



SABER

Published By and For the Veterans of the Famous 1st Cavalry Division



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The President's Corner



Troopers, I hope this finds everyone in good health and that all of our Board members had a safe return home from our annual February meeting here at the Great Place, Fort Hood, Texas where our First Team - America's 911 is stationed. Let me just say thanks to all the board members for another fine job supporting your association, it shows where your heart is and how much pride you have toward the unit you served in while assigned to the First Team. Thanks again for being members of the Board of Governors.

Guys remember, June is just around the bend for our upcoming reunion here at Fort Hood, so get your reservations in early this looks like it will be a big one. Troopers don't forget to visit our Gift shop on-line and get your T-shirt orders in early. Those ladies to include our senior volunteer, are all doing a fine job. Thanks again for being Association members.

Take care First Team Gods speed, See you all in June.

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



I have lots of information for this issue including some information about our February Association

meetings, the death of our oldest member, the upcoming reunion, office happenings and the scheduled award of the Medal of Honor to a Cav Trooper from the Korean War. Hang on, here we go.

Our February meetings were well attended and we started off with a gathering of the members of the Officers, Board of Governors and the Trustees of both Foundations and much of the leadership of the First Team at Club Hood on Friday evening. We had a good sized crowd and only a few chicken wings left at the end of the night. Our meetings were conducted on Saturday, 23 February and minutes of the meetings will be presented at the reunion in June. Our financial status is good, as reported by the Chairman of the Finance and Budget Committee and our budget for 2013 was approved. MG Anthony Ierardi, CG of the First Team, provided a briefing on the upcoming plans for the Division and you will be surprised to know that we will have a battalion going to Korea later this year for a one-year deployment and a brigade going to train in Germany with other countries, if funding is provided. Sequestration will not affect the units deploying for operational missions. They will have funds to train and equip but those units not deploying for operational missions will not have the funds to train as the Division planned before sequestration. The Foundation is also in good health but the Ia Drang Scholarship Fund continues to pay out more than their investments can support due to the number of applicants receiving grants. The stock market has helped some, but that fund is in dire need of some generous donations if it is to continue much longer. Read the *Museum Notes* on page 2 for information on what the Museum Foundation discussed at their meeting. On Saturday evening most of us went out to dinner at Logan's Roadhouse in Killeen to wrap up the weekend.



Two days after his 103rd birthday, Trooper Walter H. Westman who founded the Association's chapter in Minnesota and served as their President for several years died. Walt had a good and long ride and left his mark on our history and those that knew him. He was fond of saying, "There's nothing so good for the inside of a man as the outside of a horse". He believed that and was involved with horses all of his life.

His life with horses began in Minnesota, where he ran a riding academy before and after World War II and while in the Army (until the Division dismounted). Walt retired in 1977 but continued to ride into his 90's. He started the Walter H. **Continued on pg. 4.**

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Horse Detachment by 1LT Jason Vaughn



Troopers Greer, Palone, Kerwin, Pock and King with their commemorative Horse Detachment coin and certificate making them honorary members.

So far, these two months into the New Year have been eventful for the Horse Cavalry Detachment. After our return from Pasadena, California for the Rose Bowl Parade, we've hit the ground running with our parades, ceremonies and now our demonstration season and Yesterday and Today's presentations are starting to increase. During the month of February, our demonstration team traveled to Fort Worth to participate in the Fort Worth Livestock and Rodeo and parade. We performed our mounted cavalry demonstration and finished off with our captivating and exciting weapons demonstration. After those events, the mounted color guard presented the nations colors at the Grand Entry event of the rodeo.

After the Fort Worth Livestock and Rodeo performance, we took our talents down to Houston, where we participated in the Houston Livestock and Rodeo (HLSR) and parade. During our week long stay in Houston, we participated in local High School visits to help support the Houston Recruiting Battalion recruiting efforts throughout the city. We performed our Drill and Ceremony show and afterwards we interacted with the students who got a chance to take photos with troopers and their mounts and also discussed the advantages of joining the military service. Our week ended with the HCD participating in the HLSR grand entry in the Reliant Stadium during their Armed Forces Appreciation night that was represented by all services and more than 2000 Fort Hood Soldiers.

At the barn, we hailed our new troopers with their commemorative Horse Detachment coin and certificate making them honorary members and we also farewell two troopers who diligently and honorably served their country and are departing the Army. We appreciated their service to the Army and the Horse Detachment by presenting them with tokens of appreciation for their service.

The month of March once again brings us a list of events. We will be performing in several demonstrations and participating in different parade throughout the Central Texas area, so make sure you come out and support the Horse Cavalry Detachment.

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.

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. 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.

Ironhorse Soldiers Certify on Call-for-Fire by SGT John Couffer, 1st BCT, 1st Cav. Div. Public Affairs



2LT Russel Finegan looks through a Lightweight Laser Designator Rangefinder system during fire support team certification. The LLDR aids Soldiers in determining crucial information during call-for-fire situations while conducting training, or on the battlefield.

FORT HOOD, Texas – As targets are identified coordinates are relayed from fire support specialists on the ground to the Fire Direction Center and finally to the artillery pieces, ensuring timely and accurate fire on the objective.

The 1st "Ironhorse" Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division certifies on and executes the Fire Support Team Certification program February 1 to March 4, here.

"(This) is an opportunity for (fire support specialists) to get together and go over **Continued on pg. 11.**

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 _____
 Tel: (____) _____
 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

The newspaper of the 1st Cavalry Division Association published during each even numbered month at 302 N. Main St., Copperas Cove, TX 76522-1703. Phone: (254) 547-6537
 Deadline for publication is the 1st of each odd numbered month.
 e-mail: firstcav@1cda.org
 Home Page: <http://www.1cda.org>
 EDITOR: Lorinda Davison
 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 2013

June 5-9 66th Annual Reunion, Killeen, Texas
 November 8-11 Veterans Day Gathering, Arlington, Virginia and Washington, DC
 2014
 Feb. 28- Mar. 1 Board of Governors Meeting, Killeen, Texas

MUSEUM NOTES



W. Terry Maddox
 522 County Road 3371
 Kempner, TX 76538-3735
 Executive Trustee, 1st Cavalry Division Association Museum Foundation
TerryandKelly@embarqmail.com

On 23 February, the 1st Cavalry Division Museum Foundation received an update on the progress of the new Mounted Warrior

Museum at Fort Hood. The location has remained the same (next to the Division Horse Cavalry Stables). There have been tremendous changes in the plans and the total cost of the new museum. The Mounted Warrior Foundation has now determined that the 60,000 square foot central museum which includes approximately 25,000 square feet of exhibit space can be built at a cost of \$28 million. This will be called phase I. The cost for Phases II and III has not been finalized. Phase II is consists of the walking paths and a children's playground. The outdoor equipment displays will be completed in Phase III. As you know, the original estimate for the entire project was \$130 million. It is now predicted to be less than \$50 million. When asked about this extremely large cut, the briefer stated that the "original estimate was incorrect and that a change in the construction to a modular building caused the reduction." The completion date has not changed (2019) even though much less money has to be raised to start construction of Phase I. At the present, the Mounted Warrior Foundation has raised approximately \$600,000 in pledges and donations. You may get further information from their website at nmwfoundation.org. There is a two minute video on the site that is representative of the story line that will be used to develop the exhibits.

Information was also provided on the operation of a gift shop in the new museum. The gift shop will be operated by the Mounted Warrior Foundation with all net proceeds being used as they determine. This places our present gift shop in a situation where we are forced to make plans to find another location to house the Gift Shop because the present World War II building will be demolished when the new museum is opened. There remains a great deal of work to secure a new location that is either close to the Horse Stables or in the same area as the present 1st Cavalry Division Museum. As I stated previously, the equipment park at the present museum will remain in place (less selected pieces that will be moved to the new museum) and equipment from other displays will be added to it. I will continue to keep you updated on our progress.

Looking forward to seeing all of you here at Fort Hood for the 66th Annual Reunion in June.

NEW MEMBERS LISTING

E-8 ACEVEDO-SANCHEZ, EDGARDO TX HHC 3BCT 1302
 TSG ANDERSON, LES MN 5C 44
 CPT BASSI, MICHAEL K. TX D 1-5C 1202
 E-5 BERNEY, EUGENE C. NV D 1-7C 6909
 SGT BORDEN, HARRY E. TN HHC 1CDH 61
 Continued on pg. 7.



ARTICLE SUBMISSION

Manuscripts should be originals or clear copies, either typed or printed in near-letter quality printer mode. Word processor submissions are accepted via e-mail. Attach a self-adhesive label with photo information to the back of photos and cutlines for each photo. Include name and address if the photo is to be returned. 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,

Hello there and nice to meet you. I am so thankful for the 1st Cavalry Division Association grant that I recently received. I greatly appreciate your help and concern for continuing my education. I received some financial aid from my school, Portland Community College, but it often does not offer enough for all of my educational needs or supplies. So this grant can very much supplement my college fees.

I think this a great program for anyone attending school, especially if there aren't enough resources for funding. I'm so glad that this type of funding is available for families of veterans. I have a five year old at home so I have to take into consideration those costs as well.

Again, I appreciate the generosity of the 1st Cavalry Division in helping with my college costs so I am able to achieve my goals. It really means a lot to me.

Thank you very much,
 Sincerely, Suzanne L. Melvin



Dear Editor,

Thanks to my grandfather's service in the 1st Cavalry and survival in the battle at IaDrang Valley, I am a living legacy and am now able to follow my dreams without the large financial burden. This scholarship is an appreciated stepping stone to reaching my medical school goals. This semester, with the help of this scholarship I was able to purchase my books with a financial stressor. Without this assistance, funding my education would be very difficult and nearly impossible. Thank you to all those who have

helped assist in the fund raising of this grant, it is much appreciated.
 Madeline Fajen, Sophomore, University of Iowa

Dear Editor,

Thank you so much for granting me this scholarship. My grandfather, John Howard, a Vietnam War Veteran, would be so incredibly proud of my achievements in college thus far. I am so very thankful for the scholarship money and for my grandfather fighting hard for this country, allowing me the opportunity to receive this. I use the scholarship money for books and fees associated with school which both are very expensive. My education means everything to me and in receiving this scholarship I am reminded to continue to work as hard as possible and appreciate all of the help I am getting along the way.

Alyssa Coldsmith, Shippensburg University Biology Major



SGT Cox

Dear Editor,

I am assisting the sister of SP4 Paul Richard Dartt, B Company, 1-5th Cavalry, who was killed in action on October 1968. The photo of SGT Cox was found in an envelope belonging to SP4 Dartt. There was no other information concerning the photo of a SGT Cox and Dartt's sister would like to know more about who is in this photo. If anyone can provide information on SGT Cox, it would be most appreciated. I can be reached by regular mail at 13 Bailey St., Springfield, VT 05156, or via e-mail at <KurtMerriman46@gmail.com> or phone

(802) 885-9490.

I am a Desert Storm Veteran but did not serve with the 1st Cavalry Division.
 Sincerely, Kurt Merriman

Dear Editor,



I never met my grandpa, Charlie; he died before I was born. I know he was in the 1st Cavalry Division. I've heard stories about him from different family members, seen old photographs of him in uniform or at dinner parties and held some of his medals and awards. But, of course, even in combination, these memories and anecdotes will never add up to the experience of actually knowing the man. And while I may never be granted the ability or opportunity to get to meet Grandpa Charlie, an honor like this scholarship

helps me connect with him in some way, bringing me that much closer to understanding him as a great man and a part of my family.

Best, Connor DeSha
 Continued on pg. 3.

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")



1st CAVALRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
302 N. Main St.
Copperas Cove, TX 76522-1703
(254) 547-6537
firstcav@1cda.org



NAME
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\$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

OTHER REUNIONS

B Company, 2-8th CAV, Eager Arms, 1967-68, 1-5 May 2013. Homewood Suites (Hilton), Nashville, TN. Contact Gene Hedberg, <GHedberg@MidIowa.net>.

C Company, 2-7th CAV, 9-12 May 2013. Oak Bower Recreational Area, Arkadelphia, AR. Contact Jimmie Brown, (870) 246-7292, <BrownJBD@hughes.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-cmr.htm>.

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

12th Cavalry Regiment Association, 11-15 September 2013. Savannah House Hotel, Branson, MO. Info at <www.12thCav.US>, Ccontact Doug Warden, (405) 826-8005, <DougWarden444@hotmail.com>.

WANTED

If you served with, know, knew or have information about any of the following, please communicate with the contact listed.

DIETRICH, PFC James N., A Co., 1-12th CAV, KIA 18 February 1970, as a passenger in A/227 AVN helicopter that was shot down in Quang Tri Province. Three crew members and PFC James Clark (A/1-12) were also killed and five others injured. Contact his brother Tony Diedrich, through Jake Pultzer, 2716 N. Hillwood Ct., Appleton, WI 54911, <JPaltzer@yahoo.com>.

GREEN, WO1 Kish L., B Company, 229th AVN, Killed in helicopter crash, 15 June 1969. Contact his niece Lynnette Rice, 732 204th St. SE, Bothell, WA 98012, <ricelynnette@gmail.com>.

STARSHINKLE, LT (first name unknown), A Company, 2-5th CAV, 1966-67. Spelling of last name may be wrong, the lieutenant was wounded and evacuated in late 1966 or early 1967. Contact SGT Loven V. 'Joe' Seaman, 56 Oak St., Fishersville, VA 22939, cell (540) 470-0631.

CHAPTER NEWS

CROSSED SABERS CHAPTER



The Chapter continues to prepare to host the 66th Annual Reunion in June and we hope that you all come and join us for what we expect to be a great event.

Moving the Crossed Sabers Chapter Souvenir Shop to reunions away from Fort Hood is a big deal and we were assisted with outfitting

the trailer with tires from Discount Tire in Killeen, Texas. They gave us a really good deal and we presented them with a framed print to show our gratitude. Jerry Eller, President

FLORIDA CHAPTER

The Chapter will once again participate in the Vietnam and All Veterans Reunion in Wickham Park in Melbourne from 25-28 April. We will set up our tent and will need assistance with set up and manning our table throughout the reunion. As usual, there will be plenty of music, military vendors, displays, speakers and food and drink.

The Chapter's meeting in February raised \$700 for our Scholarship Fund and we are accepting applications now but the deadline for submission is 31 March.

The new E Troop President is Juan Kellogg. Leo Williams, President

NEVADA CHAPTER



The Chapter swore in its officers during the February meeting. They are in the photo left to right: Milt Clark, Treasurer; J.H. "Mac" McCracken, President; Angie Clark, Auxiliary President; Virgie Hibbler, Vice President; John Lyles, Secretary; Ken Gallagher, Public Relations; and Gary Monaco, Sergeant-at-Arms.

The Chapter continues to grow in numbers and in activities. We still support the USO at McCarron Airport and assisting Veterans at the US Vets Center in Las Vegas, the Nevada State Veterans Home and during the Retired Veterans Appreciation Day at Nellis Air Force Base.

Our Chapter is bidding to host the 2016 Reunion for the Association and recently Bill Anton joined the Executive Director of the Association to do a site visit at the Palace Station Hotel and Casino. We hope all that attend the reunion in Killeen will vote for Las Vegas in 2016! Ken Gallagher, Public Relations

NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY CHAPTER



MG Ierardi and Bob Arbasetti discuss the NY-NJ Chapter.

CPT Richard E. Barbato, II will be our guest speaker at the Spring meeting of the Chapter on 27 April 2013. He served in the 3-325th Airborne Infantry of the 82nd Airborne Division in Iraq in 2003-2004 and will talk about his deployment. Barbato is currently the Director, Office of Veterans Services in the City of Gloucester, Massachusetts.

We will have a "Show and Tell" and we are asking Chapter members to bring in and share military items, memorabilia, or souvenirs from their time in the military.

Everyone has something that they kept from their time in the military. Most have been hidden away for years but now it is time to dig them out and share them with us.

We also have a special Chapter event being planned and will discuss the upcoming reunion at Killeen/Fort Hood. Bob Arbasetti, President

WALTER H. WESTMAN NORTHLAND CHAPTER

The Chapter celebrated Walt Westman's 103rd birthday on February 4 and two days later, the Chapter mourned the passing of its founder, Walter H. Westman. The Chapter recognized its 10th Anniversary on 9 February and held the meeting at the site of our first meeting, the Anoka American Legion.

Now the Chapter is nearing another landmark. The Chapter has donated nearly \$100,000 to the Minnesota Military Family Assistance Center, which supports families of Minnesota National Guard and Reserve service members who are deployed away from home.

The Chapter's donations to the cause come from support by patrons of gun shows - at which the chapter sets up a booth and accepts donations - and from outside groups, such as the local Paint Brush Shooters chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation, which primarily pulls members from Blaine, Columbia Heights, Coon Rapids, Fridley, Mounds View and Spring Lake Park. The donation of \$300 from the Turkey Federation chapter on 16 February was their first to the Chapter. Donald Delsing, President

Letters to the Editor

Continued from pg. 2.

Dear Editor,

I am 80 years old, served with the Headquarters and C Company, 7th Cavalry Regiment and I am 100% permanently and totally disabled (Service Connected) from the Korean War. The 1st Cav is still part of my heart and always will be. I was awarded two Purple Hearts from wounds in the Korean War in 1951.

My hope and prayers are for the First Team.

Sincerely, SSG Thomas Ed Crosby, 4499 Lower Meigs Rd., Moultrie, GA 31768

61st FA News



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



We'll, here it is around tax time again. Now you know just

how much it costs to live in this great country of ours (and worth every penny).

Hate to start out with sad news, but it seems like we're getting more and more of it lately. We received the news that Paul Welsh, C Btry 1951-52, passed away on January 4th. Later I received this... "Dear Gordon, I am Brenda Gary and my husband is Harry Gary. I want to tell you that Harry passed away from lung cancer on January 8, 2013. We only knew since September 2012. By then it was too late. He was very sick. It was very hard watching him and not being able to help. He had a military funeral at Calvary Cemetery in Kawkawlin, Michigan. There were a lot of people there. His mass was at Sacred Heart Church and they said they served 180 people for the luncheon. I sure do miss him. Sincerely, Brenda Gary, 733 Quillette Rd., Beaverton, MI 48612, (989) 435-2765." Harry served with A Btry, 1949-51. We appreciate the note from Brenda and our condolences to both families.

My wife and I drove over to Lake Havasu, Arizona for a week of relaxing in mid-January. I did get to see an old friend from my days with Weber Aircraft and Lockheed Martin. The weather didn't cooperate all that well with temperatures never getting above the mid-60s, but we still had a very enjoyable time.

Around the end of January, I gave another of my ejection seat programs to the San Diego Chapter of the Air Force Association. Had a good time showing them videos of tests, emergency ejections, etc. I always enjoy talking about ejection seats, parachutes, etc., especially with guys who actually either used them or worked with them.

Also received this additional sad note from Rich Weakley... "Gordon, received a phone call from Ralph Bozarth's brother Kelly that Ralph passed away on January 28th at Enid, Oklahoma. He was buried with full military honors on February 1st. Ralph enlisted in the Army after graduation from high school and served with the B Btry, 61st survey team in 1953-54. Ralph truly enjoyed our reunions and only missed the last one due to his poor health. We will miss him very much."

Received a letter from Bill Stewart regarding the upcoming 61st FA Battalion Association reunion meeting in Branson, Missouri on May 5-8. They are staying at the Camden Inn again this year. If you haven't already made your reservations, the number is (800) 335-2555 and the room rate is \$65 for a double queen or \$73 for a King. It sounds like it will be relaxing, socializing and easy going several days. Bill has arranged a Tuesday night dinner and show at the 76 Music Hall and a Wednesday evening banquet and gift exchange (\$10 gift wrapped in your home town newspaper). Bill also acknowledged the passing of Lynn Hall, Leslie Newman, Paul Welsh, Dale Lytle and Harry Gary. He noted that "both

Directors Chair

Continued from pg. 1.

Westman Northland Chapter in 1992 and attended the reunion in Bloomington when he was 100. He was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds received during World War II with the 7th CAV. Walt has ridden on to Fiddler's Green to wait with the other Cav Troopers for the rest of us to join them. We'll miss him.

The planning for the 66th Annual Reunion is really going well and if you can attend I think you will be very pleased with what is going on. Despite sequestration, the Division is committed to assist us in having a great reunion. The lack of funding has put a stop to any fly-over but the "Spirit of the Cav" on Friday evening and the display at the museum will be great. Of course, this Reunion will mark the retirement of Lorinda Davison from the staff at the Association. She's

TAPS

We have been notified of the death of the following:

- AIKMAN**, LTC (Ret) Jim B., B Co., 227th AVN, 1965. 13 February 2013.
- ALLEY**, E-5 Michael D., HHC, 1-8th CAV, 1978-79. 26 July 2012.
- ANDRAE**, LTC (Ret) Raymond R., 15th ADM, 1967-68. 30 October 2012.
- BAILEY**, SSG Ron, C Co., 2-12th CAV, 1961 and B Co., 1-5th CAV, 1966-67. 6 July 2012.
- BLACKWELL**, SGT (Ret) Noel W., HHC, 1-7th CAV, 1965-66. 1 February 2013.
- BOYT**, COL (Ret) Edward A., C Co., 2-5th CAV, 1965. 22 January 2013.
- BOZARTH**, PFC Ralph E., B Btry., 61st FA, 1953-54. 28 January 2013.
- BRUNER**, SSG George R., B Btry., 61st FA, 1942-45. 18 January 2013.
- CLAWSON**, CPL Thomas F., B Co. and HQ, 5th CAV, 1951-52. 2 March 2013.
- CONRY**, E-4 Thomas F., HHC, 1-8th CAV, 1964-65. 28 May 2012.
- CREED**, 2LT Richard D., A Co., 1-5th CAV, 1959-60. 31 July 2012.
- EARP**, SP-4 John S., C Co., 2-7th CAV, 1965-66. 11 September 2012.
- FITZHUGH**, SFC (Ret) Verdie T., HHC and B Co., 2-12th CAV, 1966-67. 30 October 2012.
- FOZZARD**, SFC Carl W., A Co. and B Co., 1-7th CAV, 1950-51. 2 February 2012.
- FRENCH**, TRP Albert, 12th CAV, WWII. 28 January 2013.
- GUIZZETTI**, TRP Jim J., 1st MED, 1944-45. 24 January 2013.
- HALL**, SSG (Ret) James K., C Btry., 2-19th FA, 1967-68. 19 December 2012.
- HALLANAN**, COL (Ret) George H., Jr., HQ, 1CD, 1941-43 and HQ, 603rd TANK, 193-45. 2 March 2013.
- HEINE**, MSG Walter R., 1CD, WWII. 25 February 2013.
- HODGE**, CPL Edward G., 1CD MP Plt., 1943-45. 7 July 2012.
- LONG**, COL (Ret) James L., A Trp., 1-7th CAV, 1947-48. 13 December 2012.
- LOPEZ**, SGT (Ret) Antonio, C Co., 2-5th CAV, 1965-66. 28 February 2012.
- LOWTHER**, PFC Bruce S., 1-9th CAV, 1968. 19 June 2012.
- MANSFIELD**, CPT (Ret) Gordon H., C Co. and D Co., 1-5th CAV, 1965-66. 29 January 2012.
- MATTHEWS**, 1LT Benjamin F., E Co., 2-7th CAV, 1951-52. 20 August 2012.

Dale and Harry were at the 2012 reunion and were looking as healthy as any of us. That's one reason we look forward to seeing all of you every year; we never know when it will be the last time we ever see you and that we want to again send our condolences to all the families of those members who are no longer with us." He also noted that family members and friends are always welcome. He and Pat are looking forward to seeing all of you in Branson.

On a personal note, we're now involved in remodeling the kitchen. I thought that since I'd bought my new motorcycle, it was only fair that I do something for Lorna. It turns out that I was a bit optimistic when I thought I'd get by on the kitchen for around the same money I paid for the motorcycle. Not so! It's hard to believe how much a few appliances, painting some cabinets and installing some granite countertops can cost. Of course, she also decided on a few extras like pendant lights, new cabinet pulls, window treatments, etc. that were in the "Oh, by the way" category. Oh well, it's only money and I guess it's all my fault for bringing it up in the first place, but she had been hinting about doing something in the kitchen for several years now.

Received word through the 1st Cav Division Association (Dennis) that Betty Bruner had notified them of the passing of George Bruner, B Btry, 1942-'45 on January 18th. They were living in Drake, North Dakota. Our condolences to Betty and the family.

Also got a note from Bill Stewart letting us know that Alice Eckard had notified him of the passing of her husband, John Eckard, on January 28th. John served with Service Btry in 1946. Our condolences to Alice and the family. Bill also reported that he had received a letter from Clara Aronson and that Curt has been in the VA Medical Center in Minneapolis since January 3rd. He is scheduled for additional surgery in March 7th and he and Clara could sure use our prayer power right now. He also received, via e-mail from Richard Walther's son that Richard had passed away nearly two years ago on April 27, 2011.

Another sad note from Bill Stewart... "Just received word that Donald Hodges (A Btry, 1950-51) had also passed away at the age of 95. Leland Lundgren (HQ, 1950-51) has Alzheimer's and is in a nursing home. This info was in answer to our latest newsletter. We were sure sorry to hear this news. Bill."

I'm really regretting having to report so much sad news this time, but I'm sure you all want to know the news concerning your friends and comrades, both good and bad.

We got a nice telephone call from Warren Sand. In the last Saber issue and article I had a picture of him and his sergeant during his first visit to town and just assumed he was talking about Camp Youngmans and Jimmachi. It turns out he was up in Hokkaido and the town was Chitose. That's what I get for making assumptions. Anyway, we did have a nice chat and he's looking forward to spring time in North Dakota. I think he mentioned that it was about 20 degrees at the time. Brrr! I appreciated the call, Warren.

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

been here since 1977 and has decided to retire and do a little traveling with her husband after 36 years of service to the Association. She started working with Bob Litle and retired him and Art Junot before retiring herself. Read more about the reunion events on page 12 and then fill out your registration and mail it in!

I will be travelling to three different locations to conduct site visits to places bidding to host the 2016 Reunion. There are five places bidding but I'm already very familiar with two of them so I'll save the Association a few dollars and not go to them. We have bids for Colorado Springs, Colorado; Jacksonville, Florida; Las Vegas, Nevada, Fayetteville, North Carolina, and Dayton, Ohio. Hotel renovations in Colorado and North Carolina make it necessary to visit those locations and I haven't been to the hotel in Vegas before. Since I have visited

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- McCOY**, TRP Kenneth L., HHC, 1-7th CAV, 1966-67. 21 July 2012.
- MISTRETTA**, PFC Carmen, J., E Trp., 12th CAV, 1943-45. 27 August 2012.
- MUNIAK**, SFC (Ret) David A., 68th CHEM, 1991. 6 February 2013.
- MYERS**, TRP Jerry L., A Btry., 2-20th ARA, 1968-69. 3 February 2013.
- PEIRCEY**, 1LT George H., DISCOM, 1969-70 and D Trp., 1-9th CAV, 1970. 1 April 2012.
- PELLERIN**, PVT David J., C Trp., 12th CAV, 1943-45. 9 March 2013.
- PERRIGO**, SFC (Ret) Charles T., D Co., 1-8th CAV, 1962-63 and A Co., 2-7th CAV, 1968-69. 29 June 2012.
- POUTRAIN**, SGT Jean D., HHC, 2-5th CAV, 1966-67. 18 February 2013.
- ROBINSON**, COL (Ret) Reaford L., A Trp., 8th CAV, 1940-43. 10 February 2013.
- RODGERS**, SGT James E., H Co., 75th INF, 1972. 12 May 2012.
- SPOSATO**, CSM (Ret) Barry P., B Co., 5-7th CAV, 1967-68. 23 November 2012.
- STROM**, CSM (Ret) Robert F., HHC, 1CD, 1965-66. 27 February 2013.
- SUAREZ**, LT Vincent A., 5th CAV, 1942-43. 22 January 2013.
- SWANSON**, CHAP (CPT) Donel G., MED Co., 5th CAV, 1952-53. 25 February 2013.
- TOMANICA**, SGT Daniel F., D Co., 1-5th CAV, 1968-69. 23 April 2012.
- TROTTER**, T-4 John, H Trp., 5th CAV, 1942-45. 14 March 2012.
- TRUSTY**, CPL (Ret) Ernest S., C Co., 8th ENG, 1950. 30 March 2012.
- WALLACH**, SGT Mark S., HHC, 1-5th CAV, 1968-69. August 2012.
- WATKINS**, PFC Kenneth A., HHC, 1CD, 1946-47. 3 September 2012.
- WESTMAN**, TRP Walter H., HQ, 7th CAV, 1942-45. 6 February 2013.
- WITWER**, LTC (Ret) Glade S. Jr., 8th ENG, 1948-51. 31 March 2012.

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:

- DELACRUZ**, James J., A Btry., 1-82nd FA, 2008-13. 13 January 2013.
- KURTH**, SFC James R., HHC, 4th BCT, 2011-13. 16 January 2013.

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

5th CAV News



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It's winter here in Ohio. There are 8 inches of snow on the ground and more to come.

Being retired,

there is always a worry about becoming a cocooned 'old guy'; someone who just stays home and does nothing. December and January are good months to plan goals for 2013. There are a number of things as scribe and historian of the 5th Cav that I am going to attempt this year. First, I want to figure out how to facilitate one bi-annual electronic/e-mail meeting of the Board and leadership of the 5th. Second, I want to start some sort of a video interview program of present and former members of the 5th. And, third I want to do a good job of teaching the richness of the history of the 5th Cav.

Support: I cannot remember anything about the flight back to 'the world'. After the initial jubilation of the victory celebration on the flight home I kind of blacked-out. Maybe I slept. Maybe the gulf between being an airplane passenger and being a jungle-fighting Skytrooper was too wide. I can't remember anything about the arrival at Fort Lewis either. The only thing I can remember was standing in line at the out-processing station, waiting to talk with a really smart, very sharp, efficient Specialist Four. We always referred to 'takeover guys' like him as "Full Bird Spec.4's". The chain of command above them would just dissolve and disappear. Everyone, including common sense real life Colonels, would just get out of the way and defer to their judgment: know when to lead, know when to follow and know when to get out of the way. His job was to take wild, unwashed, unshaved, combat hardened jungle guys and make them look like respectable spit and polish, civilized, parade ground, Dress Green, barracks soldiers and send them home. He was good at it. In no time at all he had me in new shined shoes, new pressed pants, a clean T shirt, a button down dress shirt and of all things, a tie. He selected the right size dress jacket and had the 1st Cavalry patch sewn on. The 'Full Bird Spec 4' put my jacket on a mannequin opened my file, pulled out my records and started attaching brass, medals, ribbons, oak leaves and stars. His hands were quick and he knew where everything fit. As he was finishing, he reached into a drawer, and pulled out an 'Airborne Parachute' badge and was going to attach it to the ensemble. Being the kind of guy who raises questions, I asked him about this. He responded with the simple straightforward assurance of someone who knows what they are talking about. He looked at the written records and read, "on 7 February, 1968 the 2 Battalion, 5th Cavalry was separated from the 1st Cavalry Division and put under the Operational Control of the Second Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. They remained under the Operational Command of the 101st Airborne Division until 28 February. During that month the 2 Battalion, 5th Cavalry was involved in numerous combat engagements, completed many search and destroy operations and frequently jumped out of airborne military aircraft while being shot at. He then gave me a funny look and forcefully slammed the Airborne Medal into my dress green Jacket, pointed at the door and said, "Sergeant, you are good to go." His response was efficient, prompt and direct. He ran a great shop. Everybody got along and did their job well. I was always a little jealous of the guys who found a niche and never saw combat. It was only later in life that I realized I was right where I was meant to be and they were right where they were meant to be. I couldn't have done my job unless they did theirs. Teamwork. By the way, that Airborne Parachute badge is still on my dress green jacket, right where that 'Full Bird Spec 4' put it and that, my fellow Air Cavalrymen, is where it will stay.

Postscript: Additionally, the 2-5 was separated from the 1st Cav on the 7th of May 1968 and placed under the operational command of the 3rd Marine Division, for operations north of Dong Ha and just south of the DMZ. History proves that being ancillary troops who are incorporated into other units is always dangerous. For instance, my favorite WWII combat author, Farley Mowat, recounts his personal experiences with this phenomenon in his book *And No Birds Sang*. He tells how his Canadian infantry unit disembarked in Italy in 1943 and their battalion was immediately split away from their division and placed under operational control of the British Army. They were not treated as poor cousins, but due to mix ups in communication and coordination of support they eventually ended up as cannon fodder. The British Army had been stopped by German troops who occupied a mountain fortress that controlled access to roads north. The British solution was to send the Canadian infantry up the north side of the mountain following an artillery barrage in an attempt to get the Germans to commit their troops to a defense of the north side. The English would then proceed with a full scale British infantry attack on the south side preceded by an artillery barrage. The coordination between the Canadian and British support cadres broke down and the Canadians were given the wrong day and the wrong time. They attacked uphill into numerous dug in machine gun nests. When they closed with the Germans, the British artillery somehow got orders to open up with an artillery barrage on that same area. When the day was over only Farley Mowat and a close friend survived, otherwise the whole Canadian unit was annihilated. Dedicated support troops are crucial. Farley Mowat wrote over thirty books. All of his books deal with some aspect of recovering from that combat and his experiences in attempting to lead a rich and worthwhile life regardless of severe post traumatic stress.

Support and Alter Calls: As you know, Chaplin Bernie Lieving wrote to us in the last issue of the *Saber*. When I read that he was retiring, I wanted to make sure that I attended one of his services before he quit. So last February, when I was visiting friends in Naples, Florida, I called him up and set a date to attend his Church services and share a lunch. It is a three hour drive to Tampa and while driving I reminisced about the last time I

saw Chaplin Lieving. Forty-five years ago, I was sitting in the middle of the jungle, on the top of a hill, on the edge of my foxhole, watching and cleaning my rifle when a helicopter came in and landed. Young Chaplin Lieving was a really 'new guy' junior officer in fresh, clean, new jungle fatigues. He jumped out and as he landed his feet got tangled and he stumbled about six steps forward before catching himself, he straightened up a little and regained his composure while being sand-blasted by the downdraft from the hurrying departure of the Huey. I was a witness to Chaplin Lieving's first combat jump. Later, that same day I was a privileged witness to his first field religious service. I remember him setting up a rusty, used, beat up, shakey old Korean War era portable 'alter table' on the side of a steep jungle hill, in knee high brush with the white vestment scarf around his neck. He then called everyone to this jungle alter. There were about twenty guys who responded to this alter call. I couldn't or wouldn't. I was in a spiritual crisis. I was very effective as a combat soldier and small group combat leader but, extremely conflicted about the large numbers of enemy casualties that my company, my platoon, my squad and I were inflicting on the Communists. Our Company Commander, Captain Carpenter, was so good at jungle tactics and crafting a battle ready combat unit that the enemy, with a few exceptions, never stood a chance. They were still human beings; but, I have no respect for the NVA, their leaders or their tactics. (I was appalled when they helped the Khmer Rouge murder 1.75 million Cambodian civilians in the 70's.) But, I could not



Baptism in the My Chon River, April 1968

respond to Chaplain Lieving's alter call. I was a reluctant new, young Christian who had recently experienced something like a foxhole conversion or a baptism under fire or maybe more like a 'spiritual warming'. Or maybe, it was simply and exactly what the WWII Veterans always said, "there are no atheists in the foxhole". I refused to acknowledge that experience with anyone. I could not quite bring my newfound spirituality into balance with the increasingly large number of enemy casualties that I was responsible for. Plus, I was increasingly being given more and more administrative and combat leadership roles within the squad and the platoon and I didn't want anything to affect my ability to make quick, certain decisions with no second thoughts. So I stayed on the perimeter, but very carefully watched and listened intently to every word of the service. I sat on the edge of my foxhole with my hand on my M16, not sure whether I belonged or not; not sure whether this 'alter call' was for me or not. This whole problem still vexes me. My good friend and comrade in arms, Roger Albertson, called me just the other day. We talked about this service and what a great Christian Soldier Chaplain Lieving was. He remembered that day and explained it to me. He and about twenty other guys answered the alter call. They sat on their helmets in front of that rickety old alter and listened to a really good sermon. Toward the end of his sermon, the jungle behind Lieving exploded with a wall of automatic gunfire from a hidden NVA Sniper. Everybody dove to the ground and buried their noses and their toes in the dirt, with the incredible exception of Chaplain Lieving. He turned on his heel, walked toward the sound of the shots and shouted at the sniper, "Look you, if you didn't like my sermon you darn sure could have just told me so!" Then he hit the ground too. When I got to Tampa I wasn't paying attention and got off on the wrong freeway exit. I roamed around lost for about 30 minutes and then luckily ran right into his church. I parked and went in to the Sanctuary. I immediately picked him out of the crowd. He glanced over and somehow knew I was a fellow soldier from 45 years ago. We talked for a short while and he introduced me to some of his church members. One member was both a Vietnam and an Afghanistan Vet. I had never met one. I guess there are only about ten of them. After the services, we picked up his lovely wife and went out to lunch. We talked for the whole afternoon. His life as a Chaplain allowed him to see a much bigger picture of the war. My view of war as a grunt was up front, close and very personal. Between the two of us, we filled in a lot of blank spaces. For instance, he mentioned that he had actually seen the dead hulks of the two destroyed Communist tanks. Oddly, 45 years later, I felt a real physical and psychological sense of relief given the certainty of their destruction. (A little healing.) No one had bothered to tell me and my guys that those big machines of death were dead. Unknown to me, but always present, was a slight guilty tension, deep in the back of my mind and even in the very small of my back, that me and my guys should have figured out some way to get those tanks. It was good news and I was very happy that somebody got them. Thanks to whoever got them. Some might call this delayed response of mine a perfect example of PTSD, but I prefer calling it PTVD (post traumatic vengeance disorder). During lunch I complimented Colonel Lieving on his ability to perform his ministerial duties with such a large and diverse group. Although he was an ordained Methodist, he was always a humble servant, ministering to everyone; Protestant, Catholic and Jew. In response to my comment, he told a short story about his experiences with this when he was a 'new guy' Chaplain ministering to one of the other line companies. The Catholic guys asked him to try and get an ordained Priest out to the field because they had not had Confession or Communion in some time. Everyone was in regular daily combat. Everyone needed a confession and a communion because with all the combat no one knew when the need for their last and final 'Rite' might be. Chaplain Lieving got to work. He searched the Division and identified a higher ranking Catholic Chaplain who was serving a supply group in one of the larger fire bases. He contacted the guy, and persuaded him to 'helicopter' out to the company together, give the Sacraments and be back home to the fire base before lunch. The flight out was uneventful. They set up the field alter, had services, gave Communion and Confession and were ready to get the next helicopter out. But, as it worked out, one of the patrols made contact with the enemy. That contact morphed into a running, hide and seek style gun battle with dug-in snipers. A K9 dog and his handler were brought in. The whole scenario had changed. Young Chaplain Lieving and the Priest, the senior officer might have to settle in for the duration, maybe spend the night or worst case a couple of days. Although still new, Lieving had spent a lot of time

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Chaplin Lieving in Vietnam.

12th CAV News



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weather, Winter, tornadoes, frost, freak storms? Remember when we were young and ruled the world; everything was right, bright and new? Yeah, me neither. They tell me it was nice though.

0131 The 66th Annual Reunion of the Division Association will be the week of 5-9 June 2013 in Killeen/Fort Hood, Texas. Exact dates are posted elsewhere as are all details and explanations. Remember that the 12th Cavalry Regiment Reunion always runs concurrently with that of the Division Association and that our business meeting is on Saturday. This year we have revisions and updates to both the By Laws and Constitution to discuss and vote on. You are certainly encouraged to both come early and stay late to have a grand central Texas vacation. Texas needs the money (all the states do) and they won't mind at all if you over stay, pay, or tip. The reservations are coming in fast so you had better act quickly. If you talk real slow and good out of the right side of your mouth, you may get a room next to mine. I am just as funny in person.

0331 PFC Carmen J. Mistretta, E Troop, 12th Cavalry 1943-45 of Rochester, New York died on Monday, August 27, 2012. He is survived by Mary, his loving wife of 65 years; daughter Carmel and sons Vincent and Michael, among others. Carmen was a Veteran of World War II and a Purple Heart recipient. Interment was the Holy Sepulcher Cemetery. In lieu of flowers contributions may be made to the Mount Carmel House, 4 Planet St., Rochester, NY 14606. This is all we know of this Trooper. We would be happy to receive more if anyone has personal knowledge of his life or more on his military service and awards. <Division Association; Legacy.Com>

0531 SFC (Ret) Verdie T. Fitzhugh of Stafford, Virginia, HHC and B Company, 2-12 Cavalry 1966-67 died on 30 October 2012. SFC Fitzhugh grew up in Stafford, graduating from Walker-Grant High School in 1953. He worked at Quantico Marine Base from 1953 until he joined the Army in December 1958. He served three tours in Vietnam. He is survived by a sister and brother, among others. Interment was at Quantico National Cemetery. <Division Association; MeaningfulFunerals.Net> Sadly, this is all that has been reported. May all our honored dead be at peace and eternal rest, far from the call to arms and to duty.

0731 PFC Roger L. Blanco, D 2-12 Cavalry, 1967-68, 575-770-5475, PO Box 1178, Questa, NM 87556-1178, is seeking information and contact information on Trooper Ralph Haugherty, D 2-12 Cavalry, 1967-68, once of Flagstaff, Arizona. Trooper Haugherty is native American, however we do not know which of the 22 Arizona tribes he is a member. If you have information or contact data please contact Trooper Blanco or me via my contact info.

0931 SP-4 Michael Anthony "Tony" Morse (More-a-c), D 1-12, November 1966 to August-September 1967, is searching for those Troopers who remember him for re-acquaintance. Tony was there during the period of LZ Bird and LZ Pony, was Airborne, in the 4th platoon and is looking for LT Bill Winger (Winger?) and Rome Petuway(Sp?). Any help? He has reconnected with a company medic, Doc Anderson, with whom he was in jump school. Tony now lives in Toledo, Ohio and can be reached through Trooper Don Wright, Jr. (A 2-8 Cav, but that's alright), (419) 345-1687, PO Box 140513, Toledo, OH 43614-0513 or me via my contact info.

1131 SFC Omar Hernandez, an infantryman with Company A, 2-505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, has received the Purple Heart Medal twice during the 13 years he has served in the Army. Hernandez was awarded his most recent citation July 2012 for his actions while deployed to Afghanistan. SFC Hernandez, who suffered two broken legs, received an ARCOM with Valor and Purple Heart at Bagram Army Air Field. "We were pinned down in a firefight and I was told my weapons squad leader was down," said Hernandez. "I ran about 25 meters to get to him and as I dragged him behind cover we fell into a 50 foot well, where I shattered both my legs." Hernandez has also received a Silver Star and a Purple Heart for his actions while serving with Company B, 2-12th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division in June 2007. After being shot while on patrol, Hernandez pulled two members of the Iraqi National Police Force to safety. <DVidsHub.Net>



Doc Holder, Silver Star

1331 Silver Star Retired fire captain and former PFC Lawrence S. "Doc" (Larry) Holder, Company C, 1st Battalion (Airborne), 12th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division, Airborne and medic, was awarded the Silver Star Medal by Senator Richard Burr of North Carolina on February 20, 2013 for actions of 17 December 1966. Trooper Holder also is the recipient of the Soldier's Medal, the Air Medal and the Purple Heart Medal among his other awards. While in heavy contact, with many killed or wounded, RTO Bill McKeown went to assist the wounded platoon leader John Rudd. When Bill was hit Larry ran over 100 yards of open ground and through machine gun fire to treat them. To protect Bill, Larry covered his body and took two rounds. Thinking Larry dead, Bill used his body as a shield to get back to safety. Medevaced, each thought the other had expired. C Company endured 20 wounded and 7 killed that day, so all credible knowledge of what actually happened was lost. It was only in 2008 did each learn the other had survived, they started talking in 2009 and first re-met in 2010. (Surprise! And another reason to attend reunions!) Informed by Bill, Doc and Rudd of all pertinent data, Trooper Doug Warden contacted the Senator to sponsor a Silver Star candidacy. In a mere seven months it was accepted! <Bill McKeown; CharlieCompanyVietnam.Com; WCNC.Com>

1431 Sergeant Tad Randell, a Midland, Texas, native, serves as a combat medic with 2-12th Cavalry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cav Division, at Forward Operating Base Mehtar Lam, Afghanistan. Randell serves to continue family tradition, to ensure the safety of friends and family and because he is a

0001 Journal opened. Hey Sailor, new in town? How fares the space time continuum in your far quadrant of the known galaxy? Dodging rain, aliens, snowstorms, foul



SGT Tad Randell (2LT Alan Llanas Photo)

in Quang Duc Province ferrying ammo to troops in Cambodia. Also killed in the crash were the three members of the air crew and possibly three other A-12 Troopers. If you have information that can clear up what happened, exactly who was killed or injured and to what units the casualties were assigned, please respond to Tony, Dennis Webster and me. <Division Association> Contact Tony through Jake Paltzer, 2716 Hillwood Ct., Appleton, WI 54911-2231, <JPaltzer@Yahoo.Com>

1631 "Unheard of Donation" John Dean, a Fort Worth farmer and rancher,



Mr and Mrs Dean and the "Unheard Of Donation"

has a place in his heart for the Army. He did one enlistment from 1960-64 and has been trying to give back ever since. On 25 February, he and his wife did it in a big way when they donated \$10,000 to the Thunder Horse 2-12 Cavalry family readiness group of the 1st Cavalry Division's 4th Brigade Combat Team. "My heart is just really full of joy," said Michelle Rone, wife of LTC Monte Rone, commander of 2-12th Cavalry Regiment. Michelle Rone and other spouses from the unit's family readiness group received the donation during a ceremony at III Corps Headquarters. Dean said he visited Fort Hood in May with the Fort Worth Air Power Foundation, a nonprofit that supports military organizations and saw the unit during a training exercise. It was then he decided to donate to the family readiness group, comprised of the unit's hundreds of spouses and dependents. Michelle Rone said the money will go toward family day activities once the battalion's troops return from a deployment to Afghanistan, which began last October. The spouses also plan to purchase fresh linens, pillows, toothpaste, candy and other treats for single soldiers who live in the barracks when they return this summer. Typically, family readiness groups raise money by hosting car washes and bake sales. They might earn \$300 or \$400 'on a good day'. Thank you Mr. and Mrs. Dean! <Jacob Brooks; KDHNews.Com>

1731 SSG Doug Warden, U.S. Army (1966-1973), C 1-12 Cav in Vietnam had his service profile featured in the January TogetherWeServed.Com website, online 'US Army Voices'. If you are a member of this site or have access to it, it is a good read and worth your time. Heck, e-mail me, I'll save it for you. I thought the interview answered some of the questions raised or left unanswered in Doug's 2010 memoir, *Boy Sergeant: A Young Soldier's Story of Vietnam*. TWS Voices are the personal stories of men and women who served in the US Military and convey how serving their country has made a positive impact on their lives. <TogetherWeServed.Com>

1831 1-12 Cav (6 January before heading to the National Training center) Chargers and Charger Families, as we head to NTC this week, your Chargers continue to lead the way in the Brigade! We are already downloading tanks and other vehicles and getting ready to train. I want to thank all of you who attended the Battalion Family Readiness Group meeting last week and was also glad to see so many take care of updating their Power of Attorneys - make sure you have an updated POA! CSM and I are extremely proud to serve alongside YOUR Charger soldier - we are amazed every day at the talent and dedication that resides in this battalion! Thanks for all that you do. - Charger 6.

1931 1-12 Cav (7 February) Chargers and Charger Families - I cannot express how proud the CSM and I are of your Chargers! Their performance over the last 30 days has been incredible - and our observer controllers, senior leaders and general officers have taken notice. You should be very proud of your Charger! Too many good things to tell you about, but make sure your Charger brags to you how GREAT he or she did! Tough weather, tough terrain and tough circumstances....but never too tough for your Charger to excel! I am proud and humbled to be serving alongside these great men and women. They truly are First Team's First String! - Charger 6.

2359 Journal closed. If you want the fuller version with whatever I can scrounge that isn't found here, e-mail me and I will see you receive it in your download box. "As time passes we all get better at blazing a trail through the thicket of advice." ~ Margot Bennett. (That is some of us.) Write if you get work!

7th CAV News



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The Ides of March are fast approaching and shortly thereafter comes the first day of spring,

bringing forth the awakening of a new season. The calendar also tells me that the next column is due in Dennis' In Box, so with that in mind here we go. As I sat staring at my own In Box this morning, I saw another of those phishing e-mails guaranteeing me 20% of an undisclosed fortune. So I thought I would take a few moments to issue a cautious warning that these are nothing but a scheme to get unsuspecting folks to reply and then give up personal information. Once the scammers have your information they will empty your bank accounts and cause you untold financial horror. Don't be taken in by these crooks. Conversely, your lending institutions will never ask for personal verification of information via e-mail.

Joe Persaud a warrior from B Company, 1-7, '69-'70 posts this question. Have you or do you know of anybody that has figured out how to convert the old Vietnam maps, which are in 1,000 meter UTM grid format to GPS, decimal or latitude/longitude coordinates? I have Googled it on the Web, but with no luck. I have found converter tools, but none of them come anywhere near the maps location. In the corners of the Vietnam maps, I have found what appears to be latitude and longitude numbers (degrees and minutes). Those are found in the corners of the maps. I have plugged these in but they are way off when they get plotted on Google maps. I have hours of computer time trying to figure how to convert the UTM to the Google maps. Frustrating! As you know I have been back to Nam and it is my hope to return again someday with GPS coordinates in hand and hire a driver to go back to some of our old sites such as Fort Compton. Your blurb on the maps precipitated this letter to you. Thanks Joe for the column kudos and for this great question. If anyone reading this can help with any thoughts, please advise.

John Guillory, former Vice President of our Association sends in this notice of an upcoming Charlie Company 2-7 reunion. This is short notice as the gathering will be 9-12 May 2013 at the Oak Bower Recreational Area in Arkadelphia, Arkansas. For more details contact Jimmie Brown at (870) 246-7292 or e-mail Jimmie at: <brownjbd@hughtes.net>.

Walter "Doc" Roberts, former member 2nd Platoon, Delta Company 1-7 Cav, RVN '71-'72 sends us this report. Hope this e-mail finds you in good health and ready for the New Year. I enjoyed your last "7th Cav News in the Nov/Dec edition of Saber. Interestingly your paragraph from Marion Siara (C 1-7) sparked something that has been on my mind for the last 41 years. In the fall of 1971, I was levied out of the 82nd Airborne and sent to Nam with an MOS of 91B. I got to talking to another Doc on the plane going over, SP4 Robert Lloyd, who had been assigned to a hospital unit in the states. Once we got to 90th Replacement at Bien Hoa, we were both assigned to HHC, 1st Battalion, 7th Cav. By passing the indoctrination training that lasted a week or so for "combat" MOS's, we got shipped out via truck convoy to FSB Mace with other "non-combat" MOS's. Upon arriving at FSB Mace, we were taken to the Battalion Medical Station which was commanded by Captain Coax, 7th Cav Battalion Surgeon. Doc Lloyd was attached to Company C which was going to the bush the following day. I never saw Doc Lloyd again, a few days later I was flown on a LOG bird out to Company D, which was still in the bush. The guy I replaced in the bush damn near jerked me out of the aircraft, he stated "so and so was a BS'er, so and so had VD and another had Malaria." He said "good luck" was on that LOG bird and gone before I ever got his name. Back to Doc Lloyd, as the story goes, in less than a month after arriving in country Doc Lloyd was WIA while moving forward to contact by small arms fire. I heard he was medevaced to one of the Evac hospitals and sent back to CONUS. While looking at my CMB orders dated 29 December 1971 listed is Doc Lloyd, me and a few others receiving the CMB effective 24 Dec 71. I really would like to know what happened to Doc Lloyd, did he survive or die of wounds later? Maybe you could ask your readers? For the life of me I have never figured out why they call Medical Specialists assigned/attached to Infantry Company or Platoon level units non-combatants, if they are, then why award a Combat Medical Badge? Reflecting, it was a noble MOS and if you took care of the grunts, they took care of you. Thanks Doc for this letter. If anyone knows the whereabouts of Doc Lloyd, please let me know. He's not listed in the Vietnam Casualty Directory of Names which is a good sign.

Jim Savage reports that Jeffrey P. Gottlieb, Lieutenant Colonel, Armor assumed command of the 4th Squadron, 7th Cavalry on the 8th of January.

Bud Alley was a roommate of Jim Brigham's on the Troopship enroute to Vietnam. He has remained a close friend of Jim's through the years and has graciously offered his assistance to Jim's family by way of answering questions as they sort through Jim's military belongings. Bud has also been valuable in assisting the Association in consolidating and filling orders from the Quartermaster stores that Jim had in his possession. This report is from a question that Jeff Brigham posed to Bud regarding an item that they found in the home. The story on the "bush ax" is as follows: Our advance party went to Vietnam thirty days ahead of us via air to begin to work on clearing the area and establishing the perimeter for the 20000 troops and 400 or so choppers. It seemed logical that one would just use bull dozers, but because the intake pull of the choppers and its subsequent dust on uptake, it was deemed necessary to clear gently of the surface and cut the grass that grew on the interior of what was to become a perimeter. It didn't take long for the GI's to refer to An Khe as the "Golf Course" because the interior where the choppers and their crews were located seemed to be a country club compared to the combat units manning the exterior of the perimeter. The locals that were hired to help with the task used these little hand scythes and picked up the GI name of "bush hog" and the 2-7 decided to use them as traditional "parting gifts" to officers. They cost about seventy five cents and the funds came from the local Battalion Officer's club, we had the unit crest of Garry Owen attached to them and hence it became a symbol of pride to have it presented to you upon receiving orders stateside. So that is what it is and how long the "tradition" lasted is beyond me as the Division began to adapt to new methods of operating and no longer really used An Khe as the regular base camp. The way An Khe base camp was

organized with an 8 mile circumferential road that was one way. The interior of the circle was where the support and chopper crews lived and were parked. The exterior was where the eight line battalions and the 9th Cavalry Squadron set up their administrative headquarters, living quarters, manned the outer perimeter. Over the year, a strip of land was cleared to broaden the perimeter and it eventually was about 250 yards wide with triple concertina barbed wire and observation towers, spot lights, etc. Your Dad and I were the last of the originals to leave from the 2-7 and on his subsequent tour he was stationed at Phan Thiet on the coast where the Division support activities had moved. So now you know the story of the bush hog. Of course, there are many more tales about your Dad, as he was the real Mr. Fixit of our day and he had this thing about animals, lizards, furry things, you name it, he knew about it and how to handle it and how to make it work, how to sharpen it, build it, scrounge it; Quite a man and his knowledge enriched us all and he was always there to help. Thanks Bud for another glimpse into Jim and by the time I DEROS'ed in September of 1970, the 1-7 was giving us Cavalry Bugles as a parting memento.

Again from Jim Savage comes another report. Greetings and Happy New Year! LTC Rob Kuth here, Commander of 2-7 CAV, TF GHOST deployed forward in Afghanistan. Please allow me to bring you up to date on our current status and Security Force Assistance (SFA) mission abroad. Upon our first few weeks in theater, Garryowen Soldiers completed all reception tasks, conducted various training events and deployed forward into the operational environment across several locations in the eastern portion of Afghanistan. As of late November, the Task Force assumed the Coalition Force lead in our designated areas of responsibility and commenced SFA operations and support as advisors. For the first two months, we have been extremely busy with our current mission and operational requirements. The TF continues to support Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) as they conduct operations and build a safe and secure environment for the people of Afghanistan. The men and women of this great unit are really making an impact as they work side by side with ANSF and the local Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (GIROA). Advising, assisting and enabling the Afghan National Army (ANA) already resulted in several successful operations. Our Soldiers will no doubt continue to make a difference in the nine months that they are deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. I can't begin to thank the 1st Cavalry Division and III Corps enough for all the support and resources provided as we prepared for our deployment. From our local training at Fort Hood, to JRTC, to the post and community assistance, out load to Afghanistan and the support while deployed, we will forever be in their debt and honored to be a part of the First Team at the Great Place. On behalf of all who serve in this fine unit, I'd like to say, Happy New Year, Garryowen, The Seventh First! V/R, LTC Rob Kuth.

Our own Joe Galloway has received another honor as he has been selected to serve as a special consultant to the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War. Congratulations Joe on just another honor which has so defined your illustrious career!

It's been a long 69 years since the Military has seen fit to upgrade segments in the Pyramid of Honor regarding combat achievement, yet on February 13, the Pentagon has been heard from with its announcement of the Distinguished Warfare Medal. This newly minted medal will be awarded to pilots of unmanned aircraft, offensive cyberwar experts or others who are directly involved in combat operations. As currently configured this award would rate higher than a Bronze Star with V device awarded for actual heroism in ground combat. There's something wrong with that scenario - at least in my humble opinion. In many cases a Bronze Star for Valor was awarded after a recommendation for a Silver Star was downgraded by a panel of non-combat officers sitting in an air conditioned office and without their own combat MOS to offer such an opinion. I speak from my own personal experience on this subject having been on the receiving end of such an action. There already exist several potential commendation and achievement medals to support the efforts of these servicemen and women: Joint Service Commendation Medal; the Meritorious Service Medal; and of course the service commendation medals as well as the Bronze Star for Meritorious Service. If you agree I suggest that you let your elected representatives know!

William A. 'Bill' Richardson who has served our Association and our country for well over 70 years will be retiring as President at this year's reunion at Fort Hood. We all owe Bill and his lovely wife, Eva, a debt of gratitude for many years of service on the Board of Directors of the Division Association as well as his service to the 7th Cavalry Association. Nominations are currently being accepted for the position of President. If you are interested, please let me know!

If you live in California and are in need of some "legal" advice then this website may be of interest. Courtesy of Shortround Migut: <<http://amvets-ma.org/wp-content/uploads/2012-12-RAO-Bulletin-Jan-2013-5.pdf>>.

Jim Savage has been working diligently to update the online rosters of Association members. While doing this task, it was necessary to have the rosters "unavailable" for viewing. By the time you receive this Saber all rosters should be back on line. Thanks Jim for this tedious but necessary work.

If you have an elderly parent or expect to be involved in going through their effects, please do a little work beforehand. This early work will save you a lot of personal heartache when the actual time comes. This is especially true if you or your loved one is a military retiree. There are a myriad of hoops that one must jump through with DFAS to include Power's of Attorney, changes of address and a host of others too numerous to list.

I was watching 60 Minutes last night and they had a segment on Veteran Suicides and the statistics are staggering. Over 22 veterans are committing suicide every day, an astonishing eight thousand every year. I make this appeal that if you know someone in this state of upheaval, then either urge them to call the Veterans Crisis Hotline at (800) 273-8255 or call on their behalf. It's the least we can do for our soldiers!

With that, I close this edition of your 7th Cavalry news and I wish each a wonderful spring! Garryowen from Michigan.

New Members Listing

Continued from pg. 2.

SSG BUFFALOE, RODNEY TX 2BCT 1302
 PVT BURNETT, ROBERT KEVIN TX 1BCT 1301
 MAJ BYRUM, VAUGHAN TX HHC HHBN 13

Continued on pg. 8.

8th CAV News



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Hi again,

I was thinking the other day about the vastly different ways in which we have experienced our service in the 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division. Our Association members vary in age from men now in their 90's to those in their late teens, troopers whose service covers decades: World War II, Japan, Korea, the Cold War, Vietnam, the Gulf Wars and so many other places and events. While we've seen vastly different weapons systems utilized over the years, wore very different uniforms, rode to battle in everything from horses and mules to helicopters, airplanes, tanks, humvees and MRAPs, used very different tactics on disparate battle fields, there is one thing that binds us together – our common experience of friendships that endure, forged in seeing face to face the highs and lows, the triumphs and failures, the brutality and kindness, the fear and the courage, the joy and sorrow, victory and defeat of warfare. We've seen heroism above and beyond the call of duty being displayed by a young battle buddy, felt the heart-wrenching grief that follows the loss of another so close and then wondered why or how it was that we were spared. The common bond that brings us together is these things that only we who have felt the adrenaline rush of combat can understand, yet cannot fully explain.

Some of our members have worked to diligently construct our history. Tom Kjos has been researching the Battle of Tam Quan for some time now and hopes to publish his research sometime in 2014. He writes, "Please convey my thanks to the Jumping Mustang veterans of the 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry for their hospitality at the November reunion in Phoenix and for their help with my research on the Battle of Tam Quan, December 6-19, 1967. A very special thank you to Paul Wessman whose assistance was invaluable in identifying and arranging the interviews with those who participated then and in that AO against the 22nd NVA in the months before the battle. I hope to arrange attendance and be able to gather further knowledge at the 8th Cavalry Association reunion in San Diego this summer. In between, I'll be at Fort Benning with the 1st Battalion, 50th Infantry who supported us with the firepower of their APC's throughout December. For others who can further fill in my knowledge of Tam Quan, I can be reached at <tomwkjos03@gmail.com> or write to me at 9817 W Mockingbird Dr., Sun City, AZ 85373.

Another major project of this sort is Lyle K. Otineru's thesis for his Master of Arts Degree in Diplomacy and Military Studies published in 2010, entitled, *Honor and Courage: The United States Cavalry at Unsan, North Korea, 30 October – 4 November 1950*. Lyle's 85 page work describes in great detail the battle in which 1,000 troopers of the 8th Cavalry Regiment died at the hands of the Chinese People's Volunteer Forces leaving 270 of their graves thought to still lie unmarked in that North Korean soil. His is the story of both desperation and heroism by those who fought an overwhelming enemy force that the best intelligence thought not to be present. His knowledge of the details surrounding this major battle and the clarity with which he writes of them exceeds previous attempts to describe this mostly overlooked engagement in "America's Forgotten War." Over 8,000 men remain missing and unaccounted for in this war that is only in abeyance under a 1953 the Korean War Armistice agreement, but for which no peace treaty has yet been signed. His thesis is well worth the read and can be found by entering *Honor and Courage Unsan* in your search engine or at:

<www.hpu.edu/CHSS/History/GraduateDegree/MADMSTheses/files/lyle-otineru.pdf>.

On a smaller scale, yet no less poignant are the personal stories found online at various sites. One such is Jim Kasper's tribute to the men in his squad who were lost so long ago in Vietnam, men from his 9 man squad in the 1st Platoon, Charlie Company, 1-8 Cav in 1968. His YouTube tribute can be viewed at *A Memorial Day Toast to Our Fallen Heroes*.

Lest We Forget: In the *Lest We Forget* segment, 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 troopers whose actions/citations took place in the March-April timeframe:

Sp4 Donald Johnston, D, 1-8 Cavalry, Tay Ninh Province, RVN, 21 March 1969



SP4 Donald Johnston

Citation: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty. Sp4 Johnston distinguished himself while serving as a mortarman with Company D, at a fire support base in Tay Nin Province. Sp4 Johnston's company was in defensive positions when it came under a devastating rocket and mortar attack. Under cover of the bombardment, enemy sappers broke through the defensive perimeter and began hurling explosive charges into the main defensive bunkers. Sp4 Johnston and six of his comrades had moved from their exposed position to one of the bunkers to continue their fight against the enemy attackers. As they were firing from the bunker, and enemy soldier threw three explosive charges into their position. Sensing the danger to his comrades, Sp4 Johnston, with complete disregard for his safety, hurled himself onto the explosive charges, smother the detonations with his body and shielding his fellow soldiers from the blast. His heroic action saved the lives of six of his comrades. Sp4 Johnston's concern for his fellow men at the cost of his life were in the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit and the U.S. Army.

SGT Peter C. Lemon, E, 2-8 Cavalry, Tay Ninh Province, RVN 1 April 1970



SGT Peter C. Lemon

Citation: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty, SGT (then Sp4) Lemon distinguished himself while serving as an assistant machine gunner during the defense of Fire Support Base Illingworth. When the base came under heavy enemy attack, SGT Lemon engaged a numerically superior enemy with machine gun and rifle fire from his defensive position until both weapons malfunctioned. He then used hand grenades to fend off the intensified enemy attack launched in his direction.

After eliminating all but one of the enemy soldiers in the immediate vicinity, he pursued and disposed of the remaining soldier in hand-to-hand combat. Despite fragment wounds from an exploding grenade, SGT Lemon regained his position, carried a more seriously wounded comrade to an aid station and as he returned was wounded a second time by enemy fire. Disregarding his personal injuries, he moved to his position through a hail of small arms and grenade fire. SGT Lemon immediately realized that the defensive sector was in danger of being overrun by the enemy and unhesitatingly assaulted the enemy soldier by throwing hand grenades and engaging in hand-to-hand combat. He was wounded yet a third time, but his determined efforts successfully drove the enemy from the position. Securing an operable machine gun, SGT Lemon stood atop an embankment fully exposed to enemy fire and placed effective fire upon the enemy until he collapsed from his multiple wounds and exhaustion. After regaining consciousness at the aid station, he refused medical evacuation until his more seriously wounded comrades had been evacuated. SGT Lemon's gallantry and heroism are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit on him, his unit, and the U.S. Army.

From the Indian Wars, little information is available save these brief references:

ISG Sanford Bradbury, Co. L, 8th Cavalry, Hell Canyon AZ 3 March 1869
Citation: Conspicuous gallantry in action.

CPL Michael Corcoran, Co. E, 8th Cavalry, Agua Fria River, AZ 3 March 1870.

Citation: Gallantry in action.

PVT James C. Reed, Co. A, 8th Cavalry, Arizona

Citation: Defended his position (With 3 others) against a party of 17 hostile Indians under heavy fire at close quarters, the entire party except himself being severely wounded.

The President recently announced that another 8th Cavalry Trooper will be awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions during the Korean War. Chaplain (Captain) Emil J. Kapaun who was captured at Unsan with the 3-8th Cavalry on 2 November 1950 when the Red Chinese entered the war will be awarded the Medal of Honor. He died as a Prisoner of War on 23 May 1951 and his body has not been recovered. His family will receive the Medal at a ceremony that will be conducted at the White House on 11 April. Chaplain Kapaun had been awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for his actions at Unsan. His DSC citation says that "Chaplain Kapaun, with complete disregard for his personal safety, calmly moved among the wounded men, giving them medical aid and easing their fears. His courageous manner inspired all those present and many men who might otherwise have fled in panic were encouraged by his presence and remained to fight the enemy. As the battle progressed, the number of wounded increased greatly and it became apparent that many of the men would not be able to escape the enemy encirclement. Finally, at dusk on 2 November 1950, the remaining able-bodied men were ordered to attempt to break through the surrounding enemy. At this time, although fully aware of the great danger, Chaplain Kapaun voluntarily remained behind, and when last seen was administering medical treatment and rendering religious rites wherever needed". His Medal of Honor will likely include his actions as a POW. Let the heroism of these brave men continue to inspire us.

Just a reminder, 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@midiowa.net>

The Division Association Reunion will be held 5-9 June at Killeen/ Fort Hood, Texas this year. See further information at <www.lcda.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. When calling the hotel for reservations, mention that you are with the Angry Skipper Association. Hotel Reservations: (888) 465-4329.

Finally, we recruits received some sound advice from our drill sergeant in E-19-5 at Fort Knox back in 1966. On a drill field one day he instructed us, in his thick, southern dialect, that the command "AS YOU WERE!" meant to "Git how you was before you got how you is!" We young yanks weren't quite sure what to make of that and struggled to understand. When talking about barracks gossip and rumors, SGT McKissik wisely advised, "Don't believe anything you hear and only half of what you see." Sometimes these two sensory inputs can be disconnected, yet somehow related as are we by our experience over the decades as is seen and heard in this YouTube video recommended to us by Skip Saylor (C/2-8 1967-68) where, like us, the visuals are separated in time from the audio, but the experience connects us all: <www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=mz3CPzdCDws>.

Fellow troopers, no matter how much things seem to change from one generation to the next, some things just seem to remain the same. Thank you for your service.

Until next time, "Honor and Courage!"

New Members Listing Continued from pg. 7.

PFC CAMPA, JOVANNY CA 1BCT 1301
1LT CARLSON, RAYMOND TX C 2-8C 1207
SGT CARTER, STANLEY NJ C 2-12C 6809
2LT CHOUHDRY, ALI M. GA C 1-8C 1302
1LT CLAIBORNE, KEVIN TX HHC 2BCT 1302
MAJ CLINCY, SHARMAN MS HHC 2BCT 1302

SPC COFFELT, DAVID TX 3BDE 1301
SFC COOK, VINCENT RAYMOND MD B 1-21FA 9710
SPC CRUTCHFIELD, PATRICK TX 1BCT 1302
SPC DAY, JONATHAN TX 3BCT 1302
CW5 DEGOLYER, TROYA TX 1ACB 1207
SFC DELGADO, JOSE I. TX HHC 1CDH 1302
E-4 DENTON, DOREEN S. NV C 13SIG 9405

E-4 DENTON, JOHN C. NV C 13SIG 9308
SGT EASTERLING, JAMES L. TX HHC1-8C 9002
PFC ENDERLI, JAMES M. TX 2BCT 1306
SFC (R) EUBANKS, RONNIE AL HHC 62ICP 6910
CPT FERGUSON, TIM TX D 2-227AVN 1301
Continued on pg. 10.

9th CAV News



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Many thanks to the Troopers that either called or sent articles and story ideas after my first column for the newsletter. All are greatly

appreciated, so keep them coming.

First up is a tip of the Stetson to COL Bill Gillette for his article about the reintroduction of the Cavalry Stetson that was first published in the *Armor* magazine.

{NOTE FROM EDITOR: reprinted from *ARMOR* May-June, 1977}
From the Wateree to the Pee Dee by LTC William P. Gillette, III

The title of this article was taken from the operations of the 3-17th Air Cavalry Squadron during Air Assault II conducted by the 11th Air Assault Division in South and North Carolina in the fall of 1964. This was the final peacetime test of the air assault and air cavalry concepts. The next test was at An Khe. During this momentous exercise the Air Cavalry Squadron validated its operational techniques and expertly trained its troops. Aside from the operational magnitude of the squadron's Air Assault II experience, there occurred another significant event in the annals of the U.S. Cavalry. The cavalry hat was reborn.

In the ensuing years I have heard with amusement several tales concerning the genesis of the current Black Hat. Through the use of this article I hope to set the record straight. Some of the principle players in the reincarnation were LTC John B. Stockton (Squadron Commander), MG Harry Kinnard (Division Commander), GEN Harold K. Johnson (Chief of Staff of the Army), and CPT's Walter Harman and myself (Cavalrymen). The stage was a goat pasture on the shores of Wateree Pond and the time was November 1964.

After a period of intensive simulated combat, members of the squadron were authorized several days rest and recreation (R and R) on a staggered schedule. Since both Walt and I had wives at Fort Benning (our home station), we decided to return to the banks of the Chattahoochie for R and R. Walt went home a couple of days before me and must have rested quickly, for when I arrived, he was roaming around. Being a licensed cavalryman, Walt dutifully conducted a reconnaissance as he roamed about. His travels took him to the Fort Benning salvage store, where he found some olive drab, Montana peak drill sergeant hats for sale. Having purchased some of these hats he posted over to my quarters where we convened a planning session. It didn't take long for two dashing captains of Cavalry to decide that the motley specimens we held could be turned into the campaign hats of yesteryear. Initially there were three problems, the color and shape of the hats, and the necessary hat cords to designate general officers, officers, warrant officers and troopers by branch. The color soon resolved itself when we convinced our wives that if we got some black dye that they could easily dye our hats black. This was not as simple a task as it first appeared. It took several dyings before our first hats attained the proper color, and of course the dye pot had to boil over in the kitchen once or twice. About this time Walt and I thought it would be discreet if we conducted a deploying action as we were about to be decisively engaged on the home front. We withdrew smartly in an effort to solve our remaining two problems.

In Phenix City across the Chattahoochie, we found a cleaning establishment which consented to block our hats into the prescribed shape. Not having any knowledge of how to solve the problem of the hat cords, we conducted an area reconnaissance of Columbus. Somewhere in the back alleys of the city I located an owner of a second-hand shop who had a desk drawer full of hat cords and didn't know what to do with them. A bargain was soon struck and we were able to produce several specimens of what was to become the black cavalry hat.

Having reached the end of our R and R, Walt and I reported back to the squadron assembly area on the banks of Wateree Pond. Back in our troop area, we sought the council of our troop commander, MAJ Robert I. Storerink. We decided that the best way to propagate the black cavalry hats within the squadron was to give our squadron commander one for his birthday which would come to pass in the next couple of days. COL Stockton's birthday turned out to be a momentous occasion that year. In addition to the cavalry hat from B Troop, he received an old white mule from C Troop. He was delighted with both the hat and the mule. Walt and I were commissioned to produce hats for all of the squadron officers and the mule, (Maggie) was proclaimed the squadron mascot. This announcement presented C Troop with a problem. The C Troop office's had rented the mule from a local farmer and presented him to COL Stockton as a joke, knowing well that they could return it after the Colonel told them to get that mule out of his CP. However, since they didn't get the mule back, they had to return to the farmer and purchase Maggie.

The cavalry hat procurement went well until early spring of 1965 when we exhausted the supply of salvage hats at Fort Benning. Although I'll admit that it was a welcome relief for our wives who had to dye all of the hats. But it was good training for them because it wasn't long before they had to dye all of our underwear green prior to our deployment to Vietnam. Notwithstanding the procurement problems, the demand for cavalry hats increased drastically. The deteriorating situation necessitated that Walt and I hold another planning conference. We surmised that since the John B. Stetson Company had produced some of the salvage hats which we used, that they might be able to produce the cavalry hat. I took a picture of my hat and sent it to the Stetson Company with our request. The response was outstanding. The sales manager of the Stetson Company agreed to supply the prescribed hat with cord at a reasonable price. Thus, the machinery was set for the resurrection of the cavalry hat.

The story of the reinstatement of the black cavalry hat would be incomplete if some of the earlier wearing difficulties were not included.

As the 3-17 Air Cavalry Squadron's hats became increasingly visible at Fort Benning, our Division Commander, General Kinnard, became more forceful in his objections to the wearing of cavalry hats. Not desiring to irritate our commander, we became very careful where we wore the hats. They were essentially relegated to wear in the field and the squadron area at Harmony Church (that was almost in the field). All went well until the squadron conducted a counter-insurgency exercise at Camp Shelby, Mississippi. Being in the field, we wore our cavalry hats. Evidently, while there, a new photographer took a picture of members of the squadron wearing black cavalry hats. The aftermath of the Camp

Shelby publicity took place at Fort Benning one Sunday morning several weeks later. That was the day Colonel Stockton picked up the telephone and heard the following. "Colonel, this is General Johnson. Don't you believe in the uniform which I have prescribed for the Army?"

Next is an inquiry from Stephen B. Cooper. Recently, he wrote the following letter to Ron Killingsworth: Dear Trooper Killingsworth; I read your mention in the January/February, 2013 issue of the *Saber* about the crash of a Scout H-13 at LZ Two Bits. I had H-13 almost crash on my head in the spring of 1967. It sounds like the same incident. Wild Card 26 would like to tell you what I know about this air incident.

I was the second platoon leader in C Company, 2-12th Cav, OPCON to the 3rd Brigade most of the time. I got to RVN in January 1967 so by the spring, I knew what an infantryman should do. Every third day my platoon went first where ever the company was going. If it was walking in the bush, making a combat air assault or doing an extraction, every third day was my platoon's turn.

This day we had been ordered to do an extraction from the bush to LZ Two Bits where we would get organized and do an air assault somewhere. The extraction was a one ship job as we were deep in the bush somewhere. Since my platoon was first that day, that meant I was in the first slick. With an ACL of 5 that meant it was me, my RTO [Indian], my point man [probably Apache] (I had three) and an M-60 gunner with ammo carrier. First slick was always that complement.

Any way, we landed at Two Bits and walked out of the slick. It took off to go get another load from the company. It was about 100 feet up when H-13 lifted off from under it. We were on one side of a small ridge line and the H-13 took off from the other side so neither pilot saw each other until too late. The rotor blades of the H-13 hit the skids of the slick. I saw this as I looked up. I do not know what happened to the slick. My impression is it landed close by. The H-13 came down almost on my head, maybe 30 feet away. It hit hard and burst into flames. I took a few steps toward it to get the two guys in it out, when both M-60's mounted near each door started firing at me. I think the heat from the fire cooked off the guns. I don't think the troopers in the H-13 were firing at me as they both were slumped over.

I think the H-13 might have been from the 1-9th. Since it had M-60's belt fed from the doors it seems like it might have been a scout bird. Maybe it was from some other outfit as there were two troopers in it. By copy of this letter to the 9th Cav News writer and to my neighbor the writer for the Silver Wings of the Cav I am asking their help. Did the two troopers in the H-13 make it back to the world?

Being a good Combat Infantryman, I knew what to do. I dove behind a rock and listened to the rounds slapping against it. I can still hear the sound some nights. The VA has some great meds that help a lot with the nightmares. When the firing stopped, I jumped up and ran to the bird. I remember unfastening the pilot's seat belts and pulling him out while some of my men pulled the other guy out. Medevac came right away almost while we were pulling the troopers away from the H-13 that kept on burning. I would like to know if the two troopers made it. We did our best for them.

Very truly yours, Stephen B Cooper, Wild Card 26 over, 38 Barneston Rd., Honey Brook, PA 19344 (610 942-4372 <sbcooperesq3@Verizon.net>

So if you can shed any light on this incident, please get in touch with either Stephen Cooper or myself and we'll share the information in the next column.

The next inquiry came from Sam Ault: Mike, this story is for the June issue of *Saber*.

On June 2 1969, A Company 1-8th CAV encountered a stiff NVA force occupying a bunker complex north of the Dong Nai River in the III Corp area north of Xuan Loc. I was the Forward Observer for A Company. 1-9th CAV was dispatched to support me in the battle. A high low team arrived on scene and quickly dispatched a heavy machine gun on the south bank of the Dong Nai River. The river up stream turned toward the North and I requested they recon the south bank of the Dong Nai up stream and come back recon the north bank. The LOH piloted by LT Donald Porter did the recon while the Cobra flew overhead. On LT Porter's way back about 150 meters from our position, he encountered AK and RPG fire from the North bank. The LOH was hit by an RPG and started shaking and emitting black smoke from the engine. At this point the LOH was 100 feet or less over the center of the Dong Nai River. LT Porter made a hard right turn and flew the LOH into an NVA force on the river bank. The LOH impacted on them in a tremendous fireball. All on board the LOH died. Many NVA died including an 82mm Mortar crew. His action was above and beyond the call of duty. LT Porter certainly deserves the MOH and the crew the DFC.

Please put this in the *Saber* June issue. I will never forget the bravery shown by that crew, on that day, in that year. It seems like yesterday in my mind.

Sam Ault, FO LT 2-19th FA, <redleg27@aol.com>

(Editors note: also KIA in the crash were SGT Paul F Weber and PFC Fred W. Brown).

Next is a story from Ed Friday: Hello. My name is Ed Friday. I was in Nam '69 thru 2/18/70. I was in A/227/AHB, 1st Air Cav, Chickenman. I was at Lai Khe. I was a Crew chief. My bird was 735. I had a friend, Timothy Hope, who was also in 227, but transferred out to C Troop, 1-9th. He was a pilot. He was a Loach pilot with the Scouts. To make a long story short, I was filming with my Super 8 one day we were flying and I observed him, didn't know who he was at the time, flying just above the ground, on a scout mission. I started filming him, a second or two later he popped a yellow smoke, then, almost immediately, a red smoke, did a swift DD out of the area. Somehow I knew he had taken fire, I advised my pilot and we immediately located WO Hope in a big creek, I'd call it with the clearest water I've ever seen. My gunner and I walked up the creek about maybe 250 feet, located Timothy and carried him back to my bird that was sitting in the middle of the creek. I don't know how in the devil we made it out of there because the place was ate up with Charlie, but we did. We let Timothy ride our M60, instead of trying to carry him because he'd been shot 5 times. In 735 on the way out, he started going into shock, I took off my shirt and wrapped it over him as best I could. I knew he lived because 6 weeks later 735 crashed outside Song Be and I was medevaced out to 249th General Hospital in Japan and guess who was one of the first people I remember seeing? Yep! It was Timothy. He looked at me and said: "I knew I'd be seeing you again." Well, I

Continued on pg. 19.

30th FA News



"HARD CHARGERS"
Daniel P. Gillotti
4204 Berkeley Dr.
Sheffield Village, OH 44054
(440) 934-1750
FirstCav68@Roadrunner.com
www.HardChargers.Com



Prayer Requests:
We have a few requests. Jerry Peck (B/1-30th FA 1968-69) is undergoing treatment for throat cancer and he needs your prayers. Jerry

earned a Silver Star during the Battle of LZ Carolyn on 6 May 1969. 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. For more reunion information please check our web site at: <www.hardchargers.com>.

earned a Silver Star during the Battle of LZ Carolyn on 6 May 1969.



Doc Ellington and Gunner Peck, 2011 Branson Reunion.

Also, Paul "Doc" Ellington (B/1-30th FA 1968-69) has undergone quintuple bypass surgery and is home recovering and he needs your prayers as well. Doc earned a Purple Heart while he was treating the other 24 wounded during the Battle of LZ Carolyn on 6 May 1969.

Our oldest active Hard Charger is T-5 Joe Brown at 88 years old. He has survived his recent bypass surgery and is home continuing to work on his recovery. Let's have some prayers for this tough old bird please. I've told him that he must stick around as I've



Near LZ Dog 1967.

booked him as our Guest Speaker when we celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the 30th FA Regiment in 2018. Our oldest active Hard Charger is T-5 Joe Brown at 88 years old. He has survived his recent bypass surgery and is home continuing to work on his recovery. Let's have some prayers for this tough old bird please. I've told him that he must stick around as I've

Before you read this next segment, we are still trying to get in touch with CPT Thomas R. Hamilton from D Company, 227th AHB. He is prominently mentioned in this next segment and if anyone knows him, please ask him to contact us.

On 18 August 1967, a UH-1 "Huey" gun-ship crashed outside A Battery's position. SSG Manuel B. Alonzo and several men from A Btry ran outside the wire armed with fire extinguishers, water cans, shovels, sand bags and the shirts off their backs. While battling a quickly consuming fire they cut the safety straps and pulled three of the wounded crewmembers to safety, one of which had a broken back. With small arms ammo exploding and a raging fire quickly consuming the aircraft the members of A Btry were determined to pull the fourth crewmember's body (SP4 Leo Porter) from beneath the burning wreckage though they knew he was dead. Among the members of A Btry that risked their lives that day were: SSG Manuel B. Alonzo, CPL Little, PFC Wilson, PFC Chavez, PFC Harrington, SGT Santana, SGT Cunningham, SP4 Luker, SP4 Morales, PFC Norcutt, PFC Niece, and PVT Hartley. What transpired next could only be described in the words written by CPT Thomas R. Hamilton – "At approximately 1100 hours on 18 August 1967, I was the section leader of a flight of two armed helicopters from Company D, 227th Aviation Battalion (AH). When the section departed LZ SANDRA, my second helicopter crashed and began to burn. I was not aware of the crash for about 5 minutes and by the time I returned and landed a safe distance from the burning helicopter, men from A Btry, 1st Battalion, 30th FA had braved the fire and removed three crew members from the wreckage. When I arrived at the scene, one man was still trapped beneath the burning helicopter. I warned the artillerymen to move away from the helicopter because of the exploding ammunition and rockets. My warnings were ignored and they pulled the man's body from the wreckage. I commend the display of courage by these individuals. Their courage and dedication to duty bring credit to themselves and their organization. I am indebted to them for the aid they gave to the members of my platoon, Signed Thomas R. Hamilton, CPT, Infantry, Platoon Commander. When asked later why they took the action they did to pull the body of the fourth crew member from underneath the burning helicopter at the risk of their own lives, the men of A Battery all remarked "We just couldn't leave him behind." Even after 46 years, the 30th FA Regiment still lives by the Hard Charger Creed "No One is forgotten - and No One is left behind."

This is Hard Charger 9G End Of Mission-Out!

phone and ordered the helicopter pilot to lower the 'safety basket' back down, because he was going to get in it and he was "riding back with them". This was something new, not the way things usually went. But, the safety basket was lowered and the senior officer jumped into it and strapped himself in. Just as he got strapped in the helicopter bounced down a little and the blades wacked off some leaves and foliage. The sound of leaves being hit by a helicopter blade sounded like a mortar going off. The crewman on the helicopter saw that the guy was strapped into the basket and gave a panic 'thumbs up' and yelled at the pilot to "get out of here, were under mortar attack". The pilot floored it, straight up. At about 500 feet he leveled off and floored it again and disappeared into the night. What an adventure! I want to say thank you to those two guys and to all of the Chaplains and Chaplains Assistants. The bravery and sacrifices of all you support guys is remembered and is sincerely appreciated. Included are two photographs from Pastor Lieving. One is a picture of some Jungle Fighting Skytroopers attending Sunday Services. The other is my favorite picture of Vietnam, it is my nomination for Pulitzer Prize winner. I call it, Baptism in the My Chon River, April 1968.

God Bless and Welcome Home.

Just before we were ready to send this article in I received this e-mail message from Joe Brown. He wrote, "Hi Dan, thanks for the well written article in the SABER. I'm scheduled for the bladder operation on 11 March 2013. The urologist told Kathy and I that it could be out-patient surgery and if he runs into anything other an overnight stay and a Foley-bag for a couple of days. I have to have it done as I pass pink lemonade. Take care and you and Theresa stay well.

I got a get well card from Dewey Murphy. I had put his name in our league site. Dewey left the 30th FA Group in 1945 before Poncho and I, and he was transferred to another outfit. If you remember, George Dewey Murphy was the 30th FA Group lineman to whom you gave me address several years ago. He lives in New Jersey and we have been in contact ever since."



Horse Detachment waving to Parade Judge Woody Alexander, Dallas 2012

parade judge, I had a close up view of the troopers and waved my First Team hat at them. They waved back and seemed to really enjoy their visit, including meeting Miss Texas.

As you can see from the banner in front of City Hall, we honored the Doolittle Raiders, with one of them as Grand Marshall and a B-25 flyover. This year's parade (2013) will honor Vietnam Veterans. – Woody Alexander (1969-70 1CD Veteran)

Our 2013 Hard Charger 20th Annual Reunion: This time of year always seems to be jam-packed with things that need to be done including getting the word out to all about the June {2013} Reunion in Fort Collins, Colorado. 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

5th Cav News

Continued from pg. 5.

in the jungle and combat areas. He was field and combat hardened. The Priest had hardly been outside his fire base, let alone roaming around in the deep jungle, in the middle of a firefight, in the middle of the night. Also, the very concerned Company Commander decided to leave the original perimeter and landing zone. He moved to a nearby hill. Although the new perimeter could be more easily defended, it had a 100 foot jungle canopy and no landing zone. The shooting continued throughout the day and into the evening. The K9 dog was wounded by sniper fire. The dog was brought back to the new camp and patched up by the medic. The dog was a good experienced combat veteran and a very valuable resource. The Standard Operating Procedure is to do everything you can to save them. Although it was approaching evening, they called in a medevac. Everybody was a little spooked. Nothing was going as usual. But, the medevac got there pretty quick. They guided the rope and the attached 'safety basket seat' down through a hole in the canopy and strapped the dog in and pulled him up to the helicopter with ease. As they were unloading the injured dog into the helicopter, the senior officer Chaplain saw his chance, he got on the

New Members Listing

Continued from pg. 8.

CPT FERRELL, KEITH TX 1-8C 1301
SPC FLORES, ISRAEL A. TX 4-5ADA 9012
CSM (R) FORTUNE, JOHN W. GA HHC2BDE 0611
PFC FREEMAN, ROBERT TX 2BCT 13
SGM (R) GARCIA, FRANK S. KY A 2-4C 5811

COL GILLAND, STEVE TX HHC 1BCT 1207
MSG GLASSCO, JEFFREY L. TX HHB2-82FA 1209
CW4 GORDON, ROBERT E. TX 2BCT 13
CW2 GREENHILL, CHRISTOPHER TX A 4-227AVN 1301
MAJ GUNTHER, HEATHER TX HHC3BCT 1301
PVT GUTIERREZ, GIOVANNIE GA 2BCT 1301

SGT GUTIERREZ, JOVIE S. TX 41FIRE 1302
E-2 HARRELL, MIKALE L. PA 1BCT 1302
E-7 HARTMAN, JAY TX D 2-12C 96
MSG HARVEY, DARRELL A. VA B 84ENG 66
LTC HARVEY, MICHAEL TX HHC 4BCT 1005
LTC (R) HEARD, JR., GEORGE L. LA 2-7C 6506
SPC HEATH, KENNETH MO A 1-8C 0812
Continued on pg. 17.

27th ORD/MNT/MSB/BSB News



Ed Jones
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Oswego, IL 60543-8907
(630) 554-9245
ECJones19@Aol.Com

Greetings to all current, former, wannabe and interested individuals of the charter support unit of the 1st Cavalry Division, the 27th Ordnance, Maintenance, Main Support, Brigade Support Battalion. I'm thrilled to be

writing the column however, it is a humbling endeavor.

I now know what it must have been like for Bobby Murcer, in 1965, when the New York Yankees introduced him as the next great Yankee center fielder, following in the footsteps of Joe DiMaggio and Mickey Mantle.

I'm following John Ramsden - the DiMaggio and Mantle of the 27th.

I want to take this time to thank John on behalf of all of those who have been kept well informed and entertained for the past 14 years or so that John has written this column. Most of you love John for all that he has done since we started the 27th Reunion Team in 1999. I had the honor to have served with John for a year in Vietnam and was able to work with him on a nearly daily basis. He contributed greatly to the man I became. I'm grateful.

I would like to start by saying that I will do my best to continue to provide information in this column that you are use to receiving. To do this, I need your input! Stories, pictures - especially pictures, a line or two just to say hi. For us old timers, about all we know has already been sucked out of our brains and talked about, maybe laughed at, maybe has brought a tear or two. We need stories!

I would also like to encourage the young guys, the post Vietnam veterans, to send in information about their time. It's more than past due that we all start recognizing what you all did to continue the legacy of this great unit. We want to get to know you. We want to try to help you learn more about unanswered questions and situations. Each issue of *SABER* lists new members and the 27th MSB and now the 27th BSB has enrolled hundreds since we established communications with the Battalion Commander's in 1999. We owe it to you to get your stories out.

I received an e-mail from Frank Brzyski (1969-70). He was assigned to the Main Support Detachment in Phouc Vinh in March, '69, as a Field Artillery Directional Analytic Computer Repairman (FADAC). Due to the weather conditions and the stubbornness of Artillery guys (they preferred relying of their "sticks") there was little demand for his expertise and he became a 2½ ton truck driver, taking part in convoys from Phouc Vinh to Bien Hoa to exchange out broken down equipment.

Division Doings

Continued from pg. 1.

common core skills," said McAlester, Oklahoma native SFC Casey Brown, the senior fire support and operations noncommissioned officer in charge of the Ironhorse Brigade's fire support training, assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Troop "Hammer."

The FiST Certification Program is designed to certify fire support Soldiers on critical tasks, and used to assess the proficiency level of fire support teams and combat observation and lasing teams.

Philadelphia native, 2LT Russell Finegan, a field artillery officer assigned to A "Apache" Troop, 1st Squadron, 7th "Garryowen" Cavalry Regiment stated this training and certification occurs once a year. He also said this event encompasses many fire support tasks starting with a written test, covering basic fire support knowledge, call-for-fire scenarios, battle drill proficiency, the tactical occupation of an observation post and crater analysis.

During certification, Finegan said fire support Soldiers have to be able to identify a target, get the distance to said target and effectively call for and adjust fire ensuring maximum effects on the target.

Finegan added that getting rounds on target depends on the location of the gun line, proper placement of fire support Soldiers and the type of system used, for instance if they are using a map and pencil, laser or other global positioning system.

The overall effectiveness of a fire support or COLT team (Combat Observation Lasing Team) is determined by how integrated they are and how they communicate with their unit, Finegan said.

"(Fire support specialists) can go out independently, that's why we have COLT teams," Finegan said. "Here in a troop, if we aren't working hand-in-hand with our scout brothers, then basically the fires aren't that important because fires is all about being 'timely and accurate.'"

During further elaboration Finegan stated it is not enough to just put rounds on a target, but that it needs to occur on a moments' notice, meaning all of the fire support Soldiers, the FDC and artillery pieces must already have their fields-of-fire set.

Finegan said fire support Soldiers have opportunities for advanced joint training, like the Joint Fires Observer course, adding to their base knowledge and increasing their effectiveness on the battlefield.

Finegan explained that the JFO course is a course built by the Air Force, Marine Corps, Navy and Army. It was designed to give a common language to observers in all branches facilitating the ease of calling for various types of fire and air support.

Fire support Soldiers are crucial on the battlefield because of their ability to de-conflict airspace and time, and call-for-fire using such assets as howitzers, mortars, naval-gun fires, close-air support (fixed-wing aircraft) and close-combat attack (rotary-wing aircraft) in accordance with their ground commander's intent, which is known as "terminal guidance," Brown explained.

Finegan said he is excited about the training and certification because of what he can learn.

"This is definitely a chance for me to see every fire support guy across the brigade," Finegan said. "(I get to see) what right looks like. This is where I need to be as a field artillery officer."

River Falls, Wisconsin native SPC Koehl Heebink, a fire support specialist assigned to Hammer Troop, said he is excited about this training because he is able to do his job instead of daily tasks.

Heebink feels this training should be done more often because, "if you don't use it, you lose it," Heebink said.

When he returned home, he finished up college and went to work at Kellogg Company. He also enlisted into the Reserves as a 64C truck driver but tested out for the JAG Corps. He retired in 2008 as a Command Paralegal Sergeant. He retired from Kellogg in 2010 after 43 years. He would love to hear from those with whom he served. He is 6' 7" so most of you may remember him from his nickname - "Little John"!

I also heard from Randy Carrico, S-4 clerk, 8/68 - 8/69. I worked right next to him from the S-2/3 shop. What a great guy. Randy retired from the Glendale Police Department (near St. Louis) on 2/9/2013, after 40 years on the job. Congratulations Randy and thank you for your service to our country and to your community. I get down to St. Louis every now and again and have tipped a few with my old friend. No more excuses for not attending a reunion.

We heard from COL Bill Galbraith. He is finishing up at the War College at Carlisle Barracks and he will be moving on to command the 733rd Mission Support Group at Fort Eustis, Virginia. He looks forward to being able to attend the DC functions in November.

I have a regular open communication with COL (Ret) Larry Phelps down in Killeen. As you know, he is very much involved with the Mounted Warfare Museum. He's a huge Auburn University supporter and loves the SEC. He also loves his Texas hockey teams. I'm working on straightening him out in those areas.

I hear occasionally from Lisa (Terry) Beynon. COL (Ret) Terry and Lisa are enjoying life. They have posted many pictures on facebook and huge smiles adorn all of them.

As of this writing, I have not had personal information sent from LTC Cortez with the 27th BSB in Afghanistan. They do have a nice site on Facebook which I would encourage all to look at. Much information and many pictures. I do know that they have been working out of Jalalabad, Bagram Airfield and in the mountains near Bamyán. In Bamyán they are working with our coalition partners, the New Zealanders. I will work on getting more information for our next edition of *SABER*.

Just a reminder, be sure to finalize your reservations for the 1st Cav reunion in Killeen in June. Obtain additional information on page 12-13 of this edition of *SABER* or go online to the 1st Cavalry Division Association <www.lcda.org/66th_Reunion.htm>.

That's about it for now. I look forward to hearing from you and to seeing you in the future. May good health and happiness be with you.

"I never thought that I would be in Texas, many miles away from Philadelphia, doing something this cool," Finegan said when asked about the training.

"It's better than a lot of other (military occupational specialties) I've seen," Heebink said when asked about being a fire support Soldier. "I mean, I'd rather be a fire support specialist than a cook."

Heebink stated he was proud to be a fire support Soldier, because to him, they are unique in the Army in that they can call for fire.

In the field artillery arena Finegan explained they always strive to be better, faster and more accurate. He also mentioned one of Apache's goals during this training and certification is to develop tactics, techniques and procedures to integrate scouts because calling-for-fire is an aspect of their job.

'Gamblers' Refine Advanced Rifle Skills, Conduct MOUT by SGT Quentin Johnson, 2nd BCT, 1st Cav. Div. Public Affairs



SPC Lawrence Shepherd from Baltimore and a mechanic with B Co., 15th BSB engages his target during the reflexive live-fire exercise at a Fort Hood, Texas range.

FORT HOOD, Texas - Gunshots ring in the distance as Soldiers kick in a door and clear a room during training hosted by the 15th "Gamblers" Brigade Support Battalion, 2nd "Black Jack" Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division.

More than 50 Gambler Soldiers participated in a two-day reflexive live-fire exercise at a range here, February 27 and 28.

Teams of four to five Soldiers conducted two-part training each day, starting with reflexive fire -

advanced rifleman's marksmanship methods where Soldiers use quicker reaction time to move and shoot simultaneously from various starting positions - then onto basics of Military Operations on Urban Terrain SSG Lynell Mines, noncommissioned officer in charge of the exercise, said.

"Reflexive fire is more than basic weapons qualification, it's refined shooting. It's techniques that require the Soldier to react quickly - less hesitation when identifying and engaging enemy targets - regardless of what posture they are in," Mines added.

Additionally, Soldiers were trained on the basics of urban warfare to enhance the quick reaction response utilized in reflexive fire, Mines said.

"Using a two-story housing structure, Soldiers were taught on the basics of breaching and clearing rooms, including maneuvering hallways and through doorways, in five-man teams," Mines explained.

These are skills every Soldier must possess but are perishable if not trained on or refined, Mines said. Regardless of their job positions, Soldiers need to be prepared for deployments and combat.

"Whether you are a supply specialist or cook, we are all Soldiers first," Mines stated. "(Gambler) Soldiers need to be prepared for any mission because missions always change. I know this from personal experience during my past deployments."

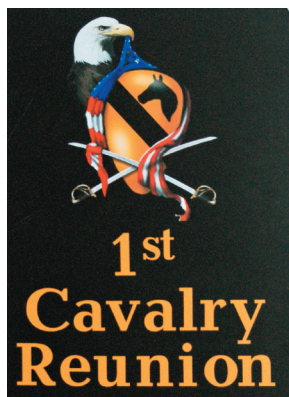
The combat veteran explained all the skills learned during the Gamblers live fire he used during past deployments whether providing security or on foot patrols.

PFC Jon Collins, combat medic with Company C, 15th BSB, said he expects to use all skills learned during the exercise if he deploys or is ever in combat.

"The training itself is better for real world applications than just qualifying with my weapon would be," Collins said. "Be assigned to a gun truck crew, I feel prepared, especially if I have to dismount during a patrol."

Continued on pg. 14.

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 the 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 to 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



2013 Reunion Pin

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 ques-

tioned 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 to you as part of the registration fee but we ask that you generously donate to help us pay for this room.



Back of the 2013 Reunion T-Shirt

event on the evening of Friday, 7 June entitled "Spirit of the Cav" and they are also coordinating other events on post during that day as well. A vehicle display and living history group will be set up next to the 1st Cavalry Division Museum and of course the Museum will be open. Admission to the Museum is free and you can view the history of the First Team inside and walk the trail through the historical vehicle park. For those that cannot walk there is a covered golf cart to help those with mobility issues so all can enjoy the outdoor displays. The Cart was donated to the Museum by the 1st Cavalry Division Museum Foundation a couple of years ago to assist Veterans and disabled visitors.

The Division will host a Retreat Ceremony and then launch into the "Spirit of the Cav" on Friday evening. With a script written by the 1st Cavalry Division Museum Director and music provided by the 1st Cavalry Division Band the Troopers of the Horse Cavalry Detachment and the 3rd Brigade Combat Team will tell the story of the Cavalry. Using Troopers in period uniforms and some of the equipment used by the Troopers of that time period the history of the Cav and our Division will be played out.

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.

ANS Shuttle Service provides transportation from Austin-Bergstrom Airport to Killeen and return if you are flying into Austin and don't want to rent a car. The cost is \$80 for one person (one way) and \$5 for each additional passenger. Call (254) 690-6725 to make reservations. Make them early to ensure pick-up. Their web page is <www.ansshuttle.com>.

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 and delays. Additionally, construction on U.S. 190 in Killeen is also ongoing and you can expect congestion on the roads in Killeen during your visit. 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 the reunion is the people that attend and we hope that you will be among that group. 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, 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. You may meet some old friends and if you don't then you will have the opportunity to make some new ones. Saddle up and join us in Killeen in 2013!

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) _____
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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.

<u>FUNCTION</u>	<u>NO. OF TICKETS</u>	<u>COST</u>	<u>TOTAL AMOUNT</u>
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/IraqWar 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

Signature - Credit Card Payment Only Date _____

99th FA News



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



I hope you noticed the small note about Ellen Jacot's centennial birthday at the end of the last 99th FA Battalion article.

I received the message from her daughter soon after I sent in the December-January article so I asked the good folks at the 1st Cavalry Division Association Headquarters to include a small note indicating Ellen's 100th birthday.

Now I would like to expand a little bit on that occasion. Ellen, who was born in Oberon, North Dakota, and now lives in Tryon, North Carolina, was born October 18, 1912. She reads the *Saber* so that she can keep up with the 99th



FA news. I am certainly happy for Ellen and wish her a belated happy 100th birthday from me and all the 99th FA veterans. Her address is 62 Maple Street, Tryon, NC 28782.

Clifford Boxley, the Chapter President of the Southeastern Colorado Chapter of the 1st Cavalry Division Association, sent me a message telling me he had received a letter from Loyde Gardner who served in A Btry, 99th FA Bn in World War II. Mr. Boxley kindly sent some of the letters that Loyde had sent him on the occasion of Loyde's celebrating his 67th anniversary with his wife, Fontella.

Loyde began his Army service soon after Pearl Harbor taking basic training at Fort Sill, Oklahoma on February 19, 1942. After basic training, Loyde went to Fort Bragg, North Carolina assigned to A Btry 99th FA Bn in the fourth gun section. The unit was armed with 75mm pack howitzers. From Fort Bragg, the unit was sent to the new Camp Carson, Colorado on July 20, 1943. A Battery was sent to Camp Hunter Liggett, California on maneuvers then on to Camp Hale, Colorado where they joined the rest of the 99th Field Artillery Battalion.

In March 1943, they moved 25 miles north of Fort Bliss, Texas. After two months, they moved into Fort Bliss and joined the 1st Cavalry Division. Loyde said that they were in the desert outside Fort Bliss where the wind blew hard constantly.

In June of 1943, Loyde was one of thirty 99th Troopers sent to Brisbane, Australia to build a camp for the following 1st Cavalry Division troops. From Australia they went by ship to a harbor near Townsville, then on February 29, 1944 they were loaded on LST's and began the invasion of the Admiralty Islands which Loyde says was horrible from the first minute on. After the battle of the Admiralties, they landed by LST's on Leyte Island in the Philippines. Loyde and the 99th landed in Tokyo at the time the treaty was being signed and spent time in Tokyo and Yokohama. There Loyde reported he was even able to get into some of the Japanese government buildings.

After returning home, Loyde married the woman he had placed a ring on before leaving in 1943, Fontella and they have been married 67 years.

He mentioned something familiar to us Korean veterans; a month after he got home he came down with Malaria and Loyde said he suffered relapses for thirty years. Loyde is the last survivor of the fourth gun section in A Btry, 99th FA Bn, from WWII. Loyde is 92 and lives at 12251 Road EE, Las Animas, Colorado 81054, telephone: (719) 456-0807 for anyone who wants to get in touch with him.

I hope you join me in wishing Loyde and Fontella a happy 67th wedding anniversary and many more to come.

I want to thank Clifford Boxley and Loyde Gardner for sharing this with us. I am always happy when I get news of our WWII 99th Troopers. We can't forget them! These people were truly part of the part of the "Greatest Generation!"

Division Doings

Continued from pg. 11.

"I really enjoyed the extensiveness of the training as well," Collins added. "Morale between the Soldiers is high. I think, like me, they all enjoy getting to train on different skills and being outside of the normal workplace."

Mines added Soldiers' spirits were high and knows the training they received will make them more versatile according to what he says is the "Total Army Concept."

Bon Appétit at COP Xio Haq by 1LT Rachel Fikes, 4th BSTB, 4th BCT, 1st Cav. Div. UPAR



SSG Erica Christmas and SGT Kimberly Eagens, both food service specialists are currently deployed to Laghman Province, Afghanistan.

LAGHMAN PROVINCE, Afghanistan (Feb. 8, 2013) —The tantalizing smell of sizzling bacon, fried eggs and fresh coffee makes your mouth water as you enter the "Spartan Shack" dining facility at Combat Outpost Xio Haq.

While most bases in Afghanistan have the luxury of contracted cooks, 4th Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division's food service specialists run this facility.

Upon arriving at COP Xio Haq in mid-November, food service specialists SSG Erica Christmas and SGT Kimberly Eagens jumped in spatula first in preparation for Thanksgiving dinner.

"We were a little overwhelmed when we first arrived here. We didn't have a schedule ironed out yet so we were working from 4 a.m. to midnight to make sure an adequate feast was prepared for this special day," said Eagens of Greensboro, Georgia.

The "Spartan Shack" has only six food service specialists who serve 300 to 350 Soldiers a day. Stating that these food service specialists were initially a "little overwhelmed" could be considered a vast understatement. Not only were they working with a limited crew, but limited resources, as well. The dining

I recently lost a good friend who served in the Marine Corps in WWII and Korea; it was hard to see him go. We also lost Walter Westman at 103. He was the 1st Cav Division Horse Trooper who formed the "Walter H. Westman Northland Chapter" in Minnesota of the 1st Cavalry Division Association.

I recently had my copy of the *Coldest Winter* returned to me by a young man who had borrowed it. He expressed wonder at how any of us survived the onslaught of thousands of Chinese troops along with the bitter cold weather. When I got home I sat down and read Chapter 1 — "Unsan," and I wondered the same thing.



This is Soldier of the Month 1949, Hqs 1st Cav Div Arty at Camp Drew, Korozumi, Japan. Gen Charles D. Palmer, Div Arty CO and COL Wm. (Wild Bill) Harris, CO 77th FA Bn and later 7th Cav Regt are conducting it at the head of the table. COL Harris is often pictured in Korea with a saddle on the hood of his jeep

I've been talking to the advisors to a group of ROTC students who have been training daily at the field house where I walk each morning. Although they are much younger, we have a lot in common. They are veterans of the Gulf Wars and some of their experiences sound pretty similar to us Korea vets with the infiltration and not knowing who was who as far as friend or foe was concerned.

Richard Clark and I got reconnected recently. His phone was disconnected because of some construction issues and he had us worried for

a while. We talked about basic training at Camp Breckinridge, Kentucky. He left there in March of 1949 and I in December of 1948 so we were pretty close. According to some Korean veteran sources, taking basic at Breckinridge made you some kind of celebrity for some reason. We also discussed leaving Korea and returning to the U.S. which is a blank space in my memory. It was though I was transported from one place to the next while unconscious. I keep hoping that someone will mention something and my mind will pop open a door and I'll remember some details; I guess it's a little late for that.

Richard Clark also sent me a packet of materials. When I get one of R.J.'s packages, it's like Christmas for me. To continue the above paragraph, one of the items in this "present" was orders from July 1951 sending folks back to the U.S. 99th FA Bn troops listed were: MAJ Paul Blumensaat, CPT Roy Carlson, CPL Donald Bruce C Btry, PFC Carl Driesbach B Btry, SGT Charles Ellis Hqs Btry, SGT Robert Forsythe A Btry, SGT Charles Freede Hqs Btry, CPL Alberto Garcia B Btry, PFC John Jackimek Svc Btry, PFC Jerry Locher B Btry, CPL Thomas Martell B Btry, PFC Russell Martin Svc Btry, CPL Scott McKay Hqs Btry, SGT Roland Presswood Hqs Btry, PFC Albert Santivicca Hqs Btry and CPL Samuel Toney B Btry.

Ellis was one of my buddies in Japan and spent time in my wire team in Korea. I'm glad to see those guys got out OK. There's more stuff that I'll send along later; thanks R.J.

We've had a normal winter here so far and I'm glad I wasn't living under a shelter half like we did 62 years ago.

Let's give our thoughts and prayers to those of our buddies who are suffering and those who have gone before us. I received a call from John Perkins saying that Ray Nebe was ill so include him in those thoughts and prayers. Keep the young Troopers serving now on your mind and support them however you can. Remember, we are all in this together. CSMO

facility, or DFAC, was originally set up as expeditionary; one sole generator was responsible for powering up the entire facility.

"Preparing food simultaneously was out of the question. It was more like a relay race," said Christmas, a native of Fort Lauderdale, Florida. "Eagens would finish searing some steak on the stove top, and when she finished, I would run to the oven and pop in some rolls. It was quite the undertaking."

In an effort to keep things interesting and entertaining, Christmas and Eagens incorporate a different theme for each month.

"We just celebrated the Super Bowl, so in spirit of this time honored game, we made sure to include all of the usual fixings. Pizza, hot wings, mozzarella sticks and jalapeño poppers all graced the menu," said Eagens.

Soldiers of the 4th Brigade Special Troops "Spartan" Battalion are grateful for the exceptional service that their food service specialists contribute on a daily basis.

"Although they have limited ingredients and supplies, they are resourceful with what they do have. Because of their continuous hard work, we never go hungry," said 4th BSTB's Command Sergeant Major, CSM Maurice Greening.

Anyone who has worked in a restaurant knows that working in a kitchen all day has its downsides— food service specialists usually go home smelling like food. This can attract some unwanted attention from the local wildlife in this environment.

"I had just crawled into my sleeping bag one night and was in the process of getting cozy when I felt something crawl over my shoulder. I knew it was Mr. Bo Jangles [a certain mouse who was quite the nuisance in the Soldiers' sleep bay]. I couldn't sleep the rest of the night," said an animated Eagens.

Christmas and Eagens with their 18 and nine years of experience in the food service specialty, respectively, bring a wealth of knowledge to their younger Soldiers.

"This is a good training opportunity for junior food service specialists. We have the ability to show them tricks of the trade in the field, which is quite different than a garrison environment. As a mentor for PFC Erin Chowning, I love teaching her new recipes and techniques. When she catches on, a smile spreads

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 ea. 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 area restaurants 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: Juan Kellogg
6907 Birdie Way #19A
Fort Myers, FL 33919-6600
(978) 460-7588
E-mail: juankellogg@embarqmail.com
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 4th Tues. 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.lcda.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: jknafel@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 53223
(414) 255-7829
Meets held at 3 month intervals with a banquet dinner in Dec. 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 Army 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: fisheye1@sbcglobal.net
Vice Pres: John Burgner
228 South Hacienda St.
Anaheim, CA 92804
(714) 535-0737
E-mail: jburgner@sbcglobal.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: ner1stcavdivassn@yahoo.com
Website: lcda.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
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Meets at Elk Lodge at Cedar and Spruce, Ridgefield Park, NJ.

NORTH CAROLINA - TARHEEL CHAPTER

Pres: Roy Wood
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If you have changes to this listing, contact the Association at (254) 547-6537 or e-mail at <membership@lcda.org>.

NORTHWEST CHAPTER

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ROCKY MOUNTAIN CHAPTER

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Meets 9am 2nd Sat. of mo. at Retired Enlisted Assn. Chapter 1, 834 Emory Cir., Colorado Springs.

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Pres.: Bruce Peterson
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Hello from the nation's capital. When you read this, it will be springtime, so I hope that it is sunny and warm where you are and that the flowers are

blooming and the grass is growing. Stanton's book *The 1st Cav in Vietnam, Anatomy of a Division.*) With the help of Terry Smith (1970-71), I was able to locate one of the survivors of the team, Ron Andrus (1970), from Schererville, Indiana, who was the team's RTO. Ron agreed to share some of the details of the mission with me for inclusion in this newsletter.

I received an e-mail from our unit vice president, John LeBrun (1969-72), who has been busy documenting the chain of command for the LRRP/Ranger unit for the six years that it was active in Vietnam, starting with company commander CPT Jim James, November 1967 and ending with CPT Robert J. Hoffman, August 1972. John's document includes the names of the company commanders, executive officers, platoon leaders, first sergeants and platoon sergeants. If you have not seen it yet, you may want to contact him to request a copy of it. His e-mail is <caabnranger@yahoo.com>.

John is also putting together a detailed and comprehensive narrative describing the operations of the unit from its inception in 1966 to its last mission in 1972 before the unit colors were folded and returned to the United States. He notes that the information in it has been collected from a number of different sources and that some of it has not or could not be verified by multiple sources. If you've got information that you would like to see added to the narrative, you may want to contact John at the above e-mail address. As John points out, the narrative is an attempt to document the unit's missions. It is not an attempt to provide space for war recollections. In reading through it, I was struck by the number of enemy engagements that the LRRP/Ranger teams were involved in and the number of them that lead to follow-on actions by the 1st Squadron, 9th Cav Blues and the division's line companies.

I also came across the June 17, 1970 mission of Team 52, a five-man team operating in Mondol Kri Province in Cambodia, north of the Fishhook area, and directly west of Dak Song in South Vietnam. Two LRRP/Rangers died on this mission and two more were wounded. The bodies of the two dead were never recovered. During the Cambodian Invasion, the division's main assault into the Fishhook area and the area north of it in Operation Toan Thang (Rockcrusher) #43 (Win All), was preceded by the LRRP/Ranger teams, which had the mission of ambushing their way deep into enemy territory to scout out the network of trails, bunker complexes, and troop encampments of the NVA 7th Infantry Division, and to report on its movements. (Note, this is documented in Shelby

Team 52 was inserted into Cambodia on the morning of June 15 for the purpose of monitoring enemy traffic on a network of trails in the area and directing fire-power at targets of opportunity. Two days later on the afternoon of June 17, at approximately 17:30 hours, the team moved into a tree line and started to move through the jungle when they suddenly spotted a large number of NVA soldiers directly ahead of them. They quickly hit the ground in an attempt to go undetected and started to crawl back through the jungle underbrush to the tree line, but it was too late. They came under intense enemy small arms and automatic weapons fire from bunkers and trees. The team had unknowing walked into an NVA bunker complex. SSG Deverton C. Cochrane, team leader and point man, from Brookline, Massachusetts, was immediately hit in the throat and chest with several AK-47 rounds. SP4 Carl J. Laker, assistant team leader and second in the column, from Clearwater, Florida, took an AK-47 round in the forehead directly above his left eye and died instantly. SGT Andrus, third in the column, was struck in the chest by an AK-47 round and got his left wrist and forearm torn open by shrapnel while throwing hand grenades into an enemy bunker. SP4 Royce E. Clark, team medic, from Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, got hit in the legs with multiple AK-47 rounds and could not walk. SSG Dwight E. Hancock, rear scout, from California, was the only team member not hit by enemy fire. He immediately crawled forward, and with help from Andrus, tried to pull Cochrane, Laker, and Clark out of the kill zone and back to the tree line. In spite of his profuse bleeding and choking, Cochrane, while clutching his throat attempted to recover the team's PRC-25 radio and establish contact with the rear area but collapsed and did not move. The radio had been hit by several AK-47 rounds and was destroyed. Andrus was able to reach Clark, and with help from Hancock, pull him out of the direct line of fire and back to the tree line where they were able to administer morphine to him to help relieve the pain of his broken legs.

The enemy fire was increasing in intensity forcing Hancock, Andrus and Clark to execute an escape and evade as best they could and take cover in a cluster of trees several hundred meters from the tree line where the enemy soldiers could not find them. When it became sufficiently dark, Hancock left his M16 rifle with Andrus and Clark and with only a knife to protect himself evaded through

Continued on pg. 17.



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Hello once again fellow Sky Troopers. Finally the snow is behind us and warmer weather ahead. It was a loooong winter here in the northeast. Glad it's gone, hopefully the chill will be out of my bones by Memorial Day.

The Silver Wings of the Cav received a number of requests for information from families since the last issue. Most of which, with your help via the Internet, I was able to assist. However a few remain that I shall ask for your help with shortly. But first, let's pull pitch and launch the mail sortie.

In the last issue of Wings, I shared a request from Steve Rogers with the Lawrence D. Bell Aircraft Museum in Mentone, Indiana. The museum is restoring Huey 63-08801 and looking for former crews to contribute information, photos, etc pertaining to the aircraft. Steve received feedback from some of readers including Rodger DeWitt who wrote, "Hank I just read the report on 801 at the museum. I have another flight helmet minus mike boom I would donate if needed. I can also donate a Stacked Deck Battalion Patch I wore on my flight jacket. That jacket has as much duct tape as some of our old aircraft wore." My thanks to Roger and everyone who took time to respond.

I also heard from Al DeMalo, <bigal1cav@hotmail.com>, "Smiling Tiger 23" and "21" 1967/68, D/229th and 1-9th "Cavalier Red" and "3", Jan 70 - Aug 71, Al and I exchanged several e-mails conversing about our tour during Christmas 1967 in the II Corps AO of Vietnam. Al was in An Khe recovering from the battle of Dak To and missed the action at LZ English on Christmas Eve as described in Tom Johnson's book, *To The Limit*. Al also commented on Medal of Honor recipient, Mike Sprayberry, D 5-7th, marriage to "Little Sister" Julie Kink. Stating, "What a great event". Great hearing from you Al. You can view a video of Al in Vietnam at <www.liveleak.com/view?i=248_1329151126>, and I invite you to do so.

COL (Ret) Blaine Fleming, <col.btf@juno.com>, sent in with a request. "Hear you mentioned my name in your last issue of Silver Wings. I was glad to finally get to meet you in November over Veterans Day weekend in DC. I look forward to your column every issue. I have a request perhaps you can help me with. As you know, I served with Bruce Crandall and Ed Freeman during the IaDrang campaign in November 1965. I was the assistant Ops officer, call sign Serpent 3A. Bruce and his pilot/co-pilot Jon Miles in the lead Huey and myself and another pilot whom I can't remember in a following Huey made the first extraction from LZ X-ray of dead and wounded soldiers from LTC Moore's Battalion 2-3 days after a fierce battle had ensued when they had unexpectedly run into the superior VC force. We only were able to make one extraction run as COL Moore had to call in the B-52's, AF fighters and all available firepower to avoid his unit being overrun. So all we could do was circle around and watch the firepower blasting the area from our position a mile or so away. Our return for a second run, was aborted upon COL Moore's request, due to the intense ground battle. It was several days later when Bruce and Ed made all day runs into LZ X-Ray and LZ Albany to extract dead and wounded when a lull in the fighting occurred while the enemy was regrouping to re-attack. It has been driving me crazy trying to remember who the other pilot was with me on that flight as well as who the crew chief and gunner were. In my mind, the crew chiefs and gunners were the true heroes in our units that spent long hours after missions preparing the A/C for the next mission. We never lost a single Huey in our company due to equipment failure that I recall, truly an amazing accomplishment under the most demanding conditions. Anyway perhaps someone reading your column might have been one of those individuals or recall who they were. Again, the day Bruce and Ed made the all day extractions, a call came in to our unit requesting volunteers to relieve Ed and Bruce for the last mission of the day for an emergency re-supply of water and ammo into LZ Albany units under siege and likely to be overrun if not re-supplied. I along with 3 other pilots and crew chiefs and gunners volunteered for a 2 ship re-supply just before darkness set in. We accomplished the mission under fire which likely saved the remaining unit members from being overrun. Again I cannot recall who the other flight members were, but again perhaps someone out there reading your column can shed some light on who they were. I'd love to be in touch with any of them. I never had the opportunity to ask Bruce if he could recall but doubt he can and doubt he was even aware of the re-supply mission. So if you could ask for anyone with any knowledge of either event I'd be greatly indebted." Thanks, Blaine.

COL (Ret) Eugene Beyer sent in a humorous explanation of why helo pilots have a superiority complex in aviation. Oh, really?! Just limited to aviation? I'm sure a few, or many of you, won't be familiar with some of the nomenclature. After all, pilots do speak a second language. So here goes. Author unknown. "This has been a serious debate for quite some time with battle lines well drawn and the debate field hot, furious and emotional. Obviously, the heat of the debate and the surety of the participants are directly proportional to the amount of liquid intelligence that has been consumed. Nevertheless, this humble observer will present the evidence that clearly proves helicopter pilots are, as a matter of fact, the most superior pilots in the aviation community.

"First, let's talk about the numbers. Airplanes have a lot of numbers, V1, V2, VTOSS, MMO, the figures many civilian helicopter operations emulate. However, while helicopter pilots try to operate 'by the numbers', the operating environment often precludes such a luxury. The 757 pilot is, 'going to come over the fence at Vref+15k' or some other such number like that. Meanwhile, the helicopter lands on a rig, perhaps with a 30 knot head wind, a 15 knot crosswind, or maybe he has to land in a remote area with no wind... And he will LAND AT 0 KNOTS GROUND SPEED! If you know anything about aerodynamics, I shouldn't have to say anything else - the safety of the numbers does not always grace the helicopter pilot therefore, they need special skill to compensate when the numbers are not even applicable. The rotor head may be landing at 40 knots IAS or 0 knots... Airplane safety margins are all off!

"Not convinced, let's talk operating environment. It would be nice to be able to land on a flat piece of paved real estate that was 200 feet wide and 8000 feet

long, for every landing; but for helicopter pilots, that's the exception rather than the rule (We are even told to 'avoid the flow' of the starch wingers lest we upset their 'numbers'.)

"Helicopter pilots are called to land on small offshore platforms, smaller shipboard platforms (that can be bobbing and weaving like Mike Tyson), rooftops, forests, jungles and next to highways at night to pick up the injured. This is a VFR (Visual Flight Rules) operation that would make most airplane pilots cringe. This goes beyond those fixed wingers who call themselves 'bush pilots.' Helicopter pilots are the true Bush Pilots - they land and takeoff in the midst of the bushes!

"To this, the helicopter pilot adds all the stuff the corporate or 121 operator does. They operate in dense airspace, fly instrument approaches, operate at busy airports and fly in severe weather - often without the help of a four-axis autopilot with 'autotrim.' (In fact, the only autopilot may be control friction... And any objective dual-rated pilots will confess the helicopter is quite a bit more difficult to fly on the gauges!)

"At this point I have to interject for the prima Donna part 91 operators in their Citation X's, Gulf streams and Falcon 50's. Yes, Veronica, there are a lot of helicopters with color radar, multiple MFDs, EFIS, digital fuel controls, 4 axis autopilots and all the other goodies, so don't go there! We can operate your fancy equipment as well!

"I'm not done - what about workload? The helicopter pilot is normally the 'company man' on the job. Therefore, they must not only be able to fly the aircraft, they have to be the local PR man with the customer, often solving the customer's problems so the aircraft is used the most efficiently. The helicopter pilot might have to arrange for his own fuel and even refuel his own aircraft. He checks the landing sites, trains people how to work around helicopters without getting injured and "makes sure the aircraft does not disturb Grandma Bessie's chickens. But wait, like the Ginsu knife, 'there's more!' The rotor-head does it all. He does all the pre-flight planning, submits the flight plan, prepares all the paperwork including the weight and balance, loads and briefs the passengers, loads cargo and after landing takes care of the unloading and finally arranges for their own transportation and room. This is often interspersed by telephone calls to some company weenie that changes plans and expectations every hour.



Gun 185

"Finally, the all-important question, 'What about control touch?' I want to shut up all the hotshot fighter pilots. I've been in their aircraft and they have been in mine... I could fly theirs but they were all over the sky in mine! So then, Mr. Starch Winger; when you see a Hughes 500 or Bell 206 pilot hold one skid on a 5000' knife edge ridge that is only two feet wide so passengers can step out onto the ridge, while the other skid is suspended in space... When you watch a Skycrane, Vertol, S61, 212 or 214B pilot place a hook, that's on a cable 200 feet below the aircraft, in the hand of a ground crewman... When you see a Lama, AStar or Bell 206L land in a space in the trees that's scarcely bigger than the helicopter... and if you ever watch a BK 117, 105 or A109 pilot land in a vacant lot next to a busy freeway surrounded by power lines-at night... Well then, you'll have some idea who is the master manipulator of aviation equipment.

"The bottom line is; if all you want is to get into the air, find a Cessna, Beech, F-16 or 757. However, if you want to truly fly, to be an artisan in aviation and develop a bird-like control touch; then, you want to be a helicopter pilot. After all, a rock would probably fly if you made it go 180 knots. Or, if you subscribe to the old Soviet theory of aerodynamics that states, if a big enough engine can be put on a brick, it'll fly. The real question for our fixed-wing brethren should be, 'How fast can you fly backwards?'" Thank you Gene for sharing.

I had much e-mail debating the acceptance of woman in combat (ground troops). Almost all con. Old friend Clinton Poley had the strongest opinion on the subject. Most of which I can't print. But overall as the forum snowballed it was non-supporting.

Also of concern among a few of you was the Distinguished Warfare Medal. The Pentagon has reportedly decided to rank a new medal for drone operators and others not in direct ground combat above some long-standing combat valor medals. I wonder what Defense Secretary Leon Panetta's rationale was for this decision.

I fully support appropriate recognition of all military personnel for extraordinary actions. But I'm still trying to figure out "acts of valor" conducted with a "joy stick" from the safety of several thousand miles.

The new Distinguished Warfare Medal will be awarded to pilots of unmanned aircraft, cyber war experts and personnel involved in combat operations who are neither physically present nor in a war zone facing risks of traditional combat service participants. According to recent news articles, in the military's "order of precedence" of various medals, the Distinguished Warfare Medal is slated to be ranked above some traditional combat valor medals such as the Bronze Star with valor device and just below the DFC. I'd like to share your opinion. E-mail me at the address on the above header.

Okay, let's get to the requests for information I mentioned at the start of this column. First, from Lynnette Rice. "I am looking for anyone who knew my uncle, WO Kish L. Green. He was in the 229th AVN Bn. (AH), 1st CAV DIV (AM) and died, 6/15/1969." WO1 Kish Lemont Green was a pilot aboard an H model Huey #66-16694 assigned to Bravo (B) Company of the 229th AHB when KIA on 15 JUN 69. Psychological operations began with a select few companies after the 229th moved south in 1969. I've had no luck with locating anyone who knew WO Green and have asked the VHPA for some help. If any of you sky troopers remember WO Green, please contact me at my e-mail address and I will forward your information and address to Lynnette.

The other is from the brother of an A Company, 1-12 CAV Trooper that was killed in Vietnam. He is looking for anyone that can provide additional information on the death of his brother, PFC James N. Diedrich, A/1-12 CAV, killed on 18 February 2012. He was a passenger on an A Company, 227 Huey (Tail #68-15251) when it was shot down. Also killed in the crash were the 3 members

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15th MED/15th FSB/15th BSB



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Bill Walsh, C 2-7 Cav and MEDEVAC Medic '70, career Chicago PD, informs us that he has Stage IV cancer and is now taking chemotherapy. He says, "Aint no stages after that..." If you

want to give Bill more to live for, encourage and support his fight, contact him at <cpd9283@comcast.net>.

Executive Director, 1st Cavalry Division Association Dennis Webster e-mailed, "We were just informed of the death of COL (Ret) W. Rex Davis, MD. He died on 12 June 2012 after a year-long battle with cancer. He commanded the 15th MED in Vietnam from June 1967 – July 1968 and was concurrently the Division Surgeon. First Team!"

Again, the 16th Annual 15th MED Association Reunion will be held in Old Sacramento at the Holiday Inn Capital Plaza, 300 J St., April 17-21, 2013. (916) 446-0100. For more information contact Jim Calibro, Secretary (209) 573-0701 <jimcc4@att.net>.



Wounded carried on a litter from MEDEVAC to surgery. Photos from Pilot Larry Hatch, Dec., '66 - Dec., '67.

of grass in the cracks, but the pictures and memorabilia inside brought the place alive. It was worth the five hours in the car just to see the look in my Dad's eyes. He remembers being in the co-pilot seat in 1945 and hearing the announcement of President Franklin's death. That was his 'JFK 22 November 1963' moment. I tell you this story because there are very few World War II veterans left today. They lived in a country that was filled with patriotic pride and where self-reliance and doing your part (and more) were routine. I fear that the general public today in this land knows precious little about true service to country, duty, honor and the character of the Greatest Generation. I pray that my children will not live in a debt-ridden and selfish country whose best days are behind them." Read more from Art on the 15th MED Association Website President's Corner. Also, be sure and read the latest newsletter.

From Phil Willis, Sp4, 15th MED, Korea, 1962-1963, <pawillis@goeaston.net>, "Mike, I was reading your column in the January/February issue of *SABER* and down where you were quoting Art Jacobs and about wearing your 1st Cav gear: I made several trips to Knob Creek Machine Gun shoot in Kentucky with a buddy who operated a booth. I got some 1st Cav decals and began placing them on my vehicles, then got a Maryland 1st CAV license plate for my truck and the recognition has been awesome. Salutes from other drivers, but my best recogni-

tion was the small 1st Cav pin I received when I joined the Association. Upon exiting an International flight at BWI in Baltimore, a young Customs Officer on the gangway made eye contact, then shifted his eyes to the pin on my hat: I got a polite nod. Later after passing thru Immigration, baggage and entering Customs, he was standing there. He took me out of line and processed me personally and wanted to talk about the Cav. Evidently his grandfather had served in Korea and left him some memorabilia from his service. He had no way of knowing that my service was in Korea also. Needless to say, I was the last through Customs in my group, but the recognition and "thank you for serving" was much appreciated. I still wear that pin on my hat when I travel as it helps connecting with other vets and the 'thank you' from total strangers. It has truly come full circle since Vietnam and I wasn't even there and "thanks for your service."

Art Jacobs, 15th MED Association President writes, "My Dad flew down from Massachusetts to visit us. He was in the Army Air Force in Europe in World War II – 87 and still going strong. While he was here, we drove to Halls, Tennessee (near Dyersburg in the northwest corner of the state). They have a wonderful little World War II museum there because during the war it was a B-17 training base. The tarmac is a little worn and with tufts



Soldiers running to a MEDEVAC.

Quan Loi. What caught my eye was the Quan Loi location. You guys took great care of both myself and a good friend (fellow crew chief) of mine on the evening of November 17, 1969. We were both wounded on the flight line (across the flight line from your location if I remember correctly). We were working out of Quan Loi with the 1-21st Arty and/or the 1-77th Arty. We received rocket fire that evening as usual right before chow. Both myself and my partner were just closing up our helicopters (OH-6A, LOCH's) and an AF Caribou was taxing by us and of course, we waved at the load master – and then nothing – I came to across the reventment and someone was dragging me away and through the wire at the SP yard. They carried me by jeep to the aid station and I was so happy to see my partner – both of us sort of OK but with added metal all around. The AF load master was killed (I learned later) and the AC took a rocket right through the wing. You guys took care of us, patched us up and got us on a MEDEVAC to the 93rd EVAC in Long Bien. Thanks so much for taking care of us. You guys saved our lives and took good care of us. I wish I knew who carried me through the wire of the SP yard and to the aid station. I vividly remember getting worked on at the aid station, being carried to the helicopter and part of the flight to Long Bien. Next I remember was being carried off of the helicopter and then waking up in post op after the first of a few surgeries."

Always remembering our 1st Cav troops on duty around the world; over and out.

FIRST TEAM! Garryowen, SO THAT OTHERS MAY LIVE

LRRP News

Continued from pg. 15.

the dense jungle to FSB David to bring assistance to the team's survivors since the team's radio had been destroyed and they had no way of communicating their situation to the rear area. Andrus and Clark spent the night in the cluster of trees. At first light on the 18th, Hancock, along with the 1-9th Cav Blues, arrived at the site to rescue Andrus and Clark.

Ron doesn't remember too much of what happened from this point onward, but he does remember hearing the sound of battle as the Blues engaged the NVA soldiers in the bunker complex. Clark and he were loaded on a 1-9th Cav helicopter and transported to a medical evacuation hospital in Quin Loi. (Note, it's going to require a trip to the National Archives Annex in College Park, Maryland to get the details of what happened next.) Tragically, the bodies of Cochrane and Laker were never found. Searches of the area were conducted over the next several days to which there were negative findings. The thinking at the time was that the NVA had taking the bodies and buried them in order to prevent the Americans from recovering them.

SP4 Carl Laker, age 20, was classified as Killed in Action, Body Not Recovered because the extent of his injuries was known, and they were serious. His name is inscribed on The Wall in Washington, DC on Panel 9W, Row 60. SSG Deverton Cochrane, age 22, was classified as Missing in Action because the extent of his injuries could not be assessed and it was felt that there was the possibility of survival and ultimate capture by the enemy. His name is inscribed on The Wall on Panel 9W, Row 59 and on the Courts of the Missing at the Honolulu Memorial, Honolulu, Hawaii.

On a different note, I had mentioned in the January/February 2013 issue of *SABER* that the ceremonial groundbreaking for The Education Center at The Wall on The National Mall in Washington, DC took place on November 28th, 2013. Although no date has been set by the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund (VVMF) for construction of the center to begin, they have announced a Call For

Silver Wings

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of the air crew, WO1 Paul Ash, WO1 Eric Taylor, SP4 Maxie Linam and PFC James Clark who was also in A/1-12 CAV. The report indicates that five others were injured. James Diedrich is listed as a passenger. Again, if any of my "Wings" readers can contribute information concerning James Diedrich or remember the incident, please contact me. I will forward.

With that, I'll shut down this month's Wings flight. Great hearing from so many of you via e-mail and cell phone (although I hate that thing). Stay in

Photos campaign to collect as many photos as possible of each individual whose name is inscribed on The Wall. Regardless of whether or not they already have a photo of the individual, they encourage people to submit additional ones. The photos may be submitted to the VVMF either by regular mail or by electronic e-mail. For more information on the campaign, please visit the VVMF website at <<http://www.VVMF.org>>, and follow the links to *Education Center*, and *Sponsor a Photo*.

Just a quick reminder that Memorial Day 2013 is fast approaching. The Memorial Day weekend is a special time here in the nation's capital and this year's holiday weekend should be no different. The Rolling Thunder Ride for Freedom will take place on Sunday, May 26th, and The Observance at The Wall will be on Monday, May 27th. Vietnam veterans and others will ride their motorcycles to the nation's capital on this weekend in the tens of thousands to remind America's political leaders and Americans in general, of the need to support the men and woman serving in the nation's armed forces. This year's ride will mark the 26th anniversary of Rolling Thunder. Organizers of the event estimate that the number of bikers who will participate in this year's ride will be in excess of five hundred thousand. Others expect the number to be even larger. The list of speakers for The Observance at The Wall on the 27th has not been announced yet by the VVMF and the National Park Service, but rest assured the 1st Cav will be well represented as always.

Finally, the 2013 Ranger Rendezvous will be held on July 22-28, 2013, in Columbus, Georgia at the Airport Holiday Inn North, 2800 Manchester Freeway. It is a unit tradition designed to bring the entire 75th Ranger Regiment together for the regiment's change of command. For more information on this event, please visit the following website: <www.facebook.com/#!/pages/The-75th-Ranger-Regiment/190158030999896?fref=ts>.

RANGERS LEAD THE WAY

touch. Our annual reunion is just around the corner. Looks to be another great gathering of former troopers and family. I'm working on spotlighting some of the helo-heroes that have crossed my path over the past few decades. Look for it in a future issue. So, until next time, "Clear right!"

New Members Listing

Continued from pg. 10.

PFC HICKMAN, MATTHEW WA 3BCT 1301
 SGT HILL, RAY LYNN KY C 2-5C 6802

Continued on pg. 19.

20th and 79th Artillery Regiment News



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As promised in the last article, the following is an After Action Report (AAR) from the 2nd Battalion, 19th Artillery on the ground attack on FSB Illingworth. The role of ARA is recorded throughout the report.

GENERAL: At approximately 010215 April 1970 FSB Illingworth was attacked by elements of the 272 NVA regiment. An intense indirect fire attack was followed by a determined ground assault. A highly coordinated infantry – artillery defense, culminating in hand to hand fighting on the berm repulsed the attack by 0500. No penetration of the position was made and 88 NVA dead were found in the area along with numerous crew served and individual weapons and a quantity of miscellaneous equipment.

BACKGROUND: FSB Illingworth had been occupied by the 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry to support their operation in the Dog's Head. Captured document indicated the probability of the 95 C NVA Regiment base camp being in that area.

Base defense was provided by Battalion Hqs. and Companies C and E 2-8 CAV Company B was in Ben Hoa VIP Center. Company A was OPCON to 1-11 ACR and Company D was OPCON to the 5-7 CAV at Phouc Vinh. On the night of the attack there were no units of the 2-8 CAV operating in the area of operations.

Located at the FSB were 6x105 (B/1-7 Arty), 3x155 (A/1-30 Arty), 2x8" (A/2-32 Arty), 1 Quad .50 (B/5-2 Arty) and one IIFFV 23" Xenon Searchlight. The two 8" howitzers (A/2-32 Arty) had been moved by direction of IIFFV Arty from Thien Ngon to Illingworth to obtain better physical security.

Heavy contact had occurred on several occasions since mid March, all to the north and northwest of the FSB. The 11th ACR operations along the northern neck of the Dog's Head resulted in several contacts. The most recent of these was on the afternoon of 31 March, when 32 NVA were killed and 16 NVA captured. Intelligence reports indicated enemy units were in the Dog's Head area and a heavy volume of artillery fire was being placed in suspected locations. To the south, on 29 March, FSB Jay had repelled a heavy attack from a battalion sized element of the 272 NVA Regiment.

Evidence of enemy movement in the immediate area of Illingworth was provided by 14 PPS-5 radar sightings from 18-31 March. Four of those occurred between 2000-0036 hours the night of the attack. The sightings alerted the defenders to a possible enemy threat and specific measures were taken. The infantry units increased the frequency of their "mad Minutes" and relocated crew – served weapons. The 2-10 Arty Bn FAC initiated "exercise" firing of the prearranged FSB fire support plan using all supporting artillery. A section of ARA conducted firing runs around the base just after midnight. Thus, when the attack began, defensive preparations were in a high state of readiness. Artillery targets on the FSB fire plan had all been fired at least once between 2000 and 0215 hours.

THE ATTACK: At approximately 0215 an intense barrage of 107 mm, 122 mm, and 240 mm rockets, 82 mm mortars and 75 mm recoilless rifle fire struck the FSB. This phase continued for a short period of time (est 15-30 minutes) and comprised some 300 rounds or more. Several 107 mm rockets employed in a short range direct fire, were heard passing over the FSB. These were apparently intended to destroy several RC 292 antennas in the base. This was followed by a ground attack from the southwest by an estimated two reinforced companies. Automatic weapons, RPG and mortar fire continued to pour into the FSB from three sides. At one point the enemy reached the berm in the 8" battery area and were repulsed after savage hand to hand fighting. During this phase all 105 and 155 artillery returned fire at enemy tree line positions, ignoring the heavy B-40 and mortar fire impacting their area. The B/1-77 FDC received several hits, destroying all radio links except for one short whip PRC 77 to the B/2-19 FDC at FSB Hanna. The other link was from the artillery liaison officer at Illingworth to an ARA officer overhead. For a period of approximately one-half hour supporting artillery was controlled by the 2-19 Arty Bn FDC through the ARA section leader. One 105 was knocked out by enemy fire; the remainder kept up a heavy volume of continuous fire, with one gun self-illumination. The quad .50 gunner was then wounded and the gum damaged by a grenade. One of the 8" storage bunkers began burning and the heat and exploding canisters drove the defenders away from that portion of the berm. Shortly thereafter the other 8" bunker, containing some 190 rounds, apparently struck by enemy fire, detonated with a tremendous blast, blowing a 20 foot deep crater and knocking

both 8" howitzers and the FDC out of the action.

Nearly every defender was knocked flat and many were burned and deafened. All indirect fire control equipment (collimators, aiming circles, aiming stakes) in the 105 areas was blown away and the guns partially buried. The blast was followed by a complete lull of 10-15 minutes in which everyone, friendly and enemy, attempted to recover from the stunning force of the explosion. An unknown number of casualties were caused by it. Also, a vast, impenetrable pall of choking dust covered the base blinding the defenders and jamming weapons.

The individual initiative of the infantry and artillerymen brought the defense back to life. The infantry commanders rushed reinforcements to the southwest corner and defensive fire resumed. One of the 105 guns was out of action due to casualties; the B Battery Commander, assisted by several infantrymen, placed the gun back into action.

The 8" ammunition had not been stored underground, as required, and its detonation caused a significant portion of total casualties and damage, including blowing away the southwest portion of the berm. During the entire attack, supporting artillery continuously pounded enemy forces and positions. Fires from B/2-19 Arty raked the enemy attacks from the northwest and enemy bases of fire in the tree lines were struck by medium artillery. The 2-19 Arty Q-1 radar at Then Ngon located several enemy mortar positions which were engaged by medium and heavy artillery and two CIDG 105's at Thien Ngong. The artillery liaison officer at Illingworth effectively controlled tube and ARA fires. ARA observed and engaged one (1) .51 AA position and one (1) 82 mm mortar position destroying both and killing 7 NVA. Air Force flare ships and 2 Shadows were on station but TAC air was not available until 0430.

FOLLOW UP: Throughout the day artillery continued pursuit fire on enemy withdrawal routes. Observed fires were adjusted by A/1-9 CAV and 1st Bde Scout helicopters. Resupply and media aircraft flew in and out on pre-planned air corridors which allowed continuous safe artillery firing. A pre-dawn reinforcement D/1-11 ACR from Camp Hazard was given a safe corridor into the FSB by artillery fire on the north and south flanks and overhead illumination.

The successful defense was greatly aided by early warning, prompt response to an effective pre-arranged artillery fire plan, and the bravery and close coordination and cooperation of the infantry and artillerymen on the FSB.

Thomas H. Fitzgerald, LTC, FA, Commanding

The original After Action Report was classified "CONFIDENTIAL" but was Declassified by **KJ** NARA date 08/26/09 by Authority **NND 873541**. Portions of the AAR were edited for ease of reading and inclusion in the *Saber* format.

End notes added LTC (Ret) George K. Hobson, CO, C/2-8 CAV, 13 March 1970 to 6 August 1970: The attack started at 0100 hours vs 0215 hours. Photos confirm enemy penetration of FSB Illingworth. The ARA pilot CPT Joe Hogg was the only communication link for some time. ARA probably took out more than one NVA .51 AA position as Shadow was not on station before ARA. The reinforcing unit was D Company, 11th ACR (tanks not Sheridans) and they arrived well after everything was settled.

The story of FSB Illingworth has been told many times and reflects the combat role ARA played in major battles during the Vietnam Era. Thanks to the men of Company C, 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry for the recognition and the Chalice and documents presented to the ARA Association.

I have three more stories of actions involving ARA to report in next issue. A prelude is that we are searching for the crew that flew with CPT William Brummer, Blue Max 69, who led a mission on May 7, 1968 in support of A/2-7 CAV in the A Shau Valley and was in contact with the Arty FO, LT Ed McCombs, call sign "Scarlet Guidon 27;" also, searching for two sections of Blue Max who supported the E/1-5 CAV Arty FO, Chuck Larson, "Birth Control 44," on June 14, 1969, in the vicinity of LZ Dolly near the Michelin Rubber Plantation, atop Nui Ong (Hill 284) north of Dau Tieng; and finally, the ARA gunships that supported the 1 Bn 9th Regiment (USMC) in a battle on April 16-18, 1968, 3 kilometers SE of Khe Sanh when Blue Max set down four gunships and rescued a Marine Corporal who sustained 13 wounds and flew him to the evac hospital. There are many soldiers wanting to send their personal thanks to you for saving their lives. Any help identifying these individuals would be appreciated.

We are looking for stories of those who served in an ARA supporting role and were able to fly on the combat missions. Please send in your story and it will be reported.

Now is the time for all members to make reservations in Hershey, Pennsylvania for our 14th Annual Reunion. The dates are June 5-9, 2013, at the Days Inn, 350 West Chocolate Avenue, (717) 534-2162. See our web at <www.araassociation.com> for details of activities, fees, and registration form. Our hosts, Cecil and Peggy Hengeveld have worked hard to put together another great reunion. See you there!

Division Doing

Continued from pg. 14.

across her face. She feels accomplished and, I in turn, know that I have done my job," said Christmas.

Despite the growing pains they encountered upon taking over the DFAC, both food service specialists couldn't be happier. With two previous deployments under each of their aprons, they love what they do.

"Not only do we satisfy Soldiers' appetites, but we boost their morale. When Soldiers finish an eleven-hour convoy, we serve them something delicious. Hot chow beats a MRE [Meals Ready to Eat] any day," said Eagans.

Rail Gunners Finish Strong in Combatives Tournament by SGT Garrett Hernandez, 41st Fires Brigade Public Affairs

FORTHOOD, TEXAS - During the four days of the 2013 Fort Hood Combatives



SGT Simon Paqueno attempts an arm bar on his opponent. Paqueno took first place in the 110 lbs weight class.

Tournament, 228 Soldiers competed against each other in eight different weight classes and of those, 11 belonged to the 41st Fires Brigade Team "Rail Gunners."

For these 11 Rail Gunners the pressure was on. Training started in November 2012 for this year's combat-

ives tournament.

In years passed the 41st Fires Brigade took first place in the 2012 tournament and runner up in the 2011 tournament.

"I believe we trained the hardest out of every one on post. We trained every day since November," said 2LT Terrence Green the boxing coach for the Rail Gunner combatives team.

Out of the 11 that started the tournament, five made it the final day of competition and the three battled for first place in their weight class. One Soldier was eliminated early in the tournament do to a cracked rib.

Coming into the championship rounds SGT Simon Paqueno, SPC Micah Barro and CPT Nathan Thobaben would all be fighting for first place in different weight classes. Both SGT Paqueno and SPC Barro would take the win in their class.

"We came in here with two thirds of a team... and we still took second," said SGM Timothy Wayne, the operations sergeant major for 1st Battalion, 21st Field Artillery Regiment, 41st Fires Brigade.

Leading into the championship bouts the 3rd Cavalry Regiment was in first place and the 1st Cavalry Division was second overall in the team standings, while the 41st Fires Brigade started the night off in third.

"We were down by 10 points yesterday," Green said.

As a whole the Rail Gunner team finished second in the tournament. No easy feat when according to the rules a full team for this tournament is 16 Soldiers.

"Maybe next year we can have a full team and get that trophy back where it belongs," said Wayne.

That is all the space for this issue but you can read additional stories and get other information about the First Team and its Troopers by visiting the 1st Cavalry Division's web page at <www.hood.army.mil/1stcavdiv/>. Remember to visit and "like" the 1st Cavalry Division Facebook page. First Team!

82nd FA News



"Can and Will"
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Northern Ohio, snow, sleet, more snow, ice, high winds, more snow, cold weather, more snow, more cold weather, more high winds. Other than that, it has been a mild winter thus far.

E-82nd FA: I received an

e-mail from Carl Buick with a short story. Carl wrote: "Here is a war story for you. Flying a Woodpecker Bird Dog for a year was an interesting and exciting job. I flew over 1100 hours as pilot out of Phuoc Vinh from March '70 - March '71. On average the flying wasn't overly dangerous, but it wasn't overly safe. I had my share of close calls and near misses with the ground. The type of flying we did was flying mostly 'at the edge of the envelope,' slow, near the ground; lots of circling around Arty targets, trying to avoid the rounds as they splashed down. Lots of tight circles, lots of climbing and diving back down to tree top level. Mostly flying with no realistic spot to land on in an emergency, just normal stuff. The close calls were manageable since I had my hands on the controls. Ironically the closest to death I ever felt was while riding the 'freedom bird' home as it was climbing out of Tan Son Nhut Airbase on a very stormy afternoon - thunderstorms in all quadrants. We were packed into a stretch DC-8, climbing straight out through about 4,000 feet when the plane did a sudden wing over and



WO2 Buick E-82nd FA '70

dove toward the ground, with the pilot pulling out just above the ground. At first, with the sudden lack of G-force, objects were flying through the cabin along with the screams of war hardened GIs. The screams ended with the leveling out after the stomach tightening high G pullout. The pilot came on the cabin speakers in a shaky voice to apologize for the scare, saying he had to avoid a Chinook coming

toward us on climb out. Whew." Later ~ Carl Buick. Carl provided three new photos for us. One shows Carl standing next to his Bird Dog laughing after he cheated death one more time over the skies of Phuoc Vinh. Next, is a picture

9th Cav News

Continued from pg. 9.

took the Super 8 film which being medevaced, I never thought I'd see the film again, but did recover a bunch of them. I have the film on the "Chickenman" website, because I had made about four sets and given them to friends. One of them took the films to a Chickenman Reunion. Howard Burbank, who is over the Chickenman website, called me and asked if he could put the films in the historical part of the website and I said, "Yes, of course." Well, looking them over one evening I saw what I've been telling you, I got everything about the Loach, but none of the rescue was filmed. I tried to locate Timothy and I believe he died in 2011. Can you help me with information about maybe the day, what was the mission etc, I'd appreciate it. Maybe I could get enough together to write something about it. He was a fine person.

Thank You, Ed F. Friday, A/227AHB, 1st Cav, Lai khe, '69-'70, 408 West Main St., Dallas, NC 28034, (704) 922-4158 or (704) 830-6033. (Editors note: Timothy Hope passed away on 28 July 2011. He was flying Scouts for C Troop 1-9 Cav when this incident occurred). Please pass on any information you may have regarding this incident to either Ed or myself and I'll put them in the next newsletter.

Thanks to Larry Brown for providing the following: Mike, Thanks for taking over with the 9th Cav News. I am sure you will do a great job following, both close friends of mine, Rocket and Livingston. One quick note with your article Jan/Feb 2013. The crash on 8 November 1967 was a Squadron HQ bird returning from a "Safety" briefing at B Troop. The Squadron Safety Officer was PIC, LTC Nevins' X-ray, 2LT Griffin Bedworth was copilot. The PIC was killed outright. The CSM walked off the hill earlier and was killed. Grif died of exposure, two broken legs and that is when Doc left and was captured.

Welcome Home. Larry G. Brown, Saber White 14, '67-'68, B/1-9 Cav; Charlie Horse 19, '70, C/3-17 Cav; El Lobo White, '70-'71, E/1-9 Cav.

Finally, here's some upcoming reunion information:

There's an Apache Troop Reunion schedule for 25-29 August 2013, in Lake Tahoe. POC is Jeff Cromer, <apachetroopreunion@gmail.com>, (817) 647-5213. While open to any Apache Trooper, this group appears to be mostly from the 1970-71 era.

There's an Apache Troop Reunion scheduled for 13-15 September 2013, in Myrtle Beach. POC is either me, <mbluvsrj@msn.com> or my wife at <rojanec007@hotmail.com>. While this group also welcomes any Apache Trooper, it is comprised of those that served with the troop from the 1967-68 era. If you have reunion information that you would like listed in the column, please contact me.

In closing let me share a quote from Sir Winston Churchill "Nothing is more exhilarating than being shot at without result."

New Members Listing

Continued from pg. 17.

E-1 JAMES, JESSE GA 3BCT 1301
MAJ JEFFERS, NICK TX HHC 1BCT 1208
SFC JOHNSON, JR., AARON E. TX A 1-8C 13
CSM JONES, BENJAMIN TX HHC 3BCT 1207
CW3 JONES, KENNETH R. LA A 228AVN 6903
SGT JOSSELYN, DAVID CA HHC 2BCT 7008
1LT KALIK, MICHAEL J. TX 1ACB 1301
SGT KASTNER, PHILLIP D. NC B 8ENG 7004
MR. KECK, JAMES TX 1-21FA 67
PFC KEEL, ZACHARY D. AK 1BCT 1301
MSG LANG, LAURENCE TX HHC HHBN 1207
SP-5 LAWRENCE, MARK IL B 1-9C 6901
1LT LOORZ, DON A. CA F 2-8C 5110

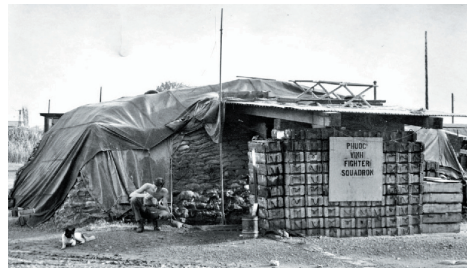
Continued on pg. 24.



taken outside the E Btry, 82nd FA Orderly Room, with mechanic SP4 Gary Geesee. The third picture shows the hut for the "Phouc Vinh Fighter Squadron". This must have been late in the war, after they mounted nose cannons, wing mounted machineguns and belly tanks, to permit the pilots to stay in flight up to 24 hours a day. They also mounted a top turret with duel .50 Cal MGs so the Artillery Observers could fight off any high-flying NVA squirrels. Ya gotta love those courageous Bird Dog



SP4 Geesee E-82nd FA Orderly Room '70.



Phuoc Vinh Fighter Squadron '70.

pilots who had to endure the hardships of war at Phuoc Vinh!
Information Request: Brian Thatcher was an Artillery Air Observer with the 1-77th Arty who flew courtesy of the Woodpeckers in 1967, out of LZ Uplift. He flew in H-13s and in 0-1 Bird Dogs. On 28 June 1967, he earned a DFC while flying in the back seat of a 0-1 Bird Dog with a CPT as a pilot. The problem is the same as a lot of us elderly 'ol Troopers. CRS has crept upon us and we Cannot Remember S---! Does anyone know of an old Bird Dog pilot that flew with E-82nd Arty back in June 1967, up by Dam Tam O Lake? I suggest that if the back-seater earned a DFC, the CPT pilot may have earned a Silver Star. If you have any information or know of a place where old Bird Dog pilots may gather, please contact Brian at: <thatcher@frontier.com> or call him at (269) 427-9069. BTW, I've already checked local nursing homes and I was unable to identify any old Bird Dog pilots. However, I did find a couple of old 1st Cav "Pathfinders" in residence in one nursing home. Unfortunately, they've lost the way! We hope to hear more about the adventures of the "Phuoc Vinh Fighter Squadron." Carl Buick, will you please send me next month's installment as I'm anticipating some really action-packed prose from you. Black Dragon 582, EOM ~ Out!

THE HICCUP - Health Care Information Committee Report



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skybeaver6@carbonpower.net

We received two interesting and important questions in recent days:

1. "When I look at the Health Care Information page on the web

site, I see no 'contacts' for suicide prevention. Can you provide some and, perhaps, add them to your web page?"

Response: Certainly. For information on the Army Suicide Prevention Program, go to <www.preventsuicide.army.mil>. For free (and confidential) support, 24/7/365---visit <www.VeteransCrisisLine.net> or telephone (800) 273-TALK (8255) and press 1.

2. If I'm incapacitated (permanently or even temporarily) unexpectedly, who makes medical and financial decisions for me?"

Response: In the event that you haven't got written documents naming someone to handle your affairs, it well may be that a Court will have to name a 'guardian' for you.

If, on the other hand, you wish to be proactive, you should be aware of three documents that you may wish to consider: First is a 'Living Will.' This is a document that sets forth your wishes for your care if you fall into a state such that you can't make decisions for yourself. It's a document that's customized in accordance with your own beliefs and desires...and is not used to appoint someone to make decisions for you. Second is an 'Appointment of Health Care Agent.' This is a Power of Attorney that takes effect only when you are incapacitated. It appoints an 'agent' who'll make treatment, medication and end-of-life decisions for you if you cannot make these decisions yourself. In the event that you have a Living Will, the decisions of your 'agent' are required to be consonant with the wishes you've made known in the Living Will. Third is a mouthful...a 'Durable Springing Financial Power of Attorney.' This document is similar to an Appointment of Health Care Agent in that it only becomes effective upon your incapacity. It expresses your financial desires and gives your 'agent' the power to make decisions for you if you're unable to do so yourself.

The advice of this column is to think about these eventualities and seek legal advice. Veterans, of course, may be eligible for free legal support in these and other matters. For Army retirees contact the SJA at your nearest military installation or contact Retiree Services for assistance. For retirees in the Fort Hood area, telephone (254) 287-5210 or send an e-mail to <usarmy.hood.usag.mbx.dhr-iag-retsvcs@mail.mil>.

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The Crossed Sabers Chapter Souvenir Shop is a non-profit organization. Net income is distributed to the Association for application to the Scholarship Program and other ongoing programs as needed, to the Soldier Travel Fund which allows active duty soldiers of the Division to attend away Reunions as guests of the Association, to the 1st Cavalry Division Museum and to fund other activities for the Troopers and families of the 1st Cavalry Division Association. The manager, Michelle Wolfe, accepts telephone orders with payment by MASTERCARD, VISA or DISCOVER credit cards or you can order on-line using credit cards. **Printed catalogs are available for \$3.00 from the Association, 302 N. Main St., Copperas Cove, TX 76522-1703. Make your check out to 1st Cavalry Division Association.**

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

ENGINEER News



Jesse Crimm
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the Nation. Any engineers attached to the 1-7 are urged to send me their story as a tribute to Plumley.

Mary Chestnut (what is that name doing here?): She did what I urge each of you to do, write a diary or remembrance of events as you recall them to have been or as presently occurring. Chestnut was the wife of a cabinet member of the Confederacy and her memories are quoted at length in the Ken Burns documentary, *The Civil War*. Your recollections are equally important and there are several available depositories for written and verbal records not the least of which is our own 1st Cav museum. Your grandchildren also need to know your story. Tell it.

Picture Time, Then and Now: The "then" is contributed by Richard Estes who regrettably reports that he does not have names to match the persons. However, that mis-step represents a good chance for the rest of us to get out our magnifying glass, examine the photo and contact Richard at <rdestes2002@yahoo.com> to fill in details. These are all Skybeavers from B Company, 1970. Notice the sling straps and the poncho hung up to dry in the background.



B Company 1970

Ed Gaines best reached at <gaines45@gmail.com>. Here we can attach names to faces. Kneeling is Bob Fenton, Michigan; Left to right are Jim Kendrick, Georgia; Bill Arasz, New Jersey; Bob Haff, California; Sam Below, Missouri; Clayton Gaines, Ed Gaines Indiana; Cecil Wheeler,



Engineer Reunion

Utah; Steve Berniti, California; Bob Williams, Indiana and behind the camera or in a foxhole was Bill Tew, Tennessee. Ed can also be reached at (765) 621-5893.

A Hundred Pounds Of C4! Yep, that will do most demolition projects. Here is what our own Steve Richey has to say about the matter. "I was short... had less than 3 months to go. The LZ was in the trees for the most part. The dozers were clearing the line of site in front of the perimeter wire that was still being set up. They had dug some of the perimeter fox holes and I was busy sandbagging my shelter halves. I had to walk across the LZ for something and I saw several of the guys wiring a huge tree with C-4. It was about 3' to 4' in diameter and had to be 80' tall. They must have had about 20 pounds of C-4 tied to the tree with det chord. I walked by and then in a few minutes back to where I was sandbagging. I asked one of the guys how much longer before they blew the tree and he said about fifteen minutes. I was a good 100' away and had a hole near my shelter halves to jump in. I heard the words, "Fire in the hole" and jumped in my hole. Kerboooooom! They had set the C-4 off. I looked up and the tree was still standing. I walked over to see the damage and they had skinned the bark and some of the tree wood off, the trunk looked like a porcupine, with wood slivers of wood radiating out from it all around where the C-4 had been tied. The LT was there and he was livid. The guys were getting a royal chewing for not using enough C-4. I stood off a ways listening to the LT ranting and raving and then he said, "Put enough C-4 on this tree to blow it down!" and stomped off. Well, I knew what was coming. You eat a guys butt out for trying to do his job and then scream at him to blow a tree down, the next thing to happen was overkill. I came back about an hour later and they must have had a hundred pounds of C-4 on that tree. One of the guys said, "She'll go down this time..." and smiled. I asked, "How long?" and he said, "Bout ten minutes. You better go find a hole to get in." I did. I walked swiftly to the farthest perimeter fox hole I could find and got in. The guy in the hole asked what I was doing and I told him. Neither of us had seen a hundred pounds of C-4 detonated at one time and knew it was going to be a huge explosion. We were in the fox hole and we heard, "Fire in the hole" and then holy crap. The ground just heaved and the shock wave from the explosion ripped through the air. We both flopped down in the fox hole thinking the air would be filled with shards of wood. We looked up and that huge 80' tree was moving upward and turning like a shuttlecraft coming off a pad at Canaveral. What goes up must come down and it did. Luckily, nothing or anyone was under it when it crashed to the ground. What an explosion. I have pictures of this.

I'll always wonder what the LT thought when the second explosion went off. It was a scary noise."

Free Advertisement: Anybody need a parking lot striped? Get a hold of our very own Steve Richey. He can probably do exhaust flames on the side panels of your chopped Hog or low rider.

Additional Comment: You arty and infantry guys that always came around sniffing for C4 to cook with can take heart in the story. We will still share if asked. See you in Killeen at the reunion.

And Who Better Deserves It?: Anybody notice that we engineers got the first month's picture on the 1st Cav 2013 membership calendar? That's also known as January in case you are infantry.

Our Highest Decorated 8th Engineer: As recounted by Scott Smith: "During my almost eleven months with the Skybeavers in combat I witnessed and heard about a large number of top-flight performances of duty... and quite a few acts of valor. I'd like to bring to the attention of the readers of this column arguably the most significant act of valor that occurred during the entire history of the Skybeavers in Vietnam. The trooper was SSG Dennis Kiger. Dennis Delmar Kiger

was born in Minneapolis on 16 July 1943. On 7 May 1970 he was a 26-year-old staff sergeant serving with Company B, 8th Engineer Battalion. On that day he was serving as a volunteer member of an infantry company in Cambodia. The company located a heavily protected North Vietnamese cache site and SSG Kiger joined an attack on the entrenched enemy that defended the site. SSG Kiger was in the forefront of the attack and, despite the fire that brought down several of the troopers near him and indeed wounded SSG Kiger himself, he single-handedly assaulted an enemy bunker, eliminating the bunker and killing four other North Vietnamese soldiers. He then provided intense flanking rifle fire to support other elements in the infantry attack until he was mortally wounded by enemy fire. His extraordinary heroism quite properly earned him the Distinguished Service Cross, second in significance to only the Medal of Honor. He was the only Skybeaver honored with the DSC in the entire Vietnam War. SSG Kiger and his wife had only one child, James, born in Korea in September 1968. Mrs. Kiger is still alive although son James died in April 2005 in Darnell Army Hospital in Fort Hood. It was a true honor to know and serve with Dennis Kiger. He is one of our legends." Thanks Scott. Story well told to the betterment of us all.

It Is We Who Are Honored By Your Sacrifice: Readers please look back to the Sept/Oct 2012 issue, p.20, the Robert Cook article. Recall that the 8th Engineers and the 44th Tank Battalion liberated a WWII prison camp in the Philippines. Now, almost 70 years later, here is a tribute from one of those liberated, Ted Cadwallader. "In your column in the Sept/Oct *Saber* you state, 'Robert served under MG Bill Chase who, along with the 8th Engineers, liberated Manila and freed the U.S. captured soldiers towards the close of WWII.' Over 3,700 starving civilians were liberated under combat conditions by the Flying Column (1st Cav Division) and tanks of Company B, 44th Tank Battalion (Attached) on Saturday night, 3 February 1945. **We, who were liberated, will never forget the U.S. 1st Cavalry Division, the 8th Cavalry Regiment, the 8th Engineers and the 44th Tank Battalion for our liberation on that historic night.** God bless the 1st U.S. Cavalry Division and all its members, past and present and the men of the 44th Tank Bn., past and present." Then, in a separate note, Ted provided this additional commentary: "The story of the liberation of the Santo Tomas Internment Camp (STIC) in Manila on 3 February 1945 by elements of the 1st Cav Div and tanks of Co. B, 44th Tank Bn. has been told in numerous books by internees, some good, some bad and I'm sure the story rests in the official archives of the 1st Cav Division. Bits and pieces of the story have appeared in the *Saber* as well. I was going to help Bob Tagge with the history of the liberation, with other internees, for the 1st Cav Museum, but we never got around to it. Now he's gone. Very nice guy! There were four major liberations on Luzon in early 1945. The first was on January 30, when the Alamo Scouts, 6th Army Rangers and Filipino guerrillas liberated 513 military POWs from the Cabanatuan POW camp, north of Manila. General MacArthur was so impressed with the success of that raid he ordered two of his division commanders, MG Vern Mudge of the 1st Cav and MG Robert Beightler of the 37th Infantry Division to virtually race to Manila to rescue us internees and secure points in the city. Our liberation was effected on 3 February 1945, number two, 3,700 civilians. The third was the liberation of Bilibid Prison containing several hundred sick military POWs and civilians from Baguio. This action was accomplished by the 37th Infantry on 4 February 1945. The prison was several blocks from our camp. The fourth and perhaps the most spectacular liberation, took place on 23 February 1945 when a company of paratroopers from the 11th Airborne Division descended from nine C-47s on the civilian camp (2,700 civilians) at Los Banos, south of Manila. American infiltrators and Filipino guerrillas were on the ground had already and opened up on the Jap guards. The prisoners were evacuated by Army amtracs, 'Alligators,' over Laguna de Bay. This raid was later studied in the Army War College due to its complexity and ultimate success. The Japanese Tenth Division, the Tiger Division, later came into the village of Los Banos and slaughtered many of its inhabitants due to this liberation and suspected compliance in the liberation by the Filipinos. Japanese generals, Masaharu Homma and Tomoyuki Yamashita were executed for war crimes in the Philippines in Los Banos after the war. I was born in Makati, a suburb of Manila in 1938. My mother was Australian and my father was American, both of them were born in Manila. I was three years of age when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, then the Philippines. We were forced into STIC in early January 1942 after the Japanese occupied Manila. There were 13 Cadwalladers in Santo Tomas and Los Banos prison camps during the war. Most of us spent 37 months as civilian prisoners of the Japanese. In the Pacific/Asian theaters of WWII, the Japanese captured and interned 14,000 American civilians, defenseless men, women and children. We lost everything and many of us lost our lives. Some civilians fought on Bataan and some were on some of the dreaded Hellships sunk on their way to Japan. We civilians have reunions on occasion. We just had one in Sacramento last April. Many of us have returned to the Philippines to see former living areas and former prison sites. Our camp was the campus of the University of Santo Tomas before the war and it's still a major university in the Philippines. It was founded in 1611 by the Dominican Order of the Catholic Church (in the old city, Intramuros), and it outdates Harvard University by 25 years in age. The Philippines is the only Christian nation in Asia. I have friends who were older than I in the camp and who recall many details of camp life. Two close friends are former 44th Tankers who live back east. I recall some details, but I was quite young. For instance, on the night of liberation, 3 February 1945, three tanks of the 44th Tank rolled around our Main Building and stopped not far from where we lived in 'shanties.' About 30 of us kids were there to greet them. We were first scared as we had no concept of American tanks (M-4 Shermans). We got over our fright, rushed the three tanks and climbed aboard to the delight of the tankers. I'm sure they were amazed to see skinny American kids swam over their tanks. One of them lifted me up and placed me on the main gun. Thrilling! I am married and we have two grown children, one in Saint Petersburg, Florida and one in Los Angeles. I am retired from the California Department of Rehabilitation and the USAR as a master sergeant (E-8), medical field. Thank you for your service. Boots and Saddles!" Edward F. 'Ted' Cadwallader MSG (Ret) USAR

Civilian Internee, Santo Tomas Internment Camp, Manila, Philippines, 1942-45

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Engineer News

545th MP COMPANY



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Greetings Fellow 545th MPs,

I've been thinking of something a little different to report on in this issue. After going over a lot of old newspaper clippings from the Fort Hood Sentinel I found this great clipping from the Thursday, February 8, 1985 issue, written by Tim Reigle. After writing and reporting on the passing of a lot of our old timers, here is something with a happy ending!

545th MPs Capture Suspects During Chase. It was a little like any other night for SP-4 James D. Meredith and PFC Jerry A. Malpass, February 7. The two MPs, both from the 3rd Platoon, 545th MP Company, had just completed "House Watch" and Malpass was completing the Patrol Report. It was routine.

That's when the call came over the radio. "A vehicle being chased by the Killeen Police Department had entered post" said Malpass. The occupants were wanted for murder. There was also a warning, they might be armed and dangerous.

A moment later, a second call crackled from the radio, asking for a unit to go to the Clear Creek Gate. Meredith and Malpass were on the way, when another unit reported that he was chasing the car on the 79th Street exit to 190 heading west.

"When I heard they were headed toward us, I could feel my adrenalin flowing," said Meredith. "I knew it was up to us to stop them"

At 15 minutes after midnight, a Gold Nova raced from the darkness. "When I pulled onto the ramp, I saw the vehicle coming toward us," said Meredith.

"It veered to the right as if trying to go behind us, so I stopped to block his

path." The Nova skidded to a halt and both First Team Troopers jumped out of their patrol car.

One of the men got out of the Nova and started sprinting towards the 190 overpass. "When I saw him running, I hoped he would stop, but he didn't," said the 21 year old Malpass. "I had to draw my weapon."

Malpass ordered the man to stop, announcing himself as a Military Policeman. "I wouldn't have fired my weapon unless I saw I was in danger." Added Malpass, who had been working as an MP for 10 months.

The man stopped. Civilian officers arrived and handcuffed the two men, placing them under arrest.

"The military Police on Fort Hood did an outstanding job," said Killeen Police Chief, Francis L. Giacomozzi. "The two soldiers from the 545th MP Company handled the situation in an admirable manner."

545th MP Company 1SG John T. Rogers agreed. "It's not often that MPs find themselves in that kind of situation," he said. "I'm pleased with their conduct."

He added, "Meredith is one of our better MPs. I knew he could handle the situation. This has made them both more confident. It also has made them more careful. I don't think they'll things as routinely as before."

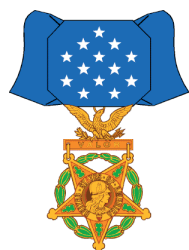
"Now when I make a traffic stop, I'm more careful," said Malpass. "I think about what I am doing"

The above article was definitely uplifting after all the sad news of death and funerals we have had the last month or so.

The 545th MP Company is no stranger to Law Enforcement work nor is it lacking in combat experience as we have probably done anything and everything that armored, infantry and engineer units have done not to mention MI work in many combat zones starting in the Pacific Islands during World War II.

I have to apologize for the shortness of this article as I have been quite ill for the last two weeks. Hope to be much better by the next article. See you then.

MEDAL OF HONOR – SGT TROY A. MCGILL



Rank and organization: Sergeant, U.S. Army, Troop G, 5th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division
Place and date: Los Negros Islands, Admiralty Group, 4 March 1944
Entered service at: Ada, Oklahoma
Birth: Knoxville, Tennessee
G.O. No.: 74, 11 September 1944

**Citation**

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty in action with the enemy at Los Negros Island, Admiralty Group, on 4 March 1944. In the early morning hours SGT McGill, with a squad of 8 men, occupied a revetment which bore the brunt of a furious attack by approximately 200 drink crazed enemy troops. Although covered by crossfire from machineguns on the right and left flank he could receive no support from the remainder of our troops stationed at his rear. All members of the squad were killed or wounded except SGT McGill and another man, whom he ordered to return to the next revetment. Courageously resolved to hold his position at all cost, he fired his weapon until it ceased to function. Then, with the enemy only 5 yards away, he charged from his foxhole in the face of certain death and clubbed the enemy with his rifle in hand to hand combat until he was killed. At dawn 105 enemy dead were found around his position. SGT McGill's intrepid stand was an inspiration to his comrades and a decisive factor in the defeat of a fanatical enemy.

Additional Information

SGT Troy A. McGill was the first Trooper of the 1st Cavalry Division to earn the Medal of Honor. The 1st Cavalry Division's saw its first combat four days earlier on 29 February 1944. The Division Commander, MG Innis P. Swift, selected BG William C. Chase to command a reconnaissance force which was composed of: 2nd Squadron, 5th Cavalry; Battery B, 99th Field Artillery (less 2 gun sections); 673rd Antiaircraft Machine Gun Battery (Airborne); Reconnaissance Platoon and the Communications Platoon, HQ Troop, 1st Cavalry Brigade; 1st Platoon, B Troop, 1st Medical Squadron; 30th Portable Surgical Hospital; Air Force Detachment (Supervisors); Naval Gunfire Support Party; and Air Liason Party. A supporting force was organized under the command of COL Hugh Hoffman, commanding officer of the 5th Cavalry Regiment which contained: the 5th Cavalry Regiment (minus 2nd Squadron); 99th Field Artillery (less 2 gun sections); 1st Platoon, A Troop, 8th Engineer Squadron; Signal Detachment, 1st Signal Troop; 40th Construction Battalion, U.S. Navy; Battery C, 168th Antiaircraft Battalion (Gun); Battery A, 211th Antiaircraft Battalion (AW), Company E, Shore Battalion, 592nd Engineer Boat and Shore Regiment.

G Troop was attacked by "numerically superior forces" which launched an amphibious attack against their positions along the beach. SGT McGill was a squad leader and his squad had been assigned a defensive position in the perimeter.

The enemy's failed attacks on the evening of 3 March and the morning of 4 March are considered the "turning point" of the campaign in the Admiralty Islands. While significant fighting would continue until the end of the campaign, the final outcome of the campaign had been determined. SGT McGill's heroic actions and the valor of the men that fought with him were very significant.

Director's Chair**Continued from pg. 4.**

Dayton twice before and we held the reunion in Jacksonville in 2008, those locations don't require a visit. We vote on the location of the 2016 Reunion during the General Membership meeting at this year's Reunion so attend that meeting and vote for the site you want.

We are already working on the 2014 calendar and preparing for activities for Veterans Day in Washington, DC.

On 11 March, President Obama announced that Chaplain (Captain) Emil J. Kapaun will be awarded the Medal of Honor on 11 April. I have included a portion of the Division's announcement to provide you with some of what he did to earn the country's highest award for valor.

Continued from pg. 20.

and Robert Cook that Ted refers to as his liberator can be reached at (702) 565-0342.

Follow Up Thought: Do you engineers think it might be a good idea to either e-mail Ted or call Robert mentioned in the above article? Do you engineers think that if you know a WWII vet that now is a good time to get them to write down their memories? Do you engineers think that now is a good time for you to write down your own memories? In truth, many of our WWII vets are in their 90's. Do you think we should preserve their heritage, their sacrifice, their legacy? If you know such a vet, get to him now. That's an order, damn it. (See Mary Chestnut above.)

In Memoriam: As contributed by Scott Smith, "In mid-December the Skybeaver ranks were thinned by the loss of one of our most capable, creative, diligent and troop-oriented leaders, Fred Betteridge. Fred, as a Captain in 1969 and 1970, commanded—successively---HHC of the battalion, then C Company. He was a mustang with, I believe, eight years of enlisted service. I considered Fred to be one of the very finest company grade officers with whom I came in contact in my 37 years in the Army. It was an honor to serve with him and a true delight to observe his competence, his character, and his concern for his men." Betteridge has been noted before in this column as a contributor in his own right.

He Was Lost And Now Found: For those of you who have been looking for David Ciosek, here he is. For those of you who want to go the extra mile and contact him because you now remember him or were in the picture, David can be e-mailed at <dasaint1049@att.net>. Oh, David is the one on the right. (8th Engineer, Dozer Ops. '69-'70).

Only One Question And One Comment: What are the tabs on their shirts? You would think the Sergeant Major would have gotten them in the same uniform, like what are those

signal antennas doing sticking out of their pockets? (That turned out to be two questions.) Kidding aside, here is your 8th Engineer team of commanders of 1970. Left to right are: CPT Bart Bohn (C Co), CPT Rich Estes (B Co), LTC Scott Smith (Bn CO), CPT Bert McCollum (A Co), CPT Marty Suydam (HHC).

Locomotion: For those of you keeping up with Bob Drenth, our locomotive engineer with a railroad in his backyard, his new e-mail is <avatar@myomnitel.com>. If you contact him, he will send you a movie of his hand-built railroad. No lie.

Teamwork: See what happens when you guys stay in contact with me? We hog up as much space in this rag as those leg units up front. And by the way, why aren't WE on page 3? Go to the annual meeting and find out and vote for Las Vegas, 2016.



David Ciosek



Five Commanders 1970

"Father Kapaun, also a World War II veteran, sacrificed his own safety while the regiment was attacked by hostile forces and he moved among the wounded to provide medical aid and comfort.

At dusk November 2, 1950, the Troops who were able to fight were ordered to attempt to break through the surrounding enemy. Fr. Kapaun however, remained behind to administer medical treatment and render religious rites wherever needed.

Upon capture, Kapaun and other POWs were forced to walk more than 85 miles to the city of Pyoktong, North Korea. While walking this "Death March" through snow and ice, Kapaun assisted the wounded and encouraged other Soldiers to do the same.

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HQ and Special Troops News



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Best wishes to all you troopers out there. I begin this column on the first of February with nothing in the "in box". I know

there are a lot of you combat support troopers out there who served with the Cav but were not in one of the line units, not in artillery, not in aviation and not in the engineers. That means this is your column in the *Saber* and I need your help. I cannot write this column without your input. So drop me an e-mail or a snail mail and let me know what you did in the Cav. We really want to hear from active duty troopers and from veterans of recent wars, i.e. Gulf War, Iraq, Afghanistan.

Having attended quite a few reunions, I have noticed that very few Warrant Officers (WO) attend the reunions. When I wear my "Stetson" with my rank on it, most people assume I was a helicopter pilot in the Cav. There were certainly a lot of WO pilots in Vietnam and I am sure that they are the most common type of WO that our infantry soldiers came into contact with in the "Air Cav". However, there are many WO's in the US Army, in the Navy, in the Marine Corps and in the Coast Guard. The US Air Force (first known as the Army Air Force by the way!) did away with their Warrant Officer ranks back in the 60's or so. The Army's definition of Warrant Officers is "Warrant Officers are highly specialized experts and trainers in their career fields". WO's in my time of active duty (63 to 84) were divided into two groups, junior WO's (WO1-CW2) and senior WO's (CW3-CW4). There were no CW5's in those days. Most technical warrants, to separate the technical warrants from the aviator warrants, usually retired as CW2 or CW3. Technical warrants were usually appointed WO during their 12-14 years of service and that only left 6-8 years for them to make CW3 and then retire. Most warrants I knew were E7's when appointed to WO and all were appointed in the USAR. Most CW4's I saw were aviators, many of who were appointed WO1 out of flight school at age of 18-20 with few years in the service which gave them almost 20 years to attain the rank of CW4.

The US Army has 43 warrant officer specialties with 13 control branches that control the assignments of WO's. (In my time in the Army all WO's were assigned to "WO branch" and all WO's wore the WO branch insignia, regardless of MOS.) Military Intelligence has 7 different WO MOS's. My MOS was 971A which is now 351L (Counterintelligence Tech). MOS 880 is for a Marine Deck Officer (yes the Army has boats) and is one of the few WO's who commands (captain of the boat). MOS 420C is another WO that can command, the Band Master. The Band Master of the 1st Cav Division's band is a female CW5 and one of the most senior warrants in the US Army (see more below). You will find WO's in legal, food services (mess officer), electronics maintenance, motor pool (motor officer), veterinary services, information services, special forces WO, aviation maintenance techs, construction engineers, finance, personnel and of course rotary wing aviators. Where do the WO's fall in the rank structure? Well, officially they outrank an E9 and are outranked by a 2LT. That's the official word. However, very few WO's would try to tell a SGM what to do and very few 2LT's would try to tell a WO what to do. I always thought the WO rank was the best in the Army because you were an officer but you always worked in your area of expertise and never had to command, although I did in fact have two commands during my 21 years in the Army. I was appointed WO by the Secretary of the Army and was not a "commissioned officer". Now senior warrant officers are "commissioned officers".

Extracted from the Killeen Daily Herald – "At 18, (CW5) Jeanne Pace decided to take advantage of the GI Bill and enlist in the Women's Army Corps in 1972 as a clarinet player. Four decades later, the commander for the 1st Cavalry Division Band is the longest-serving female in the Army and hopes to continue serving the country through music until her mandatory retirement date of August 31, 2015. "I was planning on a 20-year retirement, but decided if I'm not really just marking the days, waiting for 20 years, then obviously I'm still enjoying what I'm doing," said the chief warrant officer during a rehearsal Friday before a change of command ceremony at Fort Hood. "I was just enjoying what I did so much." Pace said she always hoped she would recognize if she became complacent or tired of the job, but after 40 years, she still has a lot to offer. In 1985, Pace transitioned to a warrant officer. She accepted her final promotion of chief warrant officer-5 in 2002. Pace said the band keeps her young and the thought of leaving after 40 years of service is even more challenging to think about than sticking around. "I don't know what else to do," she said, through tears. "My emotions come through every time (I talk about it) because I don't know how I'm going to let go." Congratulations to CW5 Pace and to the 1st Cav Division band!

Since most people reading this have served in the 1st Cavalry, they have heard a few "bugle calls" from time to time. Bugle calls are very interesting. A search on the internet revealed in excess of 30 different bugle calls. Charge, Reveille, Taps and Mess Call are some of the more common. The Rouse, Tattoo and Church Call are some I do not recall ever hearing. The troopers' days began with Reveille and ended with Retreat and went to bed with taps. These calls are still heard on military installations worldwide. Which of you troopers can tell me what the bugle call "Boots and Saddles" means?

I received an e-mail from Dave Lutgen, famous finance officer who shipped over to Vietnam with the Cav in 1965. The one person in the US Army you always wanted to be on good terms with was the local finance officer! Dave is also a trustee on the Foundation of the 1st Cavalry Division Association and chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee for the association and he and his lovely wife, Cathy, are always at the annual reunions. Dave said, "In June 1965, I had been serving as a disbursing and cash control officer in the Finance Section of the 2nd Admin Company, 2nd Infantry Division at Fort Benning for about 9 months when my boss, MAJ Campbell, was transferred to the 11th Air Assault Division (soon to be 1st Cav) and told me he would see me in about a week. I pointed out that I didn't have any such orders and his reply was you will have! This started a series of transfers which resulted in about half of our 2nd Admin Finance Section winding up in the 11th to replace soldiers who were not eligible for overseas assignment. I reported to the 11th Admin Company at the end of June and in about 3 days we were the 15th Administration Company, 1st

Cavalry Division (Airmobile). I was assigned to the pay computation branch. However, this did not last very long. The Army approved us converting to the new Computerized Military Pay System (CAMPS). This was the first time for the new system to be used in a Division and the first time to be used by a Division in combat. I guess this is another, although little known, first for the 1st Cavalry Division? A liaison officer from the Finance Center (MAJ Lamb, I believe) and team arrived and conducted training sessions for us to learn how to use CAMPS. The change to the new system also caused a lot of reorganization. All happening at the same time as about 9,000 men were being transferred in and out of a 15,000 man division. We were pretty busy! Under CAMPS the actual computation of pay, based on pay details we provided, was done by computer in the Finance Center at Fort Harrison, Indiana. My pay computation branch was out of a job! We would soon have a new one. First to leave for Vietnam was MAJ Campbell, now Deputy Finance Officer, who left as a member of the advance party. I and some of the men who lost our jobs to CAMPS were scheduled to go by ship. It was not possible to convert everyone in the Division to CAMPS before they shipped out. Our new job was to complete the paperwork to convert those on our ship to CAMPS before arriving in Vietnam. LTC Stam, Finance Officer and the rest of the finance section were to remain at Fort Benning for another month to continue processing all those transfers and close the office. They came over by air, arriving a day or two before we did. Some of the things I remember about getting ready to go included dying our white underwear and faded fatigues green. It wasn't long before it was very hard to find any green dye in Columbus! Also, there were no Cav patches available for us. We went with a black outline of the patch stenciled on our fatigues. I left my car loaded with my possessions with a friend and my Mom and Dad flew down after we left and drove it back home to North Dakota."

"We loaded on buses at Fort Benning with our gear and three foot lockers of blank CAMPS forms. At the last moment LTC Stam gave us a long range radio as well. I wasn't as appreciative as it should have been because it was one more thing to keep track of. I gave it to my senior enlisted man and told him it was his responsibility. It turned out to be very popular and great for morale. Something COL Stam knew and I had to learn. It wasn't the first or last time we benefited from the knowledge and experience of our WWII and Korea veterans. After a long bus ride, we arrived in Charleston, South Carolina and loaded onto the troopship General Alexander M. Patch (the "Patch"). As an officer, I was assigned to a cabin with 3 other lieutenants. The cabin was just large enough for four bunks and our gear. I had a top bunk. We even had a small port hole and a head (latrine) which we shared with another cabin. My men were billeted in a lower deck with bunks three high and very close together in a large hold. On 19 August we sailed out past Fort Sumter to the Atlantic. There really wasn't any place on the ship to work very well but we found a place where we could keep our footlockers of forms. Within a couple of days, I was able to use the mess hall and got meetings organized to so I could make presentations on the CAMPS system and get forms completed.



Dave's ship in lock at Panama Canal enroute to Vietnam.

Clubs, PX, etc.). However, just before we arrived, I received a message that MAJ Lamb wanted to meet me and pick up the CAMPS forms we had completed so he could get them back to the Finance Center to be put into the system. Luckily, I had started soon after we sailed so I had some for him to pick up. Unluckily, I had to stay with the ship to wait for him. All I saw of the Navy base was the dock where the ship was tied up. The Navy people were very concerned about the marks our boots were making on their polished decks. Prior to docking at Long Beach some money was collected from all of us and a group went out and bought all the tennis shoes they could find. I was lucky; the pair I got was only a couple sizes too large. For the rest of the voyage the uniform of the day was fatigues with tennis shoes of many colors! The voyage across the Pacific was mostly uneventful. We did not have any rough weather until we were close to Vietnam. I grew up on the plains of North Dakota so I was comfortable with the wide open space of the ocean but some people did not like it. We never saw another ship until we arrived at Qui Nhon, arriving on 16 September '65. I do remember that



Aircraft carrier off Qui Nhon as Dave arrives in Vietnam October 1965.

the ocean was very calm at times and that we saw flying fish somewhere. When we arrived there were gray ships in the harbor." "Helicopters were flying off of the two aircraft carriers. It reminded me of a scene from a WWII documentary. There were no dock facilities so the way off the ship was down a long, step ladder stair into a landing craft with everything bobbing up and down. We had completed our work so we had a couple of footlockers full of documents. Every man had two duffle bags as well as their packs and weapons. I had no idea how we were going to handle those footlockers and had visions of them disappearing into the water. As we shuffled along to the stairs MAJ Lamb and his sergeant suddenly appeared and asked me if they could take over the footlockers! They had flown over and made arrangements to meet the ship and take custody of those documents. Needless to say, I was very relieved.

I did not see MAJ Lamb again until a few weeks later when he visited us at

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21st FA News



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I hope everyone had a good winter and when you read this are beginning to enjoy the spring. Here in Michigan we really didn't have much of a winter until mid-January then we caught up big time. The joys of living in the north!

In my last article, I wrote that I sent someone contact information on the 1-21 Association. When the article appeared in the Saber the following was added "but the Association has dissolved". I contacted Dennis Webster at the 1st Cav Division Association and he informed me that our 1-21 Association has dissolved prior to August 2012. He has put all our web information on the 1st Cav Division Association's web site. While our Association was not active, its demise came as a surprise and my first thought was the quote of the warden to Cool Hand Luke... "what we have here is a failure to communicate". So the reality is that there no longer is a 1-21 Association. Should there be an 1-21 FA Association? If the answer is yes, then who among you are up to the challenge of getting it reactivated? At this point, I can not take the lead but will certainly help in whatever way I can. I personally think that an association is a good idea as it can help cement and reinforce the bonds we first established by serving together. Even if it just involves a few of us at first, I think it could grow into something significant. I would certainly like to hear what you all think and will publish what we get.

Paul Novak, A Battery (9/67-9/68), sent me a very pleasant surprise. We were both with the battery at the same time. He has compiled all the pictures he took during his tour on a CD and with his daughter added period music to the presentation. It is quite the work! Along with Paul, there's Tucker from Texas, Miller from Chicago, Love from North Carolina, Valerie from Louisiana and Sullivan from Mississippi as well as other comrades who aren't identified. Talk about flashbacks! It was great seeing these pictures of what we were doing and the terrain where we operated. I was struck how young we were (definitely soldiers and young!) and in many pictures, the sheer beauty or starkness of the landscape. As the pictures were scrolling through, it was as if I was transported back in time. A really powerful feeling. Thanks Paul!

Sam Ault sent his story. "I started my Artillery duties at DIVARTY in November 1968. In January 1969, I began a move down to the 2-19 FA in Tay Ninh. I arrived at A Company (1-8 CAV) in late January or early February 1969. I stayed the FO through three commanders of A Company and all the lieutenants. I don't know the exact date but the summer of 1969, I was no longer in the 2-19 FA but in C Battery, 1-21 FA and remained a FO with C Battery through LZ Wescott. There I pulled some FDC duty while the FDO was on R&R. I think the XO of the Battery was LT Joey Tinkhem. He eventually made general officer grade. All my radio traffic was with Scarlet Guideon 8 at LZ Andy (Quan Loi)." I should add that Sam made a career of the Army and retired as a LTC. Thanks Sam!

Art Jacobs has been in contact again. He is wondering if anyone reading these 1-21 articles had been with A Battery in Korea. He was there the first half of 1965, first in the FO section and then as the FDC Chief. He writes that he was there when the colors were exchange with the 2nd Infantry Division and they became A Battery, 5-38 FA. If anyone was there at that time let me know and I'll get the information to Art. Art returned from Korea, went to flight school and in December 1967 went to Vietnam where he was then assigned to the 1st Cav. He was assigned as a medevac pilot with the 15th Medical Battalion. He

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1LT Dave Lutgen at An Khe base camp in October 1965.

the An Khe base camp to see how CAMPS was working. We made our way down the stairs into the landing craft without incident, got to the beach where we were trucked to an air strip, boarded a Chinook and flew to An Khe. Building up our area of the base camp and beginning operations is material for another installment."

Thanks for the memories Dave. I look forward to hearing "the rest of the story" as Paul Harvey used to say! How about some of you out there who also went to Vietnam

by boat? Let us hear from you.

Sue and I drove to Fort Hood, Texas, February 27th for the annual 1st Cav Division Association board meeting. As a newly elected "trustee" on the Foundation it was my privilege to attend all the meetings of the Foundation, the Museum Foundation and the Board meeting. On Friday night, we had drinks and finger food



MG Anthony Ierardi briefs the 1st Cavalry Division Association's Board of Governors at Fort Hood.

with the Division's commanders, staff officers and senior enlisted members of the Division's units. It was an honor to shake hands with our current active duty troopers and they were looking sharp (and very young!). On Saturday, the Commanding General gave us an update on the Division's

activities and future possible deployments of its brigades.

Well, troopers, that about wraps it up for this time. Please let me hear from you. Send me your stories and your pictures. You Gulf War troopers and Iraq and Afghanistan veterans who served in combat support units or division or brigade HQ, let us hear from you! Until then keep your heads down and may God bless each and every one of you and may God continue to bless the USofA while He watches over our troopers around the world.

was at LZ English, then to Evans and finally at LZ Sharon. Art then did a second tour in 1971 as a Cobra pilot where he went to the Khe Sanh area in support of the Laotian invasion.

Ed McCombs contacted me with a request for information. Ed was a FO with A Battery beginning in January 1968. He was the FO assigned to A Company, 2-7 CAV. He was "on the hill" until the Division moved south. It should be noted that Ed served more than the usual six months that officers on the hill usually did. That in and of itself says something about Ed's dedication to duty and the men he served. Tom Armstrong and Alex Geasley were his recon sergeants. On May 7, 1968 A Company was involved in a fight in the A Shau Valley and Ed is trying to locate a helicopter pilot who helped them through this tough situation. Ed only recalls the pilot's radio call sign...BLUE MAX 69. Ed would like to properly thank this individual for his help and support on that day. I must add that it was a significant encounter as Ed received the Silver Star for his actions on that day. I have been in contact with Bruce Wilder who writes the column for the 20th Artillery and he is going to publicize this information request as well as do some research. However, if anyone can provide any other assistance in locating this individual or even hints as to what we can do to flesh this out, let me know, as I am sure Ed will be very grateful. It's not often that we get to thank those that helped us especially when the proverbial fog of war gives us limited information as to identity or whatever. I'm sure I am like many of you in that there are several people we would like to contact but all we have is a nickname or a radio call sign.

As I wrote in the past, I am involved with a veteran's oral history project through Grand Valley State University. As part of the project, we were invited to the Ripcord reunion for the past two years where we had the honor and privilege to interview many of the participants in the battle of FSB Ripcord.

Ripcord was the name of an LZ established by the 101st Airborne. The battles by and on this LZ between March and July 1970 have been described as America's last major battle in Vietnam. We Sky Troopers knew the terrain well from Operation PEGASUS as Ripcord took place on the east flank of the A Shau Valley. While 26 various units participated or supported Ripcord, the principal combatant unit was the 2-506th Infantry, the "Currahees". The 2-506 was part of the 101st Airborne 3rd Brigade. Many of you will recall the 2-506th from the World War II book and TV series Band of Brothers. Author Keith Noland's book Ripcord is a good read for what took place.

MG (Ret) Benjamin L. Harrison was the 3rd Brigade commander and has written a unique account of the events at Ripcord. It is entitled Hell On A Hill Top. Harrison's research includes interviews with the opposing NVA commander as well as NVA archive material that was not available to Noland. When Harrison describes a particular action he also includes what could be considered the NVA's after action report as well. For example the description of a fight where there's few if any US KIAs and no helicopter losses, the NVA report that two US companies were wiped out and six helicopters were shot down. It leaves the reader to wonder what the NVA were describing or what they were smoking! I would highly recommend this book to anyone interested in our involvement in Vietnam.

As I always write, this column is for you. There wouldn't be one without your contributions so keep them coming.

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:



UP TO \$25

E-4 ADAMS, John W.
SSG BACA, William S.
MR. BALL, William
MAJ BARTH, Aaron T.
SGT BAUER, Kenneth W.
SGT BEHSELICH, Dennis P.
SP-4 BERUBE, Donald J.
SFC BIERWIRTH, James O.
SP-4 BLANKENSHIP, Thomas E.
E-4 BOYER, Richard W.
1SG (Ret) BROOME, Lee E.
SSG BUCZINSKI, Larry J.
MR. BURKE, David Jr.
In Memory of LTC (Ret) Donald ADAMS.
E-5 BUTLER, Lloyd
1SG (Ret) CARBONNEAU, Winston A.
SGT CARNEY, Dennis B.
PFC CARROLL, Rayford J.
SGT CARTER, Larry W.
SFC (Ret) CHUBB, Douglas A.
MAJ CLARKE, Natasha S.
PFC CLIFTON, William W.
SFC CLUTTS, Robert E.
MRS. COIL, Deloris
In Memory of my husband, TSG Clytus COIL.
E-4 CONDROSKI, Joseph R.
CW5 (Ret) CROSLY, Richard E.
COL (Ret) DAVID, Ronald C.
SGT DAVIS, Gary D.
SFC DAVIS, Ronald C.
SP-4 DAVIS, Steven
COL (Ret) DELVAN, Patrick N.
LTC (Ret) DePERRO, John F.
E-3 DEWELL, James R.
CPL DIXON, Clark N.
SP-4 DRENTH, Robert L.
MAJ DRISCOLL, John J.
SP-4 EAVES, Joel T.
COL (Ret) EVERETT, Michael W.
E-5 FABER, Peter J.
LTC (Ret) FAIRLAMB, Richard C.
SP-4 FEHRENBACHER, James R.
E-4 FRESSOLA, Michael A.
MAJ (Ret) FUNK, Jack
MR. GALLAGHER, Pat
11th Aviation Pathfinder, Vietnam, 1965-1967
1LT GARDNER, Eric J.
MSG (Ret) GARDNER, George M.
SP-5 GOOD, Jr., Benjamin F.
SP-4 GRADY, Patrick J.
SGT GRAFFIS, Michael P.
CSM GREENE, Douglas K.
MAJ GRISWOLD, III, Charles G.
E-5 GUTHRIE, Dennis G.
CPT HALL, Brian T. and Sanci M.
SP-4 HANDS, Robert Martin
SFC HARRIS, Eddie L.

E-4 HAYS, Donald E.
E-5 HAYS, James R.
SFC (Ret) HOSKING, Richard L.
E-6 HOWLETT, Chris
SGT JACOBSEN, Alan T.
SSG JANISCH, Jan S.
E-5 JOHNSON, Jr., Albert A.
COL (Ret) JOHNSON, Alvin B.
SP-4 KENT, Jr., Richard E.
SP-5 KETZNER, Howard J.
CSM KING, Dennis James
CPT KIRKPATRICK, Charles D.
E-4 KRAUSE, Robert J.
COL (Ret) KREINER, Raymond F.
PFC KUNTZMAN, John M.
MRS. KYLE, Elliott
In Memory of LTC Donald L. ADAMS, Jr.
CSM LEHR, Lance P.
E-5 MATTEUCCI, Paul
SSG MARSHALL, Loyd W.
COL (Ret) MARTIN, James R.
SP-5 MASSEY, Charles R.
E-4 MCKENZIE, Gary W.
MR. MERRITT, Glenn R.
E-4 MILLS, James B.
E-4 MONTECINO, Mario Z.
1SG (Ret) MOORES, Joseph
SP-4 MOREMAN, Jack A.
SGT OLLE, Lawrence E.
SGT ORLANDO, Pete
SP-4 OSBORNE, Major M.
SP-4 OUELLETTE, Robert P.
LTC (Ret) PETERSON, Bruce A.
SGT POE, Jr., Elvis L.
MR. POOL, Robert
SGT RANDOLPH, William F.
PFC RAUCH, Junior A.
In Memory of PFC Ray OBERLIN, KIA 23 May 1951.
SFC ROBERTS, Edrena
SFC (Ret) ROMSTADT, Robert J.
In Honor of All Blue Max Troopers.
COL (Ret) ROSHER, Galen
CPL SCHMITZ, Charles R.
CW4 (Ret) SHANKLIN, David M.
SGT SHARP, David
MAJ (Ret) and MRS. SPENCE, William R.
CSM (Ret) SPENCER, Jimmie W.
SGT STUDSTILL, David J.
MSG TERESKO, Steve H.
SP-4 THRANE, James R.
1SG (Ret) WAGNER, Travis A.
SGT WATERS, Louis E.

SP-5 WEAKLAND, Ronald J.
E-6 WIGGINS, Victor V. Jr.
SGT WILLIAMS, Paul E.
SGT WOODARD, Danny R.
SGT YOUNG, Frank S.

\$26 - \$50

SGT ARMES, Samuel Henry
LTC (Ret) BARKER, Robert L.
In Memory and Honor of C Battery, 1st Battalion, 21st Field Artillery 1965 - 1966.
E-5 BEDARD, George E.
SP-5 COX, Frank L.
LTC (Ret) CROM, Gordon W.
PFC FIELD, Albert A.
MR. and MRS. FLANAGAN, David and Carolyn
In Memory of Donald Lewis ADAMS, Jr.
LTC (Ret) FOSTER, III, Hugh F.
SGT GALLAGHER, Joe
11th Pathfinder Co, Vietnam 1968 - 1969.
SP-4 HAMILTON, Larry L.
SSG (Ret) HENNINGSEN, Richard A.
SP-4 HUBER, Jerry
SGT IZZO, Anthony
SGT JOHNSON, Bruce F.
SGM (Ret) KIMBELL, Troy F.
In Memory of SGT Stokely J. JONES, D Co 2-7 Cav, KIA Tay Ninh Province, 17 Sep 1969.
MR. KINKOFF, Sr., Rober L.
In Memory of my brother, SGT David John KINKOFF.
SSG MILLER, James R.
In Memory of All the Deceased 99th Field Artillery Troopers.
CPT SIMMONS, Donald R.
MSG SODA, William M.
CPT SOYARS, Tim R.
LTC TENBERG, Max M.
MR. VERSCHUEREN, Roger
SFC WALTON, John W.
CPT WEISS, Ronald J.
COL (Ret) WELCH, Arthur J.
COL WRIGHT, Raymond J.
In Memory of LTC Jim MOORE, 5th Battalion, 7th Cavalry 1967.

\$51 - \$100

E-2 COMBS, Jerry B.
LTC FRATES, Jr., Ralph C.

E-4 GARDINER, Ken "Cisco"
E-5 GERRISH, John F.
Troopers of the 11th Aviation Pathfinder Co., Vietnam 1965-1970
SP-4 GOTTESMAN, Harold
MSG (Ret) and MRS. JOHNSON, Robert D.

In Memory of LTC (Ret) Nevin D. SNYDER

SP-4 KASTNER, Thomas M.
SGT LOCHARD, Anthony W.
E-5 MARTIN, Ronald H. C 2-5 Cav
In Memory of E-5 Joe KIDD, 2-8 Cav
CPT MOORE, Robert W.
MONDAY BEFORE THE SECOND TUESDAY COOKING GROUP of the First Presbyterian Church of Quincy, MA

In Loving Memory of Donald Lewis ADAMS, Jr.

E-4 McNICHOLS, Robert

SGT MIGUT, Ronald J.

PFC PALICKI, Kenneth L.

MR. POOL, Robert

1SG (Ret) STUMPP, John H.

\$101 - \$500

SSG CORBUTT, Thomas F.
CPL DAVERSA, Joseph Tony
BG (Ret) DePUE, John F.
SGT DUMAIS, Richard R.
DR. HALL, Tricia V., MD
SSG HOFFMAN, Jr., Rudolph H.
MR. JONES, Ralph H.

In Memory of FSB Jay 29 March 1970 and FSB Illingsworth 4 April 1970.

SFC (Ret) KINNEY, Charles M.

RANGER CLASSES 4 AND 5 1958

RANGER CLASSES 4 AND 5 1958

To Honor the Memory of CSM Basil L. PLUMLEY.

MG (Ret) SMITH, Scott B.

In Memory of MAJ Frederick G. BETTERIDGE, Jr. - Rest in Peace.

SP-4 STEWART, Carl A.

In Memory of SGT Bruce SPRING and SP-4 Max CARROLL, Vietnam 1970.

E-5 STOLTZ, Greg

DR. WILLIAMS, Edward G.

In Honor of Paul FEENEY, 1967.

SGT WOLAVER, Rob

In Memory of Keith V. HUFFSTUTLER, KIA Republic of South Vietnam, 1967.

In Memory of Keith V. HUFFSTUTLER, KIA Republic of South Vietnam, 1967.

\$501 - \$1,000

LTC (Ret) CHANEY, Mark R.

SGT TATTERSALL, Peter

\$1,001 AND UP

MS. TAGGE, Yvonne

In memory of LTC Robert W. TAGGE.

The First Team Family Cares!
Your donations to the Foundation and Museum Foundation are tax-deductible.
We are also grateful for your support of the Association through donations to our D Troop program.

New Members Listing

Continued from pg. 19.

LTC LUEDEKE, KIRK TX HHC HHBN 12
CPT MAHRE, CHRIS KY A 1-8C 1205
E-5 MATT, ESTEL CHARLES LA 62ICP 7002
CPT McADOO, DAVID R. NC HHC 3BDE 6911
E-5 McANELLY, MICHAEL P. CA HHC2-5C 7012
MAJ McLEAN, GREGORY W. TX HHC HHBN 1301
MSG MCKINZIE, ANGELA TX HHC 1CDH 12
SPC MEINHARDT, JOHN TX DFSC 4-9C 11
COL MENDENHALL, CORY TX HHC 1ACB 1208
SSG MORALES, GABRIELA TX 3BCT 1301
SPC MURRY, ROBERT C. MS 1-12C 64
SGT NORTH, WILLIAM F. TX HHT 1-9C 6902
SGM NUSSBAUMER, PAUL TX HHC1CDH 1111

SGT OTEY, STEVEN R. TX 1BCT 1301
E-4 POLAND, MICHAEL C. MO HHB1-77FA 7009
E-8 RAY, KENNETH E. NC HHC 1BDE 6507
SP-4 RIFE, REX A. IN HHC 3BCT 7005
1SG ROGERS, KENNETH R. TX C 115BSB 13
MAJ ROY, JOHN TX A 1-12C 0303
PFC SACENTI, GREG MA 1-7C 1301
MAJ SCHMUTZ, NATHAN L. TX HHC1BCT 1102
E-3 SHINGLETON, DONALD CA 4BCT 1302
CPT SIMON, MATTHEW L. TX 1-5C 1212
SFC SMITH, DOYLE W. TN E 8ENG 6311
SSG SOTO, ROBERT TX 27MSB 97
MR. STANLEY, WILLIAM S. CO 1-ASSOC
1SG (RET) SUAVIA, STEVE CO A 2-8C 6909
SPC SULLIVAN, BRIAN TX 2BCT 1301

E-4 TAYLOR, GLENN IL B 2-12C 6901
MAJ TAYLOR, STACY TX 2BCT 1207
CPT VANCE, JAMES TX A 1-5C 1007
SGT VARICE, TAWANA TX 3BCT 13
SPC VELAZQUEZ, KEVIN TX D4-227AVN 1009
SGT VILLALOBOS, JOSE TX 1BCT 1302
MAJ WEAVER, KYLE TX HHB 41FIRE 1301
SSG WELCH, ZACHARY W. TX 3BCT 13
SGT WESSELS, JR., ROBERT T. NY 1ACB 1112
COL WHITTLE, ROBERT TX HHC 2BCT 1207
E-3 WILLIAMS, DAVID IL HHC 8ENG 6809
SGM WOLFF, MICHAEL TX A 1-7C 0809
SP-4 WRIGHT, EUGENE FL B 2-12C 68
SPC YUND, BRANDON MD A 1-7C 0412

Thanks for joining the 1st Cavalry Division Association!

Director's Chair

Continued from pg. 21.

While he was held captive, he snuck around to more than 200 men that were also captive to say prayers and give support. He also secretly moved able-bodied men out to the countryside at night, while avoiding guards, to get food and firewood to help keep the prisoners alive. At this point the other POWs had dubbed him the "good thief."

Kapaun was a Prisoner of War from November 2, 1950 until he died from a blood clot May 23, 1951.

"Father Emil Kapaun is an American hero who embodies the Medal of Honor's

ideals as our nation's highest award for military service," said MG Anthony Ierardi, commanding general of the 1st Cavalry Division. "He distinguished himself with valor before his capture and continued to care for his fellow Soldiers at a great risk to himself while interned in a Prisoner of War Camp. Although Father Kapaun did not survive to be liberated along with hundreds of the prisoners he ministered to and assisted, his faith, honor and selfless devotion to duty reflects the finest tradition of the U.S. Army, the 1st Cavalry Division and the Army Chaplain Corps.

Chaplain Kapaun is in the November photo of your 2013 1st Cavalry Division Association calendar. He is caring for the wounded. First Team!