



# SABER

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



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## The President's Corner



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Net>

Christmas shopping, I'll keep things brief. First and foremost, I'd like to wish each of you "the joy of the season." May you all be experiencing good health and be looking forward to spending the holidays with those you love and enjoy. I'd imagine that most of us by now have received all the material gifts we've ever desired...so it's the season to offer comfort and hope to those close to us. Happy Holidays to you and your loved ones!

The responses to my previous two columns have been fairly sparse, but one caught my eye. It comes from a Trooper I won't name...but I believe that my response to his question/concern is worth repeating. He asked, "Why do you talk about Veterans Courts? Surely there aren't many Troopers who run afoul of the law?"

First of all I replied that my direct personal experience with Veterans Courts has only been in two states---Nevada and Wyoming---although I've read a good deal about the workings of these Courts in New York state and elsewhere. Veterans Courts meet with varying frequency...sometimes as often as twice a month. And their day-long dockets are usually jammed. Unfortunately there are a surprising number of veterans (most, happily, not former Troopers) who appear before Veterans Court judges (all of whom volunteer their time). The offenses for which veterans appear in these Courts are not normally potential felonies; they are misdemeanors that were committed by veterans...mostly in unusual circumstances (that is, drug and liquor-related and/or when no persons have been harmed). Further, the veterans who appear before these judges come in all grades and from all the Services (I even saw one Air Force Brigadier General in such a Court).

Many of the sentences handed down by the volunteer judges entail "probation" of some sort, probation during which the veteran must receive support, professional counseling, companionship and other assistance. The Courts are attended by representatives of the Veterans Administration and other agencies; these people can usually offer VA-style assistance and professional help. It's in the areas of support, personal leadership, and companionship that "volunteer mentors" are needed.

If any of you are looking to make a New Year's Resolution, one that is not particularly demanding but one that can make a HUGE difference in the life of a fellow Veteran, you might resolve to offer your services as such a Veterans Court mentor.

In any event, whatever you choose to do (or not do), I wish you all a Safe, Happy and Healthy New Year!

## THE DIRECTOR'S CHAIR



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Words cannot express the feelings I had spending time in Washington, DC with our Veterans. More specifically, spend-

ing time at our memorials dedicated to those who served and those we have lost. Mary Wright and I presented a wreath at the Women in Service Memorial honoring our Lady Troopers who have served their nation throughout the years. Allan Norris and Ed Times presented the wreath at the WWII Memorial, Ed and Mel Gunderson presented at The Wall for Vietnam Veterans, and Fred Barrett (Korean War Veteran) and Allan Norris presented at the Korean War Memorial. Praises go out to the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division Honor Guard for their 'last minute' support at the Korean War Memorial; they performed amazingly as usual. SGM Rory Malloy,

Continued on pg. 3

## Horse Detachment by CPT Jeremy A. Woodard

For the second year in a row, the 1st Cavalry Division Horse Cavalry Detachment won the General Casimir Pulaski Award for Outstanding Military Unit at the 2016 National Cavalry



Competition Saturday in El Reno, Oklahoma. The Pulaski Award is awarded to the military unit that best represents the highest standards of the U.S. Cavalry Association. The judging is based on event scores, military conduct, bearing and good sportsmanship. "It's a big deal," said CPT Jeremy Woodard, Commander of the Horse Detachment. "To be able to take that back for the second year in a row and present the Division with that streamer is an honor."

In addition to winning the Pulaski award, the detachment won ribbons in more than 15 different events throughout the week-long competition. "The competition was tough this year," Woodard said. "There were a lot of units that improved a great deal. Out of the six mounted units and all the re-enactors, there was solid competition across the board." The U.S. Cavalry Association sponsors the competition to promote good horsemanship and to provide an opportunity for re-enactors, active and reserve military mounted color guards, and mounted police officers to compete and improve their riding skills.

Individual riding events included mounted saber, mounted pistol, military horsemanship and military field jumping. There are three levels in each event. Level one is for beginners, level two for the intermediate riders and level three for advanced riders. Ribbons are awarded for each event and level. "It's been a lot harder than last year," said SGT Cassidy Snell, an infantryman with the horse detachment. "We trained back at Ft. Hood, but there were still a couple of things they threw at us we weren't ready for, but we all kind of managed to overcome it." Looking back on the competition, Snell recalls moments he fell short of his expectations. "There are a couple of things I beat myself up about, but it's about getting better," he said. "Resiliency, that's something the Army teaches you. Get back on, keep trucking." With the help of his fellow Soldiers, he was able to move past his rocky start and win first place in the level-three mounted sabers event. "I could have continued to be hard on myself and kept myself down, but a lot of my teammates helped pump me up for this event," Snell said. "We do have a strong team. It's the best team."

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## DIVISION DOINGS

**2ABCT Chaplains honor Medal of Honor recipient** by Capt. Eileen Hernandez, 2nd ABCT, 1st Cav. Div. Public Affairs

FORT HOOD, Texas – Chaplains from 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team took time to honor Medal of Honor recipient, Chaplain (Capt.) Emil Kapaun, by participating in an 8.7 mile ruck march on Nov 4. Kapaun was captured by enemy forces on Nov 2, 1950, while ministering to his troopers on the front lines deep into North Korea and forced to march 87 miles to a prisoner of war camp.



2 ABCT Ministry Team

"The brigade unit ministry team participated in this march to honor the legacy of Chaplain Emil Kapaun, who served the Soldiers of the 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, during the Korean War," said Chaplain (Maj.) Jason Palmer, brigade chaplain, 2ABCT, 1st Cav.

"8.7 miles is just a tenth of what Kapaun did while completing a forced march of 87 miles," said Palmer. "He ultimately would draw on a remarkable reservoir

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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

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  
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LAST 4#s SSN: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_  
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City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dates: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
  
2: Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dates: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Calendar of 1st Cavalry Division Association

2017

February 24-25 Board of Governors and Foundation Meeting, Killeen, TX  
June 7-11 70th Annual Reunion Fort Hood, TX

TAPS

We have been notified of the death of the following:  
**BAHR**, SP4 Richard A., HHB, DIVARTY, 19656-67. 12 March 2016.  
**DAVENPORT**, 1SG (Ret) Claude, D Co., 2-8th CAV, 1967-68. 8 September 2016.  
**DUNAGAN**, SSG Michael J., B Trp., 1-7th CAV, 1993-95. 23 September 2016.  
**GARNER**, MAJ (Ret) Audis W., D Co., 2-8th CAV, 1967. 6 September 2016.  
**HAIGHT**, 1LT Sherman P., Jr., C Trp., 7th CAV, 1942-45. 17 October 2016.  
**HAMILTON-JONES**, 1LT Douglas J., A Co., 1-5th CAV, 1968-69. 14 October 2016.  
**JOHNSON**, SP4 Ronald C., HHC, 5-7th CAV, 1966-67. 27 October 2016.  
**LA PIERRE**, SGT Vern, HHC, 1-7 CAV, 14 November 2016  
**MALPHETTE**, SGT Michael E., 11th PATH, 1967-68. 20 August 2016.  
**MATTESON**, 1LT Gordon A., MP PLT, 1945-46. 6 November 2016.  
**PAGAN**, SP4 David, A Co., 2-5th CAV, 1965-66. 19 September 2016.  
**RIVERS**, MSG Dan W., G. Co., 5th CAV Regt, 1951 Korea. 11 October 2016.  
**RUSSELL**, CPL Freddie L., G Co., 2-8th CAV, 1949-52. 7 September 2016.  
**SMITH**, SP4 Jerry C. "J.C.", C Co., 1-7th CAV, 1965-66. 1 September 2016.  
**THORPE**, SFC Donald, HHC, 3-8th CAV, 1951-52; B Co, 70th TNK, 1953. 19 September 2016.

ACTIVE DUTY TAPS

We have been notified that the following Active Duty Troopers were killed while supporting Operation Freedom's Sentinel in Afghanistan:  
**IUBELT**, PFC Tyler R., HHC, STB, 1st Sust. BDE, 2016. 12 November 2016.  
**PERRY**, SGT John W., HHC, STB, 1st Sust. BDE, 2014-16. 12 November 2016  
**RINEY**, SGT Douglas J., HHC, 1CD, 2012; Q Trp. (FST), 3-3d CAV, 2012-16. 20 October 2016.

We have been notified of the death of the following Active Duty Troopers in the United States that were not combat related:  
**ACKER**, SPC Bradley M., D Trp., 7-17th CAV, 2014-16. 7 October 2016.  
**STUMP**, PVT Dakota L., A Trp., 4-9th CAV, 2016. 10 October 2016.

NEW MEMBERS

LTC (RET) BEDROSIAN GREGORY PUL MO 1- 82FA 0206  
MR. BOWLING DENNIS "ROB" LA 1364 1- ASSOC  
LTC BRADLEY KEVIN D. TX C 9C 0401  
SP-4 CHENEY GILBERT CA B 1- 8C 6902  
SGT CLARK CLEVE JR TX 215BCB 1601  
CPT COOPER H. ED OR 15ADM 6803  
E-5 COREL BRUCE MI 2- 12C 7006  
SSG CORSAIR MC G WILLIAM "BILL NY HQ 15ADM 6902  
SP-4 CRISS KEVIN MICHAEL FL HHT 1- 9C 7505  
E-4 DAVIS TIMOTHY W. FL HHC 2- 8C 9404  
SP-4 ELGE RONALD E. NE HHC 1- 8C 6707  
MAJ ENYART ERIK TX C 3- 32ARM 9107  
1SG HILL ANTHONY TX 1CDA 1608  
SP-5 JOHNSON DOUGLAS R. WA B 15TC 6807  
PFC KELLEY JAMES MN F 1- 8C 7211  
CW2 KILLIAN FRED TX HHC 1STB 1508  
PFC KING WILLIAM H. TX HHC BAND 7010  
E-5 LARATTA JOSEPH D. MO A 2- 5C 83  
COL (RET) LEE CURTIS D. HI 15FIN 6701



SABER

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EDITOR: Tina Wilgeroth  
ASSISTANT EDITOR: Karleen Maloney  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Dara C. Wydler

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 cut lines 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,  
I wanted to express a huge thank you for choosing me as a receipt your 2016-2017 scholarship. Because of this scholarship, I've received relief from taking on student loans and the stress of later paying back university bills for the education I desire. I am currently in the College of Business pursuing a Marketing degree at Winthrop University. Furthermore, I'd like to thank you so much for making these scholarships available to la Drang family members across the nation and for choosing me as a recipient of this scholarship.  
Thanks again,  
Sydney Anne McClary



OTHER REUNIONS

**B Company, 1-8th CAV (Pig Iron 1969-70)**, 17-19 March 2017. La Quinta Inn (Federal Hwy), Ft. Lauderdale, FL. Contact Dan Houmes, 954-489-0684.  
**15th Medical Battalion Association**, 26-30 April 2017. Westgate Branson Woods Resort, Branson, MO. Info at <[www.15thmedbnassociation.org](http://www.15thmedbnassociation.org)>, POC Ron Ingram, <[papillion251@aol.com](mailto:papillion251@aol.com)>, 402-670-1370.  
**D Company, 2-8th CAV (Angry Skipper 1965-72)**, 17-21 May 2017. Crowne Plaza (Dulles Airport), Herndon, VA. Info <[www.angrystickipperassociation.org](http://www.angrystickipperassociation.org)>, contact Robin Woo, <[rwoo@surewest.net](mailto:rwoo@surewest.net)>.  
**30th FA Regiment Association (Hard Chargers)**, 19-23 June 2017. Queensbury Hotel, Glen Falls, NY. Contact Dan Gillotti, <[firstcav68@roadrunner.com](mailto:firstcav68@roadrunner.com)>.  
**5th U.S. Cavalry Association**, 11-16 September 2017. Best Western Premier, Harrisburg, PA. Info at <[www.5thCAV.org/2017reunion.html](http://www.5thCAV.org/2017reunion.html)>.  
**C Troop, 1-9th Cavalry**, 17-19 September 2017. 1863 Inn of Gettysburg, Gettysburg, PA. POC Patrick Bieneman <[pcbnamin@verizon.net](mailto:pcbnamin@verizon.net)>.  
**2017 Vietnam Veterans Festival**. Effingham, IL September 21-24 2017. Refer to the Facebook page for more information. <<https://www.facebook.com/groups/158308690>>

Thank you for joining the 1st Cavalry Division Association.  
Send address changes to <[firstcav@1cda.org](mailto:firstcav@1cda.org)>



CHAPTER NEWS

JAMES J. MASON WEST MICHIGAN CHAPTER

Bob Anderson, Secretary  
NEW YORK/NEW JERSEY CHAPTER

On October 15, the New York-New Jersey Chapter celebrated their 30th anniversary at the Elks Lodge in Ridgefield Park, New Jersey. The festivities included songs from the singing group “Wide Variety” and a presentation of a plaque to the Elks. The Elks allow us the use of the hall for free and often provides us with coffee. This time the Elks picked up the cost of the food and drinks. Also on hand was Fred Robins to talk about the formation of the Chapter, Bob Heintz discussed the 1st Cavalry Division Association, and William Smith, a Korean War Veteran, honored us by cutting the cake. Bob Arbasetti, President



NORTH CAROLINA TARHEEL CHAPTER

The North Carolina Chapter awarded their Lieutenant General John Tolson, North Carolina Trooper of the Year Award, to William “Bill” Kimrey at the recent quarterly meeting in Burlington, North Carolina. Kimrey pictured on the right, is congratulated by Chapter President Roy Wood.



Bill, who served with B Company, 1/7th Cavalry in 1969-70, was recognized for bringing in the majority of the Chapter’s new members in the past five years. He also has not missed a meeting in more than 15+ years as the Chapter rotates meetings in different areas of the state each quarter. Roy Wood, President

FLORIDA CHAPTER

Hello Friends, We had a pretty good meeting last Tuesday, had 4 to show up and we talked about

the things coming up. We came up with what I hope will be a new meeting place that will be more central and easier to get to.

Right now the Christmas Lunch will still be at the Bob Evans at exit 92 off I-4 at 1:00pm, address for the GPS will be, 385 FL-436 Casselberry. There will be plenty of room.

Like Paul Harvey would say, now for the rest of the story. The January get together will be the 9th at 11:00am at the V F W, GPS POST 2093, 4444 Edgewater Drive Orlando. Now February the 18th will be the yearly reunion and will be at the Perkins restaurant, GPS, 43522 US-27, Davenport. This is the location where I would like to set all the meetings and gatherings. It more central because it is right off I-4 at exit 55, HWY 27 convenient for folks coming south or north from the southern areas and Tampa. Jacksonville and Orlando would have an extra 40 miles going west. The out of Towner’s that might want to spend the night there are local hotels with prices starting around \$60 but if you hit up hotwire for hotels in Davenport they should be cheaper.

At the February meeting/lunch I hope as many show up that can. Ask questions and make suggestions you fill or think will help the Chapter grow. This weekend the 18th and 19th the Veterans Corner that I set up will be at the Flamingo RV Camp off Newcomb rd over in Jacksonville... If anyone is around the area stop by and say hello... Naples has a BBQ cook off in Jan and I am trying to get a space there...Thanks to all and hope to talk to you later...Joe Craig.863-268-8063.

Division Doings

Continued from pg. 1

of spiritual strength when forced to march 87 miles to a North Korean prisoner of war camp -- all while helping the wounded and encouraging others to do likewise.” Kapaun died in captivity on May 23, 1951, and was posthumously honored the Medal of Honor in 2013, for his actions in Korea.

The commemorative march took place simultaneously on Fort Hood and at Fort Irwin, Calif. since some of the Unit Ministry Team were participating in a Leaders Training Program.

“This is just a tenth of what he did, but we want to honor his legacy and never forget his selfless service,” said Palmer. The 2ABCT unit ministry team works to provide spiritual care for Soldiers and facilitating opportunities for worship for Soldiers of all faiths.



**Santa’s Workshop** by Staff Sgt. Tomora Clark, 3d. Cavalry Regiment Public Affairs NCOIC

FORT HOOD, Texas – The rain didn’t stop Soldiers, Families and even pets from coming together for a good cause and spreading holiday cheer to those in need.


More than 150 people from two brigades, gathered at Clarke

Elementary School to participate in a one-mile ruck march to donate toys for the Fort Hood Santa’s Workshop Nov. 5. The two brigades who participated in the 3rd annual Santa’s Ruck March were the Field Artillery Squadron “Steel,” 3rd Cavalry Regiment and Division Artillery “DIVARTY,” 1st Cavalry Division.


“Despite the inclement weather and over a third of the squadron deployed to Afghanistan, we had a great turn out of participants of Soldiers and their

Continued on pg. 5

LIFE APPLICATION/SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL BUSINESS STYLE CARDS are available at 200 for \$15.00. No hassle with having to carry legal size sheets of paper (Life Membership Applications) or sub forms. Orders will be sent to printers for printing when 3-4 are accumulated. Please be patient with us. Sample below. (Actual size 3” x 2”)



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\$25 makes you a D-Troop member plus a one year subscription.  
\$50 makes you a D-Troop member plus a one year subscription and you receive a suitable poster or print.  
\$100 makes you a D-Troop member plus a one year subscription and you receive a First Team print.  
\$500 makes you a Silver Brigade member plus a 10 year subscription.  
\$1,000 makes you a Gold Brigade member plus a 20 year subscription.  
All D-Troopers receive certificates suitable for framing.  
Brigade members receive handsome 1st Cavalry wall plaque.  
All donors (\$25 or more) receive mention in the Honor Roll column and may dedicate gifts. D-Troop milestones can be achieved cumulatively. We will keep track of your contributions..  
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\$15 one year Associate membership plus a one year subscription.  
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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

The Director’s Chair

Continued from pg. 1

a previous Division CSM, was the guest speaker at the Veterans Day Dinner. I have always enjoyed listening to SGM Malloy speak to our troopers. By the end we had laughed at the many stories, hugged our dear friends as they departed, and made plans to meet again in 2017 at the 70<sup>th</sup> Reunion in Killeen, Texas.

Now that Veterans Day has passed, we have entered into the holiday season generally a difficult time of year for our troopers. Take time for yourselves and your families but also remember those in need. Pay it forward and support a family with a Thanksgiving or Christmas meal, donate toys within your communities, and make new friends with your kindness and generosity. The 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division will always be a large and loving family.

Received news from Acclaim Press: the deadline for the biographies and stories is now January 31, 2017. If you need a copy of the packet, contact us at the association. I can send it via email or in paper form.

We have shirts for sale here in the association office: Desert Storm & Post 9-11 Tribute shirts, 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry & 7<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Pride shirts (more Unit Pride shirts to come). Pictures can be found on our Facebook page. If you are interested call the association for pricing and we will gladly take care of you. The proceeds of the shirts benefit the various programs the Association has in works.

Reunion information is included in this copy of your Saber and with updates coming in the January/February issue. If you have particular questions that need answering please do not hesitate to call.

Enjoy this holiday season and have a great New Year. See you all in 2017!!!



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## 61st FA News



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



This issue of the Saber should be getting to you in mid-December (hopefully), and I hope you (1) had a great Thanksgiving, (2) will be enjoying a terrific Christmas and holiday season and (3) have a wonderful year in 2017.

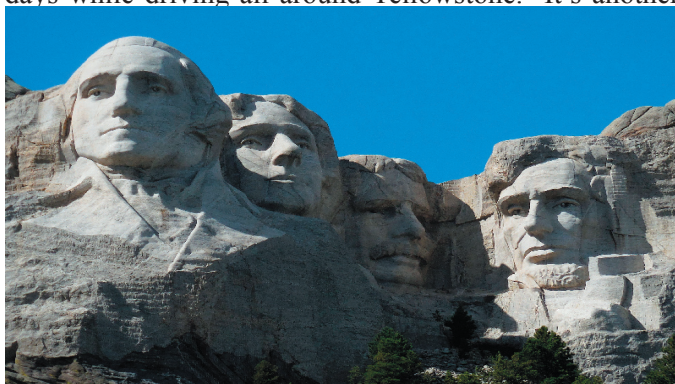


**Jackson Square Sept. 7th**

In the last issue I told you that we were off on a fly-drive vacation to Yellowstone and other national parks in early September. We did just that and had a great time. We flew from San Diego to Jackson Hole, Wyoming. There we rented a Nissan Rogue SUV. We took a tour through the Grand Teton Park and it was a treat, with gorgeous scenery and even got to see some moose and other wild life. The park in downtown Jackson was unique with each corner of the square featuring this arch made from elk horns collected by the town Boy Scout Troop. They also have an annual auction of the horns collected by the scouts and they raise thousands of dollars. Wish we had something

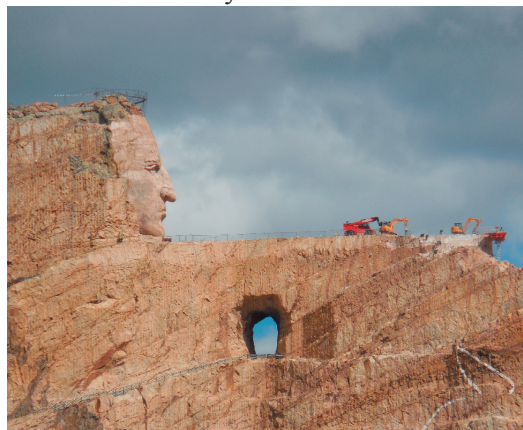
like that available here in SoCal. Our local scout troops could use it. This is me at the square entrance.

From Jackson, we drove to the city of West Yellowstone in Montana. We stayed there for two days while driving all around Yellowstone. It's another amazing national park and naturally we stopped by to see Old Faithful do her thing, right on schedule, of course. We were treated to up close and personal contact with buffalo, prong horn elk, wild burros, etc. We then stopped in Cody, Wyoming and took in the Buffalo Bill Museum. From there it was on to Buffalo, Wyoming and then to Deadwood, South Dakota. Deadwood is a neat old western town with saloons, etc. From Deadwood we headed to Sturgis so I could check out the city famous for the annual gathering of motorcycle folks. Naturally I had to pick up a souvenir T-shirt and baseball cap. Then we stopped for a couple of days in Hill City, South Dakota while we visited Mt. Rushmore and then the Chief Crazy Horse Memorial. Both are incredible sights and well worth the time to visit. During the trip we visited Yellowstone, Custer, Bad Lands, Big Horn and other national parks. The weather cooperated beautifully and we had a great time, including some fine buffalo rib and steak dinners.



**Mt. Rushmore 2016**

The Chief Crazy Horse Memorial is an in-work project and it won't be complete for at least a decade or more. The face is 9 stories tall and the whole memorial, when completed will be some 560+ feet tall. Amazing!



**Crazy Horse 2016**

In mid-October we got a phone call from Steve Bosma. Steve had read the last issue of the Saber and seen the photos and information provided by Peter O'Brien. Steve was in the 8th Cav (Co. B) at the time, and on an LST going from Hokkaido to Yokohama through the same typhoon that sank the Toya Maru. He recalled thinking that they were not going to live through the experience; the bow would go down and they'd be looking up at those huge waves about to break over the ship and then see the aft end of their LST come completely out of the water. They could hear the loud creaking of the ship's structure. Thankfully, they did make it. He was with the Cav from May, 1954 to October, 1955 and spent most of his time at Camp Whittington, Japan. Steve now lives in San Jose, CA. He's almost 84 now. It was fun talking to Steve and he remembered that there was one known 1st Cav survivor of the Toya Maru disaster. I told Steve, I believe Peter had talked to him within the past year or so. Anyway, did enjoy the chat as I do with all the other old 1st Cav guys (including me, of course).

Also in mid-October we received the following... "Gordon, my name is Ben Michels and I noticed in your column that Peter O'Brien is doing research on the sinking of the Toya Maru in 1954. I happened to be stationed in Japan at the time and kept a scrap book of interesting items from an English edition of a Japanese newspaper. I have the clipping and a picture of the ferry. If you could ask Peter if he would like a copy of those, I would be glad to send them to him. I was the PSNCO of the 227th AHB in 1966 & 1967. Ben." I sent Ben's note onto Peter and later learned that they did connect and Ben is sending his stuff to Peter.

Peter also sent along this email... "Hi Gordon, I just received the Saber and

am very saddened by the passing of Bob Kagamida, and Bill McSpadden. I'm sure many others share the same feelings about these two really great officers and gentlemen. I served under Bob Kagamida as a surveyor before becoming HQ Battery Clerk for Bill McSpadden in 1954. These were two of the finest people I've met in life – both so dedicated to doing their jobs properly. I fondly recall Bob's stories about growing up on a Dole Company plantation in Hawaii and Bill's completely by-the-book leadership of HQ Battery. BTW, Bill McSpadden was always the best dressed officer in the US Army. If we had universal military service like say, Israel, Switzerland and a few others, a lot of the young kids wandering around today without any direction could learn about real life from today's Army officers.

Thank you for all that you do for the 61st FA Battalion vets. Pete." Couldn't agree more, Pete. When I got the call to serve, I was just 19 and really at loose ends. Three plus years in the Army gave me time to grow up, mature and figure out where I was going. I had lunch with Bob several years ago during a visit to Hawaii. During our last trip there, I did talk to Bob, but he wasn't up to a visit. Always enjoyed my time with Bob.

Still more from Pete... "Hi Gordon, regarding the call from Steve, great new take on the typhoon. Thankfully, our LST, loaded with trucks and 105s, pulled into a beautiful little inlet and rode out the storm. We were also running out of food, butts and toilet paper. Steve's experience was far more exciting and scary than ours! Remembering that we played the 8th Cav at Whittington in October '55 and they were the only team to beat us (but by just one point). The field was wet so they hovered a helicopter over the puddles for about 45 minutes and dried it up pretty well. Their QB, a kid named Kotlarek, was a helluva ballplayer. I think he played baseball, too." Pete included his 2010 Saber article on the Toya Maru that I forwarded onto Steve. He also noted... "Very gratifying to know stuff we publish in the Saber triggers memories in other 1st Cav guys." Thanks so much for the input, Pete.

From Shirley and Pete Coppock regarding their daughter Miriam on October 28th... "Praise the Lord, Miriam completed another round of chemo today (had to be at UAMS at 7 a.m.). Laura was with her and had her home by 3 pm. Pete & I just returned home after spending some time with her; she was in bed with a severe headache but assured us that after some rest, she would feel better. Laura had to drive back to Little Rock and Danny is with her. He's been such a good nurse. If the medical team can determine that so far so good on the chemo and her body continues to respond to the treatments, she will only be facing one more round of chemo in 3 weeks. Then surgery will be affirmed and possibly scheduled in early Feb. Only God and time can tell on this. Appreciate your consistent prayers and words of encouragement during this health challenge. We continue to ask our Heavenly Father for clarity of vision, clarity of sight, clarity of thought, clarity of mind with the assurance of knowing Christ's presence and accepting His will. Hope you and yours are doing well...Good night & God bless." Thanks for the update and you have all our best wishes.

Looking forward to hearing about the November reunion hosted by Grady Tucker in Florida.

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

### Horse Detachment

#### Continued from pg. 1

In addition to building camaraderie within the horse detachment, the competition allowed the detachment to interact with other mounted units throughout the Army. Prior to the competition, the U.S. Cavalry Association hosts several events where the different units can share knowledge and resources. "It's not the kind of competition where everyone is hoping the other person loses. People are helping you get better," Snell said. "It feels like the Army as a whole comes together and is a Family here. Even though you have your different units with different rivalries, at the end of the day we're all still in the Army, and we all know what each other goes through."

The First Team's Horse Cavalry Detachment's (HCD) accomplishments during the 2016 National Cavalry Competition in EL Reno, Oklahoma: HCD took home the General Casimer Pulaski award for Outstanding Military unit for the second year in a row! Congratulations to our very own SSG Bishop for being named the 2016 National Champion and the Bolte Cup Champion. These are the event's two keynote awards! Congratulations also go to SGT Nathaniel Smith for winning the Level 1 All Around!

Here are some more of our Trooper's accomplishments:

Mounted Pistols:

Level 1: 1st Place, SGT Smith; 3rd Place, SPC Cartwright

Level 3: 3rd Place, SSG Bishop

Field Jumping:

Level 2: 1st Place, SGT Hoig; 3rd Place SGT Martinez

Level 3: 1st Place, SSG Bishop

Mounted Sabers:

Level 1: 1st Place, SGT Smith; 3rd Place, CPT Woodard

Level 3: 1st Place, SGT Snell; 2nd Place, SSG Bishop

MAJ Howze (Team Event):

2nd place (SSG Bishop, SPC Mata, SPC Barlow, SPC Roberts, SGT Duran, SPC Sanchez, SPC Kingery, SPC Mascunana, SGT Bedford, SGT Kelly)

Combat Horsemanship:

Level 1: 1st Place, CPT Woodard

Level 3: 2nd Place, SSG Bishop

Bugle: 2nd Place, SGT Schwalbe

Wheeled Competition: 2nd Place, SGT Durran/ SGT Bedford

We had several other Soldiers place in the top 5 of multiple events and were represented brilliantly by five of our own in the Bolte Cup Championship (SSG Bishop, SGT Greeley, SGT Snell, SGT Wentworth, and SGT Hoig).

The Holiday Season is fast approaching as the 1st Cavalry Division, Horse Cavalry Detachment prepares for upcoming parades and demonstrations in Central Texas. The HCD will be riding in three parades this November: Veterans Day Parade in Stephenville, Texas on the 5 Nov, the Veterans Day Parade in Austin TX on the 11 Nov, and in the Blue Santa Parade in Austin, Texas on the 26 Nov. We currently have two parades lined up for December: Salado Christmas Parade on the 1st and the Killeen Christmas Parade on the

**Continued on pg. 9**



## 5th CAV News



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At ease ladies & gentlemen, there's absolutely no reason for alarm. But are you aware that we're less than 2 months away from Christmas? If you're like me I'm usually 90% done with presents by this time of the year. However, I've only secured 1 present so far for 7 grandkids. Yikes!! I see quite a few Visa gift cards in the stockings this year.

Now onto more important things; for the first time, I'm making plans to attend the annual 1st Cavalry Association's wreath laying ceremonies in Washington DC this Veterans Day. I hope there are many more 5th Cav Troopers in attendance as well.

November sometimes doesn't necessarily hold fond memories for members of D Co. 2nd Bn. On November 24, 1967 (the day after Thanksgiving) D Co. was providing security for LZ Two Bits located near Bong Song & NE of An Khe. I was a member of 1st Platoon under the command of LT John M. Martin. We were on patrol through the local area. I was close enough to the LT's RTO, I remember the RTO trying to communicate with Co. Command Post (CP) and their response was to only send messages only if it was an emergency, otherwise stay off the net (or words to this effect).

As I remember, 1st Platoon made a bee line back to Two Bits. It was then that I first saw the carnage first hand and was told that not only had the mortar pit blew up, but they believe the rounds that ignited the explosion were being held by Roland Grunder. There were also 2 others killed in the explosion, William Langham and Clarence Dardar.

I had the pleasure to have a phone conversation with Roland's sister Jean Roud, who told me that the kids in the neighborhood liked to play with him and his nickname was Mooney. She didn't know of the origin. I was unable to successfully contact any relatives of Langham or Dardar.

That morning after chow Roland and I were horsing around and wound up wrestling. Now Grunder was quite a bit bigger than me well, probably 2/3rds bigger. But I always loved a challenge, so we wrestled till he whipped me good. Which I think it didn't take very long. I had a phone conversation with then the new CO, CPT Joe Carpenter a few months ago, he said he just assumed command from 1LT Jose Stevens and he was sitting on the airstrip waiting for a flight back to An Khe to sign papers, etc.

That's when he heard the loud explosion but wasn't sure what it was. The next day he remembers having the change of command ceremony and 1SG Charleyboy told him about the sweeping of the immediate area the company conducted looking for any remains from the explosion. I was involved with the search and the biggest human body part I remember was piece of a pelvis, some burned flesh, dog tags and one boot.

David Garcia was the 1SG's RTO. Here is his recollection of the event:

"Our supply truck arrived with Paul McFadden, Paul and I were in first platoon first squad together for a few months. All the platoons had picked up their supplies except for the motor platoon; they had motor rounds to pick up. I told Mac to go into my bunker that was real close and get a cold drink so we could visit. I yelled at the guys from motor platoon to come and get their rounds, they came and asked me to help, I bent down to lift one when I heard a voice in my mind that said "go with Mac". I started to continue when I heard the voice again saying "go with Mac now". I put the round down and walked into the bunker to visit with Mac, about two minutes later rounds started exploding we thought in coming. Then all was quiet I walked outside to find one of the guys sitting on the ground covered in ash calling for 1SG Charleyboy, apparently in shock. We found body parts all over the area."

The 5th US Cavalry Association's 20th Reunion is scheduled for September 11 - 16, 2017 in Harrisburg, PA. The host hotel is the Best Western Premier. The rates are \$119.95 per night. This includes full breakfast buffet for 2 each morning, onsite parking, in room WiFi, airport shuttle service. To make your reservations call the hotel direct at 717-735-9397.

When anyone attends a reunion, convention, etc. it benefits everyone to stay in the host hotel. This helps to keep the costs down. Even though you might find a cheaper room rate at another hotel, the difference is probably minimal and you could be hurting the Association's negotiating ability for future events. More information is available at [www.5thcav.org](http://www.5thcav.org).



SFC (RET) Allan Arthur MacDonald October 14, 1923-April 13, 2016



PFC Allan Mac Donald while assigned to B Troop 5th Cavalry in June 1944.

This Old Horse Soldier, also sometimes called "Old Bill", Serving in the Horse Calvary, he trained and cared for the horses for many years. He retired at Ft. Ord with his first wife of 43 years, Shizue, and worked in Civil Service for 21 years. He owned his own horses which he kept at Ft. Ord Riding Club (now known as the Marina Equestrian Center) for 47 years. His horses will miss him very much, but will continue to be taken care of by his daughter, Jane. He is now with his great horse "Comanche" riding in the skies. -Old Soldiers never die, they just fade away.

## Division Doings

## Continued from pg. 3

Families from Steel," said Maj. Russell Cummings, the executive officer for Steel. "This is a wonderful community outreach program that we had the opportunity to participate in." Several rucksacks were stuffed to capacity with toys ranging from balls and bikes to zebra stuffed animals.

"In the season of giving, this is just one way we can give back and do our part to help take care of our Army family," said Col. Kelly L. Webster, the commander of DIVARTY. During the ruck march while the dogs barked and children laughed, adults sang along to the Christmas music. Not only were the people conducting the ruck in the holiday spirit, the military police officers escorting the participants were in the holiday spirit as well as they played Christmas music from their vehicles. "I think [the military police] just decided to play the music on their own, and it worked well with the festive spirit that we had on the march," said Webster.

The formation of participants slowly made their way to the final destination beside the Clear Creek Commissary. Rucksacks, backpacks, and bags were emptied onto a long row of tables in the middle of a large, Christmas decorated room. Both Webster and Cummings delivered several toys along with their Families. "I'm happy to be apart the Santa Workshop," said Heather Hay, a 1st Army Representative with Fort Hood's Santa Workshop. "All of the toys donated by the Soldiers and their Families really play a vital role in what we do to give back to those in need."

Fort Hood Santa's Workshop provides toys for children of service members who are in financial need, and last year the workshop helped over 3,000 children between the ages of six months to 12 years old.

### The Value of Service by Col. John DiGiambattista, Commander, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division

Two weeks ago, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division departed Korea after nine months in the country. As we said farewell to our secretary a pleasant Korea lady she said, "Thanks, not only from me, but thank you for your service in defense of Korea." I thought this odd that an individual would thank us for our service in defense of their nation, but then I realized that every Korean who had said good bye had also added, the same epitaph, thank you for your service in defense of our nation.

It is a thank you that is a bit unique and comes from people whose nations has prospered, in part, due to the United States partnerships and alliance with them, and of course thought their own hard work. Nevertheless, this kind of thank you is part of being a veteran and I think it is something unique to veterans. The idea that an American would deter their own interests to a cause greater than themselves is, today, almost unfathomable. In an era of selfies and validation through social media, going to faraway places at inconvenient times of. Risking your life in defense of others you have never met is inconceivable.

This is what makes being a veteran so unique in America today. It is not that there are so few of us; it is that we volunteered to serve this great nation, come what may. Plus, when this service requires us to leave the amenities of this great country, we do. In the most extreme environments imaginable, with our lives at risk, we execute the directives of our nation with discipline and care.

In choosing a life of service, we become part of something greater than ourselves, part of the most disciplined group of human power the world has ever known. When led we, we have changed the course of history, and have snatched victory from certain defeat. We have believed more in ourselves and our brothers and sisters than the pundits on television arm chair critics far from danger back at home. We change the lives of the people we have been sent to protect. This is why 70 years later, different American Soldiers hear the sons and daughters of those same people say thank you while we continue to volunteer and serve.

### Skip the long lines, Grab and Go! by Sgt. Garrett Hernandez, 1st Cavalry Division Public Affairs

The daily life of a Soldier can be very hectic. Physical training in the morning, medical or dental appointments, training, equipment maintenance, inventory of equipment, formations and paperwork can take up a good portion of the day. Factor in trying to leave work at a reasonable time to see the family, and you can see choices must be made.

One thing that might be sacrificed is lunch. Soldiers at The Great Place get an hour and a half for lunch, so they can have that time to get things done during the business day. Some will work out, others will take care of off-post business.

At the Theodore Roosevelt Dining Facility, Soldiers can stop by and get a Grab -N- Go lunch or breakfast. Located on the west side of the DFAC, Soldiers grab lunch in a quick manner and go about their business.

"They can grab [lunch] from here, it makes it easier on them" said Sgt.

Julian Paguio, the noncommissioned officer in charge of the Grab-n-Go line with 20th Engineer Battalion, 36th Engineer Brigade.

"I have an appointment at 12:30, so I'm trying to hurry up and eat," said Spc. Ryan Roberts, 974th Motor Roll Bridge Company, 62nd Engineer Battalion, 36th Engineer Brigade. "Usually the DFAC, at this time, is pretty packed."

Items on the menu include turkey burgers, chicken sandwiches,

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Santa's Ruck March





## 12th CAV News



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expeditiously and safely remove an ankle monitoring bracelet without injuring oneself or causing it to alert? At least send me a link? (Asking for a friend) Speaking of those tourniquets, you owe it to yourself before being served to Google them. There are alcohol, Alzheimer, police, criminal, dementia, witness, victim, jail, and parole ankle bracelets to name a few flavors. If it is not yet Christmas or New Year, have both happy and blessed. If not your specific holidays I hope your chosen and faith ones were superb for you and your family. I am not cognizant enough to choose one over another and too old to judge.

**0254** The Soldiers Registry. There is not one museum that covers the Army's history and mission since its founding in 1775 until the U.S. Army Museum is completed at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. If you ever served in the Army you are welcome to make an entry in the Soldiers Registry. The Registry exists online. Once the museum is built and open to visitors the Registry will be available to visitors by means of kiosks in the museum. Visitors will be able to look up their friends and family and see what they did in the Army. Go to ArmyHistory.Org, select 'Registries', then 'Registry of the American Soldier', and do what you did the Army, follow instructions. Entries need not be long. If you have an award with a citation, you can enter that, you can enter your dates of service, dates of combat service, primary military duties, military schooling and awards. You can enter major battles and/or campaign credits, and a photograph. Make sure you select a patch (either your combat patch or the patch you wore during your service). Insignia of your rank will automatically be added if you enter that information on the form. There is no cost involved! Anyone can make an entry for another person, so if you have information on any deceased Army veterans (combat casualties or other causes), you can also make entries for them. You can also make entries for veterans of any war, going back to the Revolutionary War. Also, don't forget to support the Army Museum Fund. Colonel (Ret) Newvin R. Williams, 7th Cavalry <Email and some of my own touches. You guess where.>. First Team It Up! Make it so!

**0454** Sidestep to the reunion, the Second Ace High 1970 Reunion at the Bell Cow Ranch and Cabins, 341070 E 890 Road, Chandler, Oklahoma 74834-7161. <(405-258-8934); BellCowRanchCabins.Com>. Lawdy, I hope my GPS can convert that into a physical find-able spot. Only 42 min, 41.8 miles, 40 min without traffic via toll road to the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum. You pay your admission, food, and beer – no one rides for free. Thursday, June 1 through June 4th, 2017 at 8 AM CDT. Make plans to join us, it will be another great event! We are currently working on details...be watching for your letter. Be there or be expended brass. For more info contact Doyle 'Cowboy' Miller (405-258-3660) or Rachelle South (405-258-0016).

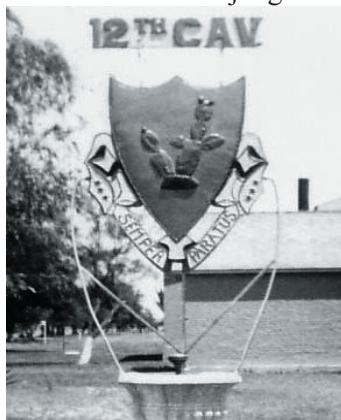
**0654** Did you like a good Troop, send your beloved regimental secretary (moi!) your current postal address, phone number, email address, etc. Since the last time you changed them or moved? Why not; you have mine. I cannot effectively help you reach out to your comrades and your comrades, Families and others reach out to you without current address and valid contact info. Have you taken note of the requests for help and solace steadily appearing in this space? There, and your failure or success ultimately rest squarely on your back. While we are at it, get off the snide and apply unto the National Archives for a thorough search of, and your complete military record before the need, Digby 'Digger' O'Dell. Google that reference. Demand your complete records; don't settle for a lame summary. While you are finally at long last fighting for yourself, file that VA claim for service. You will feel better in the morning. Tisk - tisk, for shame, for shame; now make Kenny proud!

**0854** Dogleg left to the 12th Annual 'Sergeant Terry D. Combs Branson Reunion'! Designed to be held rain or snow, helk or high-water, bald-spot or sans bald-spot (not naming names) and hold this spot and page for the forthcoming details. Attention to orders and hold formation until all details are forthcoming and have been explained fully. Upon notice of details buy your travelers checks and meander on over to your local travel professional and make suitable arrangements. Carry on! "I love it when a plan comes together." - Colonel John 'Hannibal' Smith. Check our website when you get time.

**1054** A and C 1-12 Cavalry. "Mr. Howser, I am working on a MIA case from 7 Jan 1968 that involves two 2-12 Cav MIAs - 1LT Stone and PFC Trujillo. I am hoping to contact the following individuals if possible or anyone else that might shed light on the incident, pictures, details, maps, recollections, etc: C 2-12 Cav: SGT Herbert W. Marshall, SSG Michael Rubio, PFC Stuart D. Nord, 1LT John L. Toler. A 2-12 Cav: SSG Kenneth Bassett and PFC Gary M. Holland (who has been contacted and responded). I have spoken with the Battalion S2 and Jerry McLain about this also. Cheers, Jim. James M. Cloninger Jr. PhD; POW-MIA Case Officer (Southeast Asia); Defense POW-MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA); Major, USAF (Ret); 241 18th St S. (Suite 800); Arlington, VA 22202-3420; (703-699-1270). <Dara Wylder, Jim Cloninger>. Belly up to the word processor and get it off your chest!

**1254** Daniel D. Wheaton, 63, of Manchester, Maryland saddled to Fiddlers Green on Saturday, Sept. 7, 2013. He is survived by his wife Mary, sons Daniel D. Wheaton, Jr. and Thomas L. Wheaton, and daughter Kate Hite, among others. Daniel served in the 12th Cavalry in Vietnam with B 1-12 Cavalry in 1969. "Hi Ken, I am trying to locate any information I can (pictures, remembrances, orders, action and after action

**0001** Hey Sailor, new in town? Hello in there, Trooper - tell me, what color is the sky in your world? Can anyone tell me how to



12th Cavalry Fort Ringgold, Texas.

reports, morning reports, company rosters, etc) about Daniel D. Wheaton. He got to Nam in Feb. 1969 and was very badly wounded in a rocket attack on Aug. 14, 1969. He talked very little about what he went through there and he passed away a couple of years ago. His wife Mary and his grandson Jeremy are grieving terribly. She needs Troopers to talk with about Daniel's service and since I was in Vietnam at the same time he was, I offered to try to find things about Dan. I think the informal information from guys who were there with him would be much more helpful to her, and if there is anyone still alive who knew him in Vietnam I would love to arrange for Mary and Jeremy to meet that man and hear the stories, no formal record would ever have. Looking for PFC Joseph E. Michael, Lt Anthony Jones. If you can help directly or lead me to others who can, I would appreciate it and I know Mary and Jeremy would be elated. Cheers, Jan Rumberger, 2908 Warren Way, Mechanicsburg, PA 17050-6700. (717-379-4955). <Legacy.Com, Dara Wylder, Jan Rumberger>.

**1454** "4,000+ helicopter names recorded! Signed copies of, 'Vietnam War, U.S. Army Helicopter Names, Vol 2, Second Edition' are now available from the author. Featuring 40 additional pages of text, 284 newly found copter names, 3 new b+w photos and 2 new color pics. Payment is by check, money order or PayPal. Make checks to John Brennan in the amount of \$20.95 per book (postage included in this price) and send to: 864 Wisconsin St., Chico, CA 95928-7552 Thanks for supporting Army helicopter history research. Rotors forever, John Brennan, former SP5, 114 AHC, 1970-71, Vinh Long AAF, Mekong Delta." If it is your cup of copter. <Email>.

**1554** Onward to the 70th Annual 1st Cavalry Division Reunion 7-11 June 2017, in scenic Killeen/Fort Hood, Texas. "Much 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 Division Association are welcome to attend. Register early to assist coordinating the best reunion possible. Early registration is from December 2016 through 21 April 2017 at \$20 for all members except those on active duty. Those sending in registrations post-marked after 21 April 2017 must pay late registration fee of \$40." <https://www.1cda.org/annual-reunion.html > 2018 in West Virginia!

**1654** "My name is Thomas M. Miller and I served as a Medic with the B 2-12, 4th PLT from June 1970 - April 1971. We had a Bobbie Williams in our platoon that was killed in action and I was the attending Medic for Bobbie. I am very certain that the Bobbie Williams I knew was killed in action during the last part



Thunder Horse 2-12 Cavalry Memories of Korea.

of 1970. I remember we had a very bad firefight on New Year's Eve 1970 and that he had been killed before that time. I was close to him and it affected me greatly having to attend to his personal belongings. Please check to see if this was the same man that I served with. Websites have Bobbie Lee Williams as deceased on 4 January 1971. I have been told David 'Short Round' Miracle was just behind Bobbie when he was shot. If you can contact him he might be able to shed some light on the date of Bobbie's death. I would like to clear this all up finally in my mind. Thank You!" Thomas M. Miller, 1625 N 800 W, Tipton, IN 46072-8610 (Yes, USPS verified.), (765-438-1949). <Email>. Any contacts, assistance, documents, pictures, memories, etc.? Help Doc and our Brothers out - you'll feel better about yourself in the morning.

**1854** "Just got my issue of Saber and decided to contact you. I was only up North for a short while, we moved to Quan Loi shortly after my arriving in country (late summer, fall, shot Jan 26, 1969). We were near Cambodia and things were starting to happen. I was in Delta Co 2-12 in Nam, got shot up 2100hr Jan 26, 1969. Flew us out that night to Tay Ninh, lucky us. I was LT Henjyaji's radio operator (KIA LZ Grant March 8 69). I left the country rather abruptly, never to return, after recovery I was assigned to Fort Ord training troops for combat in Nam. In the last few months I have been looking at the internet on all of this. I want to make contact with two Troopers I served with; they both are in my heart almost daily - Mario Dan Solorio (D company clerk) and Ronald L. Combs (infantry/buddy in the field/rear). Last time I spoke to them was around 1977-78. Went into the Country alone and left alone, very strange. I have some very good stories and photos of our exploits in Nam. I would like to also talk to Culpepper from Texas, Mike Gill, Snooky and Willie. I just wanted to give you my E-mail in case someone sees this. I have almost all my paperwork from the Army including orders for Purple Hearts, Air Medals, etc, if anyone wants to know if they are on them. I want to find out my First Sergeant's Families' name so I could tell them how outstanding he was, CO also. I want to get in touch with anyone I served with in the field that knows me! Retired, blessed and very fortunate to have what I do. I think it is starting to hit me that they may not be around any longer." Duane Smythe <Duane\_Smythe@yahoo.com>.

**1954** A Bucyrus, Ohio native has advanced his way through the military ranks and is now teaching at the U.S. Military Academy, West Point. "When I was a kid, I was always interested in the military," said Major Thomas Herman. His passion to learn more about the past took him to the University of Dayton where he studied history. "I was home on Spring Break in March of 2003 and saw tanks and helicopters live on CNN going into Iraq, and I thought "Hey, that looks pretty interesting." He joined the ROTC to become a 2LT upon graduation. In November of 2007, Herman deployed as a Platoon Leader of 16 men with four tanks from Fort Hood for 15 months before returning stateside in January of

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Major Thomas Herman's Promotion.



PFC Daniel D. Wheaton  
B 1-12 Cavalry.



## 7th CAV News



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I began this final column of 2016 and my last as your scribe in the early morning hours of 12 Feb. As I was tossing and turning, I was harkened back to a Sunday morning in May of 1996 when I received a call from Ed Daily. Like many, I knew of Ed from reunions, but as events later unfolded, it seems like none of us really knew him. That however was down the road a piece and his call that Sunday was to ask me to become the scribe for the 7th Cavalry News. I was taken aback, primarily because I had only spoken to him in passing at the few 7th Cav luncheons that I had attended. After about 25 minutes it became clear to me that I would in fact take up the keyboard. I wrote to and about all of you for 7 years, until the passion grew dim and the deadlines became a point of frustration. Fortunately for us, Ron 'Shortround' Migut agreed to take over said keyboard and did a great job for 4 plus years until he too needed a break and I returned in September of 2006. Thus the stage is now set for this, my 101st and last column.

There have been a few 'guest' columnists for the 7th Cavalry since the late Norm Osterby and 'Oakie' Burnett laid down their pencils oh so long ago: That's right – pencils, for in those days before word processing and the magic of spell check, our columns were mailed (with stamps) to Texas. Phil Zook and Steve Banko wrote a few guest articles and I even penned one for Shortround once in July of 2004. The scribe that I most related too however, was Norm. He and his wife Peg were fixtures at Cav reunions for years and like many WWII 7th Cav Warriors, he was a Plank Holder as well, in what was to become the 1st Cavalry Division Association. He rests now in the National Cemetery in Minneapolis, Minnesota with a 7th Cavalry reference on his tombstone!

So with this backdrop, I dedicate this column to the hundreds of unit scribes that have carried the Legend of the First Team throughout the decades that the Saber has been published. Without these scribes, the continuing exploits of our beloved 1st Cav and subordinate units would many times go unnoticed. In addition to those oft unnamed scribes it is you, our readers that have sent in thousands of reports that we edited, fine-tuned and hopefully transformed into the essence of your thoughts.

Becoming a scribe initially harbored lots of anxiety for me because I had read for over 25 years the words of Norm and Oakie and wondered if I could live up to their 'turn of phrase.' I suspect the newer scribes feel their own brand of wondering until their first columns appear in our Saber.

Columnists have had the privilege of bringing closure to Families who lost loved ones, helping to get lost decorations approved and in some cases upgraded and to simply get stories told. Providing information on how to find and locate records in the National Archives and in the National Personnel Records Center. Reconnecting buddies from all of our conflicts and the children with those who served with their fathers, brothers, sisters and parents, filling in much of what was missing in that Cold Telegram - 'The Secretary of Defense Regrets' - and to bring their fathers alive, if for only a few fleeting moments. It is sacred duty; let me tell you that from first hand knowledge.

As Captain Kirk has said hundreds of times "Space – The Final Frontier." The difficulty of editing is boiled down to that of limited space for the column. Editing is an art form and we do try to capture the essence of your submissions. It's also difficult many times to include the photos that are sent in. We hope you understand.

When I started writing, I was blessed to have the late Col. (ret) Bob Litle as Editor In Chief, and then BG (ret) Art Junot helped me in fine tuning my words. Lastly CSM (ret) Dennis Webster has done the same. I suspect with the passage of time that many of you do not know much, if anything about Bob Litle so please indulge me for a few sentences. Bob was a Bomber Pilot and later commanded the 2nd Battalion shortly after LZ Albany. He is also in the Army Aviation Hall of Fame because of his skills as an Army Aviator, piloting bombers and the venerable Huey. These words are from his introduction in the AAHoF in 1983. "In the early 1950's his conduct of experimental helicopter flights under adverse weather conditions was a major factor in proving the feasibility of instrumentation for helicopter operations and in determining the basic instrument configuration for Army helicopters." During 1963 - 1966, while in a key command role with the 11th Air Assault Division, he organized, trained and tested the only attack airplane battalion in the history of Army Aviation. Later, he served with distinction in airmobile combat in Vietnam as Executive Officer of an aviation group and as a commander of an airmobile infantry battalion. From 1971 to 1973, as a principal Director of Project MASSTER at Fort Hood, he planned and evaluated with marked success, many crucial field tests of major Army units employing aircraft in mid-intensity combat, including the TRICAP Division, Air Cavalry Combat Brigade, and the Air Defense Suppression System."

Many probably don't know that Art Junot, General Bob Shoemaker and Sherman Haight are all fly fishermen and for years, after Cav reunions journeyed to pristine waters and laid wet and dry flies in front of Brook, Brown and Rainbow trout. General Junot like Bob gave me excellent guidance and counsel. Lastly, I have had the most interaction with Dennis and to know him is to know that he is ALL about 'Soldiers.' Serving as the Command Sergeant Major of The First Team and then as the top enlisted Soldier for III Corps, they don't come any better than Dennis Webster. His hand, like those before has been light, yet steady on the reins as the Division Association has moved into the 21st Century.

There have been many Presidents of the 7th Cavalry Association in my 27 years as a member: the late Major (Ret) William A. Richardson; CSM (Ret) Basil L. Plumley; LTC (Ret) Jim Spooner Brigham; LT John (Harpo) Guillory and even I served a term. There have been however only two president emeritus: Jim Brigham and William Richardson. Both gave tirelessly of their time to make our association better. They served as wise counsel to the impetuous nature of a young Infantry Officer and I miss them both terribly. The president's wives also served, not only as the First Lady of the 7th Cavalry Association but perhaps

more importantly as the rock of the Family while their guys were off fighting in World War II; Korea and the jungles of Vietnam. The late Deurice Plumley and Judy Brigham and of course the effervescent, Eva Richardson. To know them is to love them and they were and are proud supporters of the 7th Cavalry.

Likewise there have been many Vice-Presidents of our Association as well: Bob Arbasetti; Rolando Salazar and Phil Zook have all served at least once.

The Korean War was fought in some of the harshest conditions known to man and sadly is often times referred to as 'The Forgotten War.' Primarily because it fell between the great conflagration of World War II and my generation's exploits in Vietnam. I am privileged to have known Ray 'Old Soldier' Moran, Bob Spiroff, my Chapter comrade Sherman VanDyke and our West Michigan Chapter co-founder the late CPT (Ret) James Mason. In addition to many other members of the KWV Chapter of the 7th Cavalry Association, especially Gordon Severson who served with the 3rd Battalion of the 7th Cavalry. Sadly their Chapter finally had to disband because of the advancing age of their members. I hope they will still be able to attend 1st Cavalry Division Association reunions because they WILL ALWAYS be welcomed with open arms.

As your scribe I met many everyday dogfaces (thanks Bill Mauldin) and have been privileged to shake the hand of several Congressional Medal of Honor recipients: Joe Marm; Mike Sprayberry; Bruce Crandall; Allen Lynch and Ed 'Too Tall' Freeman. It's some type of karma – at least for me – that Joe Marm was the 2nd Platoon Leader in A 1/7, as was I, 4 years later! These are 5 of the easiest going guys you would ever want to meet – until the bullets started flying.

The grunt has the dirtiest and most thankless job in the Army. We close with and engage the enemy, sometimes at distances less than 30 feet. We didn't fight an antiseptic war from 35,000 feet and then return to a basecamp with a warm shower, flush toilet, hot meal, clean sheets and air conditioning. Often times we went 30+ days without a shower, and a hot meal in the field was a luxury sometimes marred by rancid food resulting in night medevacs in an uncertain environment. Our war was up close and when our friends got wounded or killed, it became and continues to be very personal. When the days battle was over, and we were lucky enough to have survived (at least physically), we opened up a can of C-rations, drank tepid water - often tasting like iodine, curled up in a dirty poncho liner, and if we were really fortunate, fell fitfully asleep on a full air mattress. We burned leeches off of our bodies with cigarettes, sprayed them with bug juice, cut them off with knives or poured salt packets on them. We cleaned our sores with dirty towels, because water was too precious a commodity to waste on simple "jungle rot." We suffered from ringworm and heat rash while others came down with malaria. We got little sleep and the next day got up and did it all over again.

To the hundreds of Combat Medics who plied their life saving skills on the stinking and horrific battlefields of: Leyte; Taegu; Vietnam, Cambodia, Iraq and Afghanistan. They are the true heroes in warfare, going to war with nothing more than an aid bag. The cry of "Doc" sent a chill down our spines because it meant that one or more of our brothers had been hit by enemy fire. Doc went to the point of heaviest contact to tend to the wounded, often shielding those who were hurt with his own body. In many cases Doc was the only difference between a man living or dying. Men whose stories you have read in these columns owe their lives to our medics.

This column allowed me to meet and shake hands with General Harold Moore; General Eric Shinseki; General Bob Shoemaker; General Maury Edmonds, General Morris Brady, General Art Junot and many others, but Captain Kirk is reminding me about - space.

Silver Star winners too numerous to list, save 6: Lieutenant Tom Hartin; Lieutenant David Smith, Lieutenant Phil Zook, Lieutenant (Colonel (Ret)) Michael Brennan, the late Captain (Colonel (Ret)) Dana Dillion and the late Captain Peter Boyev, KIA on 26Apr70, whose body, the late SSG Terry Lacko and I carried off that deadly killing ground to begin the long and fateful journey back to Chicago. Five of whom, I had the honor to serve alongside.

I have been inspired by 7th Cav authors that have written marvelous books on their tours of duty: Joe Abodeely; Bud Alley; Larry Gwin; Hal Moore; Joe Galloway; Jim Lawrence and the unpublished work of Mike McGregor. Gregg Jorgensen who was a member of Company H, 75th Rangers has written a plethora of excellent books. Combat Warriors who have planted a seed that perhaps even I could author such a remembrance.

The ladies who served in the Division Association office for many years: Lorinda Davison, who did much of the layout of the Saber and who kept all of us scribes on deadline; Martha Fisher who handled the multiple nuances of Chapter Tax filings, keeping us all (hopefully) out of the IRS spotlight; Angela Murphy who spent several years toiling under the watchful eye of her father. I, like many scribes and Chapter Representatives, were saddened to read of Lorinda's passing in the Saber. Lorinda was a dear soul who cared deeply about the First Team! Beneath that sometimes gruff exterior – especially when a column deadline came and went – beat a heart of gold. A gentle soul gone too soon!

A number of years ago Bob Arbasetti made arrangements for three of us to visit wounded Soldiers at Walter Reed. This of course was before the campus was moved out to Bethesda. The first few visits were Bob, Bob Jeanette, Edie Meeks and I. Edie as a Vietnam Surgical Nurse ALWAYS knew exactly what to say and do when the proverbial cat got the tongues of the 3 Bob's. It must have been a surreal experience as Bob Arbasetti himself spent many, many months at Walter Reed after being badly wounded in April of 1968. Bob Jeanette's story is well documented in We Were Soldiers Once...and Young. Thank you Bob for inviting me to these special visits, to our young Troopers.

I was privileged once to read 25 names of Warriors who grace our sacred ground on the National Mall. If you don't know, the 58,000+ names are read in segments of 25 names, 24 hours a day, until ALL have been read aloud during Veterans Day observances. That is over 2300 segments and I'm sure you could volunteer about 10 minutes of your time if you are interested. This too is sacred duty and Vietnam Veterans owe Jan Scruggs a debt of gratitude that can never be repaid!

The many ladies who have kept and are now keeping the Crossed Saber Gift Shop running and handle all our purchases with Cav smiles and grace at

Continued on pg. 9



## 8th CAV News



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Hi again,

I was right – summer did fly by and autumn leaves are falling as I write this column on my last few days in Michigan. I didn't finish the big renovation project on my house here, but it is well underway, leaving a few final items for the springtime return to Michigan. Writing this column, cleaning up the fallen leaves, and packing a few things to take home to Florida are the last things to do before closing up the house here for the winter. It was just 37° here this morning brrrrrrrrr..... My next door Florida neighbor told me that it was 68° this morning in Port Charlotte. It's time for this "snow bird" to take flight!

## A VISIT TO THE WALL

This note came the other day from Nat Ward, CPT, USA, Retired:



"Tom: After 50 years I finally was able to get a tribute to the first two Troopers that were killed under my command. I had a Recon Platoon when PFC Johnson and PFC Woodhall were killed in March, 1967. I was able to carry one of them still breathing to the chopper, but he passed several days later. Two months later I hit an explosive device and lost a leg. After two years at Walter Reed, I was able to return to active duty as the first amputee to be retained in the US Army. I finally took a medical when we signed the Peace Treaty in 1973." Per the photo (at the Wall [ed.]), Dan Arant met me, Diane, my wife of 52 years, my sister and son to leave the flags. Dan has been a Docent Volunteer for 21 years and is one of the greatest. He

makes things go so much easier when there is pain."

"Another special note regarding the Wall: My Family was stationed in Vietnam 1958-60. My father was Chief of Staff MAAG when Major Buis and SGT Ovnand were killed at Bien Hoa July 1959. After Jan Scruggs commenced his great effort, Dad was able to petition DOD and USG to place these two Soldiers as the first two names on The Wall. I was proud that my older son, Quint, was along and able to hear the story. My sister, Chartley, lives in Alexandria and regularly escorts friends or visitors to this site. Not sure when I will get back there. So if any of you Troopers were considering a visit, do so while health permits."

## HONORS AND AWARDS

Fred Taylor [C 2/8 Cav 1968] is being inducted into the Florida Veterans' Hall of Fame. The website states in part:

The State of Florida established the Florida Veterans' Hall of Fame in 2013 to recognize and honor those military veterans who, through their works and lives during or after military service, have made a significant contribution to the State of Florida.

In selecting its nominees for submission to the Governor and Cabinet, the Council will give preference to veterans who were either born in Florida or adopted Florida as their home state. The individuals they choose will have made a significant contribution to the state in civic, business, public service, or other pursuits.

The induction took place on November 9th at the State Capital in Tallahassee. Congratulations, Fred, on receiving this well deserved honor.

Bertyl Johnson (Scotch Platoon, C 2/8 Cav 1968-69), one of our Association's Directors, has been awarded the Veteran of the Year Award by Holidays for Heroes. Pictured here, he receives the award flag that flew over General Patton's grave in Luxemburg. He proudly wore his Stetson that night. He reports on his involvement with the organization: "As you may remember, I have been involved with an organization called Nantucket Holidays for Heroes from its inception 5 years ago.

We have a three pronged mission: First, we provide all expense vacations on Nantucket for wounded Veterans and their care givers. Secondly, we provide assistance for wounded Vets that want to start a business in the form of financial grants and business mentoring called American Dream Grants. Thirdly, we have just started a new program called Service Dogs for Heroes. This program is designed to help prevent the growing number of suicides of Veterans. This year, we have raised enough money for 30 service dogs and 25 Family vacations as well as two American Dream Grants, that is, we raised over a million dollars this year on Nantucket at our two events, one in August and the other in September. It is gratifying to see the support for our Vets, support we never saw when we



returned from Vietnam." Congratulations on the award, Bertyl, and for all the great work you and Nantucket Holidays for Heroes is doing for our Vets!

## IN MEMORIAM

We note the passing of the following members of our Association:

AUDIS Walker "BUDDY" GARNER, Major, USA, Retired, Commander of Delta Company 2/8 Cav 1968. He died September 6, 2016 and was buried in Centerville, Tennessee on

September 10th with full military honors. His decorations include the Silver Star, Bronze Star with "V" device and three oak leaf clusters, ARCOM with "V" device and 2 oak leaf clusters, the Purple Heart, Meritorious Service Medal with two Oak Leaf Cluster, CIB, Master Parachutist Badge, Ranger and Special Forces Tabs, German Airborne Wings, and many other decorations. He was inducted into the OCS Hall of Fame at the National Infantry Museum in 2014, one of the 2,000 officers so honored of the 200,000 graduates of that program. More information can be found on the angryskipper.com website.



CLAUDE DAVENPORT "Big Daddy", 1SG, USA, Retired. He served in Delta 2/8 Cav 1967-68 as First Sergeant when CPT Ed Scholes (MG, Retired) commanded the Company. He died September 8th, 2016 and will be buried in Arlington National Cemetery. His decorations include the Silver Star, Bronze Star, and CIB w/Star.

## INFORMATION REQUESTED:

"I am Tom Torbert, USA, Retired, and I am trying to help a friend locate anyone who knew or served with her brother at the time of his death in Vietnam... PFC Ralph Traylor Woodall from Jesup, Georgia. He arrived in Vietnam 6 February 1967 and served with Delta Company 2/8 Cav (we think). He was KIA 18 March 1967 in Binh Dinh Province from sniper fire. Please contact Tom Torbert, Phone 770-402-3715."

I am looking for information on PFC Wayne Ventress. He was with me at Dak To in November, 1967 and was wounded there. I lost track of him after I visited him at the Camp Zama Hospital in Japan. I just saw his name on a copy of CIB orders dated 29 November 1967. If you know of him, please contact me either by phone or at my email in the masthead of this column.

## REUNIONS:

Watch the next issue of SABER for information on next year's 8th Cavalry reunions.

•8th Cav Association will be in Columbus, Georgia/ Fort Benning May 17-21, 2017 so make sure to mark your calendars for this important gathering.

•September 15-18, 2017 will bring the "Jumping Mustangs" here to Grand Rapids, Michigan for a time they won't soon forget (my home town and summer place – so I can brag!)

•We're still waiting for confirmation on "Eager Arms" reunion's location and dates.

I haven't received anything from our Active Duty Battalions so this column will be a bit shorter than usual. Until next time - Honor and Courage!

## 12th Cav News

## Continued from pg. 6

2009. He left again for Iraq in September of 2010, where he led 93 Soldiers with humvees and various armored fighting vehicles. In November of 2012, Herman left for Afghanistan as a Company Commander in the 2Bn of the 12th Cavalry Regiment, but that storied career wasn't enough for Herman. He had developed a strong desire to one day become an instructor at West Point. To help him achieve that goal, he earned a Masters Degree in military history from the University of North Texas in May of 2016. "I teach History of the Military Art, which is the history of warfare from the ancient Greeks all the way to the Global War on Terrorism," Herman said. "This job is both fulfilling for me professionally and academically, but it's also a way for me to give back to the Army and help prepare the next generation of leaders," Herman said. "Generally everybody here is the best of the best." <BucyrusTelegraphForum.Com>. Much success and Semper Paratus, Sir!

2154 PTSD. "You or your loved one can develop PTSD, Posttraumatic Stress Disorder, after going through, seeing or learning about an event involving actual or threatened death, such as combat, serious injury, natural disaster, or sexual violence. PTSD can happen to anyone. It is not a sign of weakness. A number of factors can increase the chance that someone will have PTSD, many of which are not under that person's control. For example, having a very intense or long-lasting traumatic event or getting injured during the event can make it more likely that a person will develop PTSD. PTSD is also more common after certain types of trauma, like combat and sexual assault. Personal factors, like previous traumatic exposure, age, and gender, can affect whether or not a person will develop PTSD. What happens after the traumatic event is also important. Stress can make PTSD more likely, while social support can make it less likely." <VA National Center for PTSD monthly newsletter>.

2254 You read the above! The thrust isn't about just PTSD per say: make the call to get help; to the VA, your doctors, your friends, your comrades, talk to you family or your spouse. You don't have to go it alone – nor should you. Did you go into combat alone or try to be your own chaplain? The worst you can do is to surround yourself with yourself. You can be 106 and still need help or suddenly discover you need help. Get connected and stay connected with those or the things that bring you and keep you out of your funk. "You know why divorce is so expensive? Because it's worth it!" Same Here! # BUDDY CHECK! No One Left Behind!

2359 Journal closed. Does anyone know how one might recompense monetary value from expansive supercilious proliferate superfluous extraneous verbose punditry? Shakespeare got to get paid son, before mine humor doth brake the presses! (Again, asking for a friend. PM me!) The new President has yet to be sworn in but (fingers crossed) the votes are all counted and a winner achieved. The most astute and minimal way I have heard the matter related is thus, "We survived 8 years of Bush; you will survive 8 years of Obama." Ergo, no matter win-lose-or draw we are locked in for another four years. "There is no experience you can get that can possibly prepare you adequately for the presidency." ~ John F. Kennedy. (I coulda been champ! but I lost). Evidenced the gridlock and partisanship of the last two decades it looks like we might be in for a wild ride. Adjust your stirrups, tighten your cinch, take a double handful of reins and as we say in Murr-lund, "Talley Ho!" Semper Paratus! Write if you get work!



## 9th CAV News



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Hello again from Smith Mountain Lake in the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains of Southwest Virginia. Fall foliage is not as colorful this year

due a combination of drought and unusually wet August and September.

First up in this edition is the story of COL Harold Kushner, sent in by Terry McCarl, the Historian for the 15th Medical BN for the 1st CAV Division. I have a "one off" connection to this story that I'll reveal at the end of this article.

"CPT Kushner became a POW on December 2, 1967 and was not released until March 16, 1973, nearly 5 ½ years later. He is believed to have been the only Medical Corps Officer to have been a POW during the Vietnam War. CPT Kushner arrived in Vietnam and reported to the 1/9 Cav in August 1967 as its new Flight Surgeon. His predecessor had been KIA. The unit HQ was at LZ Two Bits in Bin Dinh Province, northeast of An Khe. He was immediately flying constantly, performing his duties as Flight Surgeon.

CPT Kushner had been transported by UH-1 D helicopter from his home base at LZ Two Bits to Chu Lai on November 30, 1967. The irony of the story is that the trip was made for the purpose of teaching a class to pilots on the dangers of night flying. A storm was brewing and after the class, at about 8:00 PM, Kushner and others on the flight suggested staying overnight at Chu Lai until the weather cleared. The aircraft commander declared that the aircraft had to be returned to LZ Two Bits for a mission the following morning, so they took off in the storm. The aircraft got off course and crashed on a mountaintop. CPT Kushner was the sole survivor of the crash.

During those 5 ½ years of captivity, he and his fellow prisoners were subjected to unspeakable physical and mental torture, propaganda bombardment, malnutrition, sickness and disease with general withholding of medical care by the VC. Perhaps the crowning achievement of his military career, on July 29, 1971, he was able to save the life of a fellow POW who was having a heart attack. For this, he was awarded the Silver Star.

COL Kushner returned home in 1973 and served on active duty until 1977. He served in the Army Reserves until 1986 at which time he retired at the rank of COL. He has since been in private ophthalmology practice in Daytona Beach, Florida. In 2001, the 1/9th Cav Troop Medical Clinic at Ft. Hood, Texas was named in his honor. Besides the Silver Star, he received the POW Medal and the Soldier's Medal. He was inducted into the Army Aviation Hall of Fame in 2001.

To read COL Kushner's complete story in his own words, go to [www.war-stories.com](http://www.war-stories.com) >WS Library> War Stories>Author Stories>In Author Column, search for "Kushner, Hal (Dr.)> click on "Personal Story, 1967, by Dr. Hal Kushner."

Sadly, his home was severely damaged by Hurricane Matthew, and he is in the process of rebuilding. If anyone would like to contact him, please email me at [terryamccarl@gmail.com](mailto:terryamccarl@gmail.com), call me at 402-296-3150, or write me at 1122 Main St, Plattsmouth, NE 68048, and I will relay your message to him.

On the day after the crash, I was flying with MAJ Archie Rider, CO of A Troop 1/9 CAV as Apache 6 X-ray. We flew over the crash site (the Blue Platoon had

secured the sight so we knew that CPT Kushner was the sole survivor) and then started a search for the missing Captain. As we were flying nape of the earth along a stream bed a VC jumped up from the far bank on the left side of the aircraft. MAJ Rider was hit and our left door gunner took the shooter out.

We flew to the helipad at the hospital in Qui Nhon, as he was being escorted off the pad, MAJ Rider handed me his gun belt and asked me to ship it home to him. He then said "Tell Gordon he has the Troop". And that's how I came to be flying 6 X-ray with MAJ Gordon Stone on 6 December 1967, when we initiated the Battle of Tam Quan. (See the description of the battle in the September/October issue of the Saber 9th CAV column).

#### THE LAST FLIGHT OF "THE CRIPPLER"

In January 1968, Apache Troop relocated from LZ Dog to LZ English which was just across the highway. LZ English presented several challenges, one being that LZ Dog was flat and English was "crowned" in the revetment area, meaning helicopters were parked below the crown and others were on the crown itself.

On the morning of January 14, 1968, a call came in to the TOC that one of scout ships had been shot down in the An Lo Valley. Word went to scramble all available aircraft. I was the first pilot to reach the 6 ship and begin to start the aircraft while MAJ Stone strapped in and took over the run up of the aircraft. I strapped in and was pulling on my flight helmet when the aircraft lifted off. All of a sudden there was an extremely loud bang and I saw the ground rushing up at me through the chin bubble. We hit the ground and I began going through the shutdown procedure as the engine was still running at flight RPM. All of a sudden LT Al Tyre was pulling me out of my seat; however, my boots were wedged in the pedals on the floor. After a brief time I was able to unbuckle my seat belt and get free of the pedals.

We had lost the main rotor and the transmission had gone out of the side of the aircraft and came to rest in the side of an outhouse, occupied by Bill Murphy, who was unharmed but understandably shaken. The crash crew arrived and sprayed foam to stop the engine and reduce the risk of fire.

We had apparently struck a rotor blade of a helicopter parked on top of the crown and fell 50 feet and hit so hard the skids were spread. An ignoble end to a valiant aircraft that had taken many hits and one that had brought us home safely time after time.

Well that wraps up this edition. As some of you know our planned reunion in Surfside Beach, SC, was cancelled due to Hurricane Matthew. Planning is already under way for our next gathering in 2017. Check this space for information.

Until next time remember We Can and We Will, We Could and We Did.



## 7th Cav News

## Continued from pg. 7

reunions, on the phone and at Fort Hood!

Gilbert Rosales, Alpha Company 1/7 sent this report: members of A Company, from 67-68, had a reunion in Branson, Missouri. 13-16 Oct. A great time was had by all. Those attending were: myself, Michael Wolfsbauer, Dan Toney, Ed Strawther, Bob Leonard, Floyd Stewart, Paul Hoferer, Kim Larsen, Bob Jolley, Bill Godbout, John Devine, Tom Richardson, Jim Hevelone, Charles Hade and Bob Bourcard. Two in our group, Bob Cox and Bill Mercer were honored and remembered. We miss them. We would love to have others join us next time. Contact Bill Godbout at [Lbgodbout@gmail.com](mailto:Lbgodbout@gmail.com) GarryOwen! Thank you, Gilbert.

Another long standing tradition occurred in Pine City, Minnesota during the 2nd week of August as another group from A 1/7 gathered at the Welcharosa. Much jocularly and hijinks were reported by Chuck Holtz as well as the mission: reunion, reminiscing and healing, took place amid good food, drink, bonfires, a few chores, endless fun, rain and mosquitoes. Lots to report Chuck but space required massive editing.

Charlie Company, 1/7 held their latest reunion in Underwood, Minnesota in early September, organized by veteran Elray Anderson. Special guests this year were two sisters of the late Roger Anderson, killed in action in December of 1970. He was awarded the Silver Star during the engagement that cost him his life. This was the FIRST contact that Roger's sisters (Joan Riley and Karen King) have had with anyone that served with their brother. Ruth and Joan were grateful for the invitation and moved to tears to see firsthand that their brother has not been forgotten. These mini reunions were the brain child of Marion Siara who has hosted many of them himself. The group is planning another get together in Florida in March of 2017.

Bristow, Oklahoma man to be inducted into state Military Hall of Fame. Army SP4 Willard F. Parish, a Bristow native, waited with his machine gun for the inevitable attack from a superior force of Viet Cong guerrillas and North Vietnamese regulars in 1965. At 7:45 a.m. the waiting ended as the large enemy force smashed into Charlie Company's defensive sector where Parish and fellow Soldiers waited with the rest of the 1st Battalion, 7th Cavalry to meet their attack. It was November 15, 1965, day two of the first battle between American and North Vietnamese Soldiers in the Ia Drang Valley, a day memorialized in the book, We Were Soldiers Once and Young, and later the movie, We Were Soldiers. Parish, who was inducted into the Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame on October 21st, said the enemy looked like they were growing out of the elephant grass. Parish would be awarded The Silver Star for gallantry during that battle. His citation said that as the enemy attacked, Parish delivered lethal fire into the advancing waves of Viet Cong. In the book, Parish said, I remember a lot of noise, a lot of yelling, air strikes then quiet. It got very quiet like somebody had turned the volume down. Years later, he would relive that quiet of the battlefield when he took his father, a World War II Veteran, to see the movie,

Saving Private Ryan, which opens with the American invasion at Omaha Beach on June 6, 1944. Remembering that scene on the beach with Tom Hanks when everything got quiet and seemingly was in slow motion? I got cold chills, Parish said. After his tour of duty in the Army, Parish returned to Bristow. He was a country and western band leader and disc jockey for several years. He retired from the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority after 16 years as a toll gate attendant and then retired as an employee of the city of Bristow.

The 5th Battalion Association does a marvelous job in keeping their group vibrant. Thanks to my good friend Karl Haartz and to General Edmonds for their friendship as well as to the late Colonel Ted Swett who took the battalion to Vietnam. Great Warriors, even better brothers!

To our tireless website manager Jim Savage, who started the website many, many years ago and is extremely knowledgeable about our time in Germany. He single handedly set up the Stetson Program which generated thousands of dollars for our operating funds for many years.

Finally to my bride of 43+ years Julianne, she has stood side by side with me during my phases of PTSD eruptions and is the glue that keeps our little Family alive. To our daughter Rebecca, a young woman full of charm and grace that she gets from her mother. To my sister Susan, who has been there as a sounding board for my half-baked criticisms of all things known to man, or so it seems. To my mother Mary Elizabeth Anderson, 92+ years old, who like every mother prayed daily for the safe return of her oldest child. Her prayers were heard and I survived my war, when so many better men than I did not.

So with a hat tip to General MacArthur, I now close my duty as your scribe and wish you peace! GarryOwen and First Team from Michigan.

	<p>Get Linked &amp; Stay Connected 1CDA Social Media <a href="http://www.1CDA.org">www.1CDA.org</a> <a href="http://www.facebook.com/AlumnioftheFirstTeam">www.facebook.com/AlumnioftheFirstTeam</a></p>	
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#### Horse Detachment Continued from pg. 4

10th. We are excited for these events and look forward to visiting with our local communities when we are in the neighborhood!

We conduct our demonstrations at the detachment every Thursday at 1000 hundred hours depending on weather and mission requirements. We use this time to train new mounts and troopers and invite the public to come out and enjoy the show. Feel free to call ahead to check our schedule at (254) 287-2229. You can also find us on Facebook at 1st Cavalry Division Horse Cavalry. It is truly an honor to represent America's First Team and I look forward to the year ahead.



## 30th FA News



## "HARD CHARGERS"

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**Hard Charger News:** It is 1 November 2016 and it was 71 degrees outside here on the shores of Lake Erie. The Cleveland Indians just lost to the Cubs with a score of 9-3, and tied the series up 3 games to 3. Tuesday, 2 November will be the last game of the series, and I hope the Indians will wake up their sleeping bats and win the World Series. Unfortunately, the Cleveland Indians lost the World Series. To add to my misery, I twisted my right knee and I have a tear in my medial meniscus. We'll see what the surgeon has to say later this month.

**2017 Hard Charger Reunion:** Our 2017 Hard Charger Reunion will be held in a Lake George, New York. We'll actually be staying at a hotel in Glen's Falls, which is only a 10-minute drive to Lake George Village. Arrival date will be Monday, 19 June 2017. On Tuesday, 20 June, we'll be on a bus trip to Fort Ticonderoga, and we'll have lunch at their gift shop. On Wednesday, 21 June, we'll travel by bus to Lake George for a two-hour cruise around the lake. There is a snack bar near the dock before boarding if you want something to eat while you're waiting to board the boat. Also, there is a snack bar onboard the boat. Thursday, 22 June, we'll hold our annual membership meeting followed by our annual memorial service. Our banquet will begin in the evening. Please bring items for our traditional fundraising auction. The complete details for the reunion will be published in the January Hard Charger Newsletter. If you are not a member of the 30th FA Regiment Association, you will not receive the newsletter via email. Contact me at <firstcav68@roadrunner.com> for a membership form.

**Hard Charger History:** I'm bringing these short vignettes to your attention as some of our Hard Chargers have gone to the VA seeking treatment for illness and injuries only to have their request denied. The VA does not believe that the Field Artillery Branch is one of the Combat Arms. And the VA continues to labor under a misconception that the Field Artillery stayed in the rear area where it was safe, sound, and secure. We fired 1,260,000 155mm rounds in 5 years and 4 months in combat. I guess we didn't get the memo that stated we were suppose to stay in the rear area and air mail all of those 1,260,000 155mm rounds to Ho Chi Minh! And someone forgot to tell the VC and the NVA that Field Artillerymen were not supposed to be shot at! Apparently the NVA didn't get their memo either. Somebody in the VA needs to sign up for a reality check! I'll get off of my soapbox for now and let's read some Hard Charger History. At 2015 hours on 6-2-67, C-1-30th FA closed into position at LZ DOG and began firing H&I fires almost immediately. Then at 0150 hours on 7-2-67, C Btry was hit with an intensive mortar attack lasting for approximately 1 hour. Because of the rapid airlift into LZ Dog few if any defensive positions had been prepared before the attack was launched.



First airlift of 155mm Howitzer in Vietnam by a CH-54A Flying Crane Helicopter with A/1/30th Arty Bong Son, 4 Feb 1966.

Approximately 40 rounds of 82mm mortar fire and other types of rounds fell into the C Btry's position area. As a result, one gun section sustained heavy casualties from the first round that landed, while another prepared to return fire immediately. After the Infantry was withdrawn from the immediate area, C Btry delivered 23 rounds on the suspected mortar location and they

silenced it. C Btry sustained 19 WIAs with damage to equipment primarily consisting of punctured tires, ruptured fuel tanks, and holes in the radiators of several vehicles. Because of actions by Service Battery and elements of the 1st Air Cav Div, they repaired all damage within 24 hours and C Btry continued to attack the enemy with timely, accurate, and deadly airmobile firepower. Before you read this next segment, we are 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 18-8-67, a UH-1 "Huey" gun-ship crashed outside A-1-30th FA's position at LZ Two Bits. 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



Huey Crashed and burned at LZ Two Bits 1967

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 hrs on 18-7-67, 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-1-30th FA had braved the fire and removed three



Greg Gearheart & James Cline LZ at Two-Bits.

crewmembers 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 49 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! Dan Gillotti

## Division Doings

## Continued from pg. 5

chicken salads and chicken tenders for lunch. For breakfast, Soldiers can pick up bagels, bacon, egg and cheese sandwiches, boiled eggs, cereal or fruit cups.

The meals are comparable to anything you get at a fast food restaurant with less wait. The Grab-n-Go line is open from 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. for breakfast and from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. for lunch. So even if you missed lunch at the other DFACs on post, you can still grab something.

So, if you are in a hurry and want something other than fast food stop by the Theodore Roosevelt DFAC and grab your lunch.

### Tanks, Bradleys, aircraft – and sweat by Staff Sgt. Leah Kilpatrick, 3rd ABCT PAO, 1st Cav. Div., FORT HOOD, Texas

Tanned, dirt-stained faces. Uniforms caked with dust and salty white streaks – the remnants of a sweaty week spent in hot, dry conditions. It was a scene that could have played out in Iraq or Afghanistan, but this was no war zone. Troops from the 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division spent about two weeks conducting a combined arms live-fire exercise in preparation for the brigade's upcoming rotation at the National Training Center in Fort Irwin, California.

Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment teamed up with Soldiers from 6th Squadron, 9th Cavalry Regiment and 1st Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment, 1st Air Cavalry Brigade to conduct a live-fire assault on targets in Fort Hood's training area. "A CALFEX is really an event that tests your ability to synchronize all of your elements – your maneuver and your fire and your air – in time and space," said Capt. Kellen Petersen, the commander of 1-12 Cav's Company C. "It's a great learning event."

Companies that would normally have been purely infantry or armor were sprinkled throughout with a bit of each in a configuration that many were inexperienced with, said Capt. John Pelham, 1-12 Cav's assistant operations officer. "In addition to that, they've also got attack aviation, tube artillery and mortars. And they're synchronizing all these assets to fight 13 separate engagements to qualify for live-fire training at NTC."

The company recently completed gunnery, a training event during which the Abrams tank crews and Bradley crews qualify by engaging targets as teams, squads and platoons, but the CALFEX allowed those Soldiers to train in a way more representative of the way they would fight, said Petersen, a native of Sweet Home, Oregon.

"It's a chance for the battalion to start working together in a variety of ways that we actually would in combat and to test a lot of our leaders in a forum that they really haven't been tested before," Petersen said.

"The combined arms warfare concept is based on utilizing as many different assets as possible. We call them forms of contact, whether it's direct fire, observation, aircraft, you name it – we have all these different tools, and the more effectively that you can use your tools across time and space to have effects on the enemy, the more likely you are to succeed, and the more likely you are to succeed against a more adaptive and competent enemy."

This CALFEX brought together the combat power of M1A2 Abrams tanks, M2A3 Bradley Fighting Vehicles, Apache attack helicopters, and dismounted infantrymen to fight as a synchronized element. It also brought into use the live firing of both an M58 Mine-clearing Line Charge and a BGM-71 TOW missile.

"This is the most realistic training we can offer at home station prior to going to the combat training center, which provides the most realistic combat training the Army can provide short of an actual combat environment," Pelham said, "so this is the training gate that we have to meet in order to pass onto the next more complicated level of training at the combat training center."

While being in the field when the heat index reached as high as 105 degrees can be uncomfortable, the Soldiers came out and worked tirelessly toward

Continued on pg. 14





## 27th ORD/MNT/MSB/BSB News



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This fall has been beautiful here in northern Illinois, but my heart is heavy knowing of so many who are suffering from the affects of Hurricane Matthew. I reported in the last Saber that I had visited the Carolina and Georgia coast in July. Aside from the heat and humidity my wife Lendy and I had a wonderful experience.

Rolly Koreski, '67-'68, lives in St. Simons Island, Georgia and they took a direct hit. Rolly was away and safe and is getting back to normal. Gary Maddox, '68-'70, who lives in St. Augustine, Florida stuck it out and had little damage to his home, but his beloved sailboat was severely damaged. Our collective thoughts are with you.

I have heard from a number of 27th alum who are attending the 1st CAV Veterans Day Reunion. Jim Donahue, '68-'70, along with his wife Barbara and his cousin are coming in from New York. Sam Interante, '67-'68, and his wife Joanne and Pete Durno, '65-'66, and daughter Lori are all arriving from Massachusetts. Joining in from New Jersey are Ron Stokes, '68-'69 and Fred Vath, '65-'66 and his wife Bonnie. Making his way from El Paso, TX is Nelson Cardona, '70-'71. Representing Nebraska is Jack Robak, '70-'71. John Ramsden, '68-'69, will be driving down from Columbia, Maryland and perhaps Ralph Hoskins, '65-'66, may be able to join him. I've also recently heard from Ray Puffer, '70-'71, and he and his daughter Ingrid Beggs are hoping to complete arraignments to make it in. It will be good to see them all.

I received a message from former BN Commander Frank Ragano, '68-'69. He wanted to check in, wish us well and let us know how much he thinks about his time in Vietnam. Gary Maddox had a photo of LTC Ragano from 1968 while visiting a Civil Affairs project in Hue.

I've also heard from William (Bill) Jackson, Korea '63-'64. He was reacting to my meeting with Phil Barb, '68-'70, in Myrtle Beach in July. He thought Phil may be living there. Bill and his wife recently moved from Virginia to the Myrtle Beach area. He would be interested in meeting others in the area who served in the 27th. Contact me, I'll get you connected.

John Ramsden recently sent me the article to the right, presenting Vietnam War stats. I've seen this in the past but continue to be astounded by the numbers; I would like to hear from others about this.

I will be reporting on the Veterans Day reunion in the next Saber. I have reached out to more recent 27th veterans (Desert Storm, Bosnia, Iraqi Freedom, Afghanistan) in an effort to get them involved with the Association in general and becoming the scribe, in particular for the 27th ORD/MNT/MSB/BSB News. So far, it hasn't been productive. The Jan/Feb Saber will be the last issue I will be writing. If anyone would like to step forward to take over, and/or can put me in touch with another scribe please do so. I look forward to and will be happy to work together with a new writer. As always, please stay healthy, be safe and happy!

## In Loving Memory

### SHERMAN P. HAIGHT, JR. – 1922-2016

1LT Sherman P. Haight, Jr., a Charter Member of the Association and served as the President of the 1st Cavalry Division Association from 1968 to 1970, died after a long illness on 17 October 2016 at the age of 93. Sherman was born in New York on 7 November 1922.

Sherman enlisted in the Army in 1942 and began his service with the Reconnaissance Platoon of the 7th Cavalry Regiment at Fort Bliss, Texas. He served throughout World War II with the 7th Cavalry and was involved in all of the campaigns of the 1st Cavalry Division in the South Pacific. He was discharged in 1945 at the rank of 1st Lieutenant.

He was very involved with the Association serving on its Board of Governors and as the President. Sherman's long service with the Association continued with his service on the Board of Governors and on the Horse Cavalry Detachment Sub-committee of the Association.

He was MFH of the Litchfield County Hounds from 1948 to 1981. He was president of the Masters of Foxhounds Association (MFHA) from 1978 to 1981 and president of the United States Pony Clubs (USPC) from 1961 to 1964. In 1985 Mr. Haight along with Dr. Joe Rogers and Mr. Paul Krauss formed the Museum of Hounds and Hunting at Morven Park in Leesburg, Virginia. He also found great joy in being outdoors, including shooting and fishing. Sherman's business pursuits included president of E-Z Mills and president of A.S. Haight & Co. He also started the first farm winery in Connecticut, Haight Vineyard.

Sherman is survived by his wife Margaret, three daughters, two grandsons, and two great grandchildren.

His funeral services were private. The family suggests making donations to the charity of your choice.



## Vietnam Warriors A statistical Profile (VFW Magazine 2007)

- \*Vietnam Vets: 9.7% of their generation
- \*9,087,000 military personnel served on active duty during the Vietnam era (Aug. 5, 1964-May 7, 1975).
- \*8,744,000 GIs were on active duty during the war (Aug. 5, 1964-Mar. 28, 1973).
- \*3,403,100 (inc. 514,300 offshore) personnel served in the SEA Theater (Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, flight crews in Thailand and sailors in adjacent South China Sea waters).
- \*2,594,000 personnel served within the borders of South Vietnam (Jan. 1, 1965-Mar. 28, 1973).
- \*Another 50,000 men served in Vietnam between 1960-1964.
- \*Of the 2.6 million, between 1-1.6 million (40-60%) either fought in combat, provided close support or were at least fairly regularly exposed to enemy attack.
- \*7,484 women (6,250 or 83% were nurses) served in Vietnam.
- \*Peak troop strength in Vietnam: 543,482 (Apr. 30, 1969).

## CASUALTIES

- \*Hostile deaths: 47,378
- \*Non-hostile deaths: 10,800
- \*Total: 58,202 (includes men formerly classified as MIA and casualties). Men who have subsequently died of wounds account for the changing total.
- \*8 Nurses died--1 was KIA.
- \*Married men killed--17,579
- \*61% of men killed were 21 or younger.
- \*Highest state death rate: West Virginia-84.1 (Nat'l. avg. 58.9 for every 100,000 males in 1970)
- \*Wounded: 303,704 - 153,329 hospitalized -150,375 injured not req. hospitalization.
- \*Severely disabled: 75,000--23,214(100%); 5,283 lost limbs; 1,081 sustained multiple amputations.
- \*Amputation or crippling wounds to the lower extremities were 300% higher than in WWII and 70% higher than in Korea. Multiple amputations occurred at the rate of 18.4% compared to 5.7% in WWII.
- \*MIA: 2,338
- \*POWs: 766(114 died in captivity).

## DRAFTEES VS VOLUNTEERS

- \*25% (648,500) of total forces in country were draftees.
- \*Draftees accounted for 30.4% (17,725) of combat deaths in Vietnam.
- \*Reservists killed: 5,977
- \*Nat'l Guard: 6,140 served; 101 died.
- \*Total draftees (1965-73): 1,728,344.
- \*Actually served in Vietnam: 38%
- \*Marine Corps draft: 42,633.
- \*Last man drafted: June 30, 1973

## RACE AND ETHNIC BACKGROUND

- \*88.4% of the men who actually served in Vietnam were Caucasian; 10.6% (275,000) were black; 1% belonged to other races.
- \*86.3% of the men who died in Vietnam were Caucasian (includes Hispanics); 12.5% (7,241) were black; 1.2% belonged to other races.
- \*170,000 Hispanics served in Vietnam; 3,070 (5.2%) died there.
- \*70% of enlisted men killed were of Northwest European descent.
- \*86.8% of the men killed as a result of hostile action Caucasian; 12.1%(5,711) were Black; 1.1% belonged to other races.
- \*34% of blacks that enlisted volunteered for the combat arms.
- \*Overall, blacks suffered 12.5% of the deaths in Vietnam at a time when the percentage of blacks of military age was 13.5% of the population.
- \*Religion of dead: Protestant---64.4%; Catholic---28.9%; other/none---6.7%.

## SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS

- \*76% of the men sent to Vietnam were from lower middle/working class backgrounds.
- \*Three-fourths had family incomes above the poverty level; 50% were from middle-income backgrounds.
- \*Some 23% of Vietnam vets had fathers with professional, managerial or technical occupations.
- \*79% of the men who served in Vietnam had a high school education or better when they entered the military service. (63% of Korean War vets and only 45% of WWII vets had completed high school upon separation).
- \*Death by region per 100,000 populations; South--31; West--29.9; Midwest--28.4; Northeast--23.5.

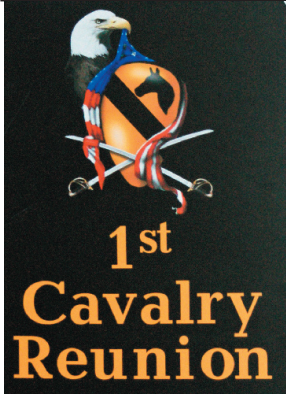
## WINNING AND LOSING

- \*82% of veterans who saw heavy combat strongly believe the war was lost because of lack of political will.
- \*Nearly 75% of the public agrees it was a failure of political will, not of arms.

## HONORABLE SERVICE

- \*97% of Vietnam-era veterans were honorably discharged.
- \*91% of actual Vietnam War veterans and 90% of those who saw heavy combat are proud to have served their country.
- \*66% of Vietnam vets say they serve again if called upon.
- \*87% of the public now holds Vietnam veterans in high esteem.





70th Annual Reunion of the 1st Cavalry Division Association - Killeen Texas 7-11 June 2017

The Crossed Sabers Chapter invites you to join the rest of the First Team family in Killeen/Fort Hood, Texas for the 70th Annual Reunion of the 1st Cavalry Division Association from 7-11 June 2017. 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 2016 through 21 April 2017 is \$20 for all members, except those on active duty. Active Duty Troopers pay \$10 to register. Those sending in Registrations post-marked after 04 May 2017 must pay late registration fee of \$40. Family members attending with an Association member, widows of 1st Cavalry Division Troopers and Gold Star Family members that attend do not have to pay a registration fee.

Hotel Information

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

The Shilo Hotel has guaranteed a room rate of \$104 per night plus tax for up to 125 rooms on peak nights and there is no charge for parking. Call (254) 699-0999 reserve a room. The reservation toll-free number is (800) 222-2244. Make sure that you identify yourself as attending the 1st Cavalry Division Association reunion and make your reservations prior to 9 May 2017. The Shilo 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 expect to have rooms blocked at the 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 completely renovated and remodeled and looks brand new with new plumbing and air conditioning and a fresh new look. Updates will be posted in the January/February 2017 Saber.

Shilo Inn & Suites \$104 (800) 222-2244 or (254) 699-0999  
3701 S. W.S. Young Drive, Killeen, Texas  
Courtyard Marriott (800) 321-2211 or (254) 616-2000  
1721 E. Central Texas Expressway, Killeen, Texas  
Residence Inn  
400 E Central Expy, Killeen, Texas (254) 6341020  
Holiday Inn Express  
300 E Central Expy, Killeen, Texas (254) 526-2022  
Candlewood Suites  
2300 Florence Rd, Killeen, Texas (254) 501-3990  
TownePlace Suites  
2401 Florence Rd, Killeen, Texas (254) 554-8899

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

RV Park Information

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

Reunion Event Overview

The 70th Annual Reunion will run from Wednesday, 7 June through Sunday morning, 11 June 2017 and is full of events and time to visit with one another.

This year we will be running our usual events and have again included 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 event. We have also added back into our schedule a Texas Barbecue that will be on post on Friday afternoon.

As usual, we will also have our Welcoming Mixer, War Era Lunches, Unit Lunches, Gold Star Family Breakfast, Purple Heart 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 2020 reunion. We expect bids from several Chapters to host the 2020 reunion and will have specific details to provide at the reunion.

The Ladies tea will be a bit different in 2017. The ladies will be taken to a local establishment called Painting with a Twist (<http://paintingwithatwist.com/harkerheights>). Artwork will be established prior to the reunion. Be sure to leave room in your suit case for the trip home.

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

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

with what you wear, as long as it isn't indecent!

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

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

The Division will have several units deployed but we will have Troopers from all of our units at Fort Hood during the reunion. The Division leadership is coordinating a special event on the evening of Friday, 9 June entitled "Spirit of the Cav" and other events on post during that day as well. Busses will transport reunion attendees from the two hotels and KCCC to Fort Hood on Friday for a vehicle display visits to the 1st Cavalry Division Museum and a Demonstration by 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. Coordination for additional events is also being done. If you haven't been to Fort Hood for a reunion, make sure you attend and see the great Troopers of today's First Team.

Transportation

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

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

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


Trailways bus service is also available to Killeen.

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


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

The Best Part of the Reunion

As always, the best part of any reunion is the people that attend. The 1st Cavalry Division Association reunion brings in Troopers from almost every era of the First Team's history. Troopers that rode horses, fought in the Pacific with MacArthur, occupied Japan, fought in Korea, or stood watch on the DMZ will spend time with the Sky Troopers of Vietnam and the Troopers from Operation Desert Storm, Fort Hood, Bosnia, and the latest combat veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan. The equipment and terrain might be different, but the common bond of serving with America's First Team binds us together. Saddle up and join us in Killeen in 2017!



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☐ Sizes

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☐ S

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

\$21.95 each

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1st Cavalry Division

70th Annual Reunion

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70th Annual Reunion

ASSOCIATION

Back Design

Shipping Chart:

1 Shirt @ \$7.00

2-8 Shirts @ \$14.00

8+ @ \$19.00

\*To have the merchandise shipped, please use the chart to determine rates. No shipping for merchandise if picked up at the reunion.

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

Name

Address

City

State

Zip

Phone

E-mail

Description: 90/10 Grey with Pocket. Logo on the pocket as well as full-color Imprint on the back.

☐ Check Enclosed

☐ Visa

☐ M/C

☐ Discover

☐ American Express

Card Number

For Credit Card, CVD #

Expiration Date (MO/YR)

Signature

Reunion T-shirts will not ship prior to 01 May 2017

Please mail the order form back to:  
Crossed Sabers Souvenir Shop  
PO Box 5774, Ft Hood, TX 76544

To view artwork in color, or to order online, please visit our website @  
[www.crossedsabers-chapter-giftshop.com](http://www.crossedsabers-chapter-giftshop.com)



70th Annual 1st Cavalry Division Association Reunion

WEDNESDAY JUNE 7  
0900-UTC Association Golf Tournament  
0900-1800 Souvenir Shop Open  
1300-1800 Registration Desk open  
1300-2400 Reunion Room open

THURSDAY JUNE 8  
0900-1800 Registration Desk Open  
0900-1800 Souvenir Shop Open  
0930-1030 Foundation Trustees Meeting  
1045-1145 Museum Trustee Meeting  
1200-1400 Ladies Tea (Painting with a Twist)  
1330-1500 Board of Governors Meeting  
1300-2400 Reunion Room Open  
1700-1900 Welcome Mixer

THURSDAY cont'd  
2000-2400 Sweetheart Dance

FRIDAY JUNE 9  
0730-0900 Gold Start Family Breakfast  
0900-1800 Registration Desk Open  
0900-1800 Souvenir Shop Open  
0900-1600 Events on Fort Hood  
1100-1300 War Era Luncheons  
1300-2400 Reunion Room Open  
1700-1830 TX BBQ  
1900-2030 Spirit of the Cav

SATURDAY JUNE 10  
0730-0845 Purple Heart Breakfast

SATURDAY cont'd  
0900-1100 General Membership Meeting  
0900-1800 Registration Desk Open  
0900-1800 Souvenir Shop Open  
1200-1400 Unit Luncheons  
1300-2400 Reunion Room Open  
1500-1600 Veterans Benefits Briefing  
1745-1845 Cocktails (Cash Bar)  
1900-2230 Association Banquet

SUNDAY JUNE 11  
0700-0830 Group Breakfast  
0700-0830 LRRP/Ranger Breakfast  
0900-1000 Memorial Service (Long Roll Muster)

1st CAVALRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION 70th REUNION - 2017 REGISTRATION FORM

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

I will attend the 1st Cavalry Division Association 70th Annual Reunion at the Killeen Shilo Inns Suite Hotel, Killeen, TX June 7-11, 2017. Cancellations must be received by 5:00pm Wednesday, May 31, 2017 in our office (254-547-6537) for a refund. Seating at some functions is limited. Hotel Cancellations must be done personally with the hotel.

Are you a member of the 1CDA: YES NO

NAME:

ADDRESS:

CITY/STATE:

NICKNAME:

GOLD STAR FAMILY MEMBER:

PHONE# (H)

(C)

PREFERRED UNIT (s) #1

#2

DATE(s) SERVED #1 to

#2 to

I served during (circle one or more): Pre-WWII WWII Japan (anytime)

Korean War Korea 57-65 Ft Benning Vietnam War Ft Hood

Gulf War Bosnia Iraq Afghanistan Ft Bliss Other:

EMAIL:

Is this your first 1CDA Reunion? YES NO

I will be accompanied by:

SPOUSE/OTHER

GUEST#1

GUEST#2

GUEST#3

GUEST#4

GUEST#5

I am staying at: Shilo Inn & Suites Local

Home RV Other:

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

FUNCTION	#	AMOUNT	TOTAL	FUNCTION	#	AMOUNT	TOTAL
Registration Fee (Members Only)	1	\$20.00		SATURDAY JUNE 10			
After May 4, 2017	1	\$40.00		Purple Heart Breakfast		\$21.00	
Active Duty (w/ID Card)	1	\$10.00		Unit Luncheons (circle one)		\$25.00	
				5C 7C 8C 9C 12C Wings			
WEDNESDAY JUNE 7				ARTY HQ LRRP/Ranger E			
Association Golf Tournament		\$70.00		Association Banquet (Adult)		\$42.00	
				*(circle one) (Child)		\$22.00	
THURSDAY JUNE 8				5C 7C 8C 9C 12C Wings			
Ladies Tea		\$35.00		ARTY HQ LRRP/Ranger E			
Welcome Mixer		\$25.00					
Sweetheart Dance		\$10.00					
FRIDAY JUNE 9				SUNDAY JUNE 11			
Gold Star Family Breakfast		\$21.00		Group Breakfast		\$25.00	
War Era Luncheon				LRRP?Ranger Breakfast		\$25.00	
WWII Veterans		\$25.00					
Korean War Veterans		\$25.00		Add a little extra (Donation)			
Vietnam War Veterans		\$25.00					
Gulf War Veterans		\$25.00		Saber Renewal		\$10.00	
Iraq/Afghan War Veterans		\$25.00					
Texas BBQ Dinner		\$23.00		New Life membership		\$10.00	
				Rank			
				Last four of SSN:			
				DOB:			

Credit Card Check Cash

EXP Date:

Card number – print clearly

Name on Card

Signature – Credit Card payment only

GRAND TOTAL

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



## LRRP/Ranger News



**Ken White**  
3834 Inverness Road  
Fairfax, VA 22033  
(703) 352-1468  
KenWhite68@yahoo.com

You might remember from the 1st Cav Chicago reunion in 2014 Lieutenant Bob Stein, who was a Platoon Leader with Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry, and later a Platoon Leader with Echo Company (LRP), 20th Infantry (Airborne), 1st Field Force Vietnam (IFFV) – later re-designated Charlie Co., 75th Rangers, IFFV. He mentioned at the reunion that he was writing a book about his experiences in the 1st Bn. 5th Cav in Binh Dinh Province in 1967 and with Echo Co. (LRP), IFFV, in the western Central Highlands along the Cambodian Border in Plieku Province in 1968. He was hoping to complete it and get it published in the next year or so. Well he finished it alright and it's available at <<http://www.GhostWarriorsBook.com>> at Amazon. The title is Ghost Warriors, Long Range Patrol Airborne Rangers.

I got a copy of it and have read most of it; it's about 300 pages in length so I can only do it over a period of about a week or so. But I'm happy to report that the book is an excellent read. It's well written and well researched. It's written as a series of short stories, ranging from 5 pages or so to about 20 pages, with many of them being first-hand accounts from the men in the 1st Bn., 5th Cav and Echo Co. (LRP), IFFV of their experiences in these units.

The book provides a detailed description of the Battle of Van Thien (3) involving Bravo Co. 1st Bn., 5th Cav battling the 7th Bn., 18th NVA Regiment, Sao Vang Division, near LZ Uplift on June 21-22, 1967. The battle began on the 19th when South Vietnamese Soldiers from the 41st Regiment of the Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN), 22nd Infantry Division captured an NVA prisoner in a night ambush. The NVA Soldier told his captors that his battalion was located in the mountains surrounding the village of Van Thien (3), about 10 kilometers south of LZ Uplift, directly west of Highway 1 and LZ Crystal, and just north of the Phy Ly Bridge where it crossed the Soui Ca River on its way to the South China Sea. The southern Soui Ca Valley was on the other side of the mountains from Van Thien (3). If you were in the LRRP platoon at LZ Uplift, you are most likely very familiar with that Phu My/Phu Cat area of eastern Binh Dinh Province since we were all over that place on recon missions in support of 2nd Brigade operations.

With the information received from the NVA prisoner, Bravo Co., 1st Bn., 5th Cav air assaulted into the village on the morning of the 21st. They quickly encountered an enemy force in fortified positions and started taking casualties from AK-47 small arms fire. Shortly thereafter, Alpha Co., 1st Bn., 5th Cav and Bravo Co. 2nd Bn., 5th Cav, as well as helicopter gunships from the division's aviation units and an APC unit from the ARVN 22nd Infantry Division were committed to the battle. By the afternoon of the 22nd, most of the NVA Soldiers in the village were either dead or had managed to escape into the mountains leading to the Soui Ca Valley. The NVA lost 102 Soldiers in the battle, by body count, and friendly losses were four men killed in a 1st Squadron, 9th Cav helicopter gunship that was hit by enemy fire and exploded in mid-air, and 11 infantrymen who were killed by enemy small arms fire while attacking the village.



**LT Bob Stein Awarded Silver Star by MG John Tolson, Commanding General, 1st Cavalry Division, June 1967.**

For their actions during the battle, SP5 Edgar Lee McWethy, Jr., Leadville, Colorado, and SP4 Carmen B. Harvey, Jr., Chicago, Illinois, were posthumously awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor by President Richard Nixon. LT Stein was awarded the Silver Star for his actions.

As I mentioned above, several of the short stories in the book are firsthand accounts by members of Echo Co. (LRP) involving encounters with the NVA in remote areas of the western Central Highlands and on the Ho Chi Minh Trail, far from friendly units and well beyond the reach of supporting artillery. These team members learned the virtue of staying calm in the face of certain death and of focusing on what needed to be done to stay alive until help could reach them.

The book also traces the history of Echo Co. (LRP), IFFV from the time that it was formed in September 1967 with Veterans from the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division and a few

from the 1st Cav, to when it was re-designated Charlie Co., 75th Rangers in February 1969, and later disbanded and deactivated in October 1971.

It's interesting to read the history of Echo Co. (LRP) and compare it to that of the 1st Cav LRRPs. Echo Co. (LRP) operated at the II Corps Level in support of IFFV in remote areas, such as the Ia Drang Valley, the Cambodian border where the Ho Chi Minh Trail entered South Vietnam, and along the ambush-prone section of Provincial Highway 19 between the Mang Yang Pass and An Khe.

## Division Doings

Continued from pg. 10

the objective.

"The Soldiers – when they're put into conditions such as this, there's a nose-to-the-grindstone and work-until-we're-done attitude, and they've earned a break after this," Petersen said. "Every day they would just get after it, get up and get after it. You couldn't ask for better from your Soldiers. I've honestly never seen guys work harder."

The importance of training like this has been communicated down to the lowest levels, and the commitment to the mission was evident in their understanding

Hello from the nation's capital. Can you believe that the holiday season is upon us and that 2017 is straight ahead and coming into view? Where does the time go!

The 1st Cav LRRPs operated under the control of the Division's three brigades and went where they went. They were usually aligned closely with the brigade's infantry battalions. Echo Co. (LRP) operated in 6-man teams or for a specific purpose, two or more teams combined for a specific mission, such as a ready reaction force, prisoner snatch, or downed aircraft search/recovery. The 1st Cav LRRPs operated in 5 or 6-man team to search out and find enemy encampments in the brigade's area of operations, reporting on enemy movements, and directing artillery and airpower at targets of opportunity.

Ironically, Echo Company's first casualty was Major David B. Tucker, former Company Commander of the 1st Cav LRRPs, June-September 1967, and before that, Company Commander of Alpha Co., 2nd Bn., 7th Cav, January-May 1967. Major Tucker was killed on October 1st, 1967 while riding in a helicopter as it was lifting off from a 101st Airborne Division LZ in the Chu Lai area of Quang Ngai Province. He was hit in the neck with a Russian 37mm anti aircraft round and died before they could get him to a hospital. He had been promoted to Major only that day.

On a different note, we received word from Jim Regan (1968-60) Lexington, Kentucky that Charles (Chuck) Windham (1968-69) Dahlonaga, Georgia will be inducted into the Georgia Military Veterans' Hall of Fame (GMVHOF) on Saturday, November 5, 2016. The GMVHOF is a non-profit organization that was founded in 2013 with the objective of publically emphasizing the honor brought to Georgia and the nation by the sacrifice of Georgia Military Veterans and their Families. In order to be considered for induction into the Hall of Fame, a candidate must meet one or more of the following selection criteria: 1) Valor: they received a significant award for valor during active duty combat, 2) Achievement: they made significant contributions to the military that have impacted the military overall, and 3) Service: they served honorably in the US Armed Forces and subsequently made exceptional contributions to their community, state, and/or nation. Chuck was nominated for valor. He received a Silver Star for his actions in combat in Vietnam in 1968-69. He also earned a Purple Heart for wounds received while there.

On a different note, the following was received from John LeBrun (1969-1972) Blaine, Washington. "Major Peter Dencker (1970-72), Brentwood, Tennessee, who was the Company Commander of H Co., 75th Rangers, from July 1971 to June 1972, is writing a book about the unit during the time that he was the Company Commander. He would like input from members of the unit while he was there so it can be included in the book. His intent is to write a draft and bring it to the reunion in Texas for everyone to review. He wants the book to reflect the input from the members of the unit. Remember, our unit history should be saved; maybe this book is the appropriate place to do it. Think about it and send Peter an email. John."

The following email was received from LTC Jim Wright (1967), Yorktown, Virginia. "Charles Kettles received the Congressional Medal of Honor on July 18, 2016 for his service as an aviator in Vietnam in 1967. You former 1st Cav, 2nd Bn., 5th Cav Vets and perhaps others may recall your experience at Duc Pho in 1967, which is the location where Charles Kettles earned this award. I don't recall any LRRP operations in or around Duc Pho in the spring of 1967."

"I spoke directly with him a couple of days ago and we reminisced about our shared Duc Pho experiences. He earned the award while supporting the 101st Airborne Division about a month or so after we were at Duc Pho. The place was a hotbed of enemy activity while we were there and it obviously did not get any better after we left. In spite of being 86 years old, he seemed to be of very sharp mind and humbled by his selection for the award. He opted to give most of the credit to others. I definitely look forward to meeting this true hero in person. Jim."

Charles Kettles earned the CMH for his actions in supporting the 1st Brigade of the 101st in the Battle of Song Tra Cau Riverbed, sometimes referred to as the Battle of Mother's Day Hill. During the early morning hours of May 15, 1967, a unit of the 1st Bn. 327th Airborne was ambushed by an estimated battalion-size force of the North Vietnamese Army in a complex of fortified positions while on patrol in the Song Tra Cau Riverbed, just west of Duc Pho. Later that afternoon, the Battalion Commander requested an emergency extraction of the troops from the battlefield and Major Kettles led a flight of six Hueys to evacuate them. After receiving word that all of the Troops were onboard, the helicopters departed the riverbed, but apparently not all of the Troops were able to reach the helicopters due to intense enemy fire and eight of them were pinned down and left behind. Once Major Kettles caught word of this, he immediately flew back to the riverbed and held his helicopter on the ground long enough for the eight Troopers to maneuver their way to it and climb aboard. While on the ground, the chopper was severely damaged by a mortar round and raked with machinegun and small arms fire, but Major Kettles was able to maintain control of it and fly it to safety with the Troops onboard.

For those of you who served in the Bong Son area, you might remember that Duc Pho was located on the South China Sea coast just north of the Bong Son Plains in Quang Ngai Province in I Corps, just north of the border with Binh Dinh Province, approximately 45 kilometers north of LZ English. The 2nd Brigade of the 1st Cav operated in the Duc Pho region in the spring of 1967 to assist the U.S. Marines in Operation Lejeune.

Jim provided the following URL so you could learn more about the battle if you are interested in it: <<https://www.army.mil/medalofhonor/kettles/>>.


Finally, I would like to wish you and your Families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and may you and your Families be blessed with happiness and good health in 2017 and beyond. RANGERS LEAD THE WAY.

and in their performance.

"I think it helps us work more with the people we don't always work with," said Pfc. Thomas Pixley, an infantryman assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1-12 Cav. "The infantry guys are forced to work with the tankers and forced to work with the engineers, and it helps us get used to working across the entire combined arms spectrum, so we have better cohesion."

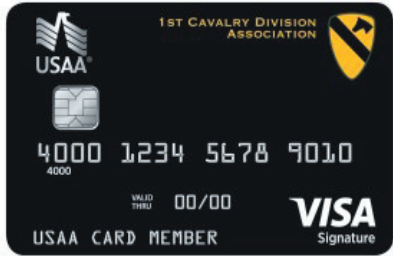
"Everybody's out in the field," said Spc. Kenneth Coleman, an infantryman also assigned to HHC, 1-12 Cav. "Everybody's bonding together as a Family, because essentially that's what we are, is a Family. And because we're out here, we get to know each other better, and we get better at the things we're lacking on."




<b>ALMOST HEAVEN WEST VIRGINIA CHAPTER</b> POC: William D. Carpenter 713 Diamond St. Fairmont, WV 26554-3713 (304) 366-0022 E-mail: vetvet1@comcast.net	<b>FLORIDA CHAPTER</b> Pres: Arthur (Joe) Craig 295 W Interlachen St Lake Alfred, FL 33850 (863) 268-8063 VP: Gill Harris (585) 704-2758 Facebook: Florida Chapter 1st Cavalry Division Association Contact for meeting info...	<b>JUMPING MUSTANG CHAPTER 1-8 Cav</b> Pres: Harvey Auger 4825 King Arthur Dr Charlotte, NC 28277-0052 (704) 321-2011 E-mail: ltauger@aol.com POC: James C. Knafel 5510E - 500 South Columbia City, IN 46725-7621 (260) 244-3864 E-mail: jjknafel@gmail.com Website: www.JumpingMustangs.com	<b>WILLIAM A. RICHARDSON NATIONAL CAPITOL REGION CHAPTER</b> Pres: Gene Russell 7923 Jansen Dr. Springfield, VA 22152-2413 (703) 220-5322 E-mail: enrussell@msn.com Website: 1cda.org/national_capitol.htm Meets 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.	<b>ROCKY MOUNTAIN CHAPTER</b> Pres: Robert Stauffacher 18355 Drennan Rd. Colorado Springs, CO 80928-9308 (719) 683-2837 POC: Paul Lemieux PO Box 6548 Woodland Park, CO 80866-6548 (719) 687-1169 E-mail: lemieuxpe@live.com Meets 9am 2nd Sat. of mo.at at Retired Enlisted Assn. Chapter 1, 834 Emory Cir., Colorado Springs, CO.
<b>CALIFORNIA CENTRAL COAST CHAPTER</b> Pres: Barney B. Jones PO Box 444 Pebble Beach, CA 93953 (831) 917-5952 E-mail: firstcav-cc-chapter@outlook.com	<b>FLORIDA TROOP E "BLACK HAT"</b> Pres: Juan Kellog 607 SE47th St., Apt. 7 Cape Coral, FL 33904-5506 E-mail: juankellog@embarqmail.com Contact: Johnnie Robertson (239) 600-1273 Website: www.seahog.org/cav/index.html Meets 4th Sat. ea. mo. from Sept.-May 1:00pm at Biggys Place, 3701 Fowler St., Fort Myers, FL 33901	<b>KETTLE MORaine CHAPTER</b> Pres: Gordon Weidner 1219 Cleveland Ave. Racine, WI 53405-2929 (262) 637-3835 POC: Robert Richter W204 N11945 Goldendale Rd. Germantown, WI 53022-2321 (262) 628-8056 Meetings held at 3 month intervals with a banquet dinner in Dec. when elections are held.	<b>NEVADA CHAPTER</b> Pres: John Lyles POC: Milton S. Clark, III 7789 Buckwood Ct. Las Vegas, NV 89149-6661 (702) 522-7313 Meets the first Saturday of the month at 10am at American Legion Post 8, downtown Las Vegas, Nevada. Call for directions.	<b>SHERIDAN'S CAVALRY CHAPTER (Greater Chicago Area)</b> VP: Joe LaPorte 2900 Maple Ave. #12E Downers Grove, IL 60515-4119 (630) 846-9960 E-mail: jilrsr@att.net POC: Terry Hodus 3718 W 114th Place Chicago, IL 60655-3414 (773) 445-1213 E-mail: us67-hodo@outlook.com Website: www.sheridansfirstcav.com Meets at the American Legion Post #1084, 322 E. Maple Ave., Roselle, IL 61072. 2016 Meeting Date - Apr 16, Mar 13, Oct 15, Dec 3
<b>CENTRAL SAVANNAH RIVER AREA CHAPTER</b> 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.)	<b>FOLLOW ME CHAPTER</b> Pres: Robert Dodson Meets 1900 4th Tues. ea. mo. Veterans Ctr., 1000 Victory Dr., Columbus, GA. No meeting in December.	<b>LOS ANGELES/ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER</b> Pres: John Guillory 780 Mandevilla Way Corona, CA 92879-8251 (951) 278-3740 E-mail: fisheye1@sbcglobal.net Vice Pres: John Burgner 228 South Hacienda St. Anaheim, CA 92804-2569 (714) 535-0737 E-mail: jburgner@sbcglobal.net Meets 0900 on 3rd Sat. of mo. at American Legion Post 132, 143 S Lemon St., Orange CA 92866	<b>NEWYORK/NEWJERSEY CHAPTER</b> Pres: Bob Arbasetti 973A Thornbury Ln. Manchester, NJ 08759-5296 (732) 657-4284 E-mail: b.arbasetti@gmail.com Facebook: New York New Jersey Cavalry Meets at Elk Lodge at Cedar and Spruce, Ridgefield Park, NJ.	<b>SOUTHEASTERN COLORADO CHAPTER</b> Pres: Gregorio Trujillo PO Box 215 Las Animas, CO 81054-0215 (719) 456-0028 POC: John Campos 1308 Lewis Ave. La Junta, CO 81050-3024 (719) 384-0379 E-mail: campos@centurytel.net Website: www.firstcavalry.net Meets 1st Sat. of each month at 10am at the Holiday Inn Express in LaJunta, CO.
<b>COLUMBIA-WILLAMETTE CHAPTER</b> 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 1800 3rd Wed of ea. mos. at the Village Inn, 1621 NE 10th Ave., Portland, OR 97232. No meeting in Dec.	<b>FORT KNOX AREA CHAPTER</b> 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 40205-2535 (502) 485-1270 E-mail: lawwhelan@att.net Website: www.1cda.org/fort_knox.html Meets 3rd Sat. of mo. at 1100 at the Barker Masonic Lodge, 705 Main St., West Point, KY.	<b>LRRP/RANGER of the 1st Cav Division during the Vietnam War.</b> Pres.: John LeBrun 932 3rd St. Blaine, WA 98230 (360) 393-6645 E-mail: caabnranger@yahoo.com Website: www.lrrprangers.com Full chapter meeting during Reunions	<b>NORTH CAROLINA - TARHEEL CHAPTER</b> Pres: Roy Wood 4407 Talavera Dr. High Point, NC 27265-9660 (336) 707-1402 E-mail: roywood64@gmail.com Contact for Membership: Don Gibson 803 McDonald Church Road Rockingham, NC 28379-8529 (910) 417-9104 e-mail: dtbjgibson@gmail.com Meets 2nd Sat of Mar., Jun, Sept. & Dec.	<b>WALTER H. WESTMAN NORTHLAND CHAPTER</b> Pres: Donald A. Delsing 3697 Gresham Ave. N. Oakdale, MN 55128-3212 (651) 770-5422 E-mail: dandmdelsing@aol.com POC: James D. Wright 12781 Able St. NE Blaine, MN 55434-3261 (763) 757-7140 E-mail: 1stCav-MN@comcast.net Meets quarterly at different locations. Call or write for information.
<b>CONNECTICUT CHAPTER</b> 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.	<b>GERALD F. KINSMAN CHAPTER</b> Pres: Owen Levine 77 Clubhouse Dr. Leominster, MA 01453-5170 (978) 534-6284 E-mail: sonny01453@comcast.net Meets yearly.	 If you have changes to this listing, contact the Association at (254) 547-6537 or e-mail at <membership@1cda.org>.	<b>NORTHWEST CHAPTER</b> Pres.: William Koepp 4633 Timothy St. SE Lacey, WA 98503-5764 (360) 259-4815 POC: Roberto Maanao 3036 Marquette Dr. SE Lacey, WA 98503-6255 (360) 491-9118 E-mail: rmaanao@comcast.net Meets 1200 1st Sat. of even months, contact William Koepp or Roberto Maanao for meeting location.	
<b>CROSSED SABERS CHAPTER</b> Pres: Jerry Eller 808 S. 2nd St. Killeen, TX 76541-7703	<b>JAMES J. MASON WEST MICHIGAN CHAPTER</b> Pres.: Ron Kloet POC: Bob Anderson 9030 Conservancy Dr. NE Ada, MI 49301-8822 (616) 682-5446 E-mail: rj.anderson2243@comcast.net Website: jjmwmlcd.com Meets on 3rd Thurs. of Feb., Apr., Jun., Aug., Oct., and Dec., at 7pm, at the Grand Valley Armory in Wyoming, MI .			

1st Cavalry Division Association

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To view our on-line catalog visit:

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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 Napolitano, 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.**

WANTED


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

DUPREE, CPL Jack, 5 Cavalry Regiment, KIA 9 February 1945 on Luzon. Contact biological daughter, Dianne Johnstone, <dijohn44@tpg.com.au>. I would love to receive any information about Jack and/or his regiment.

INGRAM, CPL Omer, B Btry., 1-21 FA and RTO/FO C Co., 1-8 CAV, 1969-70. Contact SGT James J. Hunter, 20111 Voiland St., Roseville, MI 48066-1195, Phone: 586-209-7308.

Troopers that served in B Co., 1-7th CAV, 1967-69. Contact SP4 Paul C. Burgess, 997 Old Kentucky Rd., Sparta, TN 38538-5218, phone 931-316-3631.


MEDAL OF HONOR - DELBERT O. JENNINGS



DELBERT O. JENNINGS  
Rank and organization: Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army, Company C, 1st Battalion (Airborne), 12th Cavalry, 1st Air Cavalry Division.  
Place and date: Kim Song Valley, Republic of Vietnam, 27 December 1966.  
Entered service at: San Francisco, Calif.  
Born: 23 July 1936, Silver City, N. Mex.  
Citation:  
For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of life above and beyond the call of duty. Part of Company C was defending an artillery position when attacked by a North Vietnamese Army regiment

supported by mortar, recoilless-rifle, and machine gun fire. At the outset, SSG Jennings sprang to his bunker, astride the main attack route, and slowed the on-coming enemy wave with highly effective machine gun fire. Despite a tenacious defense in which he killed at least 12 of the enemy, his squad was forced to the rear. After covering the withdrawal of the squad, he rejoined his men, destroyed an enemy demolition crew about to blow up a nearby howitzer, and killed 3 enemy soldiers at his initial bunker position. Ordering his men back into a secondary position, he again covered their withdrawal, killing 1 enemy with the butt of his weapon. Observing that some of the defenders were unaware of an enemy force in their rear, he raced through a fire-swept area to warn the men, turn their fire on the enemy, and lead them into the secondary perimeter. Assisting in the defense of the new position, he aided the air-landing of reinforcements by throwing white phosphorous grenades on the landing zone

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Hello once again fellow Sky Troopers. The leaves have fallen; the air is chilled and more importantly the election is finally just a little over a week away. I never thought I'd be happy to see the return of a regular TV ad. Enough is enough.

I'll launch this "Wings" sortie with three pieces of correspondence. The first note comes from Jay Snyder. "Hank-Don't believe we've ever met but I always read your column in Saber. I was one of those grunts below who depended on you and your fellow pilots and crews for virtually everything to keep us alive. You took us in to danger and then took us out; you rescued us, fed us, re-supplied and armed us, brought us mail and water, gave us covering fire and prepared objectives with ordinance. There is no question in my mind that we owe our lives to you and your flying brothers. The story you wrote in the most recent issue of Saber is a perfect example. Many of the names you included in your battle summary were very familiar to me. I was the 2nd Platoon Leader in Charlie Co 1/12 and we were involved in the Operation surrounding March 30, 1966. I knew CPT Drake and Larry Britten from A Co. The Platoon Leader, who took over for Larry when he was hit, was Dan Kapica. CPT Gergulis whom you mentioned had been Commander of D Company, our next-door neighbors in base camp. The 227th and 228th, along with the fixed wing folks of the 17th did incredible work to support the ground troops at Eagle. The teamwork from above and below showed just what the Airmobile concept was created for. Believe me, my brother Troopers and I will be forever grateful for your complete support of us on the ground! I also must recognize and commend the powerful "Reflections" piece you included in the same column. Those sentiments could be expressed by so many of us-but were eloquently put into words by Steve Saunders. Keep up the great reporting! Thank you and Boot to Boot! Jay Snyder Vietnam '65-'66. Jay, it was good hearing from you and thanks for reading the column and your comments.

This message arrived from John Brennan <johnmailman@yahoo.com> regarding his second edition of Vietnam War, U.S. Army Helicopter Names. Some of your readers did contribute photos and information to John for his editions. "Dear Hank Llewellyn, here is something for the next 1st Cav Saber column, thank you. Four-thousand + copter names recorded! Signed copies of, Vietnam War, U.S. Army Helicopter Names, Vol 2, second edition are now available. Featuring 40 additional pages of text, 284 newly found copter names. If interested, payment is by check, money order or PayPal to John Brennan in the amount of \$20.95 per book (postage included in this price) and send to 864 Wisconsin St., Chico, CA 95928. Thanks for supporting Army helicopter history research. Rotors forever, John Brennan, former SP5, 114 AHC, 1970-71, Vinh Long AAF, Mekong Delta PS. The Vol. 3 helicopter photo-book is slated for a late 2017 publishing date. John can also be reached at the email address above.

Vernon McPherson of Huntsville, Texas wrote in response to a story that appeared in the July/Aug column. LTC Jack Crawford's 227th AHB birds were attempting to perform a night extraction of A-1/12th troopers out of a small LZ using a lighted "T" set up by Pathfinders. The sortie was blocked when a CH-47 Chinook took about 50 hits and executed an emergency landing into that LZ, prohibiting the landing of any other aircraft. Vernon shares, "I read your story about the CH-47 and I believe my gunner was on that AC. One of the first rounds hit the 45 pistol on his hip and as he spun around he managed to hold onto his machine gun, firing into the enemy positions as the bird went down. They continued to rush the disabled Chinook but gunner, Sp5 Johnny Landen, managed to maintain firing into their direction. Later that morning, Specialist Landen came up to me and related his story of the event. The Chinook was from C Company, 228th. I can't remember the pilots' actual names but one was called "Creckey Eight". He was a vet of the Korean War. I didn't want to fly that night as they were serving hot chow. I had just sat down when the "May Day" call came in. I ended up flying all night in support. The morning Johnny came up to me I was waiting to go back out. He shared his story of the events that unfolded hours before. I didn't know until that moment that they had all gotten out." Vernon, I appreciate your firsthand account and taking the time to share.

On Saturday Oct 15th, my wife Susan, and I attended the New York-New Jersey Chapter of the 1st Cavalry Division Association meeting/luncheon in Ridgely, New Jersey. I try to make the drive to the NYC area at least once a year for a meeting. However, this one was special, The 30th Anniversary Celebration of the Chapter. Chapter president, Bob Arbasetti, always conducts an entertaining and interesting meeting with a hint of humor throughout. In fact, he states the chapter was founded to provide camaraderie among 1st Cav veterans in a relaxed atmosphere by forgoing formal reports, etc. during the gatherings, a mission that has worked for 30 years. Bob's high school buddy along with his acappella singing group entertained the crowd with patriotic and doo wop sounds of our youth.

Bob, along with past presidents Fred Robins and Bob Heinz took turns providing the group of 80 or so 1st Cav alumni and wives the history of the association and our chapter. Bob and the two past presidents reminisced of the many events provided by the chapter throughout the last three decades. Some long forgotten but enjoyed in recall this day by your writer.

The Elks Lodge provided the plentiful and festive hot and cold buffet with refreshments. They are "honored to have the veterans of the 1st Cavalry Division meet in their building." Bob reciprocated that sentiment by presenting the Lodge with an inscribed plaque from the chapter thanking them for their support.

This chapter, as well as others, needs First Team alumni from more recent conflicts and service to come forward and take the controls from us "seasoned" Troopers to ensure another 30 years of camaraderie and pride.

Congratulations to the chapter on its 30th Anniversary and to Bob for an outstanding meeting. Sue and I left with our commemorative Cavalry coffee mugs and fond memories of a beautiful fall Saturday spent with a fine group of First Team people. A Silver Wings salute to the officers and members of the

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## 77th FIELD ARTILLERY



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The 77th Field Artillery Regiment Association held its annual reunion September 15-18, at the Amelia Hotel on Amelia Island, Florida. Walter Ballard, Bill Bilo, Jim Bowers, William Brown, Tom Chiappone, Barry DiMaria, John Gallman,



Left to right: Don Yowell, Mike Maynard, Tom Chiappone, Fred Taylor, Barry Luedke, Barry DiMaria, Don Gross

Juan Garcia, Waymond Graham, Don Gross, Paul Guetter, William Hilgris, Barry Luedke, Mike Maynard, John Moran, Dave Morehead, Fred Taylor and Don Yowell attended. Several wives also attended, which added class to the gathering.

Memories and experiences of Vietnam were recalled and shared, although Walter Ballard had a different experience to share. He had

enlisted when he was 18 in the summer of 1949, and then was assigned to the 77th Field Artillery with the First Cav in Japan. He recalled that the following summer, when the North Koreans invaded the South, the Division was rushed to Korea, and were then pushed back to the Pusan Perimeter. After Gen MacArthur landed at Inchon, the Division went north to 105mm range of the Yalu. Then they were pushed back again when Chinese communists attacked.



While most of the troops had been members of the 1/77th, there were also members of the 2/77th (4th ID) and 6/77th (25th ID). An interesting piece of info on the 6/77th: a former Marine, whose uncle had been with our 12th Cav in Vietnam, brought us a bell, which his uncle had gotten in Can Tho in 1971. The bell, about 12" high, was inscribed with names from HHB, 6/77th. Our member, Juan Garcia, who had been a gunner with C, 6/77th, in '68, remembered the bell as having been in their NCO club. Bill Bilo distributed Commemorative pins, with a Presidential Proclamation, which observes the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War.

There were a lot of good restaurants on and near Amelia Island, and plenty to see and do. Fort Clinch, an excellent example of a 19th century coastal fortification, is a very interesting place to visit; it was used by the Army as recently as WWII. We even had Tropical Storm Julia to make it more interesting. The most popular hang-outs were Sliders which was on the beach, right across the street and the Salty Pelican in Fernandina Beach.

We conducted our Association Board of Governors elections. Tom Chiappone was elected President, replacing John Moran, Juan Garcia became First Vice-President, Bill Bilo, 2nd Vice-President, and Dave Morehead, 3rd Vice-President. Don Yowell, Secretary, and Fred Taylor, Treasurer remained in their positions. We also discussed ways to reach out to more potential members. We do have a website (77th Field Artillery), and decided to add a Facebook page. Dave Morehead is setting that up; anybody interested should join. We also voted on next year's location—Colorado Springs/Ft. Carson. The 2/77th, 4th ID, is the only active duty battalion of the 77th Field Artillery Regiment, and both the Battalion

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## 15th MED/15th FSB/15th BSB



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we know that he is Tim Becker, SP4 Medic with Co. B 15th MED 12-'68-08-'69, and with MEDEVAC 08-'69-12-'69. He lives in Newark, Ohio, and is now a new member of the 15th MED Bn. Assn. His contact info is on the Unit Member Search List on the website.



MEDEVAC gunner Dave Parks, Medic Dale McGuff, and CE Mike Vinyard-'69.

the Medics of the other 1st Cav battalions. They each filled their own slots and managed their own personnel.

From Terry McCarl <terryamccarl@gmail.com>, "As the Historian of the 15th Medical Bn. Association, I am privileged to research, read, and write about the heroic and meritorious acts of members of the 15th Medical Battalion. There are an abundance of such stories.

"Recently, I became aware of a story about extreme courage, fortitude, endurance, and resourcefulness by a medical professional from another 1st Cav unit, that I feel compelled to share with the veterans of 15th MED Bn. and other medical personnel who served in the Vietnam War. Such is the story of CPT Floyd Harold 'Hal' Kushner, who served as the Flight Surgeon for 1st Squadron, 9th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division (1-9th Cav) in 1967.

"A friend of mine, CPT Aubrey C. Hall, who was the CO of HSC, 15th Medical Battalion from August '68-August '69, mentioned to me that one of his medical school classmates at the Medical College of Virginia had served with the 1st Cavalry Division and had been a POW. Upon hearing about this, I was more than a little intrigued, and set out to find out more.

"CPT Kushner became a POW on December 2, 1967 and was not released until March 16, 1973, nearly five and a half years later. He is believed to have been the only Medical Corps officer to have been a POW during the Vietnam War.

"CPT Kushner arrived in Vietnam and reported to 1-9th Cav in August 1967 as its new flight surgeon. His predecessor had been KIA. The unit HQ was at LZ Two Bits in Bin Dinh Province, northeast of An Khe. He was immediately flying constantly, performing his duties as flight surgeon.

"CPT Kushner had been transported by UH-1 D helicopter from his home base at LZ Two Bits to Chu Lai on November 30, 1967. The irony of the story is that the trip was made for the purpose of teaching a class to pilots on the dangers of night flying. A storm was brewing and after the class, at about 8:00 PM, Kushner and others on the flight suggested staying overnight at Chu Lai until the weather cleared. The aircraft commander declared that the aircraft had to be returned to LZ Two Bits for a mission the following morning, so they took off in the storm.

"The aircraft got off course and crashed on a mountaintop. CPT Kushner was the sole survivor of the crash. The A/C, MAJ Stephen R. Porcella was killed in the crash, Co-pilot W01 Griffith B. Bedworth died while waiting for rescuers with CPT Kushner, and the Crew Chief, SSG Kenneth D. McKee, the only one not seriously injured, was killed by VC while going for help.

"CPT Kushner was captured by the VC on December 2, 1967 and taken to a POW camp located about fifty kilometers west of Tam Ky in Quang Nam Province, southwest of Da Nang. He and other prisoners were moved around among several other prison camps until when in 1971, they were marched nine hundred kilometers to Hanoi, a trip of fifty-seven days, to a prison camp called 'The Plantation.' In December 1972, they were transferred to the infamous Hanoi Hilton. He was released on March 16, 1973, as part of a massive POW release called Operation Homecoming.

"During those five and a half years of captivity, he and his fellow prisoners were subjected to unspeakable physical and mental torture, propaganda bombardment, malnutrition, sickness, and disease, with general withholding of medical care by the VC. As a medical doctor, CPT Kushner was officially not allowed to treat his fellow prisoners. However, he did treat them as best he could without any medical equipment other than some razor blades that he used to perform minor surgery such as lancing boils and other injuries. He encouraged fellow POW's to fake

I.D. confirmation was received about '69 MEDEVAC Medic Becker in the SEP/OCT Saber photo. Input from Mike Smith and others;

Also, for those who don't know, any member of the 1st Cav Div. Assn. can get information about any other member-call or write. I do not know if Tim Becker is a member of the 1st Cav Div. Assn.

Greg Schlieve <schlieve@charter.net> of 5-7 Cav. inquired about one of his Medics to find out if 15th MED had anything on him. I told Greg-like I've told so many others-that the 15th Medical Battalion did not control

malaria and dysentery in order to obtain at least some medical supplies from the VC. These supplies were secretly stockpiled by him for future use as needed.

"Unfortunately, without proper medication and equipment, all he could do was provide comfort to fellow POW's who were dying of various illnesses, as the VC would not provide them. His supervision of his fellow POW's in matters of diet, personal hygiene, and sanitation no doubt saved many lives. "Perhaps the crowning achievement of his military career, on July 29, 1971, he was able to save the life of a fellow POW who was having a heart attack. For this, he was awarded the Silver Star.

"COL Kushner returned home in 1973 and served on active duty until 1977. He served in the Army Reserves until 1986 at which time he retired at the rank of COL. He has since been in private ophthalmology practice in Daytona Beach, FL. .

"In 2001, the 1-9th Cav Medical Clinic at Ft. Hood, Texas was named in his honor. Besides the Silver Star, he received the POW Medal and the Soldier's Medal. He was inducted into the Army Aviation Hall of Fame in 2001.

"To read COL Kushner's complete story in his own words, go to <www.war-stories.com/WS Library/War Stories/Author Stories. In Author Column, search for 'Kushner, Hal (Dr.)', click on 'Personal Story, 1967, by Dr. Hal Kushner.'

"Sadly, his home was severely damaged by Hurricane Matthew. He is in the process of rebuilding. "If anyone would like to contact him, please e-mail me at <terryamccarl@gmail.com>; call me at (402)296-3150; or write to me at: 1122 Main St, Plattsmouth, NE 68048, and I will relay your message to him. Terry A. McCarl, Historian, 15th Medical Battalion Association 1LT, MSC, 11/68-11/69."

Terry says to use the above contact information for him for inquiries about anyone else. Tell him who you are looking for, the date or range of dates, location, your unit of 15th MED Bn., names of other people involved, and any other facts that you

know about the event, and he will see what he can find for you.

Someone asked him recently if there were any POW's or MIA's from 15th MED Bn. during the Vietnam War. He says he did a Google search and found several websites with a list of POWs and MIAs, but they do not indicate the units that the POWs and MIAs were in-only branch of service. He also checked with the First Cav Assn., but they do not maintain a list of 1st Cavalry Division POWs or MIAs.

Terry wants to know if anyone knows if there were any POWs or MIAs from 15th MED Bn. The 15th MED Bn. Assn. has no statistics, but is aware that many of our members do not have computers, or access to computers, and therefore do not have ready access to information on websites, including <www.15thmedbnassociation.org>, or e-mail. If you do not have a friend or relative who can help you

look things up on a computer, there are a couple of possible sources of help that you might consider.

By law, every county in the U. S. must have a County Veterans Service Office. One of the primary functions of these offices is to help you with applications for benefits from the VA. However, they can also provide assistance with your computer needs. Look in your local phone book under County Offices for a Veterans Services Office.

Local public libraries often have computers available for public use and librarians who can look up, or help you look up information on the computer or can help you set up and use e-mail. These are both free services, with the exception of copying costs. So if someone refers you to a website or wants to communicate with you via e-mail, don't give up. Help is available if you just ask.

From Dave Reigle <dareigle@gmail.com>, "My father was a Medic with C Co. 15th MED, June '67 to June '68, during Hue etc. He retired 1-'82, went to nursing school, and became chief operating room nurse. He retired from that because around age fifty-five his bones starting breaking. He passed in his sleep Nov 18, 2012, age sixty-seven. Note: he never really wanted to talk about it not even with me. Dave Reigle Dental tech/Corpsman USN 100% SC."

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



MEDEVAC gunner Mike Parsons Medic Dale McGuff.



MEDEVAC crewmen 1969 L to R door gunners Bill Pickle, Ed Mirinda, and Medic Jim Ransey.

## 77th Field Artillery

### Continued from pg. 16

Commander and the DIVARTY Commander promised us a good time. The reunion is scheduled for September 20-24, 2017. More details will follow.

### Photo on right:

Left to right standing: Fred Taylor, Don Gross, Barry Luedke, Tom Chiappone, Barry DiMaria, Don Yowell, John Moran, Dave Morehead, Bill Bilo, Juan Garcia, Paul Guetter, William Brown  
Seated: Walter Ballard, Mike Maynard, Bill Hilgriss, Waymond Graham. Not present, Jim Bowers, John Gallman





## 20th and 79th Artillery Regiment News



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The ARA Association has a new mission! Last year the Board of Directors led an effort to memorialize the innovative concept of the employment of Aerial Rocket Artillery during the war in Vietnam. Our Association's new President, Dave Borgeson, with the backing of his Palisades American Legion Post, designed a plaque to be placed at each Army Post where ARA had a major role during the sixties and seventies; Fort Sill - home of Artillery, Fort Benning – the site of the activation of the first ARA units and from where the First Cav Div departed for Vietnam, Fort Rucker – home of Army Aviation, and Forts Bragg, Campbell, and Hood – where ARA units were either activated, moved after the war, and were deactivated from. A bronze plaque will be located in a conspicuous and meaningful location on each post. The actual plaque will look as follows with the addition of a Huey gunship on the top left and a Cobra on the top right:



I promised in the last article that I would have more photos of the reunion.

We traveled to Colorado Springs by many trails and by-ways. Some flew direct, some drove straight through, others made a vacation out of the event and did some site seeing along the way! Here is how some approached the Reunion Site:

Through Utah to south on US Route 163 to the Mexican Hat Rock and on to Monument Valley, Utah and Arizona. There they enjoyed the beauty of the monuments in the surroundings of the Goulding's Monument Valley Trading Post which was the setting of the John Wayne movie, *She Wore a Yellow Ribbon*. Some came through Moab, Utah and toured the Arches National Park. While there, they visited the Dead Horse Point State Park, just west of Moab and took in one of the most photographed views of the Colorado River. Driving in a 4x4 pickup permitted off road driving to get a better view of the arches, monuments, and petroglyphs. One needs to ensure that there is plenty of gas and daylight remaining when you start such a trip!

From Moab, some made their way back over the Rockies on Interstate 70 to Colorado traveling on US Route 24 toward Leadville, Colorado and stopping at the Eagle River Pass Bridge which is another famous photo opportunity site. After ten days, the weary travelers arrived and after registration and greeting other members, are treated to a traditional welcome dinner at the Embassy Suites. This is one of the highlights of the reunions because we get to see old friends and meet new friends who are attending their first ARA reunion. Last year at the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of our departure from Fort Benning to Vietnam, we recognized those members present who were the original boat people. This year was the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration for those who were the first replacements in 1966. Special plaques designed by Jesse Hobby were presented by President Larry Mobley to those individuals at the dinner.

This was a reunion designed with more time for members to visit and spend more time doing leisurely activities and not rushing to and from meeting schedules; therefore, we only scheduled one major tour to take the Cog Railway to Pikes Peak. This turned out to be a great event for all those making the trek! We hired a bus for those who flew and those who didn't feel comfortable driving out to the Cog. This was a special reunion for me because we were able to have our granddaughter, Meredith who lives in Boulder, Colorado drive down to be with us on Saturday and at the Banquet. Meredith Wilder is a recording artist and is currently writing songs for her new CD. I have been trying to get a family member to attend since 2008 and it finally paid off! She was a real trooper – she wore a red dress to the banquet in keeping with the Artillery traditional colors! Thank you, Meredith!

Colorado Springs was one of the best places to have a reunion. We were able to take advantage of quiet time if desired, and to take a self guided tour if that was something one wanted to do. A large group chose to tour the Garden of the Gods, which proved outstanding, while some visited the cliff dwellings. Two couples camped at the Air Force Academy FamCamp in our RV's, a very pleasant choice since the campground was close to downtown. Plus, the price was right!

The Board will be busy working on the ARA Aviation plaques for the many Posts where we served during the Vietnam



The ladies of ARA always look good for any occasion!

Era. Also, we will be finalizing the plans for our next reunion which is currently scheduled to be held in Williamsburg, Virginia, September 13-17, 2017. Pricing of hotels and tours will be a driving factor as we want to encourage members to attend, and the room rate has been a major concern. Stay tuned and we will keep you informed.

Hope your Thanksgiving was happy and a blessing to you and your Families. May we all have a blessed Christmas and continue to pray for peace among all nations.

Until next time, this is Armed Falcon 28 Delta, breaking right!!



The men of ARA looking sharp for the banquet.

## MOH

## Continued from pg.15

despite dangerously silhouetting himself with the light. After helping to repulse the final enemy assaults, he led a group of volunteers well beyond friendly lines to an area where 8 seriously wounded men lay. Braving enemy sniper fire and ignoring the presence of booby traps in the area, they recovered the 8 men who would have probably perished without early medical treatment. SSG Jennings's extraordinary heroism and inspirational leadership saved the lives of many of his comrades and contributed greatly to the defeat of a superior enemy force. His actions stand with the highest traditions of the military profession and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States of America.

His Medal was awarded to him at the White House by President Lyndon B. Johnson on 19 September 1968. CSM (Ret) Delbert O. Jennings retired as the Command Sergeant Major of the 1st Cavalry Division. CSM (Ret) Jennings died on 16 March 2003 and was originally buried in the "Punchbowl" in Hawaii and he was re-interred in Arlington National Cemetery.

On behalf of the Staff of the 1st Cavalry Division Association, we would like to wish you all a Happy Holiday Season. God Bless and we will see you next year.



1970 - Ron Sauers, C 1-12 Cav, Vietnam



1970 - 2-7 Cav and 2-19 Artillery Fire Base, South Vietnam

Have you looked at the expiration date on your SABER label lately? You may not know that you can renew your subscription at any time for as many years as you want. You can also give a SABER renewal as a birthday gift or Christmas present for your buddy.



## 82nd FA News



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**82nd FA News:** Can and Will-Sir! Beginning with this issue of *Saber* I'll attempt to keep this column going for as long as I can. Yes, I did volunteer for my second enlistment as the Scribe for the 82nd FA Regiment. The first time was when Willard Gray passed away back in 2003. I then turned it over to Bill Thomason who passed away recently and we had great many conversations over the years. My association with the 82nd FA Regiment began when I was assigned to B/5-82nd Arty with the 1st Cav in Korea on 1 July 1960 when the unit was activated. I had been in-country about 1 week with the 2nd Bn, 19th Arty when a bunch of us were transferred over to the new unit. I was the BC's driver for, 1LT Tom Gallagher (now deceased). Notable soldiers of B/5-82nd Arty include GEN (R) Carl Vuono whom I remember as a 1LT at the time and he later commanded the 1st Bn., 77th FA in Vietnam. I also remember, COL (R) Robert Leard as a 1LT, and he later commanded the 1st CAV DivArty at Fort Hood. And I can't forget mentioning my good friend PFC Everitt Demeritt from Wolcott, Vermont who is now close to being 78 years young. He has remained a staunch and faithful supporter of the 1st Cav Division after all of these years. Back in 1960 he was a 23-year-old draftee who helped keep me, a 17-year-old kid from the mean streets of Cleveland in line. Thank you Everitt! For background, the B/5-82nd Arty served with the 1st Cav in Korea from 1 July 1960 until 1 July 1965. At that time Headquarters & Service Btry was re-designated as Btry E, 82nd Arty and was the Aerial Observation/Aviation Btry for the 1st Air Cav Div in Vietnam (Call sign "Woodpecker"). I flew with the Woodpeckers briefly in 1968 in my feeble attempt at being an Artillery Air Observer. That was until we were close to being shot down by an NVA Anti-Aircraft Machinegun (12.7mm) outside Khe Sanh. That combined with the fact I shot over 200 rounds to take out one little itty-bitsy machine gun convinced my battalion commander, LTC Jack Kloke, that I needed to get my ass back into Bn FDC where I belonged. It's kind of funny now after 48 years, but at the time it was deadly serious. Btry, E, 82nd FA kept the lineage of the B/5-82nd Arty going until 10 April 1971. This represents almost 11 years of combined continuous service for the 82nd FA with the 1st Cav Division. The 82nd Field Artillery Regiment (FA Regt) (Horse) traces its ancestry back to the famous "First Dragoons", the original Regiment of the US Army. Because of the "dragon" or short musket, so called from the dragon's head worked on the muzzle, the "First Dragoons" represented a type of fighting force, both unique and effective, for their service could be employed as mounted or dismounted troops. From the "First Dragoons" was formed the 1st Cavalry which in turn became the mother of the 24th Cavalry.

The 24th Cavalry was organized on 5 June 1917, with one third of the officers and enlisted men coming from the old 1st Cavalry. Subsequently, the 24th Cavalry was reorganized as Field Artillery pursuant to a letter from the War Department dated 20 July 1917, and was effective 1 November 1917. The total strength of the 82nd FA Regt at that time was 62 officers, 1,448 enlisted men, 1,117 horses, and 114 mules located at Fort D.A. Russell. The entire 82nd FA Regt eventually arrived at Camp Logan, Houston, Texas, and then proceeded to Fort Bliss, Texas, assigned to the 15th Cavalry Division. Although training was in full swing and preparations were being made for overseas movement to fight the Germans, it was not to be. The 15th Cavalry Division and the 82nd FA Regt were specifically trained and equipped for border service. The Mexican rebel, General Francisco "Poncho" Villa, had been causing problems in cross border raids, and had committed acts of aggression against US citizens and soldiers for a number of years. A Punitive Expedition led by BG John J. Pershing into Mexico had been carried out in 1916-1917. A number of Poncho Villa's rebel forces were killed or captured and his forces were scattered. But Poncho Villa was never caught.

By 1919, Poncho Villa had reassembled a sizeable rebel force and had initiated several battles against Mexican military troops in an attempt to win the hearts and minds of the Mexican people to rally with him against President Carranza. In early June 1919, indications were received that Villa was moving his rebel forces north to attack the Mexican military troops at Fort Hidalgo near Juarez, Mexico. The attack on Ft. Hidalgo began at 12:10 a.m. on the morning of 15 June 1919 and lasted until 12:50 a.m. when the firing ceased. Then at about 1:10 a.m., another attack by Villa's forces broke out in a separate part of the city and a battle raged back and forth for most of the day. For reasons that may never be known, rebel

snipers from Villas forces began foolishly to shoot sniper fire across the Rio Grande River into El Paso, Texas, wounding several civilians. At 1:36 a.m., 15 June 1919, the 82nd FA Regt, minus Service Company, under the command of COL Thomas E. Merrill, left camp at Fort Bliss and headed towards El Paso to occupy pre-planned firing positions. The 82nd FA Regt, consisting of approximately 20 officers and 475 enlisted men, deployed with Headquarters Company, the 1st Bn with Batteries A & B, the 2nd Bn, with Batteries C & D, and the 3rd Bn with Batteries E & F. Immediately upon leaving Fort Bliss, the 2nd Bn, 82nd FA, under the command of LTC Henry L. Newbold, and consisting of 9 officers and 198 enlisted men, was detached from the 82nd FA Regt and proceeded to join the 2nd Cav Bde as Direct



82nd FA returning from Juarez, Mexico after the battle of 16 June 1919.

Support artillery. The 2nd Cavalry Brigade was under the command of COL Selah R.H. "Tommy" Tompkins, and was comprised of the 5th Cav Regt and the 7th Cav Regt. By 2:30 a.m., the 82nd FA Regimental Headquarters was in position at the El Paso Union Stockyards and the 1st and 3rd Bns were in firing positions at Camp Cotton. At 4 a.m. on 15 June 1919, the 1st Bn, 82nd FA, under the command of MAJ Laurin L. Lawson, was directed to deploy his two Firing Batteries near the El Paso Milling Company at the Stanton Street Bridge in support of the 24th Inf Regt commanded by COL G. Arthur Hadsell. In the vicinity of the 82nd FA Regimental HQs occasional sniper shots were received from the Mexican side of the Rio Grande River. At 9:30 p.m., it was decided the 1st Bn, 82nd FA should support the anticipated 24th Inf Regt advance across the river into Juarez from its present positions with the artillery. An Artillery Liaison Officer, LT McMahan, with a map showing targets numbered as pre-arranged by the artillery, would accompany the attack by the 24th Inf Regt. During the remainder of the evening, snipers on the Mexican side of the river were quite active firing towards the 82nd FA Regimental HQs.

Tragedy struck at 10:35 p.m. on June 15 1919, when Private (PVT) Sam Fusco, HQs Co, 82nd FA, was killed by a sniper's bullet and PVT Burchard Casey, also of HQs Co, was severely wounded. The District HQs, under the command of BG James B. Erwin, ordered 3,600 American soldiers to cross into Mexico at 11 p.m. on 15 June 1919 to prevent further promiscuous firing into El Paso and to provide protection for American citizens. The American Force consisted of the 24th Inf Regt, the 5th Cav Regt, the 7th Cav Regt, and the 2nd Bn, 82nd FA. At 12:20 a.m., 16 June 1919, LT McMahan arrived by motorcycle at the location of the 1st Bn, 82nd FA. His instructions from COL Hadsell were to open fire on the Juarez Racetrack, as the Villistas had been definitely located there. Using shrapnel rounds the first artillery shot was fired across the Rio Grande River into the Juarez Racetrack by Battery A, 1st Bn, 82nd FA, at 12:30 am on 16 June 1919. Battery A fired a total of 52 rounds and Battery B fired a total of 12 rounds before a "Cease Fire" was called at 1 a.m.

And although the 3rd Bn, 82nd FA, commanded by MAJ Carl C. Krueger, was in position and prepared to fire, they did not get in on the action. At 4 a.m., LT McMahan reported the arrival of the 24th Inf Regt at Palazio Comercio in Juarez. While the 24th Inf Regt was advancing through the streets of Juarez the 5th Cav Regt, the 7th Cav Regt were moving as a blocking force on either side of the advancing Infantry to prevent any flanking movements by the Villistas. The 2nd Bn, 82nd FA advanced in support of the 5th Cav Regt and 7th Cav Regt and was prepared to fire quickly should targets of opportunity present themselves. By 6:50 a.m. the Combined Arms forces of the US Cavalry and the 2nd Bn, 82nd FA were in pursuit of the rebel forces. They had marched southeast about six miles, when a sizeable force of Villistas were spotted. The 2nd Bn, 82nd FA advanced



Btry D, 82nd FA firing at Ft Bliss in 1919.

towards the Villistas at an extended gallop and opened fire with shrapnel on their column at a range of about 4,000 yards. A direct hit was made with the first volley of shots and the shrapnel bursting overhead in the center of the rebel column wiped out a complete section. The other two sections of Villistas were routed and scattered in different directions. This action was completed around 9 a.m. on 16 June 1919, by Battery D, 2nd Bn, 82nd FA. During the continued pursuit afterwards, an adobe shack was targeted and a direct hit was made by the howitzers of the 2nd Bn, 82nd FA. After this attack the bodies of twenty-five killed or wounded Villistas were found.

On the return march over 50 abandoned saddles, 300 horses and burros, and 100 rifles were scattered all over the area. Some of the rifles were of German manufacture and were brought back as souvenirs by members of the command. The conduct of the artillery's direct support role with the cavalry in Mexico so pleased COL Tompkins that he later came to the 82nd FA Base Camp to express his approval personally to the command. After the funeral for PVT Sam Fusco was conducted a Guard Camp on the bank of the Rio Grand River was named "Camp Fusco" by the War department in honor of this soldier of the 82nd FA Regt. Most of the men of the 82nd FA Regt that participated in the Battle of Juarez were entitled to wear the Mexican Service Medal.

The Distinctive Unit Insignia for the 82nd FA Regt shows a black artillery shell imposed on a wavy white background. The black artillery shell and the wavy white background are symbols of the first round shot across the Rio Grande River by Battery A, 1st Bn, 82nd FA, at 12:30 am on 16 June 1919. The history of the 82nd FA Regt displays a rich heritage of Honor, Bravery, Duty, and Country. And the motto "Can and Will" are reflective of a spirit steeped in traditions of men doing what needs to be done regardless of the obstacles to be overcome.

Please remember in your prayers our brave 1st Cavalry Division Troopers no matter where they are stationed. And we pray for their safe return. We're confident they "Can and Will". Your stories and pictures will be gratefully accepted.

Can and Will Sir! Dan Gillotti

Make plans to attend the 70th Annual Reunion in Killeen, Texas from 7-11 June 2017.



COL Thomas E. Merrill, commander 82nd FA Regt 1919.



## ENGINEER News



Jesse Crimm  
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I wonder: How can a business, any business, these days appreciate my patience in holding because of unusually heavy call volume? And why does that happen regardless of any time I call? Sigh!

**12B:** Still, after all these years my 12B skills came in handy. You may have heard we had a little hurricane blow here in Florida in October. Hot damn I thought, a chance, a reason to drain water away from the garage. You see, for all these years I had just let the occasional heavy rain make its way under the uphill side door and trickle out the down side door. So, a couple of days before the big blow I got my D shovel and started trenching. Without a theodolite thingamajig to shoot a grade, I went ½ D for a few diverting feet, then 1D, then 1 ½ D. Well, you get the idea all the way around the garage till I met the spillway to the street. The spoil dirt I flung onto my St. Augustine grass along with some weed and feed. You Florida boys know what I'm talking about. So now after the big blow, I expect a dry garage floor and a healthy stand of yard grass. Not being content, I unstored the unused Poulan chain saw. After about 25 tugs and some choice phrases of begging and demanding, it roared to life. Anything greater than 1 inch diameter was at risk. I remembered to get the heavy branch sides downwind so to speak, make a preliminary underneath cut and keep pumping oil to the blade. Well, of course the saw balked. So, another 15 tugs and I was in business. Even impressed myself at how easily I made the wood yield to my will. Now, it's all in the street ready for the City of Jax to get by in a week or so. 12B still rules! Now for some barbed wire to keep out the looters. But that's a job for the Beretta 9MM and the Remington 870.

**Letters to the Editor:** Do you ever read them? Jeepers men. Some of the stories are life changing. And that is why you remain a member and use your USAA card. Look at the last issue. We have a Florida gal attending Aeronautical University and promising to become a fourth-generation service member. No tears in your eyes yet? Any Jews out there? Read page 24 bottom left. My son lives in DC and I drove by the location referenced on my last visit. I had a WTF moment then. Now I see and understand the difference. Vets are vets are vets.

**Jump In:** Quick before the grader grades it all over. Jump in the 8th Eng pool at Phouc Vinh. Whoops. Too late. Per Lynn Titus, who was on his way to the PX to get some swimming trunks, there was a perfectly shaped hole in the ground at PV upon the Cav's redeployment there from Camp Evans. Heck, the Engineers already had a rubber lining probably donated by the water purification section and a Huey blade to use as a diving board. Well, guess what? Maybe it was only a scheme to begin with but somebody with gold on his lapels said fill it up.



The pool grader for the ole Swim Hole.

Even 11B's can participate for the prize package that will be sent in time for Christmas. The question to answer? Simple. What state holds the rock pictured in the previous Engineer News? The tricky part: Whether you email or call in your answer, you must provide some story from your service years. If you are a previous prize winner from say Mississippi, you are ineligible. Warning: the magnitude of the prize could shift you into a higher tax bracket. You will be provided an IRS 1099 form for reporting purposes however you will not be prosecuted for any crimes of omission or carelessness.

**The High Points:** A few issues back I gave you the condensed version of the graduation speech made to the University of Texas by Adm. William McRaven, the CDR of SOC. I found the speech on YouTube and give you the bullet points today as those points are worthy of repeating. The main theme was that you can change the world one person at a time, one decision at a time. Or phrased another way, you never know how one thing done can chain out to generations of others impacted by one good choice made by you. But how do you prepare yourself to be that change maker? McRaven gave specific instructions taken from his UDT (SEAL) training. 1. Make up your bed. Every day begins with a simple discipline, an order, a structure. Bed making is a good way to organize yourself and the world around you. 2. Everybody paddles. The rubber dinghies that the Seals paddle around will always capsize in the cold surf unless everybody on the team cooperates in the same direction with the same force. One slacker guarantees capsizing. 3. Measure people by the size of the heart. A big show means nothing if nothing is accomplished. Sometimes the person you would least think able to accomplish a mission is the one that through individual effort accomplishes great things. (Writer's comment: this is AKA the MOH) 4. No matter how well prepared you are, perfection will escape you. There are too many variables in life to always win. Do what you can with what you've got. 5. Everybody fails. Some collapse and quit and some learn and get stronger from failure. 6. Sometimes can't get around obstacles and should plow straight ahead. You can't always side step things. If that's the case go head first, but go. 7. Stand your ground. There will always be neigh sayers and back stabbers. If you know you are right, don't back down. 8. Be calm. At the darkest moment,

take a breath. Look again at what you are seeing. You will get a different result. 9. The power of hope changes things. When you are stuck in the mud and the instructors are yelling at you, sing. Sing as a team. 10. Never quit. Never quit. Never quit.

**Active Duty News:** 1. Military Families are reminded that Teen Taxi will pick up children after school and deliver the dependents to a Ft. Hood Youth Center. Call 287-5646 or 287-6745. 2. The 91st Eng Bn of the 1st Bde BCT provided a static display and offered information to the public at the Baylor vs SMU football game in Waco. Hundreds visited the Bradley and HMMWV display and were shown the adaptability to engineer missions. 3. Transitioning Soldiers to civilian arena service members are reminded that Soldier for Life Transition Assistant Program (SFLTAP), is ready to provide job assistance and training. Call 1-800-325-4715/288-2227. Of particular note, Truck Drivers are in great demand. Call 447-9555.

**You Too Can Be a Hero:** A few issues back I told you about employing my engineer skills to fix a loose baking rack in the oven. Today, I share another manly tip with you. If you have a sliding door closet of the 1950 construction vintage and the door hangs up along the track, look for a loose retaining screw along the vertical side of the track. A phillips head driver and a bit of elbow grease tightens things up. Just another 12B trick now employed on the home front, and to think, our DD214 form says our civilian compatible job is "blaster."

**Be A Hero Part II:** Next time you are in Cracker Barrel, not some 4 Star joint, look for a vet wearing a cap displaying anything such a cap might display. Tell the waitress to bring you the ticket. Keep your head down but keep a smile in your heart.

If you live in a zip code starting with 32, call me about starting a new



Christmas in Afghanistan



1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) - Vietnam



2006 - 1st cavalry Division Band, Iraq





## 21st FA News



**John Parker**  
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Charlotte, NC 28269-1411  
shagon19@gmail.com

years. As I look forward to the coming year and the 2017 reunion will be in Fort Hood, Texas in June. I hope that we can make this year one to remember. A bit of advice, make your reservations as early as possible. The Shilo Inn & Suites are located next door to the Killeen Civic and Conference Center. All the necessary links can be found on [www.1cda.org](http://www.1cda.org) 70th reunion. At this past year's reunion the possibility of a 1st Cavalry Division book was proposed. I took advantage of this chance to leave my legacy of being in the 1st Cavalry Division. From time to time I get a request in helping someone they had served with. Try and provide a name, unit, and date if possible. Start with the writer of unit and hope they can start helping find that long ago friend you have lost contact with. There's someone willing to help in the 1st Cavalry Division Association. I'm going to try a new way of presenting the 1/21 FA articles. It will sort of be a newsletter in a newsletter. Also in each issue I will be highlighting two Association Members.

**HQ Battery:** I haven't received any news from anyone in Headquarters Battery for this issue. If anyone served in HQ 1/21 FA and has anything of interest send it to address above.

**A Battery:** Since this is my battery, I have a few things. Since I started attending reunions, I have re-connected with some Troopers that I served with. I just missed Gene Davis this summer. He attended a little league series game in Shelby, North Carolina. It was an hour drive from where I live. Sorry I missed you, Gene. It must have been the summer for travel. Both Chuck Paul and Larry Clayton keep me up to date on their summer travels. Gene Davis, Chuck Paul, & Larry Clayton served in FDC at the same time, as I did in a gun section. Tim Millar, is very involved with the Sea Scouts. More about Tim Millar as I highlight members of our Association below as being a past association president. I hear from Ernest Byrd and he shares stories about his time in the 1st Cavalry. After my tour in Vietnam I was stationed in Bamberg, Germany, with 6/10 FA. Ernest Byrd told me that he helped activate that unit from Ft. Sill and went to Bamberg with it. Yes indeed a small world.

**B Battery:** Facebook is a great way to make contact with other 1/21 FA members. There's Mike Dunn who was a Section Chief with B Brty. Another Trooper is Randy Bailey. He was in B Brty from '74 to '78. He states that he was on a SP 8 inch. Must have switched from the 105mm to the 8 inch after the 1/21 FA left Vietnam. I received an email from Dennis Webster: James Hunter from A Brty & Co B 1/8 Cav is looking to contact CPL Omer Ingram from B Brty but was attached to Co C 1/8 Cav as a RTO/FO in '69-'70. Omer Ingram may have been from Louisiana. Anyone know his whereabouts?

**C Battery:** What can I say about C Brty without thinking about, LTC Bob Barker. Bob Barker, commanded C Brty 1/21 during the Battle of LZ Xray. Serving with him was Joe Scarborough.

**Fires Brigade:** I know that the 1/21 FA transitioned into a Fires Brigade so I'll put any news under this title.

The following is the first two Association Members that will be highlighted in each issue. Tim Millar is a past Association President and LTC Bob Barker commanded a battery in Nov. 1965 and was with the 1st Cavalry Division during its training and deployment to Vietnam. He was on the first shift.

**Tim Millar**

DOB: 19 Aug 1944

School: Riverdale Country School, graduated 1962

School: Union College, English Major, graduated 1966

Enlisted: Nov 21 1966 for Artillery OCS

Basic: Nov 1966- Feb 1967 Ft Leonard Wood

AIT: Feb 1967- Apr 1967 Ft Sill

OCS: Apr 1967- Oct 1967 Ft Sill, Rank 2LT

Assigned: Nov 1967- July 1968 HQ US Army Combat Development Command, Ft Belvoir, Assistant Public Information Officer

Assigned: Aug 1968-Sept 1968 Jungle Warfare School, Ft Sherman, Canal Zone

Assigned: Sept 1968-Oct 1968 Field Artillery Officers Vietnam Orientation Course

Assigned: Oct 1968-Feb 1969 Public Information Officer, 3rd Brigade, 1st Cav Div, Vietnam, Rank 1LT

Assigned: Feb 1969-Oct 1969 A Brty, 1/21 FA, 1CD, XO/FDO

Assigned: Oct 1969- Feb 1970 Ft Knox, Instructor Armor School and Student: Organizational Maintenance Officer, Rank CPT

Assigned: Feb 1970- Apr 1972 Wiesbaden, Germany, 8th ID Jump School-5th Bn(ABN) 81st FA, DS 1Bde(ABN) 81ID

At that point, I took a European Out (REFRAD-Release from Active Duty) and moved to Nueva Andalucia, Marbella, Costa Del Sol, Spain. Returned stateside Nov 1972 and took a job in early 1973 with an insurance company office in Chicago, retiring in June 1991. My wife Bev was a senior Flight Attendant with Delta and could commute to Logan Airport in Boston, so we moved into my



late parent's house in South Harwich, Massachusetts, Cape Cod, 25 years ago. As a kid, I had summered at Cape Cod since 1946. Sometimes we were there renting most of the summer and other years we only made it for a long weekend. My Dad retired from his job in New York City in the spring of 1969 when I was still in Vietnam. Big joke in S Brty was "You're so ugly your parents will move before you get home"--- but they waited to move to Cape Cod until I was safely home. With Bev still flying, I worked at a number of fun jobs after we got there. I installed "Invisible Fence". Seriously, it's a buried wire that

transmits a signal to a dog's collar when they get too close to the edge of the property. Three great dogs later, the fence still does the job...and none of the ever got zapped too hard.

Next I worked for 8 years as a crew member on a 65' passenger ferry from my town of Harwich to Nantucket. It was great to work on the water and have the run of Nantucket on layovers. My last paying job was working for a builder. He was in Vietnam roughly the same time I was, but got home in time to grow

his hair back and go to Woodstock. He was a generator repair mechanic at Corps level and hop scotched all over the place. If he finished after the last bird left the LZ, he usually had to sleep by the generator to make sure it was working properly. Now he's deaf in one ear and can't hear out of the other, ha ha. When he got back to Oakland he was asked if he wanted the next flight to Boston or hang around to see a doctor about his hearing. What would you do? He was out of there on his way to Boston. So I was a "wood butcher" with Charlie for about 5 years and had a blast.

In about 2003, I decided to volunteer with the local Boy Scout Council as I've been an Eagle Scout since 1960. Still doing it and have done a lot of cool things and taken some great courses to help the kids. I'm on the Council Executive Board, sit on Eagle Scout review boards and was Skipper of a Sea Scout Ship for over 12 years (stepped down, but still help the ship). I learned to sail, the summer of 1952 here on the Cape and still enjoy it 65 years later. The Scouts had a program for many years called the Maritime Trek and I was a guide for a number of years. Usually we biked from the Scout camp to Provincetown and back between Monday and Friday - a round trip of about 110 miles. We would camp in a different place each night and have great activities along the way every day like out on a lobster boat from 0300 to 1200, a whale watch, a stand-up paddleboard, kayaking, and fishing. Got back to camp Friday afternoon and had a fantastic lobster bake! I was camp lifeguard one summer and there are fun activities year round. We loved it here when the tourists go home Labor Day...Columbus Day, at the latest!

I guess we all joined the 1st Cavalry Division Association at the "urging" of the First Sergeant - but I didn't go to a reunion until I saw a guy's name in the paper who had been with the Cav's first shift then came back in 1969. He asked if I was going to the reunion in DC in August 1982. I made plans to go see him. The CG was Andy Chambers, and he asked, at the dinner, if he could have his picture taken with all the Vietnam-only guys after the meal. No Lifers or Retirees! Well there were exactly 7 of us in that picture with the General. All but one made the reunions for many years and some are gone now. Two of us later became President of the 1st Cavalry Division Association, me and Tom Hartin from 1/7 Cav. At that first reunion there were all ranks and Troopers from WW II (and before), and Korea onward, with a contingent of active duty guys. Every one of those guys welcomed us home with genuine enthusiasm. They were glad the Vietnam Troopers were finally beginning to show up. They were great to us from 4-stars on down. Some of the association leadership told us there was going to be a dedication of a Vietnam Memorial that November; it wasn't "The Wall" yet. They asked if we got a room and a couple of cases of beer to see if anyone would show up.

Well we did and they came in droves. The parade from the Mall to the Wall was fantastic! Another Cav LT and I were on the front corners of the formation and had orders from MG Smith to "recruit" any Cav patches we saw along the way. We grabbed a lot of new guys to join the march. There were unit sign in sheets and I went home with names and addresses of over 900 Cav guys. I had a friend in Illinois who owned a computer...WOW, this was a PC in 1982! My buddy said he would write a program to put all the names in a database. This was a BIG DEAL - Lorinda and the Association had the memberships on 3x5 cards back then. My replacement as XO was there... and LTG Jack Tolson signed in along with MG Jim Smith and Gen. Bob Shoemaker. So I learned how to input 900 Cav names and maintain the list for years, adding new people, and was at every one of those early welcome home gatherings.

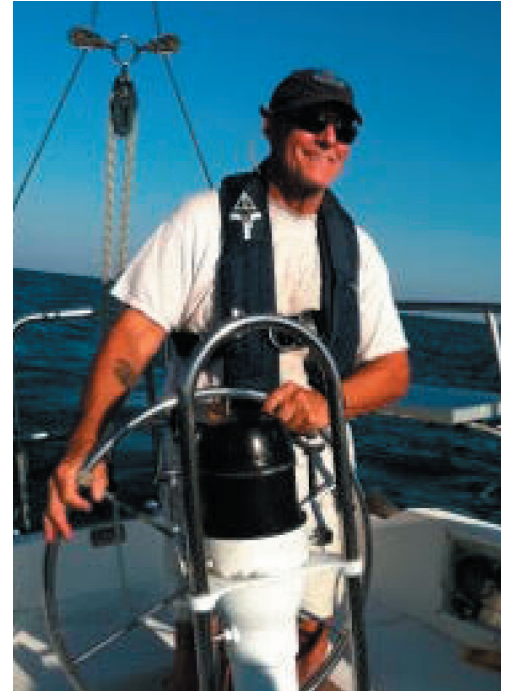
I also started writing a Saber column for the Vietnam veterans. I started hearing from guys literally half way around the world. The memberships rolled in and the association grew to around 25,000 horse Soldiers and Airmobile Soldiers. One night, I received a call from the WW II Division Surgeon, "Doc" Randy Hall who told me the board was nominating me for president of the association. I was sworn in at the Las Vegas reunion in 1986. Since my wife flew for Delta, I was glad to help since I could fly standby anywhere there was a Cav gathering. Welcome home parades in Chicago, New York, Cleveland, and L.A. were fantastic to meet new people who wanted to be part of the Cav again, association chapter meetings and funerals as well.

As Association President, I wanted to be impartial and probably shouldn't continue to write my Saber column for Vietnam veterans only. I announced that I had found a guy who would take over for me, but didn't want to use his name. I came up with a call sign for him---"Long Whip Six India". He had the big antenna for good comms, Six India was usually the Ol' Man's RTO.

After all these years, I'm still very proud of having served with the First Team and to have met so many wonderful Soldiers and their Families. It breaks my heart to remember the ones who couldn't come home with us; and to those who have since passed. God Bless them all. I like to think that they've all reached the LZ, and they're all on the Green Line to welcome us home one day.

By Tim Millar

Continued on pg. 23

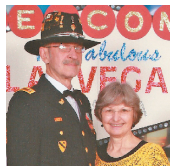




## HQ and Special Troops News



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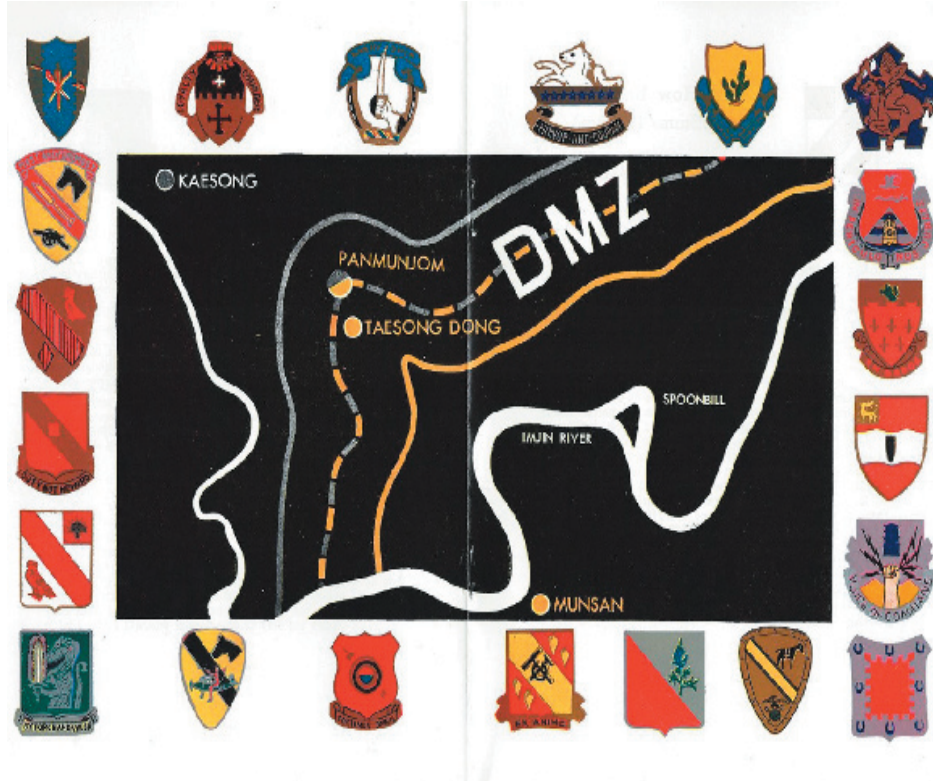
Greetings  
Troopers from  
North West  
Louisiana where we  
are experiencing the

hottest Halloween in 40 years. Sue and I send our greetings and hope to see you at the reunion at Fort Hood on June 7-10, 2017. Get your reservations in soon.

I received an email from John Hovdenes, Minnesota, who served with the 1st Cav in Korea from Mar '62 to Mar '63. John wrote: "I have been following your column in the Saber and thanks for keeping it up. I was stationed at Camp Howze, Korea, from '62 to '63 and was an administrative clerk in the 1st Cav Div's Headquarters Adjutant General Section. We were assigned to the 15th Admin Company and attached to the 1st Cav HQ Company for duty with the AG section. The 15th Admin Co was stationed at a different location. I wanted to inform you that Gary R. Norton of Oregon passed away this summer due to cancer. Gary was a PFC Courts and Boards clerk in the AG section. He contacted me after a letter I wrote was published in the Saber and we enjoyed catching up after many years. I was also contacted by Jack Riley of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, in 2009. Most recently I went to meet with Klaus Hendig, who was a PFC in the message center, and we met in Arizona in 2015. We had a lot of fun remembering our assignments with the Cav in Korea. I have just finished a scrap book of my 26 years of military service (3 years active Army, 3 years Army Reserve and 20 years in the North Dakota Air National Guard). My mother saved all the letters I wrote home while in the Army and I have recently gone through them and refreshed my memories of that time."

Thanks, John and I hope more of your Korea buddies will contact you. You can reach John at <johovde@yahoo.com>. John also sent me several copies of the Stars and Stripes and of the Cavalier (official publication of the 1st Cav Div in Korea) as well as a couple of Army publications from the '62- '63 timeframe. One of the publications was The First Team, a pamphlet that describes the 1st Cav Div in Korea in 1962-63, see below.

The mission statement was: "You are now a member of the 1st Cavalry



Division, the only US Army Division actively facing an armed enemy anywhere in the world today." The mission of our unit is simply stated: "To defend Korea against communist aggression." The booklet also contains a history of the 1st Cav Div and reports that on 23 Sep '57, GO 89, HQ 8th US Army, announced the redesignation of the 24th Inf Div as the 1st Cav Div and ordered the Division to be organized under the pentomic concept. The booklet also contains a brief history of each of the units having a unit crest in this picture.

Extracts from Cavalier, The First Team in Korea -- Jan 28, '63 -- "A newly completed footbridge in the village of Kumshi, near the 1st Battle Group, 5th Cav., was recently dedicated in ceremonies held in the village mayor's office. COL Marshall O. Becker, CO, 5th Cav, and officers and non-commissioned officers from the battle group and citizens of the local village participated in the dedication of the bridge, complete with handrails, constructed by the 5th Cav's engineer platoon commanded 2nd LT Donald S. Herrin. The bridge will save the residents a half-mile walk to reach the opposite side of the stream, a scant 20 yards away."

Cavalier Jan 28, '63 -- "The memory of SP4 James A. Johnson, A Troop, 9th Cav, who died after a communist hand grenade attack on his DMZ observation post on Nov 20th '62, was saluted by President John F. Kennedy during his Jan 14th State of the Union Address to the 88th Congress. With Johnson was PFC Efrain Olivo-Baez, who was given the Purple Heart for wounds incurred during the attack. The President also mentioned MAJ Rudolf Anderson who gave his life over Cuba and SGT Gerald Pendell, who was killed in Vietnam."

Cavalier Nov 5, '62 -- "A Soldier who served with the 1st Cavalry Div in WWII and in the Korean War has returned to Korea to assume the duties of Commanding Officer of the 44th Mobile Army Surgical Hospital (MASH). MAJ Robert H. Mosebar entered the US Army in 1944 as an enlisted man and first served the Division as an aid man and litter bearer in the Philippines. While serving in this campaign he received a battlefield commission. During the Korean War, he served with the 8055th MASH in support of the 24th Inf Div and the 1st Cavalry Div."

Cavalier "SFC Willie M. Cannon, now assigned to B Btry, 5th Howitzer Bn, 82nd Arty, was presented the Army Commendation Medal during an honor ceremony at 1st Cav DIVARTY HQ. SFC Cannon spent six months in Laos as

military advisor with the 13th and 23rd Royal Lao Arty Btrys, exposing himself to great risk and danger in the performance of his duties. While serving as an advisor in Laos, Cannon was located less than 2,000 meters from the communist enemy, alone except for his Laotian counterparts. Many times, he was subjected to enemy mortar bombings and deadly small arms fire."

Cavalier "A 1st Cavalry Div Soldier who has served two tours of duty with the 27th Ord Bn has returned to Korea to serve in the same spot he vacated in '61. Paul M. Bracich Jr. is the 1SG of HQ and B Co, 27th Ord Bn."

Cavalier Sep '61 - "Soldiers of the 15th Admin Co gave 48 pints of blood in a drive held at Camp Howze on Sept 11th. Led by LT Col Herbert B. Allen, Division Trains Commander, the 48 donors responded to a plea from the 121st Evac Hospital, Ascom, for blood. The men of the 15th Admin Co responded admirably to the call for blood, said S/Sgt Thomas J. Meeks, dispensary non-com officer in charge of the medical personnel from HQ Co dispensary at Camp Howze."

Cavalier 1962 - Men of the 12th Cav, who sponsor the Ju Nae Orphanage, have given the 40 children there typhus and malaria shots and begun construction of a new bath-house. A dental check was also held and PVT Eugene M. Wells, B Co, bought toothbrushes for all the children. CPT Melvin J. Goldstein, 12th Cav surgeon, visits the orphanage at least once a month and provides health and sanitation measures. The men have been working during off-duty hours to complete the new bath-house."

Reflections of a 1CD Band deployment during 2004-2005 by Gail Porter -- After a First Cav reunion a couple of years back, I had a chance to talk to Justin Eller about his experiences as the Drum Major (read "Platoon Sergeant") for the First Cav Band in Iraq for a year during 2004-2005, even though he was only an E-4 at the time. Traditionally, the band is used for Division Headquarters security. Lt Gen Chiarelli, commander at the time, chose to use the band for, as Justin suggested, helping the rest of those deployed to "forget about it for a little while" by bringing some music and entertainment throughout the Division area. The year he was deployed with them, the band was never authorized an up-armored HUMV (the current replacement for the old jeep the Army used to have). They used the one with canvas that they brought over with them. They were able to get an LMTV (Light Medium Tactical Vehicle) at one point, but mainly because Justin could make a deal with a SGM from another unit. Justin agreed to make sure that the band would go out and do gigs for the SGM's unit if the SGM could get them that vehicle. The band had no motor pool support, or arms room, or NBC room, or operations or security, so the band members did all of that for themselves. They had to coordinate with higher up on the threat level to know what to prepare for on the way to the gig or gigs for the day. At one time or another, they had on hand the following pieces of arsenal (due to "deals" with other units) to ensure the success of their convoys out to different units: 2 or 3 249s SAWs (read machine guns) per squad to include 1 .50 cal sniper rifle and 8 M203 grenade launchers. At some point in time, things got so dangerous on the road that they were provided Blackhawk helicopters for moving to and from gigs. Justin reminisced about one of the Blackhawk movements: "The one I remember the most was during the summer Olympics in 2004. It was the first year the Iraqi National soccer team had played at the Olympics. It was dark outside and we had just taken off from the LZ near the presidential palace. Suddenly there were tracer rounds coming from everywhere! We found out later it was because the Iraqi team had just completed their first match, and had won the match. Iraqi Soldiers were celebrating by shooting their rifles into the air."

Thanks, Gail and Justin. Gail Porter is now a member of the 1st Cav Div Assoc Board and a Trustee on the 1st Cav educational foundations.

News from the active duty Troopers from various news sources: 1st Cav Div Facebook: "CPT Elizabeth R. Jimenez, the former and first Commander of the Horse Cavalry Detachment, donated her uniform to the US Army Women's Museum at Fort Lee, Virginia. Congratulations to a tremendous Trooper." "The United States Forces-Afghanistan, the 1st Cavalry Division Band's own "The Dirty Spurs," performed for the troops at Camp Dwyer, Helmand Province, Afghanistan." "The 3rd Bde Combat Team, 1st Cav Div, is home from the National Training Center after a great rotation to that training facility. The 1st Bde Combat Team, 1st Cav Div, is home after nine months in Korea." Welcome home, Troopers from all the members of the 1st Cav Div Association! "3d Cavalry Regiment said goodbye to their Long Rang Surveillance unit this month. It was the last active LRS unit and they have been a part of 3d Cav Reg since 2015." From the Fort Hood Sentinel Oct 27: -- "Soldiers from the 369th Sustainment Brigade recently completed their final phase of training at Fort Hood, in preparation for deployment to Kuwait. During the unit's post-mobilization training here, Soldiers took part in a mission readiness exercise that resembled a recent Warfighter exercise the Brigade Headquarters took part in at Fort Carson, Colorado, earlier in the year."

Well, Troopers, that is a wrap for this issue. I hope you voted, even if you had to hold your nose while doing so. May God bless you and yours, the US of A, and the Troopers of the great 1st Cav!

### Silver Wings

Continued from pg. 16

New York-New Jersey Chapter.

The Veterans Day activities at DC are just a couple weeks away. I'm looking forward to seeing some of you there and will follow up with an AAR next issue.

My thanks to everyone for the many emails and sharing your comments and stories with the Silver Wings column this past year. With that, I'll bring this "Wings" sortie to an end.

I want to wish all of you a wonderful holiday season. May the meaning of Christmas be deeper, its friendships stronger, and its hopes for peace brighter as it comes to you this Joyous New Year. Until next time, 'Clear right!' Hank

**If you served with the 1st Cavalry  
Division, you are part of the First Team  
Family!**



## THE HICCUP - Health Care Information Committee Report



James R. Rollins  
1566 FM 3258  
Lufkin, TX 75904-0440  
RollinsJ@consolidated.net

## Emergency Health Care for Veterans

With the upcoming 1st Cavalry Division Association 70th Annual Reunion at Killeen, Texas, many First Teamers will be on the road, away from their homes. One of the many benefits that you earned is access to Veterans Administration Hospitals and non-VA Hospitals for emergency treatment. This is why it is so important for all Veterans to register with their local VA Medical Facilities prior to an emergency and always carry their VA Card.

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has two authorities to pay for emergency care in non-VA facilities for eligible Veterans. These authorities allow VA to pay for emergency care rendered for service-connected Veterans and non-service connected conditions for enrolled Veterans who have no other source of payment for the care.

Service-connected Veterans may be eligible for payment or reimbursement for emergency treatment received in non-VA emergency departments if they receive emergency treatment (Emergency is defined as a condition of such a nature that a prudent layperson would reasonably expect that delay in seeking immediate medical attention would be hazardous to life or health.).

VA may pay for emergency care provided in a non-VA facility for treatment of a non-service connected condition only if all of the following conditions are met:

- The episode of care cannot be paid under another VA authority and
- Based on an average knowledge of health and medicine (prudent layperson standard) you reasonably expected that delay in seeking immediate medical attention would have been hazardous to your life or health and
- A VA or other Federal facility/provider was not feasibly available and
- You were enrolled in the VA Health care system and received medical care under VA authority within a 24-month period preceding the non-VA emergency care and
- You are financially liable to the non-VA provider for the emergency care and
- The emergency services were furnished by an Emergency Department or similar facility held out to provide emergency care to the general public and
- You have no other coverage under a health plan (including Medicare, Medicaid and Worker's Compensation) and
- You have no contractual or legal recourse against a third party that would, in whole, extinguish your liability.

Again, this is available to only registered Veteran's in the medical side of VA. This is not something you can expect to occur if you have done nothing with VA. More information on this can be found at the VA website [http://www.va.gov/healthbenefits/access/emergency\\_care.asp](http://www.va.gov/healthbenefits/access/emergency_care.asp)

## PTSD THROUGH THE YEARS by Howard Kalachman

Was thinking about the many names for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder or PTSD throughout our country's history. PTSD was accepted as the name for this disorder in 1980 when it was listed in the DSM-III book that doctors, psychologist, and insurance companies use for diagnosis.

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder is a psychiatric disorder that can occur following the experience or witnessing of life-threatening events such as military combat, natural disasters, terrorist incidents, serious accidents, or physical or sexual assault in adult or childhood.

PTSD has had many names and sometimes shame associated with it. Now it is a badge of honor for Veterans.

Some of the historic names for what we now call PTSD when applied to Veterans and the approximate periods are listed below. Note that there are other names used when the stressor is associated with other life-threatening trauma.

Nostalgia - 1678

Homesickness - Late 17th Century

Hyper arousal - 1871 (also rapid heart rate anxiety)

Soldiers Heart - American Civil war

Neurasthenia - 1890ish & first name I leaned for PTSD in Psyl

Hysteria - Late 19th Century

Shell Shock - World War I

Combat Exhaustion - World War II (or Combat Fatigue)

Battle Fatigue - World War II

War Stress - World War II

Stress response Syndrome - 1952 Korean War & Vietnam era

PTSD - 1980

If you would like to learn more about this condition, here are a few references:

PTSD From "Irritable Heart" to "Shellshock": How Post-Traumatic Stress Became a Disease - <<http://io9.gizmodo.com/5898560/from-irritable-heart-to-shellshock-how-post-traumatic-stress-became-a-disease>>

PTSD Soldier's Heart, Shell Shock, Battle Fatigue, Vietnam Syndrome, PTSD, it's all the same to me. | Veterans Today - <[www.veteranstoday.com/2009/07/09/soldier-s-heart-shell-shock-battle-fatigue-vietnam-syndrome-ptsd-it-s-all-the-same-to-me/](http://www.veteranstoday.com/2009/07/09/soldier-s-heart-shell-shock-battle-fatigue-vietnam-syndrome-ptsd-it-s-all-the-same-to-me/)>

PTSD The Battle Over Battle Fatigue - WSJ.com - <[www.wsj.com/news/articles/SB10001424052748704913304575371130876271708](http://www.wsj.com/news/articles/SB10001424052748704913304575371130876271708)>

<<http://www.ptsd.ne.gov/what-is-ptsd.html>>

Olsen, Ken "Thoroughbred Therapy" - The American Legion Magazine September 2016: Pages 26-32, print.

Howard Kalachman, <[hksunshine@hotmail.com](mailto:hksunshine@hotmail.com)>, is the author of: "Hi Mom, I'm O.K." And Other Lies From Vietnam. He is a Life Member of the 1st Cavalry Division Association, the VFW, the DAV, and Life Member and Immediate Past Commander of American Legion Post 972. He served with 2/12 Cavalry in both A Company and HHC from 11/67 to 12/68 in Vietnam.

## 21FA News

Continued from pg. 21

## LTC Bob Barker

DOB: Aug 13 1937, Wichita Falls, Texas

School: Wichita Falls Public schools

School: Wichita Falls High School graduated 1955

School: Attended Texas A&M and Midwestern State, graduated from MSU with Bachelor of Business Administration

Earned a regular commission in the Infantry

School: University of Dayton, Dayton Ohio, earned Master of Arts Degree

LTC Bob Barker entered active duty Feb 1960 at Ft Benning, Georgia. He completed both Infantry Officer Basic and Airborne Training in June, 1960. He was stationed at Augsburg, Germany with Co E, 34 Infantry. Duties included



rifle and weapons Platoon Leader and XO. In the spring of 1962 he transferred to Field Artillery with 2/7 FA as Assistant S-3 and later as B Brty CO.

After completion of Artillery Officer Career Course he was assigned to 5/38 FA and loaned to the 11th AAD as the Army began training of the Airmobile concept. The duties included FSO to LTC Hal Moore's (later LTG) 2/23 Infantry. In June, 1965 was assigned as Battery Commander of C Brty, 1/21 FA. The newly redesignated 1st Cavalry Division was ordered to South Vietnam. He made the month long voyage along with the entire Division. Once in country the battery was deployed to combat operations. In Nov 1965, C Brty along with its sister batteries A & B Batteries provided crucial direct support to 1/7 Cav in the LaDrang

Valley. Next assignment was HHB as Assistant S-3 until rotation to CONUS in July 1966.

Other career duties were a second tour in Vietnam were Asst. G3 Air in 1st Cav HQs, Bn XO 2/84 FA while at Ft Carson, Colorado, third trip to Vietnam, assigned to 1/5 Mech. Inf. and as G3 Plans, with 24th Corps, again with the 1st Cav in April 1972 as HHC and HQ Commandant at Ft Hood, Texas, and back as 1/21 FA Battalion XO ending 20+ years with 1st Cav DIVARTY as a LTC.

He retired in May 1980 working for a major consumer packaging company. He held positions including production control, plant production manager, and plant manager for 12 years. After retiring in 1999, he now lives at Toledo Bend Lake in East Texas with his wife Carolyn, of 56 years; they have three daughters, ten grandchildren, and one great grandson. They travel as much as possible in Colorado and Hawaii. Thank you for your service LTC Bob Barker.

On a closing note, I was greatly impressed with the movie, "They Died With Their Boots On" starring Errol Flynn. Having served with the 1st Cavalry Division, I enjoy listening to "Garryowen". It seems that there are many different lyrics. I thought I'd give you the lyrics used in the movie. I know I'll hear from Stanley Holewa about this:

We can dare or we can do

United men and brothers too

Their gallant footsteps to pursue

And change our country's story

Our hearts so stout have got us fame

For soon tis' known from whence we came

Where'er we go they dread the name

Of Garry Owen in glory.

Our hearts so stout have got us fame

For soon tis' known from whence we came

Where'er we go they dread the name

Of Garry Owen in glory.

And when the mighty day comes round

We still shall hear their voices sound

Our clans shall roar along the ground

For Garry Owen in glory.

To emulate their high renown

To strike our false oppressor down

And stir the old triumphant sound

With Garry Owen in glory.

To emulate their high renown

To strike our false oppressor down

And stir the old triumphant sound

With Garry Owen in glory.







**UP TO \$25**

T-5 ANDERSEN, Carl M.  
E-4 ANDERSON, Andy  
CPL AZZOPARDI, Francis X.  
CSM (RET) BAKER, Robert A.  
CPL BALLARD, Walter G.  
CPL BEAMESDERFER, Richard  
SP-4 BECK, Frederick L.  
MG (RET) BELTSON, Richar D.  
1LT BENOIT, Clifford E.  
SGT BERNARD, Michael F.  
SP-4 BLACKWELDER, Duane  
LTC (RET) BLAKE, Stephen  
SP-4 BLUE, Gilbert E.  
SP-5 BOZARTH, Gerald D.  
SGT BOLING, James R.  
SP-5 BONN, Henry L.  
LTC (RET) BOTTS, Stanley E.  
SP-5 BRAUNE, Dirk  
E-4 BROWN, James  
SGM BRZYSKI, Francis J.  
SP-5 BUKOWSKI, Lawrence J.  
SGT BURINGTON, Kenneth D.  
SFC BURZENSKI, Chester  
SP-4 CAVANAUGH, Randy L.  
LTC (RET) CHAPMAN, George G.  
SP-5 CHRISTEN, David E.  
SP-4 COLEMAN, Frank K.  
SGM (RET) COUSINS, Thurman C.  
SP-4 CRECELIUS, David  
SGT CULBERTSON, Charles M.  
SP-4 CURIALE, Jerome  
E-5 DAVID, George M.  
SGT DAVIDSON, A. Dave  
1LT DENNY, Stephen E.  
SSG DOWLING, Robert C., Jr.  
SFC (RET) ENGLISH, Gregory S.  
SP-5 FAGUNDES, Donald W.  
SP-4 FERGURSON, John C  
CW4 (RET) FLEMING, William T.  
SGT FRNAKS, Floyd E.  
MSG (RET) FRANTZ, Robert L.  
*In Memory Of All KIA-WIA-MIA In Korea June 51 thru Nov 28, 1951*  
PFC GARRSION, Charlie, Jr.  
SGT GAYMAN, John S.  
SGT GIBSON, Charles J.  
SGT GILREATH, Gregory  
CPL (RET) GINSBERG, Arthur S.  
MSG GOMEZ, Joseph L.  
SGT HAGINS, Carl R.  
SGT HAILEY, Dorsey R.  
CPT HALL, Sanci M.  
SGT HARSHBERGER, Leroy E.  
SGT HART, James G.

**HONOR ROLL**

Acknowledgement of generous  
donations from the following troopers:

SGT HICKMAN, James E.  
SP-4 (RET) INGRAM, Glenn L.  
SSG (RET) JULIAN, Casey H.  
SSG KASPRZAK, John  
SGT KLEIN, Jerold A.  
SP-4 KOWALSKI, Henry  
CW2 LIVINGSTON, Ronald F.  
SGT MARTYN, Ronald  
SP-4 McCORMICK, PATRICK L.  
*In Memory Of SP-4 CASPERSEN,  
Robert P., II: KIA 15 November 1967  
Quang Nam, Prov, Vietnam. C Co,  
1stBN, 7th Cav RGT, 1Cav Div.*  
SP-4 McKNIGHT, Philip W., Sr.  
LTC (RET) MAC MILLIAN, Barbara J.  
E-5 McCORMICK, Andrew T.  
SP-5 McKINNE, William Lynn  
SSG MENSING, Fred E.  
PFC MEYER, Charles J.  
CPL MOODY, Michael W.  
SGT MORAN, Michael J.  
SGT NAGY, Stephen T.  
CPT (RET) NELSON, Carl J. II  
E-5 NOLAND, Gary L.  
SGT OPITZ, Peter J.  
SP-4 PARKS, Larry O.  
SGT PORTER, Terry A.  
1LT PRINDLE, Paul R.  
COL (RET) RHYNSBURGER, Robert B.  
PFC SCHAD, Edward J.  
SP-4 SCHERMERHORN, Dale D.  
LTC (RET) SCHMITZ, James W.  
E-5 SCHNEIDER, Carl P.  
MR SIEBRING, Randy  
E-4 SMITH, Simon p  
SGT SMITH, Thomas W.  
SP-5 SCHROEDER, Albert  
COL SORENSON, Kenneth R.  
SP-4 SPRATT, Jeffery A.  
SSG SPRINKLE, Rodney E.  
MAJ (RET) STAFFORD, John E.  
SSG (RET) STEVENS, Charles T.  
CPT SWAIN, Robert J.  
COL(RET) TOROK, Ernest A.  
SP-5 VALINOTI, James W.



SP-5 VARGA, Wayne E.  
SSG WHEELER, Cecil D.  
LTC (RET) WILLIAMS, Billie G.  
SGT WRIGHT, Donald R.

**\$26 - \$50**

SP5 DeLONG, Daniel R., Jr.  
E-5 GIORDANO, Anthony  
COL JUDGE, David J.  
SP-4 MALOFF, Donald  
MR. PORTELLI, John  
*In Memory of SSG Anthony J. Portelli*  
SP-4 REINSCH, David J.  
1LT SALVUCCI, Joseph L.  
SP-4 SANDBERG, Donald R.

**\$51 - \$100**

LTC BURROW, William O.  
CW3 (RET) CHEADLE, Lyle E.  
SP-4 CREED, Ollie L.  
*In Honor Of All 1st Cav., All Our Fallen  
Troops In Vietnam*  
SGT HENRY, Alfred C.  
*In Memory Of SSG William D. Peterson,  
“SGT Pete” 11/15/67 C 1/7th Cav, 1st Air Cav*  
SGT HENRY, Alfred C.  
*In “Honor Of First Cavalry Troopers”  
Past, Present & Future*  
SGT HENRY, Alfred C.  
*In Memory Of SSG WM. “SGT Pete”  
Peterson, C 1/7th Cav., 11/15/67*  
COL (RET) SPENCE, Thomas H.  
MSG (RET) WEBSTER, Larry L.  
1SG (RET) WYDLER, Dara  
*In Memory Of 1LT Sherman Haight*

**\$101 - \$500**

CW2 (RET) COGUT, Theodore L.  
LTC (RET) MORTON, John R.  
MR. POOL, Robert  
*In Honor of Bud Alley and the men of the  
2nd Battalion 7th U.S. Cavalry*  
*Correction to Sept/Oct Saber Honor Roll*  
MR. POOL, Robert  
*In Honor of CSM (RET) Dennis E.  
Webster and Sandra Webster*  
SHERIDAN’S CAVALRY CHAPTER  
*In Memory Of Dwayne Logan, Co D,  
2/8 Cav, 1969-70*  
MG (RET) SMITH, Scott B.  
*In Memory Of Sherman P. Haight, Jr.*

**\$1,001 AND UP**

Ms. McCLURG, JoAnne

**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.



2013 - Division Honor Guard with Santa (CW2 Sal Rizzo)



2007 - Sant with his Reindeer in Iraq.



2010 - Senior NCO's of the 1st Air Cavalry Brigade









# WALK-INS

## We can not guarantee the availability of tickets.

### 1st CAVALRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION 68th REUNION - 2015 REGISTRATION FORM

I will attend the 1st Cavalry Division Association 68th Annual Reunion at the Shilo Inn and Suites, Killeen, Texas, June 10-14, 2015. 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.

**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 during (Circle one or more): Pre-WWII WWII JAPAN (Anytime)  
KOREAN WAR KOREA '57-65 FT. BENNING VIETNAM WAR  
FT. HOOD GULF WAR BOSNIA AFGHANISTAN IRAQ FT. BLISS.

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

and the following persons, please specify relationship. (Family members only.)  
Name Nickname Age (Children)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Is this your first 1st Cav. Div. Assn. Reunion? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

My e-mail is: \_\_\_\_\_

am staying at: Red Lion Inn \_\_\_ Oxford Suites \_\_\_ Home \_\_\_ Local \_\_\_ RV  
\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

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

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.

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 ( <b>Member Only</b> )		\$20.00	\$ _____
Postmarked After May 1, 2015		\$40.00	\$ _____
Active Duty ( <b>Must have Active Duty ID Card</b> )		\$10.00	\$ _____

<b>THURSDAY, JUNE 11</b>			
<b>Welcoming Mixer</b>	_____	\$25.00 ea.	\$ _____
<b>Sweet Heart Dance</b>	_____	\$ 8.00 ea.	\$ _____

<b>FRIDAY, JUNE 12</b>			
<b>Purple Heart Breakfast</b>	_____	\$21.00 ea.	\$ _____
<b>War Era Luncheons</b>			
World War II Veterans	_____	\$25.00 ea.	\$ _____
Korean War Veterans	_____	\$25.00 ea.	\$ _____
Vietnam War Veterans	_____	\$25.00 ea.	\$ _____
Gulf War Veterans	_____	\$25.00 ea.	\$ _____
Iraq/Afghan War Veterans	_____	\$25.00 ea.	\$ _____
<b>Texas BBQ</b>	_____	\$23.00 ea	\$ _____

<b>SATURDAY, JUNE 13</b>			
<b>Gold Star Family Breakfast</b>	_____	\$21.00 ea.	\$ _____
<b>Ladies Tea</b>	_____	\$16.00 ea.	\$ _____
<b>Unit Luncheons</b>	_____	\$25.00 ea.	\$ _____
<b>I wish to attend lunch with:</b> (Circle one)			
5th Cav 7th Cav 8th Cav 9th Cav 12th Cav Artillery			
Engineers HQ & Special Troops LRRP/Ranger Silver Wings			

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

<b>I wish to sit at the Reunion Banquet with:</b> (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.**

<b>SUNDAY, JUNE 14</b>			
<b>Group Breakfast</b>	_____	\$25.00 ea.	\$ _____
<b>LRRP/Ranger Breakfast</b>	_____	\$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** \_\_\_\_\_  
**(Don't forget the Registration Fee)**

**Grand Total** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Credit Card **VISA or Master Card Only** \_\_\_ Check \_\_\_ Cash

EXP Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Card Number - Print clearly

Print Name on Card

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature - Credit Card Payment Only



VISIT OUR WEB PAGE AT <http://www.1cda.org/>

Don't forget to renew your SABER.

Make plans to attend the 62nd Annual Reunion in Fort Hood, Texas from June 3-7, 2009. Some functions will be limited due to space limitations but the amount of fun and enjoyment from visiting with fellow troopers is never limited. Join us!  
More information on pages 12 and 13.

The Association records only the last four of your Social Security number and your date of birth. We realize that members do not wish to give out their SSN and we have deleted them from the Association's database to protect you.  
We are always updating the database with unit, date of assignments, address and phone number changes. Please give us the last four number of your SSN and date of birth.  
We, the Association, appreciate your cooperation.



Get Linked & Stay Connected  
1CDA Social Media  
[www.1CDA.org](http://www.1CDA.org)  
[www.facebook.com/AlumnioftheFirstTeam](https://www.facebook.com/AlumnioftheFirstTeam)

