam I was a little gun-shy and hesitant about taking the field and hunting. Plus, all the dirty little hate filled anti-soldier, anti-war, anti-gun, anti-hunting (anti-Christian?) communist propaganda aimed at us by the self-righteous left and their comrades made me reluctant to do what I knew was right. Luckily, old friends were looking out for me. My father's best friend, Ed Austin, heard about my newfound reluctance and got me to meet him on Saturday mornings at a local gun club. I brought my grandfathers old double-barreled Parker. I was very hesitant, had no self-confidence, was overly cautious and very nervous. I had not yet got my head 'back on and straight'. But, Ed worked at smoothing out my shooting style. Pretty soon I was right back shooting 10 out of 50 clays. The fresh air, the sunlight, the fellowship was a good time. The next weekend my father-in-law, who was a great guy, came along and brought his WWI Smith & Wesson revolver. The three of us shot the pistol and had a good time and a little healing. When it was about time to call it a day Ed set me up with a foursome for skeet. I shot skeet while Ed and my father-in-law talked and drank some 'coffee' while sitting on the trunk of his car. All of us had a great time. I didn't hear anything from Ed for awhile. The next fall I stopped by the Gun Club and saw him teaching a young black Vietnam Vet to shoot skeet. By the second season I was feeling more at home and I was out hunting squirrel on those beautiful fall days, doing what I knew was right.

LT Pat Lloyd, D Co. 2-5, 1967-68 writes: Sorry I did not have the opportunity to meet with you when you and your wife were in Cary, North Carolina. Glad you were able to see Joe...he is a fine man! You were there from January 1968 until when? What platoon were you in? I came to the company in June 1967. I was platoon leader of the 2nd platoon. When Joe took over the company he appointed me XO and I can remember two things about Joe. First, all the platoon leaders kept asking me to talk with Joe as they thought he was dangerous. Joe thought that was funny, he ignored them all. Second, he was always splitting the company in half, with the two of us working to carry out the missions he dreamed up. I never did get to rotate to the rear after 6 months in the field. I think Joe wanted me out there with him. I remember asking Colonel Love and he said I was too big, too ugly and too steady. Joe went on R&R to Australia while we were out on the 'Street Without Joy' and we had the luck to run into

an NVA Battalion. We lost Montana to a claymore, but I don't remember losing any others, KIA. I think we were all glad to see Joe come back and take over the fight. Later he was recommended for a DSC and I was recommended for a SS, but they were down-graded to a SS for Joe and a BS w/V for me. We were only doing our job. While under fire, Joe brought a wounded soldier back to the company and safety. Just before Khe Sanh, I left Delta Company and assumed command of all doctors, cooks, chaplains, etc. in Headquarters Company. Boring! Finally after a two week drop for jungle school, I came home. I have never met a better group of men and was and am proud to have served with each of them. I owe you an apology as I do not remember you. (Dear Pat: I was the new guy who nearly shot CPT Carpenter), but I have suffered from PTSD since I returned and am now disabled with that; also, diabetes, leukemia, neuropathy, etc. I read your article in *SABER*. I will send you some photos when I can. I looked at your photo of Christmas 1967 and I don't recognize it. We spent Christmas with an artillery battery. Joe was a good poker player, he took all their money and mine too. Could that picture be Christmas 1968? We have started a program called Carolina Veteran Support Group to help vets suffering from PTSD and would invite you to visit <www.cvsgnc.org>. We waited 11 months and 2 weeks for our 501(c)(3) and just received it. Now were ready to move! Sorry, I was so longwinded!

COL (Ret) Bernard Lieving, Chaplain 5th Cav, writes: Received my *SABER* today and just finished reading your 5th Cav notes. Greetings from "Arizona 19", Black Knight Chaplain from March '68 until February '69. I have not seen or talked with Joe Carpenter since I was the XVIII Airborne Corps Chaplain '89-'92. He used to come around Fort Bragg quite a bit. Since I know he is in Cary, I will attempt to contact him. If I made an assumption about his being in Cary, please provide me with his correct contact information. I remember the 'Old French Fort', plus a bunch of other places in that northern I Corps area. The A Company commander, Bob Fullerton, and I reconnected in 1985 when we were both students at the Army War College. We keep in touch by e-mail on a fairly regular basis. I am not in touch with others of that time and miss not talking about those days. I remember one day when D Company was going on ambush just south of the DMZ. Joe was willing for me to go with you guys. But, the Battalion Commander said, "No way!" On Easter Sunday '68, I planned to get (services) to all five companies. But, I got stuck in Khe Sanh by about 200 incoming artillery rounds from across the Laotian border, a little reminder of where we were. I stayed around the Army until retiring in '94. I had the rare privilege of being the 1st Cavalry Division Chaplain at Fort Hood in '84-'85. I saw another combat tour during Desert Shield/Storm as the

Continued on pg. 17.

27th ORD/MNT/MSB/BSB News



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I am starting this column on the weekend before Christmas and hope by the time you read this, all of you had a most Merry Christmas and are having a great beginning to 2013!



We had a very nice Veterans Day Reunion here in the Washington, DC area with eight former members of the 27th Maintenance Battalion in attendance, all of whom served in Vietnam. The first picture shows all of us and my many thanks to Nelson Cardona for getting this picture taken and sending to me.

In the front row are Fred Vath (1965-66) and Nelson Cardona (with CAV hat) (1970-71). In the back row, from left to right are: Jack Robak (1970-71), Ed Jones (1968-70),

Ron Stokes, (1968-69), Rolly Koreski (1967-68), John Ramsden (1968-69) and

Peter Durno (1965-66). This picture was

taken at the CAV Banquet on November 11, which once again was hosted by the National Capital Region Chapter of the 1st Cavalry Division Association. As always, they did a terrific job and it was a most memorable event. Thanks to the work of Ed Jones, we had a gathering of 27th troopers in the lounge before the dinner and also met for breakfast at the hotel

on November 12. Picture number two is of Rolly Koreski and Fred Vath listening intently to Ron Stokes as he tells what must be a harrowing war story!



As I mentioned in the last column, Ed sent me a CD with a whole bunch of pictures that Dick Swendig sent him recently. One of my favorites is of Dick with CSM Rainey, two of my favorite people from that era. Those of you who had the privilege to serve with these two men should enjoy this picture! That is CWO Dick Swendig on the left and CSM Rainey on the right. Looks like Christmas 1968. Dick was the battalion S-4 and CSM Rainey was, of course, the battalion Sergeant Major.

I had a few e-mails from former members of the 27th and they are most appreciated! The first was from Cliff Baker, who I have mentioned several times and served in the 27th Ordnance Company in Japan and then rejoined them in Korea during the Korean War. As mentioned in the last *SABER*, Cliff could not make our Veterans Day Reunion this year but sent his best wishes and went on to say, "Thinking of you and all the troopers as Veterans Day approaches. I will be 84 this year and thanks to the mercies of God I am still riding my bike (author note: motorcycle) and enjoying robust health. I hope you all have a wonderful time celebrating Veterans Day. I will be there with you in spirit." Thanks Cliff as always!

The second e-mail was from Doug Bermingham who served in Vietnam in 1968-69 and was my driver during part of that tour. Doug has been battling Lyme disease and prostate cancer, but is hanging in there and just started playing golf again. He remembers CSM Rainey well and gave me credit for "bailing my ass out" with the CSM on one or more occasions. He also reminded me of a trip we made to Saigon and must have stayed overnight as Doug remembers having a "really good time!" He also mentioned an incident on the way back to Bien Hoa when we came to a bridge guarded by some apparent ARVN soldiers who were pointing their weapons at us in a threatening manner. Doug said he was quite concerned at that point but we apparently passed without difficulty. Great to hear from you Doug and best wishes for a successful battle on the health front and on your golf game!

I also heard from Bill Jackson, who, as mentioned in the last *SABER*, was relaxing in sunny Puerto Vallarta, Mexico while we were gathering for Veterans Day. Bill reported he had just learned that a former commander of the 27th Maintenance Battalion in Korea, BG (Ret) John T. Peterson, has passed away on July 9, 2010. John commanded the battalion in 1964-65 just before the flag of the 1st CAV was moved from Korea to Fort Benning to activate the new 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile). BG Peterson was 89 years old at the time of his passing and had graduated from West Point in 1944. Bill served under him in Korea for several months. Our condolences to any surviving family members.

Speaking of former battalion commanders, I received a most kind invitation to attend the promotion ceremony for LTC Bill Galbraith to full Colonel. Bill was

selected for early promotion to Colonel, a selection that puts him in the top five percent of LTC's! Our sincere congratulations to Bill and his family, without whose support and sacrifice, it would not have been possible. Bill commanded the 27th BSB at Fort Hood and then deployed them to Iraq in 2010-2011. He then was asked to become the Division G-4, got a short break to go home and then deployed for a tour in Afghanistan with the HQ, 1st CAV Division. He is now a student at the Army War College at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania. Bill was a major

contributor to our *SABER* column while in command and stayed in touch with us while in Afghanistan. Picture number four is of Bill being promoted with his wife and three children present and helping to do the honors.

Bill has been selected to be the Garrison Commander at Fort Eustis, Virginia upon graduation. Our sincere congratulations on your well deserved promotion and command selection!

Ed Jones sent me a link to a site that mentions B Detachment of the 27th Maintenance Battalion. To get there, Google "First in Cambodia." There are several articles about the CAV but one is from the *CAVALIER* newspaper from February 18, 1970 and talks about B Detachment repairing the French plantation swimming pool at Quan Loi so all the troops at Quan Loi could use it. Thanks Ed, for finding several interesting articles from that era.

Now on to news of the 27th BSB, which, as reported in the last *SABER*, is located at four different sites, three of which are in Afghanistan. The main part of the deployed 27th BSB is located in Northern Afghanistan and the weather is cold and rainy. They are currently living in large tents and trying to keep the plumbing and heating systems in operation - a daily challenge!

LTC Cortez reports, "Time is moving at a fast pace as we are busy with distribution management of all Classes of Supply and medical support to the Brigade and Security Force Advisor Teams. We have the holiday meals out to locations, fuel and water levels up for winterization and have begun inventorying retrograde material and classes of supply in support of the draw down of forces to come very soon. All in all we stay linked to our motto that in everything we do we do with pride. In closing know that not a day goes by that you, the family, friends and supporters of the Rough Riders are in our constant thoughts and prayers." Thank you Pat and know you have the support and prayers of all former members of the 27th.



The 27th BSB has its own *Facebook* page so if you are a Facebook member you can sign on and go to it. They have numerous pictures and comments posted, as well as a bi-monthly report from LTC Cortez. I am including three pictures in this column that I extracted from the 27th BSB Facebook page that I hope will bring back memories of our Christmas season while deployed in Korea or Vietnam or Bosnia or Iraq. The first picture is of troopers from Hq and Hq Company getting ready to celebrate Christmas with a tree and all!



This second picture from Afghanistan is of Charlie Company, more affectionally known as "Charlie Med" doing what looks like a reveille formation. They do look sharp!

The third 27th BSB picture is of SSG Osler from F Company driving an interesting looking vehicle, which I think is a modified ATV. SSG Osler's company is attached to 2-12 CAV and is one of four Forward Support Companies that are permanently attached to one of the combat elements of the 4th Brigade.



Again our best wishes and prayers go out to all those deployed and in harm's way in Afghanistan.

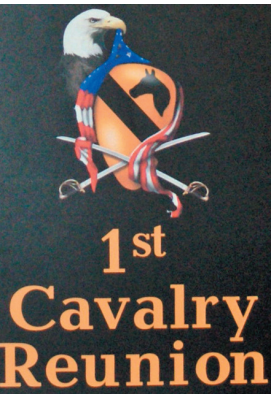
On another subject, I was in the parking lot of our local grocery store the other day walking toward the store with my billed CAV hat on. A man about my age was walking close to me and asked if I knew what the line across the CAV patch on my hat meant. I said I thought it was just part of the patch. He said, "no, that line is to separate the Horse _____ from the Chicken _____!" Turns out he had served in the 24th Infantry Division in Japan and was

with one of the first units deployed to Korea when that war started in 1950. His regiment was practically wiped out and he was pretty severely wounded. The CAV relieved his unit and he enjoyed telling me the story about the CAV patch! All of us who have served are truly a "Band of Brothers."

As I mentioned in the last *SABER* column, this will be my last input for *SABER*. After 15 plus years it is time for a new primary author. Ed Jones informed me that he is "volunteering" to take over as the primary author of our *SABER* column, effective with the next edition. Since Ed is still working, he really needs your support in providing material in the form of information, stories, and pictures. His e-mail address is <ecjones19@aol.com> and his phone number is (630) 554-9245. Ed also has a Facebook page and can be contacted through that. I want to express my sincere thanks to the many people who have contributed to this column with information, stories and pictures. Without that input, none of it would be possible. In particular, I want to thank Ed Jones for not only providing much input and pictures, but also for his expert proof reading and suggestions on improvements to each column. My thanks also to Nelson Cardona for all his work in maintaining our data base and getting the word out on our 27th and CAV reunions. A special thanks to Cliff Baker who has provided much material related to the 27th Ordnance Company in Japan and Korea and to all the commanders of the 27th BSB who have kept us up to speed through the many deployments the battalion has been through in Bosnia, Iraq and now Afghanistan. My thanks also to the excellent staff at the 1st Cavalry Division Association who put the *SABER* together every two months, along with all the other great things they do for us. I plan to continue to be active with our Reunion Committee of Ed, Nelson and myself, and look forward to attending the CAV Reunions here in the DC area, as well as some of those in other parts of the country. I hope to see many of you there!! Adios Amigo and God Bless!



66th Annual 1st Cavalry Division Association Reunion



The Crossed Sabers Chapter invites you to join the rest of the First Team family in Killeen/Fort Hood, Texas for the 66th Annual Reunion of the 1st Cavalry Division Association from 5-9 June 2013. Most of the First Team will be home for this reunion and we are planning an excellent event. All Life members and Associate members of the 1st Cavalry Division Association are welcome to attend this special event. As always, family members of our war dead, Gold Star Families, and widows of our members are welcome to join us for this reunion.

Please register early to assist us in coordinating the best reunion possible. Some events will have limited seating available due to the size of available rooms. All members of the Association must register and pay the Registration Fee in order to attend the reunion. Early registration, December 2012 through 3 May 2013 is \$20 for all members, except those on active duty. Active Duty Troopers pay \$10 to register. Those sending in Registrations post-marked after 3 May 2013 must pay late registration fee of \$40. Family members attending with an Association member, widows of 1st Cavalry Division Troopers and Gold Star Family members that attend do not have to pay a registration fee.

Hotel Information

We will be utilizing the Shilo Inn Hotel as the Reunion Headquarters and will hold many of the reunion events that are scheduled this year in the Killeen Civic and Conference Center (KCCC) located adjacent to the Shilo. There are no hotels in the area large enough to hold our group so we will be utilizing two primary hotels and busses to get together for our events.

The Shilo Hotel has guaranteed a room rate of \$99 per night plus tax for up to 125 rooms on peak nights and there is no charge for parking. Call (254) 699-0999 reserve a room. The reservation toll-free number is (800) 222-2244. Make sure that you identify yourself as attending the 1st Cavalry Division Association reunion. The Shilo will provide a voucher for a breakfast in the restaurant, which will be open to support our reunion. The hotel does provide a free shuttle service from the Killeen Airport. Shuttles and rental cars are available at the airport. The hotel is located at 3701 S. W.S. Young Drive in Killeen.

We have also blocked rooms at the newly renovated Courtyard by Marriott, located at 1721 E. Central Texas Expressway. Many of you may recognize this as the address of the hotel which we used to use (Plaza) but this is a much improved hotel. The Courtyard Marriott has been gutted and completely remodeled and looks brand new with new plumbing and air conditioning and a fresh new look. To reserve rooms at the Courtyard Marriott call (254) 615-2000 or (800) 321-2211. Again, the room rate is \$99 per night plus tax with free parking available.

Shilo Inn & Suites **\$99** **(800) 222-2244 or (254) 699-0999**
3701 S. W.S. Young Drive, Killeen, Texas

Courtyard Marriott **\$99** **(800) 321-2211 or (254) 616-2000**
1721 E. Central Texas Expressway, Killeen, Texas

There are several other good hotels in the general area in Killeen but if you choose to stay at one of those hotels we will not be able to provide bus transportation for you. All of the hotels provide free parking and there is ample parking at the Killeen Civic and Conference Center.

RV Park Information

If you are coming in a Recreational Vehicle there is an RV Park directly behind the Killeen Civic and Conference Center. The fee is \$20 per night and they provide electric, water and dump facilities. Contact the KCCC at (254) 501-3888 for additional information. If you are active duty or retired military the West Fort Hood Travel Camp would also work but it is several miles from the KCCC and they do not take reservations. The RV Park in Belton is still open but is no longer a KOA facility.

Reunion Event Overview

The 66th Annual Reunion will run from Wednesday, 5 June through Sunday morning, 9 June 2013 and is full of events and time to visit with one another.

This year we will be running our usual events but have added a Golf Tournament (four-person team, best-ball scramble) that will provide support to our Scholarship Foundation on Wednesday. The golf tournament will be held on the Courses of Clear Creek on Fort Hood. We are seeking sponsors to help off-set costs to maximize our income for the Foundation and its scholarship programs. We will have some teams from the active duty Troopers and hope that many reunion attendees will also want to play and enjoy this new addition to our reunion program.

As usual, we will also have our Welcoming Mixer, War Era Lunches, Unit Lunches, Gold Star Family Breakfast, Ladies Tea, Sweetheart Dance, Annual Association Banquet, Group Breakfast and Memorial Service. We will have meetings of the Chapter Presidents, Foundation and Museum Foundation Trustees, the Board of Governors and our General Membership meeting. During our General Membership meeting on Saturday morning, we will hold elections for the Association and both Foundations and select the location for the 2016 reunion. We have bids from several Chapters to host the 2016 reunion and will have specific details to provide at the reunion.

Seating for all events is open with the exception of the Reunion Banquet on Saturday night. If you are attending the banquet, you must get your tickets marked with a table number at the Banquet Seating table when picking up your registration packet. If you want to sit with specific people, we recommend that you all go to the Banquet Seating table together with your tickets available. Don't wait until the last minute or we may not be able to accommodate your needs.

Cavalry casual attire is appropriate for all reunion events. We are always questioned about attire for the banquet. Wear what you feel comfortable wearing; a coat and tie, your uniform (if it still fits), casual clothing with open collar, or jeans or shorts. We want you to attend and aren't overly concerned with what you wear, as long as it isn't indecent!

The Association will provide a Reunion Room in the Shilo Hotel during the reunion for you to gather together and enjoy yourself. Drinks in the Reunion Room are free but we ask that you generously donate to help us pay for this room.

The Crossed Sabers Chapter Souvenir Shop will set up a store in the Shilo Hotel to sell all kinds of First Team merchandise including shirts, hats, Stetsons, pins, decals and other items too numerous to mention. The Souvenir Shop will also be open in the 1st Cavalry Division Museum during the reunion. A Reunion T-shirt may be ordered and the order form is located on this page.

Much of the leadership of the 4th Brigade Combat Team will be deployed in Afghanistan but we will have Troopers from all of our units at Fort Hood. The Division leadership is coordinating a special event on the evening of Friday, 7 June entitled "Spirit of the Cav" and other events on post during that day as well. Busses will transport reunion attendees from the two hotels and KCCC to Fort Hood on Friday for a vehicle display, visits to the 1st Cavalry Division Museum and barn tours of the Horse Cavalry Detachment. Visits to some of the unit areas will also be available and you can get a first hand look at today's Army. If you haven't been to Fort Hood for a reunion, make sure you attend and see the great Troopers of today's First Team.

Transportation

The Killeen-Fort Hood Regional Airport (GRK) is a modern airport with jet service from Dallas, Houston and Atlanta. Airlines with flights to Killeen include American Eagle, United and Delta Airlines. The Austin-Bergstrom Airport with other major airlines is located approximately 78 miles from Killeen and airports in Dallas are about a three hour drive away.

The following rental car agencies are located in the airport: Alamo, Avis, Budget, Enterprise, Hertz, National and Thrifty Car Rental. Airport shuttle and taxi service is also available at the Killeen Airport.

AMTRAK offers services to Temple, Texas (25 miles away) if you wish to travel by train. Rental cars and bus service from Temple are available.

Trailways bus service is also available to Killeen. If you don't like scheduling your own flights on the internet or don't have a regular travel agent, there are two reputable travel agencies that we recommend you contact. Both of the travel agencies below have worked with us in the past. You will be able to contact them within the next few weeks to make your travel arrangements.

Casa Blanca Great Escapes Travel Service, 1200 Lowes Blvd., Killeen, TX 76542 (866) 833-0327

All Country Travel, 250 Cove Terrace, Copperas Cove, TX 76522, (800) 226-1990

Please check with the Transportation Security Agency (TSA) prior to packing for your trip if you are flying to the Reunion. The rules on what can and cannot be taken on the aircraft change regularly.

Road construction is always a factor and I-35, the main route from Dallas to San Antonio, has numerous construction sites. Please check the Internet for road conditions and delays and drive safely on your way to the reunion and back home.

The Best Part of the Reunion

As always, the best part of any reunion is the people that attend. The 1st Cavalry Division Association reunion brings in Troopers from every era of the First Team's history. Troopers that rode horses, fought in the Pacific with MacArthur, occupied Japan, fought in Korea, or stood watch on the DMZ will spend time with the Sky Troopers of Vietnam and the Troopers from Operation Desert Storm, Fort Hood, Bosnia, and the latest combat veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan. The equipment and terrain might be different, but the common bond of serving with America's First Team binds us together. Saddle up and join us in Killeen in 2013!

Adult
Sizes
Only

66th Annual 1st Cav Reunion T-shirts

Pre-order Yours Today!!!!

Cut off date to pre-order your shirt is 15 March 2013

☐ S

☐ M

☐ L

☐ XL

☐ 2XL

☐ 3XL

Please indicate quantities in boxes

\$17.95 each

(Add \$2.00 for 2XL & 3XL)

\$17.95 (\$19.95) each + S/H =

Total

On front

On back

Shipping Chart:

1 Shirt @ \$6.00

2-8 Shirts @ \$11.00

8+ @ \$15.00

Please check box if you plan to pick up shirt @ Reunion

Name

Address

CityStateZip

Phone

E-mail

Check Enclosed

VisaM/CDiscover

Card Number

For Visa Card, CVD #

Expiration Date (MO/YR)

Signature

Description: 90/10 Black with Pocket.

Logo on the pocket as well as full-color Imprint on the back.

Reunion T-shirts will not ship prior to 01 May 13.

Please mail the order form back to:

Crossed Sabers Souvenir Shop

PO Box 5774, Ft Hood, TX 76544

or fax the order form to

254-532-6490

To view artwork in color, or to order online, please visit our website @

www.crossedsabers-chapter-giftshop.com

66th Annual 1st Cavalry Division Association Reunion

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5
0800-1300 Golf Tournament
1300-1800 Registration Desk Open
1300-1800 Souvenir Shop Open
1300-2400 Reunion Room Open

THURSDAY, JUNE 6
0900-1800 Registration Desk Open
0900-1200 Souvenir Shop Open
0900-2400 Reunion Room Open
1030-1130 Chapter President’s Meeting
1300-1800 Souvenir Shop Open
1300-1400 Museum Foundation Trustees Meeting
1430-1530 Foundation Trustees Meeting
1700-1900 Welcoming Mixer (Hors d’oeuvres/Open Bar)
2000-2400 Sweet Heart Dance (Supports the Scholarship Foundation)

FRIDAY, JUNE 7
0730-0900 Gold Star Family Breakfast
0900-1800 Registration Desk Open
0900-1800 Souvenir Shop Open (Closed noon to 1300 for lunch)

FRIDAY, JUNE 7 - Continued
0900-2400 Reunion Room Open
1030-1200 Ladies Tea
1230-1430 War Era Luncheons
1500-1700 Board of Governors Meeting
Time TBD Spirt of the Cav

SATURDAY, JUNE 8
0900-1100 General Membership Meeting (Elections)
0900-1200 Registration Desk Open
0900-1700 Souvenir Shop Open (Closed noon to 1300 for lunch)
0900-2400 Reunion Room Open
1200-1400 Unit Luncheons
1745-1845 Cocktails (Cash Bar)
1900-2200 Association Banquet

SUNDAY, JUNE 9
0700-0830 Group Breakfast Buffet
0700-0830 LRRP/Ranger Breakfast Buffet
0900-1000 Memorial Service (Long Roll Muster)

1st CAVALRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION 66th REUNION - 2013 REGISTRATION FORM

Mail to: 1st Cavalry Division Assn. - Reunion
302 N. Main Street, Copperas Cove, TX 76522-1703

I will attend the 1st Cavalry Division Association 66th Annual Reunion at the Shilo Inn and Suites, Killeen, Texas, June 5-9, 2013. Cancellations must be received by 5:00pm Tuesday, June 4, 2013 in our office (254-547-6537) for a refund. **Seating at all functions is limited.** Hotel cancellations must be done personally with the hotel.

Register early.
YOU MUST BE AN ASSOCIATION MEMBER TO REGISTER.
PLEASE PROVIDE ALL THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION.

Are you a member of the 1st Cavalry Division Association? Yes ___ No ___

Please Print Clearly or place a Return Address Label. Don’t forget Nickname.

NAME_____

STREET_____

CITY, STATE & ZIP_____

NICKNAME _____

GOLD STAR FAMILY MEMBER _____

Telephone # (_____)_____

Preferred Unit(s) order (1)_____

(2) _____

Date(s) Served in 1st Cav (1)_____ to _____

(2) _____ to _____

I served at/during (Circle one or more): WWII Japan (Anytime) Korean War
Korea 1957-65 Fort Benning Vietnam War Fort Hood Gulf War
Bosnia Iraq War Afghanistan Fort Bliss Other _____

I will be accompanied by my spouse or other (Full Name and Nickname)_____

and the following persons, please specify relationship. (Family members only.)

Name Nickname Age (Children)

Is this your first 1st Cav Division Association Reunion? ___Yes ___ No

My E-mail is: _____

I am staying at: Shilo Inn ___ Courtyard Marriott ___ Home ___

Local ___ RV ___

Other _____

Please specify where you are staying, as it will help us to find you in the event of an emergency. Thank you!

Registration fee required for **Association members only** (Widows and Gold Star Family members pay no Fee) - no fee for family members accompanying Association member. Registration includes: Name Tags (required for admission to Reunion Room and other activities), Official Reunion Program, Reunion Pin and information package.

FUNCTION	NO. OF TICKETS	COST	TOTAL AMOUNT
Registration Fee (Member Only)		\$20.00	\$ _____
Postmarked After May 3, 2013		\$40.00	\$ _____
Active Duty (Must have Active Duty ID Card)		\$10.00	\$ _____

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5
Golf Tournament _____ \$75.00 ea. \$ _____

THURSDAY, JUNE 6
Welcoming Mixer _____ \$25.00 ea. \$ _____
Sweet Heart Dance _____ \$ 8.00 ea. \$ _____

FRIDAY, JUNE 7
Gold Star Breakfast _____ \$21.00 ea. \$ _____
Ladies Tea _____ \$16.00 ea. \$ _____
War Era Luncheons
World War II Veterans _____ \$25.00 ea. \$ _____
Korean War Veterans _____ \$25.00 ea. \$ _____
Vietnam War Veterans _____ \$25.00 ea. \$ _____
Gulf/Iraq War Veterans _____ \$25.00 ea. \$ _____

SATURDAY, JUNE 8
Unit Luncheons _____ \$25.00 ea. \$ _____
I wish to attend lunch with: (Circle one)
5th Cav 7th Cav 8th Cav 9th Cav 12th Cav Artillery
Engineers HQ & Special Troops LRRP/Ranger Silver Wings

Reunion Banquet
Adult _____ \$42.00 ea. \$ _____
Child (12 years and under) _____ \$22.00 ea. \$ _____

I wish to sit at the Reunion Banquet with: (Circle one)
5th Cav 7th Cav 8th Cav 9th Cav 12th Cav Artillery
Engineers HQ & Special Troops LRRP/Ranger Silver Wings

Banquet table seating is assigned during the reunion. You must take your banquet tickets to the Banquet Seating Table to get your table number assigned. NO ONE will be admitted in without a table number on their ticket. To assist us in organizing the seating, please circle the unit that you wish to sit with at the Banquet.

Please get your table number assigned prior to noon Saturday.

SUNDAY, JUNE 9
Group Breakfast _____ \$25.00 ea. \$ _____
LRRP/Ranger Breakfast _____ \$25.00 ea. \$ _____

And a little extra to help cover expenses? \$ _____
Please renew my SABER Subscription (\$10 per year) \$ _____

New Life Membership (\$10) RANK _____ \$ _____
Last four of SSN _____ DOB _____

Grand Total \$ _____
(Don’t forget the Registration Fee)

___ Credit Card VISA or Master Card Only ___ Check ___ Cash

EXP Date _____

Card Number - Print clearly

Print Name on Card

_____ Date _____

Signature - Credit Card Payment Only

99th FA News



Jim Miller
819 West Howard St.
Winona, MN 55987-2642
(507) 454-4224
jimarmil@hbc.com



Christmas and New Years will be over by the time this edition of the *Saber* comes out, so I hope all of you

had a reasonable time during those sometimes stressful days. I want to thank all of you who sent me Christmas cards. My handwriting has worsened to a point where it resembles the prescriptions my doctor writes for me. I know that's not a good excuse, but it's the best I have right now. I'll try to get back to you sometime in the near future.



Guard duty inspection 1949.

I had a long conversation with Rich Higginbotham which turned to the cold weather we endured in Korea. I'm not a medical expert in hypothermia or cold weather either, but I have lived through Minnesota and Wisconsin winters for 55 years which gives me a little authority I believe. Rich wondered why while you read of people being frostbitten when lost in cold weather, not very many of us who existed outside in one of the bitterest winters ever in a cold winter place did?

First, I had to tell Rich that I did suffer what the VA Medical people call "Cold Weather Injuries." But that was because of an unusual incident where another wireman and I had to expose our bare hands to -20 temperatures for some time while repairing

a broken wire line. Secondly, I think we went into the bitter cold weather slowly over a period of time. We lived out in it 24/7 without being inside or having a chance to get warm. I think our bodies got used to the weather.

Here in Minnesota, if we have a quick cool down in the fall, I notice that people seem to suffer more than if it comes on slowly but surely. Of course it's cold, but you kind of get used to it. I'll probably be able to tell you more about that theory in the next edition of the *Saber* as it looks like we are in for a normal upper Midwest winter which brings snow and cold, cold and snow.

Speaking of serving in cold weather, I'm sure you've heard me complain that when I went to Germany in 1953, the 1st Infantry Division had good winter clothing available although the winters there are balmy compared to the 1950-

TAPS

We have been notified of the death of the following:

LAST NAME, RANK, First Name, Unit, Date. Date of Death.

ADAMS, LTC (Ret) Donald L. Jr., A Co., 1-5th CAV, 1965-66; B Co., 2-12th CAV, 1968. 28 December 2012.

BETTERIDGE, MAJ (Ret) Frederick G., Jr., D Co., 1-8th CAV, 1961-62 and HHC and C Co., 8th ENG, 1969-70. 14 December 2012.

BICKEL, SSG Edward J., B Co., 2-12th CAV, 1969-70. 17 August 2012.

BROWN, SGT William C. Jr., A Co., 13th SIG, 1965-66. 14 December 2012.

CAMPANELLA, CPT Charles R., B Btry., 2-19th FA/C Co., 1-12th CAV, 1966-67. 4 October 2012.

CHRISTOFFERSEN, PFC Warren A., 8th CAV, 1945-46. 19 November 2012.

CREECH, CPL John H., 16th RCN Trp., 1951-52. 8 December 2012.

DAVIS, COL (Ret) W. Rex, MD, HHC, 15th MED, 1967-68. 12 June 2012.

EAVES, COL (Ret) Maynard D., 545th MP, 1967-68. 4 July 2012.

EDWARDS, PFC Jon M., B Co., 1-8th CAV, 1965-66. 6 October 2012.

GAGLIO, PFC Joseph, HQ, 5th CAV, 1944-46. 24 November 2012.

GARY, CPL Harry R., A Btry., 61st FA, 1949-51. 8 January 2013.

GREEN, CPL William E. Jr. "Will Ed". DIVISION Band, 1957-58. 7 April 2012.

HALL, T-5 Lynn E., B Btry., 61st FA, 1941; DIVARTY Band, 1942-45. 21 November 2012.

HARAGEONES, COL (Ret) A. J. "Jim", 7th CAV, 1945; 545th MP, 1967-68. 16 November 2012.

HOLMES, 1SG Lyndon M., F Trp., 2-5th CAV, 1944-45. 1 August 2012.

JUNKALA, SGT John B., 8th ENG, Korean War. 8 November 2012.

KARNES, SGT Russell W., C Trp., 1-9th CAV, 1966-67. 17 December 2012.

LUPO, SGT Dick H., C Trp., 1-12th CAV, 1944-45. 13 August 2012.

McLENNAN, LTC Stuart G., Jr., 15th AVN, 1959-60/E Btry., 82nd FA, 1966-67. 22 August 2012.

MEANS, SGT Vance N., F Trp., 2-12th CAV, 1940-45. 22 September 2012.

MELLGARD, SSG (Ret) Nils P., D Trp., 1-9th CAV, 1966-67. 18 November 2012.

MURALT, CPL Max W., 13th SIG, 1950-51. 10 November 2012.

NEWMAN, COL (Ret) Leslie A. Jr., A Btry., 61st FA, 1942-45. 27 November 2012.

PRYCE, COL (Ret) David H., A Trp., 1-9th CAV, 1966-67. 19 October 2012.

SCHAFER, CPL Russell L., C Btry., 61st FA, 1942-45. 23 December 2012.

SNYDER, LTC (Ret Chaplain) Nevin D., HHC, 1-7th CAV, 1965-66. 2 January 2013.

SUDECK, CW4 (Ret) Roy, D Trp., 3-5th CAV, 1969-70; C Trp., 7-17th CAV, 1971-72. 16 November 2012.

TEW, SP-4 William E., HHC, 8th ENG, 1966-67. 10 January 2013.

WELSH, SGT Paul, C Btry., 61st FA, 1951-52. 4 January 2013.

ACTIVE DUTY TAPS

We have been notified of the death of the following Active Duty Troopers in the United States that were not combat related:

LAST NAME, RANK, First Name, Unit, Date. Date of Death.

BANGLE, SSG Kelly D., A Co., 3rd BSTB, 2012. 14 December 2012.

MENARD, SGT Charles J., Ops Co., HHBn, 1CD, 2012. 6 December 2012.

REYNOLDS, SFC DeVone R., A Co., 27th BSB, 2010-2012. 1 January 2013.

We honor the passing of our friends and comrades in arms.

51 Korean winter.

I received my 2013 Society of the 1st Infantry Division Society calendar and the December photo is a 57mm recoilless rifle team training in Germany in 1949 with full winter gear including parkas, mittens with trigger fingers and boots which looked better than the God-awful things we had. I would like to have someone explain to me why we couldn't have had similar clothing.

I talked to John Batt the other day. John was in Florida for the winter. We talked about our service time in Japan and Korea and some of our buddies. Of course, we discussed our health. Mostly we talked about the guys we were with and wondered what happened to the ones we've lost contact with. It's too bad we don't keep up with buddies when we are younger, but I guess it doesn't seem



James Sacco, A Btry, firing at Camp Weir 1947.

so important then when we have so many other things going for us. Now we have more time and we're kind of curious.

I read where the Army was considering using mules in Afghanistan. I guess that would make sense with all the mountainous terrain and I'm sure there are some Afghans who would be glad to sell the U.S. some mules so maybe it would be a win/win situation. Some of you World War II mule skinner don't be surprised if you get a call from top brass to give them some advice on the use of the basic Army mule.

Jerry Schear sent a note along with his Christmas Card. Jerry is 92 and is wondering how many WWII 99th FA guys are still around. Jerry is looking forward to sending Happy Holiday greetings to us when he's 93. I am too Jerry.

Morris Tweeten and Helmer Anderson are still around. Morris called and asked for an extra copy of the last issue of the *Saber* with the report of the B Btry reunion in Watertown, South Dakota to send to Helmer.

I also received cards from Rich Van Giesen and John Perkins which was nice. As I said earlier, I'll try to get back to you sometime during 2013.

Ellen Jacot celebrated her 100th birthday on October 18. She was born October 18, 1912. Happy Belated Birthday Ellen! Ellen Jacot, 62 Maple St., Tryon, NC 28782. Ellen was the wife of the 1st Sergeant of the original 99th FA Battalion, she's sort of the "Mother of the 99th," and she reads the *Saber* religiously.

Division Doings

Continued from pg. 9.

"The band had always been a part of the op tempo. I believe this is the first time in four or five years that there has been a concert on Fort Hood and it turned out really nice," stated Chodkowski who hails from Buffalo, New York.

Married Couple Overcomes Deployment Separation by 1LT Alun Thomas, 1st ACB, 1st Cav. Div. PAO



SGT Cornelius and SGT Ardreanna Green.

FORT HOOD, Texas – For married couples stationed in the same unit a deployment could be viewed as a positive event, with the probability of being together for the duration of the tour helping boost morale.

For newly married SGT Cornelius Green and SGT Ardreanna Green of the 1st Air Cavalry Brigade, this scenario didn't play out as anticipated when the brigade deployed to Afghanistan in 2011, as the pair were separated from each other despite being in the same battalion.

Despite this unexpected obstacle, the couple overcame the hurdle and maintained their commitment to each other, strengthening their bond in the process.

The path that led the couple together began in 2010, when both were assigned to Fort Hood, their first meeting being at reception, said Ardreanna, from Atlanta, a chemical specialist for Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Assault Helicopter Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment, 1st ACB, 1st Cavalry Division.

"He offered to give me a ride one day and from there we became friends, just a hello and goodbye sort of thing," Ardreanna said. "Then by coincidence we were both assigned to the same battalion."

Cornelius, from Memphis, a truck driver for Company E, 3-227th AHB, 1st ACB, said their relationship developed at a singles retreat held by the brigade.

"We played checkers together and talked about the five languages of love, which helped bring us closer," Cornelius grinned. "Her attitude was so positive and enjoyable that it made me fall for her."

The feeling was mutual from Ardreanna, who said the drive exhibited by Cornelius in his everyday activities won her over, which resulted in the couple's marriage on April 14, 2011, just as the brigade was about to deploy to Afghanistan for a year.

Unfortunately once they deployed Cornelius had his job position changed to a fueler, which meant being sent to remote bases throughout the country, leaving Ardreanna at Forward Operating Base Shindand – alone.

"It was hard, especially because I'm such a family oriented person," Ardreanna said. "I thought if I'm here in the same country with my own husband, why can't we stay together?"

"We were so close but so far away," added Cornelius.

"At least the deployment was in the same timeframe," he continued. "It would have been a lot worse if one of us had deployed after the other in different years."

The couple talked to each other on the phone as much as they could, but Ardreanna said it just wasn't the same.

"It was a strange way to spend our first year of marriage together. It's only since we redeployed that we feel this is our first proper year together," she said.

"Cornelius is a man's man and wouldn't show much emotion at being apart, but I'm the type that would cry and scream 'why can't we be together!'" Ardre-

Continued on pg. 18.

CHAPTER INDEX

ALL THE WAY BRIGADE CHAPTER
Pres: Bennett Guthrie
29112 S. 558 Road
Park Hill, OK 74451
(918) 931-0911
E-mail: bennettguthrie47@msn.com
Call or e-mail for meeting info.

CENTRAL SAVANNAH RIVER AREA CHAPTER
Pres: John Rangel, Jr.
POC: Gary Quinn
395 Harlem Grovetown Rd.
Harlem, GA 30814-4525
(706) 513-5858
Meets on 2nd Sat. of mo., 1400 at Ryans Steak House on Peach Orchard Rd., Augusta, GA (Mar., June, Sept. and Dec.)

COLUMBIA-WILLAMETTE CHAPTER
Pres: Terry Low
16560 S Harding Rd.
Oregon City, OR 97045-9679
(503) 210-5558
E-mail: tangolima2505@comcast.net
Website: www.Hood2Hood1stCav.webs.com
Meets 1830 3rd Wed of odd mos.at the Village Inn, 1621 NE 10th Ave., Portland, OR 97232. No meeting in Dec.

CONNECTICUT CHAPTER
Pres: Keith Moyer
48 Boretz Rd.
Colchester, CT 06415-1009
(860) 537-1716
E-mail: kpmoyerco@hotmail.com
Website: www.ConnCav.com
Meeting info in newsletter and on web page.

CROSSED SABERS CHAPTER
Pres: Jerry Eller
808 S. 2nd St.
Killeen, TX 76541-7703

FIRST CHAPTER
Pres: Robert H. Wolfe
4756 Haracourt Dr.
El Paso, TX 79924-3047
(915) 755-7944

FLORIDA CHAPTER
Pres: Leo ‘Doc’ Williams
3098 Golden View Ln.
Orlando, FL 32812
(407) 277-5763
Facebook: Florida Chapter 1st Cavalry Division Association
Meets quarterly at different locations around the state.

FLORIDA TROOP A “LAKELAND AREA“
Pres: Walter C. Smith
5090 Ironwood Trail
Bartow, FL 33830
(863) 904-8875
E-mail: tarbucket67@yahoo.com
POC: Verlin Buck Rogers
(863) 858-3559
E-mail: vrogers8@tampabay.rr.com
A Troop is currently without a meeting location, please contact Buck for meeting info.

FLORIDA TROOP B “BAKER TROOP”
Pres: Bill Franklin
473 Kimberly Dr.
Melbourne, FL 32940
(321) 255-0868
E-mail: swfwf@aol.com
Contact: Frank Alverson
12468 Boney Rd.
Jacksonville, FL 32226-1983
(904) 757-7009
E-mail: mcalverson@comcast.net
Meets qtrly for dinner at arearestaurants in Melbourne, Merritt Island area, usually on Tues. evening.

FLORIDA TROOP C
Pres: Leo ‘Doc’ Williams
3098 Golden View Ln.
Orlando, FL 32812
(407) 277-5763
Meets 2nd Sat. at 11:00am of ea. mo. at VFW Post 2093, 4444 Edgewater Dr., Orlando.

FLORIDA TROOP E “BLACK HATS”
Pres: Vacant
Website: http://www.seahog.org/cav/index.html
Meets 4th Sat. ea. mo. from Aug. - May 1:00pm. at the Country Kitchen, 2921 E. Palm Beach Blvd. in Fort Myers.

FLYING HORSEMAN CHAPTER
(Upstate New York Area)
Pres: Charles T. Sullivan
148 Decker Rd.
Lowman, NY 14861-8900
(607) 737-0743
E-mail: firstcavhorse@aol.com
Meets 1st Sunday each month at the Elmira American Legion Post #443.

FOLLOW ME CHAPTER
Pres: Robert Dodson
(334) 298-5852
Meets 1900 4thTues. ea. mo. Veterans Ctr., 1000 Victory Dr., Columbus, GA.
No meeting in December

FORT KNOX AREA CHAPTER
Pres.: Thomas Ken O’Barr
12210 Valley Dr.
Goshen, KY 40026-9501
(502) 228-8032
E-mail: ko42@bellsouth.net
POC: Larry A. Whelan
2103 Winston Ave.
Louisville, KY 40205
(502) 485-1270
E-mail: lawhelan@insightbb.com
Website: www.1cda.org/fort_knox.html
Meets 3rd Sat. of mo. at 1100 at the Barker Masonic Lodge, 705 Main St., West Point, KY.

JUMPING MUSTANG CHAPTER 1-8 Cav
Pres: Tom Brett
4216 Wynnwood Dr.
Annandale, VA 22003-3453
(703) 642-1595
E-mail: tombrettphoto@cox.net
POC: James C. Knafel
5510E - 500 South
Columbia City, IN 46725
(260) 244-3864
E-mail: jjknafel@earthlink.net
Website: www.JumpingMustangs.com

KETTLE MORAINÉ CHAPTER
Pres: Dick Schwarten
W152 S7917 Mystic Dr.
Muskego, WI 53150
(414) 422-8555
E-mail: DickNSue@wi.rr.com
Contact: Harold Bourne
6415 Carolann Dr.
Brown Deer, WI 532233
(414) 255-7829
Meets held at 3 month intervals with a banquet dinner in Ded. when elections are held.

GERALD F. KINSMAN CHAPTER
Pres: Owen Levine
77 Clubhouse Dr.
Leominster, MA 01453
(978) 534-6284
E-mail: sonny01453@comcast.net
Meets yearly.

JAMES J. MASON WEST MICHIGAN CHAPTER
Pres.: Ron Kloet
POC: Bob Anderson
9030 Conservancy Dr. NE
Ada, MI 49301
(616) 682-5446
E-mail: rj.anderson2243@comcast.net
Website: jjmwmc1cd.com
Meets Sept.-June on 3rd Thurs. of mo. at 7pm, at the Grand Valley Armory in Wyoming, MI .

LAST FRONTIER CHAPTER
Pres.: John W. Thomas
225A Akutan Ave., Apt. A
Jber, AK 99505
E-mail: john.thomas71@hotmail.com
Contact for meeting info.

LOS ANGELES/ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER
Pres: John Guillery
780 Mandevilla Way
Corona, CA 92879
(951) 278-3740
E-mail: fisheyel@sbeglobal.net
Vice Pres: John Burgner
228 South Hacienda St.
Anaheim, CA 92804
(714) 535-0737
E-mail: jburgner@sbeglobal.net
Meets 0900 on 3rd Sat. of mo. at Brea Veterans Club, 735 S. Brea Blvd., Brea, CA

LRRP/RANGER of the 1st Cav Division during the Vietnam War.
Pres.: Doug Parkinson
PO Box 131
Bayside, CA 95524
(707) 822-8421
E-mail: DPA@Humboldt.com
Website: www.tomah.com/lrrp_ranger/
Full chapter meeting during Reunions

NATIONAL CAPITOL REGION CHAPTER
Pres: Eugene N. Russell
7923 Jansen Dr.
Springfield, VA 22152-2413
(703) 569-2770
POC: Henry DeMeritte
1420 Fisher Ave.
Woodbridge, VA 22191
(703) 494-5507
E-mail: ncr1stcavdivassn@yahoo.com
Website: 1cda.org/national_capitol.htm
3d Sat. of the month Jan.-Apr and Sep.-Oct. 0900 at the American Legion Post 176, 6520 Amherst Ave., Springfield, VA.
Breakfast available prior to start of mtg. Jun meeting is at WRAMC and Nov. meeting at the Assn. Vets Day gathering.

NEVADA CHAPTER
Pres: J.H. “Mac” McCracken
225 S. Wallace Dr.
Las Vegas, NV 89107
(702) 595-1253
E-mail: LuckyMac7@cox.net
Meets the first Sat. of the month at 10am.
Breakfast 0830-0930 prior to meetings.
Call for meeting location and directions.

NEWYORK/NEWJERSEY CHAPTER
Pres: Bob Arbasetti
60 River Rd. #E103
Bogota, NJ 07603
(201) 883-0343
E-mail: nynjcavalry@optimum.net
Facebook: New York New Jersey Cavalry
Meets at Elk Lodge at Cedar and Spruce, Ridgfield Park, NJ.

NORTH CAROLINA - TARHEEL CHAPTER
Pres: Allen O. Norris
8160 Waterford Dr.
Stanley, NC 28164
(704) 483-8778
E-mail: anorris@infionline.net
Contact for Membership: Don Gibson
803 McDonald Church Road
Rockingham, NC 28379
(910) 895-0747
e-mail: dtbigibson65@yahoo.com
Meets 2nd Sat of Mar., Jun, Sept. & Dec.

If you have changes to this listing, contact the Association at (254) 547-6537 or e-mail at <membership@1cda.org>.

NORTHWEST CHAPTER
Pres.: Roy Rio
PO Box 773
Manchester, WA 98353-0773
(360) 871-5867
E-mail: allrio@live.com
POC: Ric James
PO Box 1305
Bremerton, WA 98337
(360) 536-1050
E-mail: arejay5353@aol.com
Meets 1200 1st Sat. of even months, contact Roy Rio or Ric James for meeting location.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN CHAPTER
Pres: Robert Stauffacher
18355 Drennan Rd.
Colorado Springs, CO 80928-9308
POC: Dave Enyart
4104 Maxwell Rd.
Colorado Springs, CO 80909-5424
(719) 596-6145
E-mail: djenyart@yahoo.com
Meets 9am 2nd Sat. of mo.at at Retired Enlisted Assn. Chapter 1, 834 Emory Cir., Colorado Springs.

SHERIDAN’S CAVALRY CHAPTER (Greater Chicago Area)
Pres.: Bruce Peterson
614 Burch St.
Sugar Grove, IL 60554
(630) 466-9059
E-mail: petersob@mchsi.com
Website: www.sheridansfirstcav.com
Meets at the American Legion Post #1084, 322 E. Maple Ave., Roselle, IL 61072 at 1pm.

SOUTHEASTERN COLORADO CHAPTER
Pres: Clifford Boxley
24 Paseo St.
Lamar, CO 81052
(719) 688-3103
E-mail: erboxley@hotmail.com
POC: John Campos
1308 Lewis Ave.
La Junta, CO 81052-3024
(719) 384-0379
Website: www.firstcavalry.net
Meets 1st Sat. of ea. mo. at 10am at the Holiday Inn in LaJunta, CO..

WALTER H. WESTMAN NORTHLAND CHAPTER
Pres: Donald A. Delsing
3697 Gresham Ave. N.
Oakdale, MN 55182
(651) 770-5422
E-mail: dandmdelsing@aol.com
POC: James D. Wright
12781 Able St. NE
Blaine, MN 55434
(763) 757-7140
E-mail: 1stCav-MN@comcast.net
Meets quarterly at different locations. Call or write for information.



Ken White
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I hope that all of you had a wonderful and joyous holiday season and I wish you a very happy, healthy and prosperous 2013.

The weather in Washington, DC for Veterans Day 2012 could not have been nicer. It was sunny and dry and very pleasant. The day marked the 30th Anniversary celebration of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial (The Wall) on The National Mall in Washington, DC. This plus the nice weather attracted a larger than usual crowd of veterans, family members and friends. As part of the anniversary celebration, there were a number of special events at The Wall, including the “Reading of The Names” where volunteers read the names of the 58,282 service members inscribed on The Wall. This took place over a 65 hour period spanning four-days. It began on November 7th at 4:00pm and ended on November 10th at 12:00pm. This was just the fifth time in The Wall’s history that the Reading of The Names was done in Washington, DC. In November 1982, the names were read aloud at Washington National Cathedral as part of a week-long National Salute to Vietnam Veterans. The names were read at The Wall during the 10th Anniversary celebration in November 1992, during the 20th Anniversary celebration in 2002 and during the 25th Anniversary celebration in 2007.

At the observance on November 11th, special remarks were provided by guest speaker MG Lee Seo Young, Defense Attache, Republic of Korea Embassy, Washington, DC. General Lee noted that 326,000 Korean troops served in Vietnam over a five and one half year period. This included the Republic of Korea Capital “Tiger” Mechanized Infantry Division, which was based just outside the port city of Qui Nhon, at the southern end of Binh Dinh Province. For those of you who served with the 1st Cav between August 1965 and January 1968, you may remember that the Tiger Division’s base camp was located just south of where Highway 19 emerged from the highlands onto the coastal plains and intersected with Highway 1 – the main north-south road that ran along the coast. This was about 65 kilometers or so from the 1st Cav’s base camp at An Khe. The Koreans had 5,099 troops killed in Vietnam and more than 11,000 wounded, according to General Lee. He also noted that Korean troops fought in Iraq and are currently fighting alongside U.S. troops in Afghanistan.

The keynote speaker at the observance was Eric K. Shinseki, Secretary of Veterans Affairs. Secretary Shinseki graduated from the U.S. Military Academy

at West Point in 1965 and was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant. He served two tours of duty in Vietnam with the 9th and 25th Infantry Divisions as an artillery forward observer and as commander of Alpha Troop, 3rd Squadron, 5th Cavalry. During one of those tours, he stepped on a land mine, which blew off the front part of one of his foot. From March 1994 to July 1995, he was the commanding general of the 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood. Shortly afterwards, he was promoted to lieutenant general and then in 1999 he became the 34th Chief of Staff of the Army where he served a four-year term.

The 3rd Annual First Team Veterans Day Dinner was held on the evening of the 11th at the Crowne Plaza Washington National Airport Hotel in Crystal City. It was another sell-out at 200 or so Vietnam, Bosnia, Iraq and Afghanistan era veterans. I had the pleasure of talking with LTC Jim Wright (1967) and Terry Smith (1970-71) at the 1st Cav hospitality suite later that evening. I saw that Bob Oakes (1970-71) had signed the guest register but unfortunately we missed each other. All and all, our unit was well represented on Veterans Day.

You will be happy to hear that after years of fund raising and planning, the ceremonial groundbreaking for The Education Center at The Wall took place on November 28th. The center will be located just across Henry Bacon Drive NW from Constitutional Gardens on The National Mall, near the Lincoln Memorial. When complete, it will be a national landmark dedicated to bringing to life the stories of the more than 58,000 American service members who died in the Vietnam War, according to Jan Scruggs, founder and president of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund. It will also tell the stories of the fallen in Iraq and Afghanistan, serving as a temporary place of remembrance until today’s veterans receive their own national honor. To date, \$47 million of the \$85 million necessary to commence construction has been raised.

Ron Christopher (1966-67) provided the following in response to the stories in the recent issues of the *SABER* regarding the unit history of the LRRP/Ranger unit.....This is to let you know that there are no records of the beginning of the LRRP unit. From what LTC Ron Hall (1966-67) told me, he brought them back with him from Vietnam when he returned to the U.S. and kept them in his mother’s attic. Then tragically he got killed. Where those records are now is beyond me, but I would assume that they are destroyed. If you want to know about the beginning of the LRRP unit, I can answer any question you have. I was there with COL Jim James (1966-67) back on November 1, 1966. He and I were the only two in the LRRPs from that time until January 2, 1967. The true **Continued on pg. 19.**



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Hello once again fellow Sky Troopers. Happy New Year! Hope your Holiday was an enjoyable time with family and friends. Can it be that we're off into another year already? Seems as if I just made that statement. My thanks to all for the holiday cards and kind words about this "Wings" column, YOUR column.

Last year, more than ever, many of our comrades in arms marched off to Fiddler's Green. Some were close, others not so, but all shared our common bond. It's a comfort zone for me to have associated with these men and women who have worn the uniform. I enjoy the company regardless whether it's in person or just communicating via the Internet or phone. It really won't bother me that most Americans never realized the service and sacrifice of these troopers. It's enough for me to have had the privilege to have known them, to be among them. They will all be missed.

Once again I found my way to DC for Veterans Day weekend, November 9th, 10th and Sunday the 11th, in Arlington, Virginia and DC. It was marked by beautiful fall weather and the meeting of friends from across the Nation. I guess I was expecting more in the way of formal activities at the "Wall" as this was the 30th Anniversary of its dedication. The area from the Lincoln Memorial to the beautiful new WWII memorial, however, was full each day with people activity and groups including school children bused and flown in from all over the country. Many of the children have school-made, "Thank you for serving" cards. I'm sure they had fun seeking out veterans in the crowds to hand them a card and say, "Thank You." At 1 pm on Sunday the 11th, the service started at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial with our 1st Cavalry Division Color Guard standing proudly above the memorial with flags waving in the brisk wind. Earlier, at 9 am, the Wreath Laying Ceremony was conducted at 17th Street, between Constitution and Independence Avenues at the WWII Memorial. Followed by the 11 am President Barack Obama's tribute at Arlington National Cemetery to "the heroes over the generations who have served this country of ours with distinction." He said the wreath he laid earlier at the Tomb of the Unknowns was intended to remember every service member who has worn a uniform and served the nation. Walking was a necessity, as with last year, when the President was in the area of the memorials, all roads were shut down and traffic snarled. The Association's Hospitality Room at the Cav HQ, the Crowne Plaza Hotel, was a busy place and a frequent visiting spot for me to check the sign-in rosters. Sunday evening's Veterans' Day Dinner was packed. Several tables for the "Silver Wings" folks are clustered together. COL Fleming sat to my right with his dinner guest, Wendy, who provided a humorous evening. Near the conclusion of the dinner, Frank Moreno paid tribute to Shirley Haase for all her tireless work on behalf of her brother and the crew of Huey # 63-08808 that perished on 28 December '65 in the Highlands of Vietnam. As a direct result of her years of work, visits to Washington, countless phone calls, the bodies were recovered and returned to the families and most recently, all awarded their Purple Heart medals. Her latest accomplishment was to have a new headstone approved to replace the existing one. It will include the unit on the back of the large stone, "A Company, 229th Assault Helicopter Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile)". Franks acknowledgement was a well deserved recognition for her efforts. My trip also included the November 10, 1200 hour, Arlington, Virginia celebration of the Marine Corps Birthday and Veterans Day with a ceremonial sword cake cutting followed by a visit to the John Lyon, Arlington VFW Post. What a blast we had at this Cav friendly post. How's the saying go? Oh yeah, "What happens at the John Lyon Post stays at the John Lyon Post." It was a pleasure to talk and dine with so many great folks. I look forward to my next visit to DC.

Some great news. Julie Kink informed me on December 24th that she and Mike Sprayberry are to be wed in three days, December 27. Well I saw this coming. At least I was hoping so. She and Mike make a great couple. Julie, from Minnesota, has done so much for the families who have lost a loved one to war (she, at age 8, lost her brother, David, KIA). Want to learn more? Julie's YouTube video can be seen at: <www.youtube.com/watch?v=KP3pGYcdBLc>. She is also normally the host for the Association's Gold Star Breakfast that is held in conjunction with our annual reunion. A veteran's advocate for the past 20 years that I've known her. Mike is one of our Medal of Honor recipients and the most unassuming recipient that I have the pleasure of knowing. Mike, from Alabama, was serving as a 1LT on April 25, 1968 in Company D, 5-7th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile). On that day, in the Republic of Vietnam, he led a patrol which rescued men who had been wounded and cut off from the rest of the company. In the course of the rescue mission, Sprayberry personally destroyed several enemy bunkers and machinegun emplacements. He was awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions. Mike reached the rank of lieutenant colonel before retiring from the Army in 1988. My congratulations and best wishes. Now they have to decide as to live in the cold north (Julie) or the warm south (Mike). Well, sounds like a no brainer to me.

Okay. Let's pull pitch and get the mail sortie off the ground. I'll start with one from Robert Kelly, "Hank, I got your name from Henry Land, 15th MED. I am trying to contact then LTC Howard W. Dixon who became Battalion Commander of the 227th 1 December 1967. He was still in that position at least through April 1968. He took over the 227th replacing COL George C. Horton who went to G-1 on MG Tolson's staff. "I was in A/227 and D/227 1967 and 1968. I would appreciate any information on Dixon. It is fruitless to Google him. That only shows his command of 227th in Operation Delaware - A Shau Valley. Thank you. CW2 Robert W Kelly, (817) 441-9200, 333 Vista Drive, Willow Park, TX 76087."

Well this one was easy. I was able to provide Robert an address the next day and he was able to contact LTC Dixon at the address. In response he noted, in part, "Hank, thanks for all your efforts in locating COL Dixon. We just had our third reunion. Very successful. It took us 43 years to get it together. As you know, in Vietnam, we rotated in and out making it difficult to have reunions. Our reunion started due to Howard's and a few other troopers work. Unlike many

units, we had a core group in a task force for an extended period of time. We are growing each year.

"I would advise you or the correct person to continually take pictures and addresses of units within the Cav. These troopers may not know now but these are golden moments. You have the opportunity to at least make available future opportunities. As they age they will be grateful to get together with fellow combatants.

"Many of our personnel would like 1-227 and 3-227 patches. These are our direct descendants (A&D227th).

"I think you would like our website: <www.a227ahb.org>. First if you scroll down you will see Blackhawks with the A Co. Blackhawk Logo. We want stories, pictures and other historic items as you will find on our website." Robert, glad the "Wings" group was helpful. And thanks for the up-date. Any readers able to direct Robert to those unit patches he is seeking?

The following forward request for information came in via Alan Rhoades - C 229th AHB, 1st CAV DIV, SP5/CE, 6801-69, <northflag780@comcast.net>. "Hank, last year I had a request for the "Stacked Deck" patch I provide from a gentleman by the name of Steve Rogers who was also looking for information relating to crew members who might have flown with C/229 AHB in '67 on D model Huey tail number 63-08801. It seems that the Bell Museum in Mentone, Indiana had acquired the Huey in '95 and wanted to get as much historical information together before this year's dedication. The following is one of his posts. "Greetings Alan, I am Steve Rogers with the Lawrence D. Bell Aircraft Museum, Mentone, Indiana. (Larry Bell's hometown).

"Like many Legions, VFW's and other small museums, we were given (loaned) Huey 63-08801 in 1995. It sat outside until December 10, 2011 when we brought her into the museum hanger to assess what was needed to polish her up to standards set by TACOM (the folks that regulate loaned Military items). After doing a little research on the tail #'s and receiving the gold book info things began to get real. Some of the names on incident reports were Stickney, Liming, Huber, Kirchenbauer. I began to search the Internet. I located Stickney and Huber. Alan Rhoades (via 229th site) pointed me in the direction of Buz Sisk. Huber and Stickney mentioned Huddleston and then Huber mentioned Howard Williams. As you can see the list is growing and we hope this will continue.



"We have slowly started restoring the ship. Neil Stickney has donated his RVN collection to the project and it has proven to be priceless. Not only for its technical information but, it will make a large part of an impressive display. Buz Sisk has donated his Gentex helmet and numerous other items that will be part of the display. Lester Chain at Fort Rucker has been doing some research on antennas for us.

"Our museum has an annual helicopter Fly-in and this year it is set for September 14, 2013. This year we will be dedicating 801 in Honor of Vietnam Veterans. We hope to have many of the 229th Veterans at this dedication. The ship will be painted in the 1966 dress as seen in the attached picture.

"I ask that if you know where any other 229th guys are, please let them know about our project. If you have any questions, comments, ideas for our project, please feel free to contact me. Your suggestions are welcome and appreciated. If you think you may want to donate something for our permanent exhibit, e-mail me.

"We have had several people asking about how to donate at memorial level. We have each stage of the restoration broken down in increments so that group or name can fund any part. For Example, we recently lost a local gentleman that was a graphic artist all of his life. His family wanted to donate to the museum, so all of the stenciling and artwork for 801 will be paid for with the Jerry Hudson Memorial fund. Kind regards, Steve." Okay, Sky Troopers, anyone have time in Huey 63-08801 and willing to contribute information, photos, etc to the project? Let us know.

This inquiry arrived from (1LT) Bruce Thatcher, <thatcher@frontier.com>, (269) 427-9069, Solid Concrete 38, Top Kick 38, Lightning Bolt 28. "Hank, maybe you (Silver Wings) could help me. I was the Artillery aerial observer for the 1-77th Arty, attached to 2-12th Cav. I would fly in an H-13 Sioux with a young W-2 in the morning and then in a O-1 Birdog piloted by a O-3. My problem is that I don't remember their names or my call sign when I was with them. I was awarded the DFC on 28 June 1967 while being in the back seat of the Birdog flying out of LZ Uplift. The action was east of Bong Song near a lake next to the sea. The pilot was the real hero of the day and I was just lucky to be with him. He made that Birdog do things that it wasn't designed to do! Do you know who the pilots we were with and how I might get in touch with them? Have a Happy New Year." Bruce, the only Birdog pilot I know is Pink Martin. I'm hoping a "Silver Wings" reader(s) can help us out with your request.

A couple more things while this sortie is on short final. This year, 2013, marks the 45th anniversary of the Vietnamese Lunar New Year - TET Offensive of 1968. I was at Camp Evans, northwest of Hue, 30 January '68, for the festivities. Anyone out there who would care to comment or share a personal memory about TET with the readers? I'd like to hear from you.



I would also like to thank USAA Military Affinity, Chris Figueiroa for sending two tickets to the Army-Navy game that played here in Philadelphia this past December. Sue and I (photo left) had a great time at the game and talking with the cadets. Too bad Army didn't win. However I must admit Army is consistent as this makes the eleventh year in a row they allowed Navy to beat them. My thanks to Dennis as well.

Okay troopers, time to bring this flight to an end. Wishing everyone good health and a successful New Year. Until next time, "Clear right!"

15th MED/15th FSB/15th BSB



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Ron Strub,
<ronstrub@hotmail.com>,
11th Air Assault and C 15th
MED, 1964-66, replied
regarding Gordon Russell:
"Yes he was with 15th MED

when we went over in '65. Gordon and I e-mailed back and forth and talked on the phone. My last e-mail from him was 1-23-12. He was in 11th Air Assault at Benning before that ['65]. I did not know him back in the day because I was only a PFC, then SP4. We connected a few years back because we know a lot of the same people."

Don Hays, <donzackhays@hotmail.com> writes, Hi Mike, I was in Co. C, 15th MED 1966, Ahn Khe. I just started getting the *Saber* a few months ago. I always read the 15th MED section...hoping to see a story or picture that I knew about. I noticed the little part about 'nose art' on the choppers. I have around five hundred pictures of that year. I will check to watch for nose art...it will give me something to do, as if I don't have anything to do. Would like to hear from you. I know people who were with me, that I would like to find, or see. (509) 844-2047, thanks."

Albert Benamou, <abenamou@hotmail.com> e-mailed, "Hi Mike: I saw your *Saber* page. Hope you still have the same e-mail. I served from June 1969 to March '70 in C Co. 15th MED in Quan Loi. Trying to locate friends still at large. I did touch base with Bob Cannon from Long Beach. Hope to hear from you. Thanks, (Frenchy) 29 Palms, California.

Don Barton, <mudmedic70@hotmail.com> notifies, "A great book is *PATRICK BRADY: Dead Men Flying, Legend of Dust Off*. I know it is not MEDEVAC but one great read. Charles Kelly was one hell of a pilot, the founder of Dust-Off. Have a great day. Doc."

A free read, for those who don't know, is: *DUST OFF: ARMY AEROMEDICAL EVACUATION IN VIETNAM* <http://history.amedd.army.mil/booksdocs/vietnam/dustoff/default.html> A former Government Printing Office book, now out of print, but available free online. This covers all U.S. Army aeromedical evacuation in Vietnam from the beginning to the end of the war.

You can go to the 15th MED Association Website and read the latest *President's Corner* by Art Jacobs. In part he says: "When some of us came home from Vietnam, we only wanted to forget that we were ever there, especially given the social climate at the time and the opinion and attitude of many of our fellow citizens. Some of us were bitter. Some of us were sad, depressed or regretful. Some of us had wounds, both visible and hidden. And some of us still battle those wounds and the personal conflicts to this day.

"I've noticed lately that when I wear one of my jackets that has a 1st Cav patch, that more and more people will tap me on the shoulder and say, 'Thank you for your service.' At first, I would be slightly embarrassed, caught off-guard, and finally mutter a meek thank you. After one such encounter (a nice old lady who was a clerk at the grocery store), I drove home thinking, 'What should I say when someone does that?' Somehow just saying 'thank you' felt lacking, incomplete and even strangely inappropriate. I didn't join the Army for anyone's thanks.

"Like you perhaps, I joined the Army because I saw it as my duty to serve, just like my father, his brother and all my uncles who survived World War II and Korea. In the mid-sixties with the Berlin Wall, the Cuban Missile Crisis, Khrushchev saying the USSR would 'bury us,' and JFK's 'Ask not what your country can do for you' inaugural speech fresh in my mind, I saw enlisting as simply my turn to do my part.

"Having re-hashed all that logic and emotion in my head on the way home from the grocery store, it came to me what I 'should' say and do, what I 'would always' say and do going forward whenever people thanked me for my service. Now, I take their hand to shake, look them in the eye, smile and I say: 'It was my honor. And, I would do it again! Thank you.'

"With some who have stopped me, we've had brief and enjoyable conversations. I've found out that they have fathers, relatives and sons who have served or are serving - from World War II to Afghanistan and every war, conflict or engagement in between. For us, like those before us, we were called and we answered. There were many our age at the time that took another course, made a different decision and did not serve. You may even have envied them at the time (during Basic Training).

"I trust that with all the years that have passed, you have discovered as I have that many of those men who did not go to Vietnam actually 'envy' us. Just over 3.5 million served in Vietnam during the war. There are fewer than 1.7 Vietnam veterans alive today. Interestingly enough, the last US Census somehow shows that over 8.5 million Americans indicated that they were Vietnam veterans!"

The 2013 15th MED Association Reunion will be in Old Sacramento, California April 17-21, 2013. Go to the Website for info or contact Jim Calibro <jimcc4@att.net>. Telephone (916) 446-0100. Ask for Jim.

If you don't see any notice in this column, check the *Saber* "Other Reunions." The 1st Cavalry Division Association 66th Annual Reunion will be in Killeen/Fort Hood, Texas 5-9 June 2013.

5th Cav News

Continued from pg. 10.

Corps Chaplain at Bragg. I retired after serving two years as the Commandant of the USA Chaplain Center and School at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey. Since retiring I have served on staff of the Hyde Park United Methodist Church in Tampa Florida. I am going to hang it up next August, just after my 75th birthday and a couple of days short of my 50th anniversary of ordination. Grace and peace to you and yours this Christmas Season.

SGT Gene Lang, D Co., 2-5, writes: Just re-read the article in the *SABER*. Great article. You have a picture of me with my 45 pistol. You identified the picture as SGT Tulfo. I have never seen that Christmas picture. (Dear Gene: It was a privilege serving with both of you. Did you know that SGT Tulfo grew up in the Philippines. From the age of four his village was occupied by the Japanese Imperial Army (a very bad bunch). At about the age of 8, he was standing beside the road to Manila waving the American Flag as the 5th Cavalry drove past, on its way to defeat the Japanese. It is interesting to note that at the age of eight you were in a small village just outside of Budapest, as Russian

From Bill Walsh <cpd9283@comcast.net>, MEDEVAC and C 2-7 Cav Medic, "Everything I Needed To Know In Life I Learned As A Helicopter Crew Member In Vietnam:



Inside Phouc Vinh MEDEVAC Air Ops. On call.

without more ammunition than the other guy. d. The engine RPM and the rotor RPM must BOTH be kept in the GREEN. Failure to heed this commandment can affect the morale of the crew. e. Cover your Buddy, so he can be around to



Outside, rear, toward flight line at Phouc Vinh MEDEVAC Air Ops. Photos from Bill Walsh

cover for you. f. Decisions made by someone above you in the chain-of-command will seldom be in your best interest. g. The terms Protective Armor and Helicopter are mutually exclusive. h. Sometimes, being good and lucky still is not enough. i. 'Chicken Plates' are not something you order in a restaurant. j. If everything is as clear as a bell and everything is going exactly as planned, you're about to be surprised. k. Loud, sudden noises in a helicopter WILL get your undivided attention. l. The BSR (Bang Stare Red) Theory states that the louder the sudden bang in the helicopter, the quicker your eyes will be drawn to the gauges. The longer you stare at the gauges the less time it takes them to move from green to red. m. No matter what you do, the bullet with your name on it will get you. So, too, can the ones addressed 'To Whom It May Concern.' n. If the rear echelon troops are really happy, the front line troops probably do not have what they need. o. If you are wearing body armor, they will probably miss that part. p. Happiness is a belt-fed weapon. q. Having all your body parts intact and functioning at the end of the day beats the alternative. r. If you are allergic to lead, it is best to avoid a war zone. s. It is a bad thing to run out of airspeed, altitude and ideas all at the same time. t. Hot garrison chow is better than hot C-rations which, in turn, is better than cold C-rations which, in turn, is better than no food at all. All of these, however, are preferable to cold rice balls, even if they do have the little pieces of fish in them. u. Everybody's a hero ... on the ground ... in the club... after the fourth drink. v. A free fire zone has nothing to do with economics. w. The further you fly into the mountains, the louder the strange engine noises become. x. Medals are OK, but having your body and all your friends in one piece at the end of the day is better. y. Being shot hurts. z. 'Pucker Factor' is the formal name of the equation that states the more hairy the situation is, the more of the seat cushion will be sucked up your asshole. It can be expressed in its mathematical formula of S (suction) + H (height) above ground + I (interest in staying alive) + T (# of tracers coming your way) aa. Thus the term 'S***!' can also be used to denote a situation where high Pucker Factor is being encountered. ab. Thousands of Vietnam Veterans earned medals for bravery every day. A few were even awarded. ac. Running out of pedal, fore or aft cyclic or collective are all bad ideas. Any combination of these can be deadly. ad. There is only one rule in war: When you win, you get to make up the rules. ae. C-4 can make a dull day fun. af. There is no such thing as a fair fight-only ones where you win or lose. ag. If you win the battle you are entitled to the spoils. If you lose you don't care. ah. Nobody cares what you did yesterday or what you are going to do tomorrow. What is important is what you are doing-NOW-to solve our problem. ai. Always make sure someone has a P-38. Uh, that's a can opener for those of you who aren't military. aj. Prayer may not help... but it can't hurt. ak. Flying is better than walking. Walking is better than running. Running is better than crawling. All of these, however, are better than extraction by MEDEVAC, even if it is technically, a form of flying. al. If everyone does not come home, none of the rest of us can ever fully come home either. am. Do not fear the enemy, for your enemy can only take your life. It is far better that you fear the media, for they will steal your HONOR. an. A grunt is the true reason for the existence of the helicopter. Every helicopter flying in Vietnam had one real purpose: To help the grunt. It is unfortunate that many helicopters never had the opportunity to fulfill their one true mission in life, simply because someone forgot this fact. ao. If you have not been there and done that you probably will not understand most of these."

Always remembering our 1st Cav troops on duty around the world; over and out. FIRST TEAM! Garryowen, SO THAT OTHERS MAY LIVE

soldiers and tanks went up and down the road looking for someone to shoot).

Steve Marceau, A Co., 2-5, December '67-December '68, writes: What unit is in the picture entitled "Christmas 1967 Viet-Nam"? (Dear Steve: There were two pictures of 4th Platoon, D Co., 2-5 taken just seconds apart from one another. One has the guys smiling, the other has them frowning. The one in the *SABER* belongs to SGT Tulfo.)

Ron Jones, D Co., 2-5, June '67-March '68, writes: I served in 3rd Platoon. Sorry, I don't remember you, (Dear Ron: I was the new guy that nearly shot CPT Carpenter) but, I remember CPT Carpenter. I was Medevaced by COL Love's chopper when I suffered some seizures in March of '68. Haven't seen or heard from many of our fellow troopers. I have seen and visited Steve Lewis (RTO). He lives in Reno. I have also seen Charlie Cox, who at the time lived in Oakland. I have lots of memories of our unit. Best regards and "welcome home"!

Douglas Crawford, A Co., 2-5, 1970, writes: 'A Bit of Closure and Honor After 42 Years'. It was March 28, 1970 A 2-5 was patrolling in Phouc Long
Continued on pg. 19.

20th and 79th Artillery Regiment News



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As I sit here on this last weekend of 2012 and looking back over the years I've been associated with Aerial Rocket Artillery, I see the vast number of people who played an important part of the history made by these units. It is not just the members who crewed and supported the missions flown. There are the thousands of soldiers on the ground who knew we were there in their time of need, the other artillery and air support people and tacticians who benefited from this innovative system of direct aerial artillery support for close in combat. I stated in the last article that I would accept any and all stories of your experience in Vietnam to ensure they are recorded and read. I have another one received at the 14th Annual ARA Reunion in Charleston, South Carolina from ARA Association Life Member Joe Hogg. Joe presented our Association President Jesse Hobby a Silver Chalice, documents, photographs and a commentary from the 1970 era troopers of Company C, 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division (AM). I will include an overview of the story now and more details in subsequent articles.

The opening page reads as follows: It is our wish to acknowledge the pilots and ground crews whose professionalism, courage and dedication to duty often meant the difference in life and death for Charlie Company. Of the many engagements about which that statement is unquestionable, the Battle for FSB ILLINGWORTH has been chosen for presentation to the Association. Some of the material is very sobering as it recounts the losses, some is dry "Officialese" and some show the brief time at altitude when we could all get a short respite from the threat of combat, and the tropical heat below. However, regardless of individual subject matter, each item represents a moment of shared service over 40 years ago, a time of which we all must be proud.



FSB Illingworth as it was on March 31, '70.

and 1 April 1970 documents that without question for Company C. While there were numerous additional engagements, the following were particularly violent and without the support of ARA, Charlie's (C/2/8) casualties would doubtless have been much greater. The numbers of casualties are not cited for other than to emphasize the intensity of the given fight and in particular without the support of ARA in the fights of 26 March and 1 April, Charlie was in dire peril of being overrun and everyone killed or captured. During this period every Officer was either killed or wounded and many of the senior and junior NCO's were lost as well. The two MIA on 14 February were a Platoon Leader and his RTO.

One of the great things about ARA support was the option for any grunt on a PRC-77 radio to talk directly to the pilot...no long, whip antenna required. Our ARA support was call sign Blue Max, but we just called them Max. If the



FSB Illingworth today on Google Earth.

With sincere regard and grateful acknowledgment of your service, LTC George K. Hobson, USA - Ret. Commanding C/2/8, 13 March 1970 to 6 August 1970.

As did every ground unit, Company C (AKA Charlie) depended on a variety of supporting fires. Ground artillery and mortars had a problem with the gun-target-line that always left areas of a ground unit unprotected by supporting fires. The capability of Aerial Rocket Artillery (ARA) to provide fire on all sides was critical and the period of time between 14 February

leader and experienced RTO on the ground had been KIA, calm and experienced pilots sometimes had to coach a young grunt about what to do. In general it went something like: "Mark your position with a smoke grenade. I'll identify the color. You will confirm. Then tell me where you need the support and MAX will be right down there with you."

The following notes are only for C/2/8. Other ground units were involved and suffered casualties but records are not available to accurately document the numbers lost. ARA played a critical role in support of ground troops in each fight.

*14 February 1970. Charlie's survivors called this fight the "St. Valentine's Day Massacre" with 6 KIA, 2 MIA, and 21 WIA. ARA support required at danger close.

*8 March 1970. 3 KIA and 13 WIA. ARA support danger close for a hot, one ship extraction PZ.

*26 March 1970. 2 KIA and 22 WIA. ARA support was danger close on two sides. Charlie Company was isolated and surrounded by a battalion-sized force of NVA for some seven hours. ARA was critical to Charlie's survival because of its provision of danger-close fires on two sides closed to ground artillery support.

A Troop of the 11th ACR and A Company of 2-8 Battalion arrived in support after some five hours of the fight and all three units were still outnumbered. After another two hours of battle, in the action to withdraw under fire, it was the ARA that provided the support to break the NVA tactic of "hugging the belt buckle" of a U. S. force. Neither ground artillery nor fixed wing aircraft could deliver ordnance in the proximity required to disengage the NVA from the three U.S. units.

*1 April 1970. FSB Illingworth. In addition to the field artillery direct support provided for FSB Illingworth, A and B Batteries, 2nd Battalion, 20th Artillery

(Aerial Rocket Artillery) had been assigned a modified General Support Reinforcing role to the 2-19th Artillery and 1-77th Artillery respectively. The ARA role at FSB Illingworth was particularly critical to the base not having been overrun.

7 KIA and 25 WIA. ARA supported FSB Illingworth defenders with strikes under 75 meters of the berm and provision of communications for external supporting artillery. Official records credit the Air Force FAC with accomplishing the task of external communications link, but it was in fact the ARA that did so at the most critical time.

The first rounds from the NVA rockets took out the antennas for the artillery and battalion operations centers on FSB Illingworth. ARA quickly

Damages sustained by the 19th Artillery search light vehicle.

came on station and became the only link to the outside through one of its pilots - Joe Hogg. While evading ground fire and providing strikes on the NVA ground assault, CPT Hogg was the only source of outside radio contact for the base. Joe's interface between the battalion artillery forward observer and the off-Illingworth supporting ground artillery was the only means for adjustment of fire for an extended time. Page 4 of the 19th Artillery cites 11 sections of ARA flown in support of Illingworth (in about a four hour period).

The battle for FSB Illingworth is particularly notable because it was briefed at White House level. The results of after action reports caused a clarification of the length of time forward firebases were to be left in place.

The After Action Report (AAR) from the 2nd Battalion, 19th Artillery on the ground attack on FSB Illingworth recorded the role of ARA (to follow in next issue).

Jesse and Joe, thanks for the story and the opportunity to present it to the members of the 1st Cavalry Division. To other ARA members, please send me your stories via e-mail, FAX or USPS.

The Association has just completed work on our FACEBOOK and invites you to visit the site at <www.facebook.com/AerialRocketArtilleryAssociation> and please leave your comments.

Remember our 2013 Reunion to be held at the Days Inn in Hershey, Pennsylvania on June 5-9, 2013. Go to our web site <www.araassociation.com> for details and registration form. Our reunion hosts are Cecil and Peggy Hengeveld. Hope to see you there!

After a hard day's work there would have been nothing better than being able to relax with his wife and relieve some stress, Cornelius said.

"Just to do something simple like eating together or having ice cream would have made all the difference," he explained.

But after having returned home the memories of the deployment were stored away, with both Cornelius and Ardreanna looking ahead to the next possible rotation.

"We both want new experiences and for Cornelius this has been his only duty station, but I've been to Korea, so it's time for him to see something new," Ardreanna said. "First though we want to deploy again and this time we hope to be together."

But having successfully navigated through the first time apart, the second time shouldn't be an issue, she said.

"If we can survive that, we can survive anything," Ardreanna said with a smile.

Division Doings

Continued from pg. 14.

anna joked.

The couple occupied their time apart by taking courses at the schools on their bases, which Cornelius admitted was an incentive to excel.

"I completed my associates degree in general studies and Ardreanna was one class short of finishing hers in the same field," Cornelius said. "Now I'm just 12 classes from getting my bachelors degree."

Despite their distance, the couple was allowed to see each other on special occasions, such as birthdays and Christmas, Ardreanna said, along with mid-tour leave.

"We went to each other's hometowns on leave and in the month before we redeployed Cornelius came back to Shindand, so we were able to travel back home together," she said. "My first sergeant understood the strain of the situation and tried to let me see Cornelius as much as possible."

82nd FA News



"Can and Will"
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not scraping ourselves off of the rocks at the bottom of the cliff. So Happy New Year!

E-82nd FA: I received an e-mail from Bill Thomason, and he writes "Dan I think I gave everyone the heads up on our move to South Carolina to care for our terminally ill daughter-in-law. We have basically moved enough to set up our home here in Lexington, South Carolina. We have had our plates full the past 3 months and I have not had much time to even think about writing or what I have done. Do you have any articles that I have written that you are holding for publication? If not I can maybe come up with a couple in the next few weeks. I have deliberately not embarked upon writing lately because I do not like to sit down to write until I can put my full mind and head into the subject. It is difficult enough moving, but the pressure of taking care of our daughter-in-law doesn't leave much time for writing. I have virtually given up most of my activities with military patriotic organizations and I am not sure that I will pursue much in the near future. Hope all is well and hope to get back into the swing of things here before too long." Thanks, Bill and Janet. Our prayers go out to Bill and Janet for their daughter-in-law. As I told Bill, your family comes first and this other stuff will just have to wait. It takes special people to devote their full time to care for a sick



LTC Will and CSM Maynard visit 2nd Plt. A/5-82 FA.

loved one. We were also notified of the death of LTC (R) Stuart G. McLennan, who passed away on 22 August 2012. He served as a pilot with E-82nd FA in 1966-67. He also served with the 1st Cav in the 15th Aviation Company in Korea in 1959-60. Please remember him in

your prayers as well.

Black Dragons of the 5-82nd FA: We learned of the untimely death of Trista Lauro on 4 December 2012, in Arizona. She was the wife of SGT Brian Lauro, who had just deployed to Afghanistan with 5-82nd FA. Our prayers also go out to the SGT Lauro, his young son, Brian and his family. Attached are a few pictures of Black Dragons with the 4th BCT, 1st Cav Division doing the job of training Afghan Army Artillerymen. One of the photos shows an Afghan Army D30 Howitzer firing a high angle mission during a live fire certification. Great job by Outlaw Platoon (3rd Platoon Alpha Battery) for training these guys so well. Another one of the pictures shows "CSM Maynard and I {LTC Will Johnson} had a great visit with 2nd Platoon Alpha Battery, Dawg Pound, great visit today guys keep up all the hard work you are doing great. The second of two big events for Task Force Black Dragon happened today {11-23-12}. Our "patching" ceremony recognizes Soldiers serving on their first combat deployment, as we place their Combat Patch on their right sleeve. Thanks for serving your country in a combat zone! BD6 and BD9." We hope to hear more about the adventures of the Black Dragons in the near future. This is Black Dragon 582, EOM ~ Out!



3rd Plt., A/5-82 FA certifies Afghan D30 High Angle Fire.

loved one. We were also notified of the death of LTC (R) Stuart G. McLennan, who passed away on 22 August 2012. He served as a pilot with E-82nd FA in 1966-67. He also served with the 1st Cav in the 15th Aviation Company in Korea in 1959-60. Please remember him in

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5-82 FA and HHC 4th BCT Patching Ceremony 11-23-12.

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LRRP News

Continued from pg. 15.

story of the beginning of the LRRPs is in my book, *Above All Else*. [Note, *Above All Else* is Ron's autobiography of being the team leader of the first team to pull a mission as 1st Cav LRRP/Rangers.]

Bill Carpenter (1967) provided the following.....A recent story in the August 2012 issue of *VFW Magazine* entitled *Last Days Of The Infantry In Vietnam, 1972* notes that 1st Cav Rangers SGT Elvis W. Osborne (KIA 6/9/72) and SP4 Jeffrey A. Maurer (KIA 6/9/72) were the last two GIs to die in Vietnam on the ground by enemy action. SGT Osborne and SP4 Maurer were members of Ranger Team 76. The team was inserted on the ground near Tan Uyen in Binh Duong Province, in southeastern South Vietnam, immediately north of Saigon, on June 9, 1972. Their mission was to assess the damage done to an NVA bunker complex by 1st Cav helicopter gunships. Either rocket fire or a command-detonated bomb rigged as a mechanical ambush device claimed their lives. The story goes on to note that H Company 75th Rangers was the last Ranger unit to leave Vietnam and it was credited with the longest continuous combat tenure of any Ranger unit in U.S. military history to that time.

COL Jim James provided the following.....General Giap, who commanded the Viet Minh from the time they started fighting the Japanese in 1936 until they defeated the French in 1954, was a brilliant and highly respected leader of the North Vietnamese military. The following quotes are from his memoirs currently found in the Vietnam War Memorial in Hanoi: "What we still don't understand is why you Americans stopped the bombing of Hanoi. You had us on the ropes. If you had pressed us a little harder, just for another day or two, we were ready to surrender."

"It was the same at the Battle of TET. You defeated us! We knew it and we thought you knew it. But we were elated to notice your media was helping us. They were causing more disruption in America than we could in the battlefields.

5th Cav News

Continued from pg. 17.

Provence, South Vietnam. Just after an early morning river crossing, our 3rd platoon was sent along the river bank to check on enemy activity. They hadn't gone far and were ambushed. The call came over the radio, they had men down. I was in 1st Platoon, 2nd Squad. Clarence Hall was squad leader. We could hear the gun fire and went "running" to their aid. I was the point man and ran headlong into the enemy and was wounded myself. As we were being medevaced in mid-river, the wounded were put on first, then the KIA. The bird was crowded and the KIA was laid across my legs as the medics on the bird checked him over. The event didn't bother me then, but after I was home from Vietnam, it started to be my "nightmare." I felt guilt in not getting to them in time, etc, etc, etc. The biggest guilt was I didn't know the KIA's name. This bothered me for years. Then in 2004, 34 years after the event, I met up with Jack Giffin, a fellow A-2-5 member at a Veterans Reunion in Kokomo, Indiana. Jack had 8 sets of initials tattooed into a cross on his arm. As we sat around a campfire discussing the names, I asked Jack who D.S. was. He told me it was Darrell Smith. He told me he was killed at the river crossing ambush and had only been in the field a couple days. Wow! A name for the face I have been seeing all these years. A bit of closure! 2012 was the 30th anniversary of the WALL. They were looking for readers of names. I sent my name in. I had 30 names to read. DARRELL SMITH was #3 on my list.... What an honor to read his name along with the 29 others on my list.

We were ready to surrender. You had won!"

General Giap published his memoirs and confirmed what most Americans already knew – the Vietnam War was lost at home, in America, not in Vietnam. The same slippery slope, sponsored by the U.S. media, is currently underway. It exposes the enormous power of a biased media to cut out the heart and will of the American public.

After Indochina was divided into North and South Vietnam, General Giap became the head of the North Vietnamese military and was its most prominent military commander, beside Ho Chi Minh, during the war. He was responsible for numerous major operations, including the TET Offensive of 1968, the Easter Offensive of 1972 and the Final Campaign of 1975. He retired in 1991.

Bob Ankony ('68) provided the following.....Blink Films, the British production company that is producing a documentary series called *The Real Story* that explores the real story behind a movie and the making of that movie, including Oliver Stone's *Platoon*, contacted me and I spoke of what I remembered of SGT Barnes and SGT Elias (KIA). I forwarded a copy of the report that shows SGT Elias was killed in Quang Tri Province from multiple fragmentation wounds on May 29, 1968. I also forwarded to them the photos I had of Barnes and Elias. [Oliver Stone served in E Company, 52nd Infantry (LRRPs), 1st Cav in 1968. He also served in the 3rd Battalion 22nd Infantry, 4th Infantry Division in March 1967, where he survived the real life battle of Fire Support Base Gold (Battle of Suoi Tre) in War Zone C, northwest of Saigon, involving the 9th Viet Cong Division. The battle is documented in the December 1998 issue of *Vietnam Magazine*.]

On a final note, the 2013 Ranger Rendezvous, a unit tradition designed to bring the entire Regiment together for the 75th Ranger Regiment's change of command, will be held July 22-25, 2013 at Fort Benning, Georgia. For more information on this, visit the following website: <www.facebook.com/#!/pages/The-75th-Ranger-Regiment/19015803099896?fref=ts>.

RANGERS LEAD THE WAY

Allan F. Foster, 4th Platoon, D 2-5, 1968 writes: Thanks to everyone for contributing your stories. It makes our 5th Cav Journal so rich and worthwhile. Maybe, it will help others. God Bless and Welcome Home!

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Thank you for supporting the Souvenir Shop and the Troopers of the 1st Cavalry Division Association.

ENGINEER News



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Rd. 26452; Jack Morrison; Ralph Jones; David Christian, Duluth, Minnesota, (218) 841-2498; David LaPlante, Minnesota, (952) 933-3487; Billy Mobin, Athens, Georgia; Joseph Orient, Coraopolis, Pennsylvania, (412) 264-6373; Don Manville, Rome, Pennsylvania; James Kendrick, Marietta, Georgia; David Ciosek, Crest Hill, Illinois, (815) 729-2499; Gordon Hughes, Jonesboro, Alaska, (870) 530-1591; Joe Cross, Cross, South Carolina; Emil Ash, Olean, New York; Al Capuano; Lorenzo Chavez, Oxnard, California; Bob Fenton, Michigan, (231) 258-8477; Peter Macfarlane, Kitty Hawk, North Carolina; David Williams, New Jersey, (856) 769-0913; Mike Schwering Colusa, Illinois; Mike Brothers, Vermillion, Ohio, (440) 670-1325; Donald Marchand, Biddeford, Massachusetts, (207) 467-1683; Claude Parker <coparker49@gmail.com>; Richard Estes (408) 778-3979; Howard Buchanan, Lynn Haven, Florida, (850) 277-2238; Chuck Larson, Rockford, Illinois; Fred Betteridge; Hector Mitchell, Alaska, (573) 258-5340; Joe Wagel, Bloomfield, Michigan; and Robert Cook (Kococinski), Henderson, Nevada, (702) 565-0342.

Other Persons Named And Not Forgotten As Being Either Missing Person Or Memorialized On The Wall 2011: Ed Gaines, Gary Williams, Joseph Tohos, Randall Richards, Windell Hutchinson, Mike Russell, Ed Collins, Harold Hood, Austin La Plante, CPT Aston, CPT Hewitt, Doug Luke, Tony Stradman, Bill Lillenthal, Peter Hayes, William Gowens, Tim Grover, Chuck Erickson, Bill Canada, Alton Ellis, Shepardson, PSG Dingnum, Dan Cavanaugh, ISG Totura, SGM Ruth, PSG Papie Baldwin, SGT Cousart, Billie Morton, John Hood, JJ Johnson, Daniel Shelly, Scotty Olson, Tom Guitierrez, Guy Patterson, Doug Chase, Mike VanGordon, Al Fursa, Paul Smith, CPT Betteridge, Mike Lapansky, Herm Wright, Ron Powell, SGT Hart, CPT Sheehy, Doc Stone, Dave Moeken, SSG Delk, Billy Ray Brock, Ricky Pickelsteiner, (yes Pickelsteiner), Tony Lockhart, Richard Howard, Tom-sick, John Thomas, Johnson, Womble, LT Labonte, Curtis Bocchi, John Kochan, SSG Mendenhall, Henderson, Gilligan (Slick), John Seitz, Albert Pryor, Donald Clark, Michael Gibbons, William Gary, and Bert McCullum.

Corrections Or Amendments To The First List: Robert Smitley is not missing and wrote in to give his address as 302 Pine St., Marshall, IL 62441. Robert also noted that Lowell Miles is deceased. Thanks for the update. William Arasz notes that he is really <b.w.aras@gmail.com> and that his real phone is (732) 278-1381. Dennis York reports that Dick Davis was KIA in 1967. Dennis can be reached at (605) 580-0246.

Another Type Of Honor Roll: Kimberly Munley and Mark Todd are the cops that took down the alleged Fort Hood murderer, Dr. Nadal Hasan who has yet to come to trial.

Just Curious: So if the Arizona shopping center killer who would have taken down Rep. Gifford has now come to trial and been convicted in less than a year, why does Dr. Hasan still get three squares and a cot without coming to trial in two plus years? Editor's Note: Jared Loughner pled "Guilty" to the shooting in Tucson speeding up his case and Hasan has pled "Not Guilty" for the shooting on Fort Hood. Legal challenges and the removal of the judge have also added to the length of Hasan's case. Additionally, a trial which could result in a death sentence will move much slower than a trial that does not involve the death sentence.

Ya Gotta Love It: Charles Love of Saint Louis, Missouri sent me a treasure trove of 8th Engineer documents. Charles appeared in our Nov/Dec column but gets an extra note here for saving the trove all these years. Unfortunately the typed text, while authentic, is too small to reproduce in photo form for *Saber*. Thanks Charlie. I'm sending the originals back to you.

Buckshot One: Sometimes known as MSG (Ret) Bill Bercaw called from (850) 778-5624 (Crestview, Florida) in response to the Sept/Oct issue of *Saber*. His first report was that Jimmy Nakayama was KIA at LZ X-ray. Jimmy was noted in the Hal Moore book and portrayed in the movie. The associated good news is that the wife of Jimmy had his baby a few days after LZ X-ray. Also reported is the recent passing of SGM Basil Plumley whose steadfastness was also noted in the book and certainly in the movie. Plumley was a three-war soldier's soldier according to Bercaw who knew both him and Moore. Bercaw got into the 2-7 Cav by badgering the REMF's in the replacement company till they got aggravated with him and sent him off to A/2-7 mortar section which is exactly what he wanted. For his efforts, Bercaw got a Purple Heart and a DSC during his three tours. Bercaw claims he can still put an 81mm shell in your back pocket with one tracing and the second adjustment round. I wouldn't bet against him. Hey! Wait a second! What is a mortar guy doing on the Engineer page? The truth is that Bercaw and others put us engineers in for CIB's and pushed the idea up to Division. I guess another REMF flicked the recommendation into file 13. Bercaw called me back with more news. He took the names of missing friends from the Sept/Oct *Saber* and cross-referenced them against an alphabetical list of our comrades on the Wall. These following names are also on the Wall as researched following your inquiries: Russell Hammond, Arlen Tuttle, Hoover Morris, Scott Henry and James Clark. If you were looking for Ralph Parker, the name on the Wall is Ralph John Parker Jr. from Connecticut. If you were looking for Hockersmith the name on the Wall is Hockensmith which may or may not be the match. If you were looking for Musselman, there are six Musselman's on the Wall. Call Bercaw to discuss the matter. Of special note, we regret the not so recent passing of George Nye in December of 1991. Nye served three tours and gathered a Silver Star among other awards. But that fades in importance when we know the remainder of the story. Nye returned to Bangor, Maine and took upon himself the duty and honor of welcoming home returning Gulf War (Operation Desert Storm) soldiers. Bangor was the refuel stop for those flights and the first touchdown point on American soil. Nye met the planes anytime day or night but mostly at night because of the flight times from Kuwait. Soon Nye had many in the Bangor community with him to greet the flights. He kept up this devoted service till the day before he died. That's an engineer and American to emulate wherever you are.

Helpful Hint: Looking for a missing buddy? Find some old orders that you may have kept. If your buddy got the same orders, he will be on there with a Social

Security number hopefully. Call the SS office. With the number, they can tell you if the person is living or deceased. At least you would know that much.

FSB Garry Owen: Ring any bells? The pictures on the right are contributed by SFC Howard Buchanan. You gotta love those sandbags. Do you think the flying crane might have stirred up a little dust while dropping off dozer sections? I'm surprised Buchanan was able to get a picture made. Thanks for the effort 45 years ago.

I Thought This Was The Engineer Page: But the Arty keeps shooting rounds our way. Anyway, let me introduce you to Frank Sealey of the 77th FA. Frank is presently in Martinsburg, West Virginia and can be reached at (540) 327-7760 or e-mailed at <badrass21@yahoo.com>. Frank is especially appreciative of the



Frank Sealey, Song Be, 1970

work and friendship of the engineers shown to him at Song Be (LZ Buttons) during 1970. He sends words of encouragement to all who may suffer from PTSD or who have been to hell and back. We can discover that angels are all about us and in the most common of places. Just look. Frank knows.

In The Meantime: COL (Ret) Francis (Frank) Walter discovered that he was a missing person having read, in detail I might add, the Sept/Oct issue. Since Frank also discovered that he has a voice, I will let him speak for himself. "One of the lucky ones, like you and many other readers of *SABER*, I have so many fond memories of the hundreds of men who likely still refer to themselves as "Sky Beavers". I just do not know where to start, to recall so many names of outstanding officers and enlisted men who served in the battalion in 1968-69. You have listed several in your "missing persons" list. At the risk of offending hundreds of men, the first person who comes to mind is CSM Harold Baxter, who kept me alive for a year and was my most trusted advisor. He insured, in his quiet but determined way, that I spent most of my waking hours visiting our Sky Beavers on the battlefields with the three deployed brigades. He and I logged about 750 hours in Hueys. I last saw him in the summer of 1976 at Fort Leonard Wood where I attended one of my son's graduation from basic training and Harold Baxter was his training regiment's Command Sergeant Major. Small world!

There is a Sky Beaver heavy equipment mechanic, who I shall never forget: Moses Hundley, a man so dedicated to keeping our dozers and back hoes operational, that I started to carry a grease seal, for D-6 track tightening, in a cargo pocket of my trousers. More than once, early in that year, when CSM Baxter and I dropped in on a fire base where Specialist Hundley was working, we found him desperately trying to tighten a D-6 track. Sadly, in about January, 1969, he was killed one night trying to drag to safety a wounded soldier, at a fire base partly overrun by an NVA regiment. Not to make this report too lengthy, I'll only recall one of the many truly outstanding officers who served with us in the battalion; that is, then MAJ Howard Graves, a Rhodes Scholar, who was our ADE and later S-3. A truly brilliant man, he went on to receive three stars and served as Commandant at the USMA, West Point. Unfortunately, LTG Graves died from cancer in 2003. During my time in the Army's Office of Personnel Operations (OPO), July 1965 to March 1968, the height of the deployments to Vietnam, assignment officers hand-picked most of the command sergeant majors and many other senior engineer NCOs, captains, majors and lieutenant colonels who were assigned to the eight combat divisions in Vietnam. The 8th Engineer leaders lived up to our assessments off their capabilities." Frank can be reached at <fandrwalter@verizon.net> or if you are in the Annadale, Virginia area just drop by. Steaks are on the grill and the beer is cold.

Notable And Quotable: From General Robert Cone, USATRADOC: "The four essential initiatives of the Army of 2020 are The Army profession, the squad, mission command and support to the joint fight. We must cultivate five characteristics: trust, military expertise, esprit de corps, honorable service and stewardship. We will focus more resources to enable the squad ensuring that it retains tactical overmatch capability with increasing lethality and mobility. The role of the commander on the battlefield as central to the science of control and direction. A joint team must be prepared to build partner capacity, support civil authorities, and defeat adversaries. Finally, to fight and win our nation's wars today, tomorrow and in 2020, our Army must continue to earn the unwavering trust and confidence of the American people."

And In Contradiction: The December 2012 *Atlantic* magazine features an article titled *General Failure* by Thomas Ricks. The gist of the article is that failure at the highest level of Army generalship has protracted a ten year war beyond tactical necessity. Further, a defensive culture within those O9 (LTG) to O10 (GEN) ranks developed in which finger pointing and blame shifting within the Army compensated for lack of clear and decisive leadership. I'm not saying I agree. I am saying you owe it to yourselves to learn what another point of view is. In the article, Generals Franks, Sanchez, Abizaid and Casey get a thumbs down. To quote: "Relief of generals (for incompetence) has become so rare that a private who loses his rifle is now punished more than a general who loses his part of the war."

New Year Resolution: I will get all these names onto an excel spreadsheet. I figure by August that I can have it ready for you.

545th MP COMPANY



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Greetings fellow 545th MPs and Happy New Year!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the 545th MPs who sent me photos, documents and correspondence pertaining to our unit's history last year. That made it easy for me to add to our award winning web site and also to write this column for the *Saber*, not to mention the great information we were able to send the MP Command Historian at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. All that information enhanced our unit history greatly.



It is my sad duty to report the loss of two of our senior officers last year. Both served in the 545th MP Company in Vietnam.

COL Maynard D. Eaves, 76 of Punta Gorda, Florida, passed away, July 4, 2012, at his residence. He was born April 9, 1936, in Shelton, Nebraska.

Colonel Eaves retired from the United States Army, August 31, 1992, after a long distinguished career serving our country. His civilian education included; graduating with a BA in Political and Police Science from Wichita State University in 1964 and an MS degree from Michigan State University in 1971. His military education and training included; Jump Master

School, 1965, Military Police Officer Advance Courses, 1969, Command General Staff College, 1973, Naval War College, 1980 and Inspector General Course, 1987.

He served in Vietnam as the Commanding Officer of the 545th Military Police Company, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) from July of 1967 until July of 1968. He received several awards and decorations, which included the Bronze Star Medal with V device, which were presented to him by the Provost Marshal General, himself. He served in a Commander's position at the National Military Command Center at the Pentagon from 1980-1982, CID, 6th Region Command from 1985-1987 and served as Inspector General, Dept. of Army HQINSCOM and United States Army Intelligence and Security Command from 1987-1991.

Colonel Eaves is survived by his wife, Patricia (Pat Homa of Menominee,



COL Eaves receiving the Bronze Star from MG Gustafson PMG

Class of 1961) Eaves, children: Teresa (David) Standifer and Kevin (Liah) Eaves, grandchildren: Jennifer, DJ, Nash, Ginger and Liam, his brother, Kenneth (Kathy) Eaves and his nephew, Matthew (Tiffany) Eaves.

A Military Service graveside at the Arlington National Cemetery will be held in the spring of 2013.



COL Angelo James Harageones, 87 of Oldsmar, Florida, passed away November 6, 2012 with his loving wife of 60 years, Helen, at his bedside. He was born in Montana on September 19, 1925 and graduated from Hancock Central High School, New York.

COL Harageones joined the Army during World War II and began his illustrious and long career of 32 years in the Pacific, followed by the Berlin Air Lift and continued with ever increasing assignments and responsibilities

throughout all conflicts, including Vietnam, where he served in the 545th Military Police Company as the 1st Cavalry Division Provost Marshal from July of 1967 to July of 1968. He received several awards and decorations, which included the Silver Star Medal and the Bronze Star with V device. After Vietnam, he served as Chief of the Law Enforcement Division, Department of the Army until his retirement in 1976.



COL Harageones in Vietnam

In his second career as an International Certified Protection Professional, he worked at Betchel Corp. as Manager of Project Security Worldwide and at McDonnell Douglass Corp. as Manager of Security and Safety, Defense and the F15 projects here in the U. S. and overseas in the Royal Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

In Florida, he enjoyed his interaction with military veterans, friends and neighbors and spending summers refurbishing his farm in up-state New York.

COL Harageones is survived by his sister, Christina, sister-in-law Dorothy Cowden and her family and many nieces and nephews.

A Military Service graveside at the Arlington National Cemetery will be held at a future date.

Any 545th MP that has any war stories or MP Duty incidents they would like to share with all of us, please send them to me at the address shown at the top of this column. See you all in the next column.



MY LIFE IN THE 1st CAVALRY DIVISION



PFC Allan MacDonald, 1940.

We had Kitchen Police where you cleaned dishes, pots, pans, and garbage cans. You had guard mount; mounted and dismounted Saber drill, where you rode between posts that had stuffed bags on top and slashed at the bags. We even had training where one man would be picked up by a mounted trooper. There were days when we had classes on map reading and compass reading. I remember one cliff at Fort Riley where we charged over and slid down. Well, I'll tell you I saw that very same cliff again on my 70th birthday and I don't believe I would ever try it again! We rode horses almost every day, except Saturday and Sunday. Sometimes on Saturday, they had a mounted parade on the drill field and that was a glorious sight to behold!

After my eight weeks of training, I was transferred to the 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Bliss, Texas. That

is the post near El Paso, Texas and just across the river from Juarez, Mexico. I reported in to Division Headquarters Troop and was assigned duties as a Dog Robber or should I say Colonel's Orderly. I was sent down to the Post Chapel and was introduced to a Colonel Miller, he was the Post Chaplain. He told me I would exercise his horse every day in the morning for at least three hours out in the desert. When I brought him in, I was to groom him down and then clean the Colonel's bridle and saddle. After the horse was well dried, I would put him back in his stall. The Colonel told me in the afternoon that I was to go over to his quarters, which were across the polo field, and see his wife and do whatever she asked. Well, after eating lunch each day, I would go over to his quarters and his wife would ask me to clean the basement, brush and mop the floor and then clean the Colonel's boots and help her with the groceries whenever she went shopping downtown. Well, this was a good job, as it got me out of KP, Guard Duty, Stable Police and a lot of other details. We were only getting paid twenty-one dollars a month then, so the Colonel gave me an extra five dollars which helped out a lot, as we had to pay the Captain a dollar and a half every month for our laundry, our PX coupon books, our theater books and a dollar for the Old Horse Soldier's Home. This job only lasted about seven months as the Colonel and his Missus were transferred to Fort Carson, Colorado and I was transferred to the 5th Cavalry. I was assigned to B Troop and then my duties commenced.

Upon my arrival to the 5th Cavalry, I reported to the First Sergeant and he told me I would be in the 3rd Platoon under Sergeant Hendry and the Assistant Platoon Sergeant was Sergeant Mackosky. I then went to the Supply Sergeant and he issued me some other equipment that I would need. After seeing him, I went down to the stable and saw the Stable Sergeant. He issued me my first horse with the brand, #122R, and his name was Pine Knot. Pine Knot was a good black horse with a star on his forehead. The next day I had KP duty in the mess hall and did I hate that! We had to set tables with all the plates, coffee cups, bowls, knives, forks and spoons. Then after mess, when everyone had finished eating we had to wash the dishes, pots and pans, and some of us would have to go outside and scrub out the garbage cans. The job I most hated was cleaning out the grease pits! Some days we had Stable Police and there we had to clean out the horse stalls of old hay and manure. We were under the Stable Sergeants orders there and we had better do a good job or we would have to do it all over again. When

the Troop went out for their morning training, we had to put water in all of the troughs and catch the horses that were left in the corrals and put them back in their stalls in the barn before the Troop came back from training.

One day, we were all going into the field and after we arrived at our destination, two other troopers and I was called up to see the First Sergeant. He told us that we would be the advance party for the whole regiment on the following day and we were to get up at 4:00am. Well, we got up the next morning and the sergeant told us that we were to go to the chicken ranch and wait there till everyone showed up. He gave us a map, a compass and a flashlight and told us what to do. So, the three of us set out. One of us would ride out about 300 yards, shine his flashlight back and the other two would take a reading on him with their compass. Then the second trooper would ride out past the first trooper and do the same. The third trooper would pass the other two troopers and the process would continue. We were leap frogging so to speak. When we arrived at the place we were supposed to be at, all that we saw was an old ruined foundation of an adobe building. We didn't see any chickens, so we thought that we were at the wrong place. We looked of a ways and saw a windmill. We thought that was it so we rode off towards it. Upon arriving there, we saw that it was just a lonely old windmill with no chickens to found. So again, we looked off in the distance and saw a recon vehicle. So once again, we rode off towards the vehicle and when we reached it we asked a soldier there if he knew where the chicken ranch was. He told us it was back in the very direction where we had been in the first place! Well off we went at a trot and after about a mile we spotted a bunch of horse trailers and a whole lot of horses. When we arrived at the scene, our First Sergeant asked us where we had been. We told him and he was so mad he could spit! Well, we three never were made scouts again!

One thing about our Cavalry horses they knew every bugle call. Once the bugle sounded, their ears stood up heads high and we were off. Cavalry life was a lot tougher than in the Infantry. Your horse always came first. He got everything done for him before you, but it was a lot better than walking! Most days we had mounted drills out in the desert either by squad, platoon or troop. We had mounted parades either by regiment or even division reviews where the 5th, 7th, 8th and 12th Cavalry participated. The band would play Garryowen, a favorite of General George Armstrong Custer. It seemed the tune was well suited for the horses, as they really looked good.

The days went on like this until 1943 when we were officially dismounted and started training as Infantry. We sure hated to those old horses go. We really had some rough training from then on. We did road marches where we our feet got blisters instead of our rear ends! Bayonet drills every day and map reading until we go word we were being shipped out.

We were then off to Camp Stoneman, California for more training. We climbed up towers and then came down the opposite side on rope ladders. This went on for quite some time till we were trained to go up and down as we loaded onto the ship General George Washington. This ship had just come back from Africa with a load of German Prisoners of War. They had carved their names on the railings of the ship. We sailed for a long time until we reached our destination which we learned was Australia. We unloaded at night and loaded us onto trucks to move to Camp Strathpine. This was between 13-16 miles from the city of Brisbane. When we got to camp, some of the advance party which was the Stable Sergeant, the Blacksmith, some Mess personnel and some clerks from our orderly room

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HQ and Special Troops News



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By the time this is printed and you read it, Christmas and New Year's celebration will have come and gone. Sue and I would

like to wish all of you the very best in the New Year. Many great troopers passed away during 2012 and now we add GEN Norman Schwarzkopf, Jr to that list.

Sue and I attended the Veterans Day activities at the National Mall in Washington, DC, on November 11th. The National Capitol Region Chapter, with the assistance of Executive Director Dennis Webster and Association president, Jerry Eller, hosted wreath laying ceremonies at the WWII, the Korean and the Vietnam Memorials. The 1st Cav Division sent their honor guard to participate in the ceremonies. Activities kicked off at the WWII Memorial at 0900 and after several speeches wreaths were placed at the memorial, including a huge 1st Cav patch made from yellow flowers. We were accompanied by my daughter and son-in-law. He is a LTC stationed at Fort Belvoir, Virginia and after the ceremony at the WWII Memorial, we walked up to "Foggy Bottom" and had lunch. We were back at the Vietnam Memorial well before the ceremonies began at 1300. There were thousands of Vietnam Vets of all services in attendance. It was the 30th anniversary of the dedication of the "wall". A retired USAF female general ranted and raved about how the women of the military services have been short sheeted and how the nurses of the Vietnam and current eras have not received their due credit. (She was the first female to graduate from the Air Force Academy.) She really had an ax to grind. The Korean military attaché from the South Korean embassy also gave a moving speech. We tend to forget the Koreans lost lots of men in Vietnam as well as the Australians and other nations. GEN (Ret) Eric Shinseki was the key-note speaker. Shinseki was wounded in Vietnam while serving with the 25th Infantry Division and in 1970 was wounded again in Vietnam while serving as Commander of A Troop, 3-5th Cav, 9th Infantry Division. He later commanded the First Team at Fort Hood and has also served as vice chief of staff of the US Army and was chief of staff for the US Army from '99 to retirement in 2003. There were many 1st Cav veterans present at this special ceremony. We then walked over to the Korean Memorial and the 1st Cav Division honor guard represented the active division while association personnel placed a wreath at the Korean Memorial. Just being present at these war memorials on Veterans Day was a special honor! Sue and I send many thanks to the troopers of the National Capitol Region Chapter and Dennis Webster for making this a special weekend.



Veterans Day at the WWII Memorial



Veterans Day at the Vietnam Wall



Veterans Day at the Korean Memorial

CPT Lester Deaver, the former CO of 3rd Brigade's MI Company, was doing some research of his unit's history and that generated some e-mail between several former CO's of the 312th MI and 371st RRU (ASA) units. COL (Ret) William Walters, who was the first CO of the 312th MI and COL (Ret) Marland J. Burkhardt, who was the 2nd CO of the 312th MI along with COL (Ret) Doug Brouillette sent me several e-mails concerning their various assignments with the Cav, with the 312th MI and with the 371st RRU in Korea, Vietnam and at Fort Hood. Doug, who had several assignments with these units, said, "I served in A Company of the 312th Army Security Agency (ASA) Battalion in Korea supporting 1st CAV. This was my first assignment after basic and AIT school. I later served with the 371st Radio Research (ASA) Company in Vietnam supporting the 1st CAV and then was lucky enough to get selected to Command the 371st when it was reactivated at Fort Hood to support the 1st Cav. I learned that you need to be careful when you are a PFC and SSG in a company because someday you might command it and have to live up to all those comments you previously made! I was the first commander of the 371st when it was reactivated and assigned to support the 1st Cav at Fort Hood. Prior to the reactivation of the 371st, the 303rd ASA Bn provided all support to Fort Hood units. The 303d Bn had the 373d ASA Co and when the 371st was activated, the 371st supported 1st CAV and the 373d was direct support of the 2d Armored Division. Later the 303rd was changed to the 522d CEWI Battalion and conducted a year-long test for the new MI organization. During the test phase, the 522d CEWI was placed in direct support of the 2d Armored Division at Fort Hood. Shortly after the CEWI test was completed and rated a success the 371st was re-activated. I was selected to be the Commander and was assigned a 1LT, First Sergeant Alvin Lingo and 10 other personnel (Mechanics and communications personnel) were assigned from the 303rd ASA Bn to activate the 371st. One 1LT was assigned to be the operations officer and the other 5 2LTs were right out of school. Around Christmas, in a period of about a week, 235 personnel (PFC to SFC) were reassigned from the Field Station in Thailand to fill out the rest of the unit. The ASA field stations were dropping significantly in size at that time. A review of the personnel files of the personnel assigned to this newly activated company revealed that only 13 personnel had ever serviced in a tactical unit before, or even driven a military vehicle. All equipment was transferred in from Army excess with some of the technical equipment coming from Vint Hill Farm, Virginia, the ASA Depot. It was the first time and only time, I had ever seen a motor sergeant with tears in his eyes thinking about the job ahead. The 371st Company supported 1st CAV until the 312th CEWI Battalion

was stood up provisionally. ASA had also formed a small CI Det that supported the 1CAV (I think it only had about 5-6 personnel) and when the 312th was stood up it became the 191st MI Company and they received most of their personnel right out of CI school at Fort Huachuca. They had a couple of WOs, couple of SGTs and the rest were PFCs/PVTs. I was later promoted to MAJ and assigned to Fort Hood where I was able to get assigned to the 312th and served as the S3 and then as XO of the 312th. Later I was assigned to the division as Deputy G2. The 522d CEWI Bn was activated from the 303d later and after I had given up command of the 371st, I was assigned as the Operations Officer for the 373d ASA, which was around Nov/Dec 1976 and went through the 522d CEWI Testing for a year. I then left for the Advanced Course in Jan 1978. In the CEWI Bn B Co was the Counterintelligence/Interrogator Prisoner of War Company and there was a JJHC. After the test (based on prolonged deployed performance) it was directed that the Support Company (Maintenance and Communications) be established and I was lucky enough to be the first Commander of that company (stated from transfer of personnel and equipment internally from the battalion and some came from other Division assets). I commanded that company for a year. Later that company was sort of called C Company."

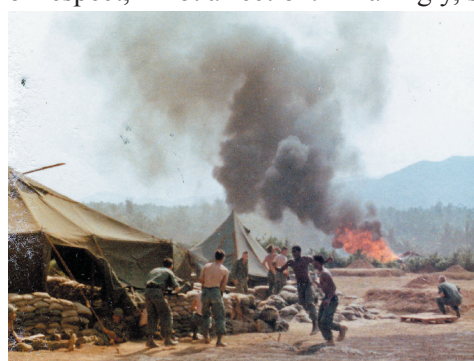
Thanks, Doug for the detailed history of those units. Perhaps some of the personnel assigned to these units during this time of reorganization will write or e-mail with their stories of these units.

From "Facebook" – "The 1st Cav Horse Cavalry Detachment team, along with 12 horses, 2 mules and SGT Buddy the dog, are on their way to Pasadena, California to represent the First Team, Fort Hood and the U.S. Army in the 2013 Equestfest and Tournament of Roses Parade." I actually saw them in the parade on TV! Way to go troopers!

I also received an e-mail from James R. Wilson, who was with the Cav's Public Information Office in '67. James sent some info and a picture of an H-13 helicopter crash at LZ Two Bits. James said, "Ron, attached is the jpeg I promised with some commentary. Maybe a former trooper reading this knows more about the crash than I do. With all the choppers flying around Division Forward at LZ Two Bits in the spring of 1967, the wonder is that so few augured in, as the dark humor went. But as with anything mechanical -- and not just mechanical, but seemingly in violation of the laws of physics in the case of helicopters -- moments of terror were virtually standard-issue. The photograph shows one such moment at Two Bits. This crash came near the LZ's dump or what today we call a solid waste disposal facility. I was in the press tent when I heard a loud "thump" too close for comfort, followed by the rattle of an automatic weapon. Well, this is it, I and no doubt others thought. Here comes the entire 22nd NVA regiment, scourge of Binh Dinh Province and the Cav's archenemy. The reality was bad enough. An H-13 recon chopper, the famous bubble-canopied "flying bedstead," had crashed, perhaps on approach. Whatever happened, the ship burst into flames, cooking off .30-caliber rounds. The troopers in the foreground know that a chopper has gone down, but with the rounds exploding, they're not certain what to do -- although one isn't taking any chances. Fortunately, no one was killed in the incident. I don't know about injuries, though it seems unlikely that a crash that hard would let anyone off scot-free. When this accident happened, H-13s were near the end of their run with the Cav. The Hughes OH-6 Loach, turbine-powered and about as close to a man-carrying bumblebee was the Army would ever have, was coming into the inventory. The OH-6 would write a solid history of its own with the Cav in the years to come. Still, the old piston-powered H-13, a direct descendant of the choppers first flown in World War II, was worthy of respect, if not affection. Amazingly, some still fly today."

Thanks for the picture and info James. If anyone out there remembers this crash, James and I would like to hear from you.

From the Fort Hood "Sentinel": "The U.S. Senate confirmed MG Mark Milley's appointment to the rank of lieutenant general and his follow-on assignment as Fort Hood and III Corps commander. Milley will assume command of III Corps in an assumption of command ceremony 10 a.m. Dec. 20 at the III Corps Headquarters flagpole. Milley relinquished command of the



H-13 Crash

10th Mountain Division, Fort Drum, New York, to MG Stephen Townsend during a change of command ceremony Monday. Prior to the Dec. 20 ceremony, Milley will be promoted to lieutenant general in a ceremony in the West Atrium of the III Corps Headquarters." For your information, LTG Don Campbell, Jr has relinquished command of III Corps and Fort Hood and is headed to command USAREUR and 7th US Army. Fort Hood and the 1st Cav will miss General Campbell and we all wish him success in his new command.



Smith and Gipson

I heard by snail mail from Clarion Smith. He said, "Until this past year, I thought I had put the Vietnam War experience behind me. Then I came across the 1st Cav websites and everything came rushing back. I started out in company D of 1-8th Cav carrying a machine-gun. I never received orders for the "Flying Circus" (aviation unit of HHC of 1st Brigade in Nam – see their web site at <www.flying-circus.org>) but I spent half my tour with them in '67-'68. I received no flight pay and no air medals thanks to MAJ Kuypers."

Clarion sent me several pictures he had downloaded from the web site depicting his and others getting promoted to sergeant. He also sent me a really neat drawing made by Nick DeAugustine showing Clarion and his buddy Don Gipson. He has identified several of the people in the photos on the web site and

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21st FA News



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I hope everyone had a safe and happy holiday season. It's hard to believe that we are into another year! This article has to be in by January 1 but I will be out of town for the Christmas holidays visiting family so I will submit it earlier to meet the deadline.

So if I do not include any later submissions, I apologize and will include any in my next article.

On the Wednesday before Thanksgiving, I had a very pleasant surprise as Clarke Tolton came into town for a few hours. As you may recall from previous articles, Clarke was in Vietnam 1967-68. He was with A/1-21 as a FO with B Company, 2-7 CAV then had various duties with A Battery, B Battery and battalion. As I wrote before, Clarke was the best officer I ever served under. He's modest and doesn't especially like my singing his praises but the reality is that he was the best and I don't know of anyone who served with and/or under him that would not agree with my assessment. It was sure great seeing him again and we had a great visit. For a few hours, we were young and dumb again as we talked of old times and the many people we knew. As you all undoubtedly know, the bonds formed with comrades so many years ago are strong and powerful and cannot be denied even after all these years.



Frank Bingham and Parker Graham



Frank Bingham and Parker Graham at the Wall.

As I wrote in my last article, Frank Bingham (C/1-21) was going to the reunion in Washington, DC this past November and promised a report. Frank was good with his word and here it is: "I want to tell all 1st Cav members the great

time I experienced at the reunion. The accommodations at the Crown Plaza were terrific; rooms, hospitality room and restaurants. The atmosphere in DC was electric seeing Arlington Cemetery, the new World War II Memorial along with the ceremony at THE WALL. I saved the best for my ending comments. Let me ask 1st Cav Vietnam vets how they would feel when they shook hands and hugged a fellow soldier 43 years later? I had this great experience when I met SGT Parker Graham from Red Lion, Pennsylvania. All I can say is that it was emotional! The next two days, Parker and I along with our wives Donna and Janice enjoyed the sights and meals in Washington, DC. I must emphasize that Parker and I were side by side for 9 months at which time I ETS back to the world leaving C Battery to continue their mission to put out those 105 rounds in support of the infantry. Parker saw a lot of action after I left including the Cambodian invasion. It was great to see that Parker survived and has led a successful life, 33 years of marriage to Donna and recent retirement from a local plant. In conclusion, I would strongly encourage 1-21st Arty Vietnam vets to plan to attend next year's Veterans Day Washington, DC activities and I promise you will not be disappointed." Thanks so much Frank for sharing with us and I would strongly second your request. Any time we can meet old comrades or just take part in any activity that recognizes service and sacrifice is rewarding.

I read something recently that I would like to share. It's a quote from Archibald MacLeish when he wrote about those who gave their full measure: "They say: Our deaths are not ours: they are yours, they will mean what you make them. They say: Whether our lives and our deaths were for peace or a new hope or for nothing we cannot say, it is you who must say this. We leave you our deaths. Give them their meaning. We were young, they say. We have died; remember us." Those of us that made it really have the duty, if not the obligation, to remember and make sure that society as a whole remembers our fallen.

I received a brief note from Bill Rubenstein (HHB, 1-21 June 1969-June 1970). Bill was based at Quan Loi (FSB Andy). He worked in FDC as base defense RTO. Bill wanted information on the 1-21 Association and I gave him some contact information but the Association has dissolved.

In the last issue, I ran part one of Walter Smith's submission regarding "How I ended up in the 1-21". As of this writing I haven't got Part 2 yet but hopefully it will be coming as part one was a great read.

If anyone would like to share their story or any other type of information, please get it to me. As I wrote many times before these articles are for you and without your input there wouldn't be an article. Until next time....

HQ and Special Troops News

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could help the website manager put identity to the people in the pictures. Contact Clarion at Clarion Smith, 5837 Stonyford Ln., Sacramento, CA 95842-1606. Thanks for the input Clarion and good luck getting those missing air medals. Many troopers who should have received awards did not. Contacting your congressperson might help.

I received a "Welcome Home!" and a Christmas card from Hill and Sandy Hansen of Lewiston, Idaho. Hill served with the 511th Eng at "An Khee" from December '65 to December '66. I "googled" Lewiston, Idaho and found that I

My Life in the 1st Cav

Continued from pg. 21.

told us to get a mattress cover and fill it with some hay which was in the middle of the street to use as a mattress to sleep on. Then they told us that chow had been prepared. Boy that was a welcome meal!

We began training again doing road marches and trips to New Castle on the coast below Brisbane where we loaded on to small ships and began making beach landings. Boy that was work! We had to unload cargo that came ashore off small boats and load it onto sleds to take inland and then we had to stack it up with ammo in one area and K-rations in another area. Load and unload every day till we were exhausted. This training made us really tough. Next came time to load onto ships to take us to the Admiralty Islands where we made our first contact with the Japanese troops. They were a tough enemy, the Imperial Marines and the Jap Navy. They pulled Banzai charges on us and some of them sang "Deep in the Heart of Texas!" But we wiped out about 7,000 of those big boys. We were billeted on Koruniat Island after the campaign. It was just off the coast of Los Negros where the airstrip was and every morning we could count all those B-24 bombers on their way to give the Japs some more medicine. At night, or should I say late in the afternoon, we could count them again as they returned. There was always a few missing which had been shot down.

Now we were once again loaded onto large ships and off to Leyte Island in the Philippines. We sailed for many days and when we arrived off the coast of Leyte I looked out and was amazed at the number of ships that I could see. There were hundreds of Navy cruisers, destroyers and transports as far as the eye could see. The Navy was firing large guns and their airplanes were bombing and strafing the beach with machinegun and rocket fire. We began to climb down the nets into small Higgins Boats and we circled around till we got the word to move in. When we hit the beach, we moved inland and it was tough. I remember Sergeant McCosky asking me when we were moving in if I had his weapon. I told him that I didn't have it; I had my M-1 rifle in my right hand and an ammo box of .30 caliber ammo for the machinegun. It was bitter fighting on Leyte and we went from the East side to the West side of the island. We fought the Japanese all the way from Lingayen Gulf into Manila, the capital of the Philippines. Rough fighting in Manila as this was our first taste of fighting in a city. Some of my best friends were killed in the University building and also on the way south of Manila. After the campaign came to a close, once again, we were loaded onto ships as we heard of the war ending and we were on our way to Tokyo.

When we arrived off the coast of Japan, we sailed into Tokyo Bay and unloaded near Yokohama. We then went up to Yoyogi Heights and set up camp and began the process of disarming the Japanese. Later during the occupation, I was Stable Sergeant for General Chase at Camp Drake, Japan where I had 47 horses for the enlisted men and dependents to ride. I had 16 horses at another barn for the General and his staff as well as any other officers wishing to ride. In 1949, I was called to see General Chase and he told me that I was being sent to General

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have probably been there, having visited Sandpoint, Idaho and places north on a road trip long ago. Beautiful country! Best wishes Hill and next time send a "war story" for the column.

Well, troopers, the publication deadline approaches and the inbox is empty. I hope to hear from more of you in the New Year. I'll be attending the 1st Cav Division Association's board meeting at Fort Hood, Texas, from February 22-23rd. If you live in the area, hope to see you. Do not forget to get your reservations made and your registration sent in for the 1st Cav reunion at Fort Hood June 5-9, 2013. Meantime, keep your heads down and your powder dry and may God bless each and every one of you.

OFFICIAL NOTICE

ELECTION OF OFFICERS – REUNION 2013

The By Laws of the Association provide that the Officers and members of the Board of Governors shall be elected by the General Membership at the General Membership meeting conducted during the Annual Reunion. Further, that the President may appoint a Nominating Committee to nominate candidates for office and that other nominations may be made by Life members from the floor at the General Membership meeting. The Resolutions of the Trust Agreement of the Foundation of the 1st Cavalry Division Association and the By Laws of the Museum Foundation require the election to the Board of Trustees for positions coming vacant each year shall occur at the Annual Reunion. Candidates for all offices must be Life members of the Association.

The President has appointed a nominating committee to recommend Life members of the Association for election or re-election to fill the terms of office for the following positions that become vacant as of 8 June 2013:

President Elect/1st Vice President

2nd Vice President

3rd Vice President

Ten Places on the Board of Governors

Executive Trustee and One Trustee of the Foundation

Two Trustees of the Museum Foundation

Any Life member of the Association, including an incumbent, who wishes to be considered by the nominating committee for one of these positions should forward a letter to the Chairman, 2013 Nominating Committee, 302 N. Main St., Copperas Cove, TX 76522-1703, requesting consideration for nomination to the specific office. The Nominating Committee must receive all requests no later than 1 May 2013 to assure sufficient time for processing and full consideration. Requests must be accompanied by appropriate documentation that includes proof of service with the 1st Cavalry Division (e.g., a DD214 or equivalent) and a biographical sketch. The biographical sketch needs to outline the applicant's full name and provide ranks, dates of service and units assigned to in the 1st Cavalry Division. Additionally, it needs to provide the dates and positions for any offices held at National or Chapter level in the Association and similar information for any other veteran's organization the applicant belongs to. Any instances of special support for Association programs should also be included if applicable.

The election will be held during the General Membership meeting at the 66th Annual Reunion of the Association on Saturday 8 June 2013 in Killeen, Texas. Nominations from the floor will be accepted. A Life member making such nomination will be expected to provide the information outlined above on the nominee and in addition provide assurance that the nominee is either present at the General Membership meeting or has agreed to accept nomination to the specified office.



HONOR ROLL

Acknowledgement of generous
donations from the following troopers:



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SGT AMBURGEY, Paul W.
SP-4 AUGER, Robert L.
LTC AUTHIER, Edward E.
SGT BABINSKI, David A.
SFC (R) BAMSEY, Franklin D.
MAJ BARANIAK, Albert J.
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SGT BELL, Gary W.
E-5 BELL, William
SGT BENTZ, Glen A.
SGT BERNARD, Michael F.
CW4 BOEHM, Geoffrey M.
SP-4 BOND, Robert R.
CW4 (R) BREWER, Casto Leland
E-5 BRINGHURST, Kent D.
SSG (R) BROUILLETTE, Paul E.
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SPC CARSON, Jr., Earl N.
COL (R) CHAFFIN, Jimmie M.
COL CHILDERS, William W.
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LTC (R) CONNORS, Francis X. K.
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E-4 CZUPER, Philip E.
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1LT DICKENS, Brad C.
SGT DISCH, Dennis F.
LTC (R) DORROH, Jr. Gerald
O'Neal
SP-5 DUARTE, Dennis J.
SFC (R) DuBOSE, Larry J.
SGT DURHAM, Julius C.
E-4 ECKERLE, Jerome R.
CW3 ETHERIDGE, Parry Willis
SFC (R) EVANS, William C.
1LT FAJEN, Richard L.
E-4 FLOYD, David B.
E-5 FRANCISKOVICH, Dean T.
MG (R) FRENCH, Daniel W.
SP-4 FROSCH, Joseph B.
CPL FROST, Cullen D.
SP-4 GACAYAN, Roland P.
SGT GAERTNER, Harold "Jim"
MAJ (R) GERSTEN, Roy
SGT GONZALES, Juan Carlos
SFC (R) GRAZIANO, Frank F.
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SSG HALL, David L.
SGT HALL, Ronald C.
CPT HALL, Sanci M.
SGT HAM, David D.
SSG HAMPTON, Jr., Leandrew
SGT HAMUS, Michael M.
MAJ (RET) HARKNESS, Jimmy W.
MAJ HARRITY, Brian P.
E-7 HARTY, Donald J.
SFC HASKINS, Clifton G.
SGT HEISEY, Peter M.
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T-5 OHNSTAD, Michas M.
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*In Memory of Jim BRIGHAM, veteran
of the 2-7 BN in Vietnam and former
President of the 7th Cavalry Associa-
tion.*
COL (R) KURTZ, James H.
*In Memory of 1LT Larry LILLY, A 1-
9 CAV, KIA in Cambodia 17 March
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CPT (R) LAND, Henry W. II
In Memory of CSM Basil PLUMLEY.
CPT (R) LAND, Henry W. II
In Memory of Doc McNANEY.
E-4 LEWIS, Gregory Dean
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KIA 11 December 1971.*
*In Memory of SGT Dale B. MOLANEN,
D Company, 1st Battalion, 7th Cavalry,
KIA 1 February 1972.*
*In Memory of SP-4 Charles W. BUN-
TION, D Company, 1st Battalion, 7th
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E-5 SNIEZYK, Gerald S.
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In Memory of Ralph BARCELONA
CW4 (R) MC NANEY, O.J.
*In Memory of COL (RET) Joseph W.
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*In Memory of PSG Carl PALMER and
SSG Paul HURDLE.*

My Life in the 1st Cav
Continued from pg. 23.

Headquarters in Tokyo to be the Stable Sergeant for General MacArthur. I said that I didn't want to leave the 1st Cavalry and he said I would only be there on temporary duty. One of the greatest events in my lifetime was at the French Embassy where I stood directly behind General Douglas MacArthur, carrying his five-star flag while a French General presented him France's highest award. It was a great honor to be at this event.

Well, it was good duty but in 1950, when the Korean War started, I was called back to the Cavalry and assigned to the 7th Cavalry. This was my grandfather's old regiment, so I was proud to serve in it. I was wounded in Korea and they sent me back to the States. This was my last duty with the First Team.

SFC (Ret) Allan A. MacDonald, B Troop, 5th Cavalry Regiment, 3241 Villa Cir, Marina, CA 93933-2716.

Editor's Note: This article was originally written in 1990 but was sent to us on 17 December 2012 by Allan and is included in this issue of *SABER* with minor changes in spelling and grammar but most of the original text included as written by Allan. Allan, age 93, is a Charter Member of the Association and has attended numerous reunions of the Association. The photo of him on the right is him visiting the grave of his horse Commanche that is buried on Fort Ord, California.

