



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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We've rung in the New Year and 2019 promises to be a very busy year. At our 72nd annual reunion we will be celebrating

the 75th Anniversary of our Association. Started by a few men in 1944 the First Cavalry Division Association has over 29,000 active members 75 years later. Several times over the years I have been a member of a group of people with similar interest who have made an effort to meet; for example, in one year and periodically after that. Many times the first reunion didn't happen and in other cases people lost interest over time. Think about it – 75 years and going strong. For those of you who have never been to a reunion this year is a good time to start and you need to start planning soon.



This past Friday evening I was a volunteer at the Charlotte Airport USO when at about 7 pm a uniformed member of the Department of Homeland Security came in looking for someone to assist with a training exercise for one of their dogs. After determining the pay rate (just kidding), I agreed to help. He gave me a small carry-on bag which contained something he said was sealed inside. I was to carry the bag and walk through the airport Atrium in one direction and the dog and its handler would be coming from the opposite direction. At the Charlotte Airport, the Atrium is in the center and all passengers go through there to get to the various concourses and gates. So it can be very crowded on any Friday evening. As I was walking, trying to act normal, I saw the dog on a leash with its handler coming in my direction but on a course that was parallel to mine. Just as we were about to pass (15 – 20 feet apart) the dog abruptly turned and came directly to me and put his nose right on that bag. I was told to continue walking which I did until they signaled the dog to stop and the test was over. The dog did not make a sound but had its nose on that bag the whole time. Think about it, something was sealed in that bag and the dog picked it up from 15+ feet away. I think the dog passed the test. I'm not sure if I did. I must say that my heart rate probably went up just a bit when I saw this large German Shepherd heading directly for me and me carrying possible contraband.

Remember, not all who work hard to protect us walk upright.
Take care, be safe, and, as always, thank you for your service.
Check it out: <www.1CDA.org>
Allen (TrailSpike 47)

THE DIRECTOR'S CHAIR

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The ladies and I hope everyone had a joyful, safe holiday season and are looking forward to a great new year. Calendar donations are pouring in along with reunion registrations. We would like to thank our members for their generous

donations towards the Calendar and General Association Funds. Without those donations there wouldn't be new calendar. Once again thank you.

There are other ways to support the Association, more specifically the **Foundation**. AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at <smile.amazon.com>, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization. Additionally, members can create fundraisers via Facebook and the Network for Good.

Already looks like we are going to have a big crowd. The Division has started their planning sessions for Cav Week, and we continue to plan right along with
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HORSE DETACHMENT by CPT Jenny Nocella

The Horse Cavalry Detachment welcomed the New Year in Pasadena, California by representing the First Team in the 130th Annual Tournament of Roses Parade and conducted horsemanship skills training with the LAPD Metro Division Mounted!

The seven mile parade route was lined with thousands of spectators and is a true spectacle to behold. The members of the Detachment, represented Fort Hood and Central Texas with class, whooping and hollering to the crowds and wishing everyone a Happy New Year. In addition to the parade itself, the HCD got to participate in Equestfest, the equestrian portion of the Tournament of Roses. The Equestfest features the best equestrian performers from all across America; the Detachment performed a fast-paced mounted Drill & Ceremony demonstration, which was aired on the Cowboy Channel. It was an exhilarating performance in front of a sold-out crowd at the Los Angeles Equestrian Center.

Hitting the ground running after our trip to California, the HCD will host interviews, physical fitness test, and the HCD Agility Test at the end of January for any 1st Cavalry Division Soldiers interested in becoming members of the HCD. If selected Soldiers will enter a 30 day Cavalry School where they are taught basic military horsemanship and equine anatomy, culminating in a final



Preparing for the EquestFest Demonstration with the LAPD

written and riding test. Those that pass will become members of the Detachment.

Look for the HCD at this year's Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo at the end of February and at upcoming ceremonies at Cooper Field. We look forward to seeing you on the road at an event; or feel free to stop by the barn anytime for a tour or just to say hey. 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 Detachment. It is truly an honor to represent America's First Team and I look forward to the year ahead.

DIVISION DOINGS

The Strength of the Pack: Building Culture Within Your Team, By COL Kevin Capra, Commander and CPT Scott Kuhn, Public Affairs Officer, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division

FORT HOOD, Texas--In Rudyard Kipling's novel, *The Jungle Book*, there is a poem that the wolves use to teach their young about their culture. One of the lines in the poem states; "For the strength of the pack is the wolf, and the strength of the wolf is the pack."

In the Greywolf Brigade we like to say, "We Are...GREYWOLF!," because we know the strength of the brigade does not reside solely in the current Soldiers, leaders and families, but also in GREYWOLF alumni and families who continue to serve and contribute in their own ways. It is about building a culture that promotes individual successes while striving for the betterment of the Brigade, the Division and the Army as a whole.

Whether your team is 20,000 strong or five members of the family readiness group there are some key areas that can help you strengthen the pack and build strong and innovative teams.

Communicate Your Story: A strong culture is built through communication. Start with a narrative, a story that is compelling and authentic. This sets the foundation for who you are as a unit. You must know your unit history. You cannot have a strong culture without knowing your history. It is your history, your present and your vision for the future. Your narrative is a story that helps your people feel they belong and makes them want to stay. It ties them to the past and involves your team members in the next chapter. In addition to developing a narrative and communicating it across your team take

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ADDRESS CHANGE

Don't Keep it a SECRET, Let us Know About It.

To submit by e-mail, send to memberships@1CDA.org
 Clip and Mail to 1st Cavalry Division Association
 302 N. Main St. Copperas Cove, TX 76522-1703

Last 4 #'s of your SSN _____
 Tel: (____) _____
 Rank and Name: _____
 New Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 E-Mail: _____

SNOWBIRDS

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

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

1st Cavalry Division Association Event Calendar

Feb 22-24, 2019	Board of Governor's Mtg, Shilo Inn, Killeen, TX
June 5-9, 2019	72nd Annual 1CDA Reunion Fort Hood, TX
Nov 8-12, 2019	11th Annual Veterans Day in Washington D.C.
June 10-14, 2020	73rd Annual 1CDA Reunion, Louisville, KY



TAPS

We were notified of the death of the following:

- ALEXANDER**, SSG Robert N., H Co, 75th INF, 1970. 23 November 2018.
- BOND**, CPT Michael W., A Co, 1-9 CAV, 1967. 17 October 2018.
- BOOTH**, COL (RET) James W., HHT, 1-9 CAV, 1969. 22 August 2018. (Association Pres. 08-10; Advisory Counsel 10-18)
- BOWERS**, SSG Richard C., C Co, 2-8 CAV, 1966. 3 June 2018.
- CLOPTON**, SP4 Larry, D Co, 1-7 CAV. 17 December 2018.
- COMBS**, PV2 Jerry B., D Co, 5-82 FA, 1963. 29 August 2018.
- DANTZLER**, LTC (RET) William (Dan), HHC, 1-9 CAV, 1966. 29 December 2018.
- GULISAO**, Trooper Alberto, A Co, 1-8 CAV, 1965. 31 January 2018.
- HACKNEY**, COL (RET) Edward C., HHB, 1-77 FA, 1963; HHB, 1-21 FA, 1967. 4 November 2018.
- HAJOVSKY**, SGT Benjamin L Co, 3rd BDE, 1951. 3 February 2018
- HALSTEAD**, Trooper Kenneth M., HHT, 5 CAV. 14 January 2018.
- HAMMETT**, CPL Daniel F., HHC, 8th ENG, 1951. 22 April 2018
- HANLEY**, PFC Richard L., A Co, 174th MP, 1951-52. 13 August 2018.
- HRDYZIUSZKO**, SSG Ron, A Co, 2-7 CAV, 1969. 4 May 2018.
- MILLER**, PFC M. Ross, A Co, 1-8 CAV, 1946. 5 July 2018.
- MOSER**, CPL Art, HQ, 61st FA, 1953-54. 30 December 2018.
- MURRAY**, CPL Willis, B Btry, 61st FA, 1953-54. 9 December 2018.
- PRICE**, CPT (RET) James A., A Co, 1-9 CAV. 21 November 2018.
- SANDIDGE**, PFC Donovan B., E Co & D Co, 7 CAV, 1942-43. 26 March 2018.
- SINDEL**, 1LT Seth R., C Co, 1-50INF, 1967. 29 December 2018.
- RADKE**, SFC Roy, M Co, 3-8 CAV, 1955; H Co, 2-8 CAV, 1956. 3 June 2018.
- RICHARDSON**, SGT Merle E., A Co, 82nd FA, 1944. 16 February 2018.
- TULFO**, SFC Magno B., D Co, 2-5 CAV, 1968. 24 December 1968.
- VANCE**, SGT Clarence E., 3-7 CAV. 6 January 2018.
- WALKER**, SGT Claude W., H Co, 5 CAV, 1943. 18 July 2018.
- WASNEY**, SFC (RET) James T. Jr, C Btry, 1-30 FA, 1968. 22 November 2018.
- WELLENREUTHER**, SGT John M., A Co, 2-5 CAV, 1966. 13 July 2018.
- YARBROUGH**, SSG David F., 2-5 CAV, 1941-45. 26 November 2018.

ACTIVE DUTY TAPS

We have no Active Duty deaths to report.

Director's Chair

Continued from pg. 1

them. Let the fun begin!
 Last year's Veterans Day was full of excitement. I won't get into the specifics, but we do hope that Jim Stokely and Ron Stokes are recovering from their 'Almost Purple Heart' events. It was great to see LTG Anthony Ierardi (former Pegasus 6) and his wife, Angela. LTG Ierardi was the guest speaker and as always imparted the crowd with his kind words of wisdom.

We continue to lose scribes for the *Saber*. Most of our members have noticed however, if you have not, Silver Wings, 12th Cav, and 61st FA need new scribes. Keep in mind we are always looking for members who are willing to step up and write about their personal adventures in the 'bush' or 'sand trap' depending on your deployment. Please give us a call if you are interested in taking over a column or starting up a new one (254-547-6537).

I ask you all to remember this as you peruse the pages of the *Saber*...Change is Good. See y'all in June, take care.

SABER

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www.facebook.com/AlumniOfTheFirstTeam

- Dara C. Wydler: Executive Director
- Tina Wilgeroth: Program Director / Editor / Graphics
- Karleen Maloney: Scholarships / Memberships / Chapter Coordinator

ARTICLE SUBMISSION

Original, clear copies, typed or printed are accepted via e-mail at Programs@1CDA.org.

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 not 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 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.

OTHER REUNIONS

VII Corps Desert Storm Veterans Association 28th Anniversary Reunion, 22-24 Feb 2019. Shilo Inn, Killeen, TX, POC COL (Ret) Mark A. Rado; President VII Corps DVSA <mark.a.rado.civ@mail.mil>.

15th Medical Battalion Association Reunion, 3-7 April 2019. Holiday Inn Downtown (Market Square), San Antonio, TX, <www.15thmedbnassociation.org>, POC Ron Huether, <medevac2@15thmedbnassociation.org> or 830-997-9686.

227th Assault Helicopter Battalion Reunion, 13-16 April 2019. Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center, Nashville, TN, <<http://reunion.227ahb.org>>, POC Howard Burbank, <chickenman@a227ahb.org>. All members, guests and friends of the 227th Assault Helicopter Battalion are invited to attend.

8 CAV (Airborne) D Co. 2nd BN Airmobile Reunion, Vietnam War 1965-1972, 15-18 May 2019. Double Tree by Hilton DFW Airport North, Dallas, TX, POC Rich O'Brien <rmobri200@gmail.com> or 630-901-8727.

1/7 Ia Drang Reunion (Nov. 14-17, 1965), May 19-23, 2019. Hampton Inn & Suites, Myrtle Beach, SC, Reservations Ph # 1-877-946-6400 Use code (1/7 Ia Drang) 1/7 Veterans of LZ Xray and families invited to attend, POC Hardy Brown <kbrown@ftc-i.net> or 843-355-7839.

1st Cavalry Division Association 72nd Reunion, 5-9 June 2019. Shilo Inn, Killeen, TX; Reservations can be made by calling 254-699-0999; Reunion registrations went out with the 2019 Calendar and you can register online via the website, <www.1CDA.org>.

30th FA Regiment Association Reunion, 10-15 June 2019. Cleveland, Ohio, POC: Daniel Gillotti <firstcav68@roadrunner.com> or 440-934-1750.

1/8 CAV Jumping Mustangs Vietnam Reunion, 4-8 Sept 2019. Anaheim, CA; POC: James Knafel <jjknafel@gmail.com> or 260-244-3864. This includes medics, artillery FO teams and Air Force liaison teams. Other 1st Cavalry members may attend as associate members if for some reason they can't attend their regular reunion this year.

12 CAV Reunion, 10-15 September 2019. Welk Resort, Branson, MO, \$89 plus tax/night. Reservations 1-800-808-9355, use Group Code (565466), POC Thomas <mmctlc3@aol.com> or 432-853-4851.

Have your upcoming reunions posted here!

1st CAVALRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION HISTORIAN

Clifford Boxley crboxley@hotmail.com



Tid-Bits from the Past

1976: The Association had 5 Chapters on Post and 17 Chapters world-wide stretching from Korea to Europe with most of them very active.

The 1st Cavalry Division's Horse Platoon joined the Texas Bi-Centennial Wagon Train at Oklahoma City on February 19, 1976. The Association back then was raising funds so that the entire Horse Platoon could participate in the 4 July celebration at Valley Forge.

CHAPTER NEWS UPDATES

We invite all of our Chapter Presidents, Vice Presidents or POC's to contribute any photos, news, or updates about your Chapter, to be posted here in the *Saber*.

We would love to hear updates from all of our Chapters spread across the United States. We encourage you to use this platform to share your bulletins.

Submission deadline to appear in the next *Saber* is Friday, 1 March 2019. Please send to Karleen at Memberships@1CDA.org or mail to 302 N. Main St. Copperas Cove, TX 76522, Attn: Karleen.

ALMOST HEAVEN CHAPTER

During our fall meeting the chapter elected new officers. The new president is Jim Hays, vice president is Marie Dockery. We wish to express our gratitude to out-going, and past president Bill Carpenter. Other business discussed included the post annual convention wrap-up, and the direction of the chapter going forward. Our next meeting will be the first Saturday in April (6th), 2019. We will assemble at the Shoney's restaurant at the Flatwoods exit off I-79 in Braxton Co., WV at 1pm. All First Team Veterans and friends are cordially invited to attend. For further information about the chapter contact Jim Hays at 304-924-6380 or <purplehays_05@yahoo.com>.

AMARILLO, TEXAS

Anyone in the Amarillo, Texas area looking to start up a Chapter? Please contact Ryan Hodge at 806-433-4467 or <Ryan@Hodgemgmt.com>.

CROSSED SABERS CHAPTER

The Crossed Sabers Chapter hopes that all of you had a great holiday season and that 2019 is a great year for you.

The Chapter had a Stable Call in January at the Copperas Cove VFW. The next meeting will be a General Membership Meeting followed by a Stable Call on 21 March 1800 at the Harker Heights VFW Post 3892 (201 VFW Drive).

We will be planning our support of the 72nd Annual Reunion of the 1st Cavalry Division Association in Killeen, which will be from 5-9 June. The Headquarters Hotel will be the Shilo Inn and Suites in Killeen. We will need to assist with the Golf Tournament, set-up and operation of the Souvenir Shop, the Registration Desk, the Reunion Room, and all of the lunches and other events at the reunion. Most of the events occur in the Killeen Civic and Conference Center but there will also be events planned on Fort Hood. First Team! Tim Hodge, President

JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA

Anyone in the Jacksonville, Florida area looking to start up a Chapter? Please contact Jesse Crimm at 904-737-6172 or <TheCrimms@gmail.com>.

NORTHWEST CHAPTER

Happy New Years and I wish you a prosperous 2019... I first want to start by celebrating the life of Magno Tulfo; his dedication to service to our country and our org. brought great credit upon the Cavalry Troops and the Pacific Northwest. He served as our Sergeant-at-Arms with distinction service that provided our chapter with a professional touch that no one can emulate. We will miss you Magno.

And lastly, I hope that you had a very Merry Christmas with your families and ask that you make it your mission to bring more members to our organization so we can continue to celebrate the Cav traditions and support our community.

Upcoming events: March 11 is our Executive Board Meeting at 12:30pm at Family Pancake House, 3900 Kitsap Way, Bremerton, WA and March 16 is the Muckleshoot Veteran Quarterly Breakfast from 9am-12pm at 2402 Auburn Way S, Auburn, WA 98002, Hosted by Auburn VFW Post 1741 (Not a Chapter Event), <<https://www.facebook.com/events/1416960395267632/>>.



NY/NJ CHAPTER

Once again members and friends of the New York-New Jersey Chapter gather together in Washington D.C. on Veterans Day. Great past year and looking forward to upcoming one.

Spring Meeting will soon be announced. Keep up with current chapter happening's, check Facebook page: New York New Jersey Cavalry.



LIFE MEMBERSHIP / SABER RENEWAL

- Enroll me as a Life Member (gives you one year subscription to Saber)...\$10.00
- Renew my *Saber* subscription (\$10/year).....\$10.00
- New or Renewal of Associate Membership.....\$15.00
- D-Trooper.....\$25.00

Donations received:

- \$25 makes you a D-Troop member including a one year subscription.
- \$50 makes you a D-Troop member including a one year subscription and you receive a suitable poster or print.
- \$100 makes you a D-Troop member including a one year subscription.
- \$500 makes you a Silver Brigade member including a 10 year subscription.
- \$1,000 makes you a Gold Brigade member including a 20 year subscription.

- All D-Troopers receive a certificate suitable for framing, upon your first donation.
- Brigade members receive a handsome 1st Cavalry wall plaque.

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

- \$15 one year Associate Membership including a one year subscription.
- \$150 Life Associate including a five year subscription and you receive a framed certificate.

Honor Roll Mentions:

All donors of \$25 or more receive acknowledgment in the Honor Roll column and may dedicate gifts, *In Honor Of*.

D-Troop milestones can be achieved cumulatively. We will keep track of your contributions.

\$10 covers your subscription to Saber newspaper for one year.

LAST 4 NUMBERS OF SSN _____ DOB _____
 Rank _____
 Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____
 Zip _____ Phone (____) _____
 Dates Assigned (1) _____ (2) _____
 I served with 1st Team in Unit (1) _____ and
 (2) _____
 E-mail _____

I Authorize release of information to: No one ___ Other Members only ___
 Other Members and USAA Only ___.

I served with the 1st Cavalry Division in (Circle one or more)
 Pre-WWII WWII Japan Korean War Korea '57-'65 Fort Benning
 Vietnam War Fort Hood Gulf War Bosnia Afghanistan Iraq Fort Bliss
 Have you served with any other military unit during a war time period? YES NO

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

This scholarship means the world to me. I received the First Cavalry Scholarship and I am so thankful that I was eligible for it because of the fact that my amazing father served this country and dedicated over half of his life to the military. Attending college in itself is an enormous privilege. I cannot thank God enough that not only am I able to go to college but that this scholarship can now help me pay for my textbooks and my tuition. I am grateful that some of the financial burden can also be taken off of my parents. Being awarded this scholarship truly makes me feel like everything that I have been working for is paying off. Thank you, First Cavalry Division Association, for the opportunity to receive this award.
 Mya Goudeau



I am so grateful for the continued support from the Foundation of the 1st Cavalry Division Association. Without this scholarship I could not achieve my goal of earning a bachelor's degree from Embry Riddle Aeronautical University. This scholarship enables me to earn the grades I strive for, for example I just received my transcripts for this semester and I am very pleased. My term GPA is a 3.6 and my cumulative GPA is constantly improving. I am also an Air Force ROTC student, and to know that there are organizations like this really encourages me to serve my country. I cannot say thank you enough, the support you have given me is invaluable!
 Heather McGraw

Share what's going on in your Chapter, we'd love to hear an update!
 When is your next Chapter meeting?
 Have your Chapter bulletins & upcoming meetings posted here!

61st FA News

Gordon Cress
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Gordonc@DLSea.Net



Hopefully this issue of the *Saber* will be reaching you around the middle of February. Trust that everyone had an enjoyable Thanksgiving and Christmas. Now we can concentrate on 2019. Naturally we all remembered our lovely wives on Valentine's Day.

A special Thank You to all who sent along season's greetings. It's always nice to hear from you.

We here in California had another terrible fire season. It seemed like almost the whole northern CA area was going up and the Santa Ana winds were blowing fiercely, just adding to the problems in getting the fires under control. The poor city of Paradise was wiped out. We had a number of friends and acquaintances who checked on us and we appreciate their concern, but we were well south of most of them.

From Bill Stewart... "Gordon, not too much going on right now. Just trying to guess the weather's mind. One day it's 75 or 80 and a few days later it's 45 or 50. It just keeps bouncing up and down.

Haven't had too much snow, yet, but I expect it before Christmas and probably lots of it. I've watched the signs all summer and all of them are saying, above average snowfall and below average temperature. Well anyway I got my work done (addressed my Christmas cards). The list gets shorter every year. I just hate it when the card comes back, I don't know happened to the person. I always hope they just went into assisted living quarters. Had a setback on my bowling, came down with gout in both ankles. I never know if they are going to hold me up when I try to walk. I have a good doctor that is working to fix them though and maybe I can get back at it soon. Our small herd of cows look good though and maybe we will have some additions sometime in late March. Hope everyone is doing fine and writes to you. It is the only way I get any news about any of you. Hope you all had a Merry Christmas and wishing you a Happy New Year, Bill." Thanks, Bill, always nice to hear from you and Pat.

From Jimmy Marks... "Hello, Gordon. I need to hear from anyone who was in Batteries B, C, HQ, and SVC on November 25, 1950. I know what happened to A Battery but very little on the rest of the battalion; even if nothing happened the info will be useful. Anyone with memories of that night when A Btry was overrun can share their experiences by emailing me at <trooperjim@sbcglobal.net>. Thanks, Jimmy Marks." Hope you get some responses, Jimmy, and it's nice to hear from you again.

On a personal front my wife is about half way through her chemo regimen and doing pretty well. I'm doing okay with my battle with the bone cancer and I'm still out there on the softball field, working out at the gym, riding the motorcycle, delivering meals on wheels, busy with the local Kiwanis Club, etc. The medicos tell me that my active lifestyle is the big reason I'm doing so well. Trying to hang in there as long as I can. Our family Christmas was called off due to my wife coming down with a really bad cold. The chemo leaves one's immune system

weak and evidently she picked up a bug somewhere. At least there was some good news in that her doctor called off any more chemo treatments and that was a nice Christmas present for her. We'll be getting together with the family for a belated Christmas when she's feeling better.

Ray Needham of Waverly, Iowa sent this along... "Dear Gordon, my best wishes to you, your wife and family for a most blessed Christmas and healthy Happy New Year. While reading the latest *Saber* I noticed your correspondence about the Gaffey. As a fresh Troop out of MP AIT, I sailed on the Gaffey from San Francisco enroute to Korea in February of 1963. We traveled to Pearl Harbor, Yokahama, a port in Taiwan and then up to Inchon. We arrived during a heavy snow and while the Troops were lined up below in a passageway, the Gaffey was struck mid-ship by a Chinese freighter. I was standing in front of the closed door to the barbershop..... sometime later I was told that the freighter's bow had pierced the side of our ship and took out the barber's chair when it pulled back. We were rushed top side and climbed down a cargo net to a landing craft that took us to shore. That was the beginning of my first tour with the Cav. I still have my card of the Golden Dragon. Some years ago I was at Ft. Knox and while at the museum I learned that Gaffey had been one of George Patton's commanders with the 3rd Army in Europe. In 1947, while the CO of Ft. Knox, he was killed in an air crash. The Gaffey was a sweet ship...too bad she's gone. Sincerely, Ray Needham." Nice to hear from you, Ray, and thanks for writing. Appreciate your input.

Had a nice call from Dick Weakley. He had several items he wanted me to pass along to everyone. Dick is now on 100% disability. Dick and Audrey spent Thanksgiving with his son in Texas. Said his son is doing very well and both he and Audrey are very proud of him. Willis Murray (Cpl) B Btry 53-54 passed away on December 9th at age 91. Art Moser had been living with his daughter since May and having a tough time with a large mass in his lung. He passed away on December 30th. Phone calls from Dick Schottlaender and Matt Tringali during his last week were so appreciated. Our condolences to his daughter Laurie Heagy and the family.

We have two Head Start programs in Carlsbad serving 3-5-year-olds. Most are from families on the lower edge of the economic scale. Each Christmas our Kiwanis Club selects two of the neediest families from each one and provides them with Walmart gift cards as well as additional gifts to make the holidays a little nicer for them. And thanks to the Toys for Tots program, every child gets at least one nice new toy. Seeing the great smiles on those little faces makes it all worthwhile.

As you can see, this column is sparse. This is my 99th column for the *Saber* and I'm seriously considering shutting it down after more than 16 years. I'm thinking the next one, No. 100, will be the last one. Just not getting enough input to keep it interesting and up to date. As you know the 61st was disbanded in 1957 and that's 61 years ago. I'm 85 now and probably one of the younger Vets, having joined the 61st in 1954 when I was just 21. Our ranks are getting thinner every year and getting me less and less input for the column. Hope you all understand and if someone wants to take it over, I'll be glad to help in any way I can.

Take care, 'Sta Bueno and keep those cards, letters, phone calls and emails coming.

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME TO THE 1CDA TEAM!

CW4 ABBOTT, TERENCE VA 227AVN 6801
LTC ALESHIRE, CHRISTOPHER GA 1CDH 0807
E-5 ALGER, ROGER L. VA B 1- 9C 6903
COL (RET) ANGYAL, JOSEPH AE
E-2 AVILES, HECTOR FL D 1- 9C 65
1SG BARRIENTOS, JULIAN TX D 227AVN 95
SP-5 BEARD, ROBERT TN HQ 1- 21ARTY 6910
COL (RET) BECHTEL, CHARLES M. PA B 1- 8C 6806
MG (RET) BELTSON, RICHARD FL HHC 1- 77FA 6704
SP-4 BERGEN, JOHN NY E 2- 5C 7212
PFC BERRIOS, GUMERSINDO TX HHC 2- 5C
SPC BOUGHNER, ROBERT D. FL 27MNT 7007
SSG BURCH, CHARLES MT A 2- 8C 8806
PFC CALAMATEU, GALILEO TX HHC 227AVN
SPC CAMERON, MARY MO E 2- 82FA 85
SPC CANNON, JESSE TX A 6- 9 0511
CW4 CLINE, TIM TX 227AVN 7112
SP-5 COLWELL, RAYMOND WA HHC 1CDH 6812
SFC COPELAND, AMANDA TX 1CDH 1810
SFC CUSTODIO, ROMULO MD B 13SIG 0111
SP-4 DESCANT, DOUGLAS TX HHB 1- 21ARTY 6508
1SG EVANS, WILLIAM FL B 27BSB 0506
LTC FENCL, BRYAN CA B 15BSB 05
SFC (RET) GLEISSNER, GEORGE OK HHC 1- 8C 5912
CW4 GONZALES, LOUIS M. III TX 227AVN 1206
SGT GUEY, CHARLES LA 545MP 7310
SPC HARRIS, KEVIN OK HHC 3- 8C 1703
MR. HAYDEN, BRADLEY CA 149 L-ASSOC
SFC HOLCOMBE, GEORGE YE A 217FA 6609
SGT JENS, ROBERT MO HHC 2- 8C 8806
SFC JOHNSON, ANDRE TX A 2- 5C 9208
E-4 JOHNSON, ANDREW CA E 1- 72INF 7710
CPT JOHNSON, MYRON TX 227AB 1708
E-5 JONES, RICHARD S. III FL D 2- 12C 6609
SFC KAUS, LYDIA TX 115BSB 1215
SFC KELLY, JAMES D TX D 2BCT 1603
PV2 KLEPONIS, TYLER A FL 227AVN 1807
CW3 LAND, ROBERT FL B 1- 9C 6908
E-7 LENNON, LILLIAN H. TX HHC 27MAINT 84
E-3 MARTINEZ, CARLOS TX HHC 227AVN 0119
1SG (RET) MATA, MANUEL NC

MSG MAYER, LAWRENCE MA FL A 1- 5C 7312
MAJ MC DERMOTT, VINCE NY HHC 15FSB 9706
CW2 MC FARLAND, DAVID IA A 1- 9C 7011
SP-5 MC LAUGHLIN, RICHARD MA A 2- 12C 6605
SFC (RET) MC NEIL, STEVEN d. ND 1- 115FSB 9907
SGT MEXICOTTE, KYLE TX C 2- 12C 0515
CPT MICHAUD, BRIAN CO A 1- 5C 08
SP-4 MILLER, PERRY B. CA 545MP 6801
SGT MOORE, FRANCIS FL 191MI 65
E-4 NAGORA, HERMAN JR NY 1- 7C 69
SP-5 NOLF, THOMAS PA 1- 30FA 7005
CPL OSTEEN, WILLIAM I AL 7C 5103
1LT PATTERSON, DANIEL JAMES AZ 1- 7C 6403
SSG PIRTLE, JAMES AL HHC 1- 12C 82
SGT (RET) POPSON, JEFFREY L. TX 1379 ASSOC
SFC PRIDEMORE, BILL IN
PFC PUCCIO, VINCENT J. AZ HHC 2- 7C 6712
SGT RABKIN, THEODORE MD A 2- 7C 6911
SSG RESTO, JOSE TX C 1- 5C 03
E-4 RIOS, ANDRES TX D 1- 12C 6812
CPT RIVERA, JOSEPH TX HHC 1- 82FA 00
SGT ROBINSON, THOMAS M. MT D 2- 8C 6607
1LT ROVNER, PHILIP FL 1- 30FA 6908
1LT SANDERS, DOUGLAS NM B 8ENG 6605
MSG (RET) SATER, JOHN MO B 1- 9C 65
CPL SCHILLER, ANDREW MO A 615ASB 0004
E-5 SHAFFNER, JIM NM C 15TC 6709
SPC SHOREY, SHAWN CO C 2- 82FA 9104
SPC SIMPSON, MATTHEW T. TX E 227AVN 1810
E-5 SMITH, GERALD EUGE CA A 1- 12C 7904
SP-4 STUCKEY, DENNIS PA B 2- 5 71
SP-4 STUFFLEBEAN, DOUG TX HHB 4- 5ADA 8701
LTC (RET) THOMPSON, ALBERT VA 1- 4ID 07
E-4 VALENZUELA, JONATHAN CA HHC 3- 8C 1703
SP-4 VEAZEY, VERNON TN A 1- 12C 6705
CPT (RET) WELLS, CHARLES KY A 5- 7C 6705
COL WHITEHEAD, DORSEY M NC 1CDH 62
SP-4 WIKLE, JOHN GA E 1- 5C 7006
SSG (RET) WILLIAMS, QUDARRO SR TX 1- 5C 1208
SGT WILLIAMSON, JORDAN AK D 91ENG
PFC YOUNGS, DAVID FL A 1- 7C 5306



5th CAV News
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Hello again 5th Cav Troopers. I hope all your holidays were great. Had some congratulations and some sympathy for be-

coming Association President. We do what we must and need to do in this life. I don't know the answer to getting new members is. It seems like the younger generation are too busy in life to get involved with joining associations and organizations. I talked to one of our B Co Vietnam friends before Christmas and he told me of some others that had passed away. We are getting fewer in numbers, so we need to keep in touch or see each other at reunions. You never know when it's going to be the last time you are going to see or visit with a friend, buddy, or someone that you know or served with, so these reunions are important. Barring any health issues, I plan to attend the Killeen Reunion this year. Even though it's not the 5th Cav Regiment reunion I would like to see a lot of you there. I'll close this portion out now because we have a follow up to our Apache Dog Story that was in my last column.

Continuation of *Apache Dog* Story, I received a letter from Gerald Sniezyk about the story *Apache Dog*. I will try to recopy his letter in its entirety. It reads as follows:

"Dear Bill, my name is Jerry Sniezyk. I just read your story *Apache Dog* in Nov-Dec *Saber*. I cried my heart out, for I'm the A Co medic 2/5 3rd platoon, that was my dog. Her name was Hellie. I only had her a short time, but she already had 5 air-assaults to her credit. She was a damn good dog!! The day she got lost it killed me. Now 51 years later I find out she was a survivor. Two or three days after she was lost, we were sent back to Bong-Song and I never heard any news that the dog was ever found, so I prayed to God that this was my "Hellie." God Bless the Soldiers of the First Cav." Yours Truly, Sniezyk Medic A Co 2/5 09-04-66 to 09-07-67

You never know what a story will do. Bring back memories, long lost, put some hope and joy back in someone's life. Everyone needs to heal. Do you have a story that you need or want to tell? Then send it to me. It might be someone else's healing. It's nice to know that someone's story was really an answer and closing to another Vietnam Vet. Until the next issue, God Bless and keep you and yours and may all of you be blessed for 2019.

Loyalty and Courage,
 Bill, Control 27 Mike Out

WANTED

I was assigned to the 127th Airborne Combat Engineer Battalion and I would like to get in contact with any Soldiers who served in the **11th Air Assault Division** at Fort Benning, Georgia from **1963 to 1965**. I would like to obtain information from you, so I can complete a permanent, accurate record of what we were doing and why. Please contact me at <jfieldson@hotmail.com> or 505-507-7574.

Thank you, James (Jim) Fieldson
 Chairman of 11th Air Assault Division Association

My name is Jim Hilts and I spent 14 years in the Army (active and reserve). I went into the army as a Private and left as a Major. The best and most intense time I experienced was when I was an RTO in the 1/7 Bn of the 1st Air Cav Div in '68 and '69 in Viet Nam. Now that I am retired and have the time to reflect on things; I have decided to write a book about RTO's. As I have gotten into this project, I have realized to do justice to the topic I ought to hear from former RTO's throughout the Army. So, I'm asking that you put this request in your association newsletter. I would like to hear from **RTO's from WWII, Korea and Viet Nam**. RTO's were often in the thick of the action and relied on greatly by the officers they served. So please tell me your stories.

Thank you, Jim Hilts <jimchrishilts@verizon.net> 412-269-0217.

The following request is for a future Army aviation history publication. Question: Who among you, during your Vietnam tour-of-duty, recall seeing/crewing/piloting an in-country Army helicopter which exhibited on its fuselage a "personalized painted name" like, for example, IRON BUTTERFLY and SUSIE Q?

Thank you, John Brennan, <johnmailman2@yahoo.com>, former SP5, 114 AHC, 1970-71, Vinh Long AAF, Mekong Delta.

I am hoping to contact anyone who served in the Cav in Vietnam with **3rd Bde (Sep) from April 71 to Apr 72**, especially anyone who served on **FSB Mace**. Ron Killingsworth, <retmiagt@gmail.com> 318-426-3654.

**See the Witness to War Foundation
 opportunity details on pg. 16**

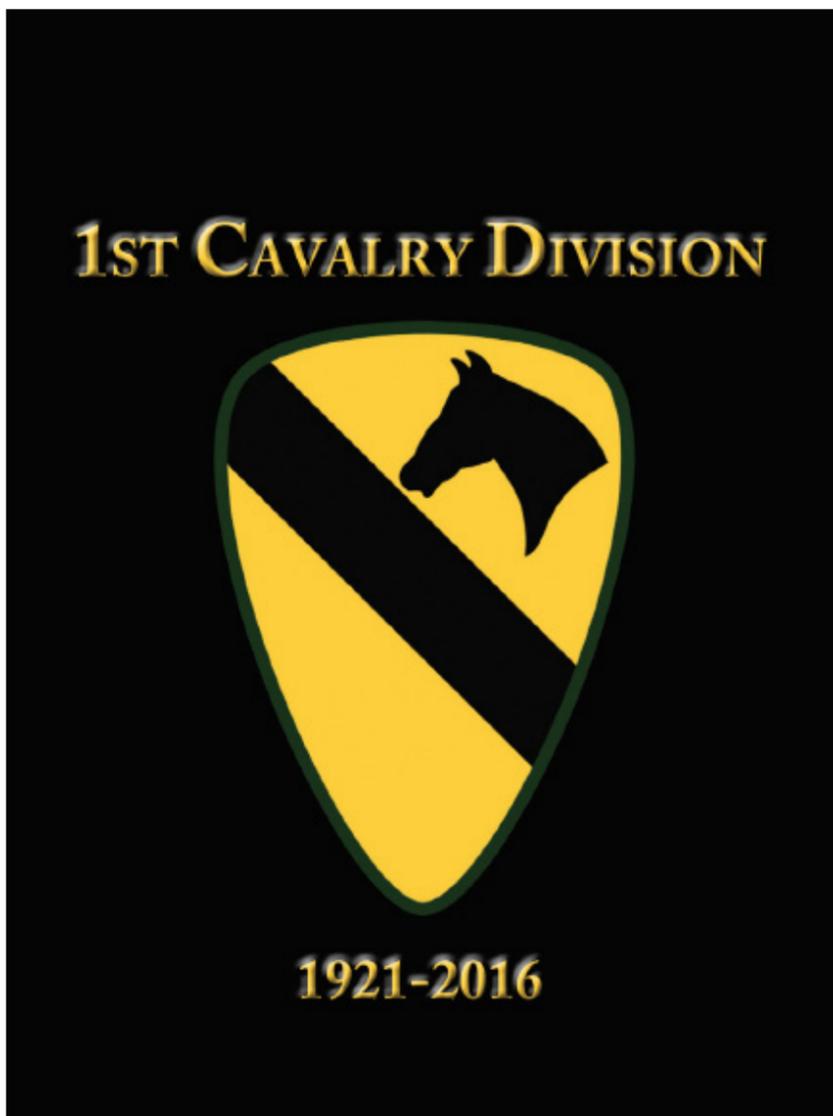
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12th CAV News



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message gave none; no date, no address, email or postal, no given or surname, and you didn't call again, giving me no way to contact you starting from nil with nothing. Please get back; I am interested in making this work.

0307 An end to a continuing story> "Bertuli said several people who have read his story have since opened up and talked to friends and loved ones about their experiences in the Vietnam War. "It makes me feel great," said Bertuli, who notes that part of his inspiration for writing the story was to try to help a family member suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder after deployments to the Middle East. "Maybe we'll be able to help somebody else. We must tell the story. Nobody else is going to do it for us." Compton said sharing his memories with Bertuli and



L to R Jim Compton, Gary Vickers, Len Bertuli, Duane Smythe

Vickers helped him process his wartime experiences. "In terms of the stories it's rare when you can share the memory of an experience with somebody who was actually there. It's a whole different level, with much more meaning. It validates some things, which I think is important for people who have had those experiences. You go through them and you don't experience anything again ever like it," Compton said. "I know for me it was like talking to those guys validated, because you often wonder 'How was I?' Was I good Soldier, was I a good teammate, for lack of a better word? Did they trust me? Did they value my contributions? When you talk to somebody who was there, you really get better feedback than you would with somebody sharing a beer at the VFW or something. I think it was really important." Bertuli said he didn't know if he would return to writing more about his service in Vietnam, but he encourages other Veterans to write about their memories. "Everybody I've talked to who has done this has said it's helped," Bertuli said. "It would be nice if I could get somebody to do something or just nudge somebody else... There's so many stories out there to tell." <Chris Yucus - NewsTrib.Com>

0507 PFC Mark Ward, B Troop 3-12 Cavalry in Büdingen, Germany reenlisted in 1984 standing on the Commanding Officer's desk. Why the desk? Mark told the reenlistment NCO that the only way he would reenlist was to do it standing on the CO's desk. (That and the \$13,000 bonus.) "U.S. Inflation Rate - \$13,000 in 1984 is equivalent in purchasing power to \$31,535.07 in 2018, a difference of \$18,535.07 over 34 years." Mark also states that in 1984 in Michigan, the auto industry was in the tank which was his main reason for staying another 5 years. He left the Army as a Specialist-4. <FaceBook.Com>. Good on ya Mate, and a great CAV! story, Trooper!



0707 "The 3rd ABCT and 1-12 Cav are heading in January to attend a training rotation at the National Training Center in Fort Irwin, California. "The deployment to the National Training Center NTC, is a vital training opportunity," said COL Kevin Capra, the brigade's commander. "It gives us a unique opportunity to test ourselves, our systems and our tactics against a near-peer force that cannot be replicated at Ft Hood." While training rotations to the NTC can indicate a future deployment for a unit, the Army has not yet announced that the brigade is deploying in 2019. Greywolf has M1A2 Abrams tanks, M2A3 Bradley Fighting Vehicles, M109A6 Paladin self-propelled Howitzers, and over 4,000 Soldiers. In addition to its organic battalions they will deploy to the Mojave Desert with the 1st Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment, 1st Cav Div, the 2nd Chemical Battalion, and the 1st Platoon, 401st Military Police Company from Ft Hood, as well as Army National Guard and Reserve units from 12 states, including Alabama, California, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Kansas, Massachusetts, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma and Wisconsin. "We are very excited about the integration of the National Guard and Reserve units as well as the active duty units from here at Ft Hood," said Capra. "It supports the Army's Total Force Partnership, will significantly enhance our capabilities, and us helps validate our readiness to respond to any mission we are given." <KDHNews.Com>

0907 The Midnight March of Company D (Stacked Deck) 2-12 Cavalry (Roving Gambler). "I read your excellent 12th Cav News in the Sept/Oct edition of the *Saber* and was intrigued by the information regarding Stacked Deck, the rescue of Company C (Wild Card), LZ Grant, and Quan Loi. I served in the 2-12 Cav from late Aug 1968 to late Aug 1969. The first 9-10 months in Stacked Deck with the 3rd Platoon and the company command post, and the last few months in HH Co as the loadmaster on the btn log bird. I took part in the midnight march and had an encounter with a single NVA soldier early the next morning. For years I had told myself that I should write up key parts of my wartime experience for my descendants, but just couldn't bring myself to do it. Well, fifty years have passed, memories fade, and I am playing my 4th quarter (I hope it's not the 2-minute warning). I have decided to finally begin writing my recollections. The incident with Wild Card is as good a place to start as any. The enclosed recounts my memory of the march. Ever since I left VN I have a problem remembering the names of those I served with. I remember platoon leader LT John Howe, our squad point man Bligh, and CO CPT William Shine. It's possible someone may remember me since my last months with Stacked Deck I served as Stacked Deck 3-6 India, then as Stacked Deck 6 India. You are welcome to use any part of all

0001 Hey Sailor, new in town? Individual 1, Stacked Deck 1-6, you called my house and left me an intriguing message and asked me to call you in reply. Only one problem: my ID Caller registered no number, your recorded

of this in your column. All of it, part of it, or none of it as you see fit." Scott W. Jeter, phone 405-514-5831, <MSJeter@Cox.Net>. <Email, phone, you name it>. Help a Brother out? RESPOND! Continued ---



1ABCT, 1CD Stinger team

1107 10.17.2018 Ustka, Poland. "From a firing point overlooking the Baltic Sea, a launcher emits a high-pitch tone that signifies target acquisition. A sudden cloud of smoke and the report of near-instant Mach-speed flight, an FIM-92 missile is on its way. Five seconds and two kilometers away, an explosion occurs as a Stinger team scores a direct hit on an 'Outlaw' drone being remotely flown in a futile attempt to evade the incoming projectile. It is historic because it is the first time an armored brigade conducted training that certified Soldiers with an Additional Skill Identifier as well as firing a live missile, whereby previously fire-missions are normally shot at a virtual range. The journey towards this skill-set began during the brigade's last NTC rotation when several Soldiers attended a course taught at Fort Sill to acquire the certification necessary to become qualified Stinger team operators. Fast-forward to the brigade's current training rotation where a follow-on class was established and taught by SSG Bryan Melby, a 14G Air Defense Battlefield Management Operator assigned to the brigade's headquarters location in Zagan. It was an arduous task to find out the steps required in setting up this class. "It involved a lot more than just setting up a course of instruction. We had to draw up all the phases such as Pre-Qualification Training for the first week, then during the subsequent three weeks, instruction regarding how to properly identify aircraft, weapon system PMCS, how to track and engage, and ultimately a 45-question test that graded their ability to put all of it together. These teams now understand how the weapon system works, the correct placement of the launcher, how it feels to fire it, and successfully engage a target and destroy it." When the course began the attendees were given incentive to do well. There were three hard-to-come-by missiles available to fire at the end of course range. The three teams that scored the highest points on practical exams throughout the course would get to fire those missiles. The competition was stiff. One winning team was PFC Justin Wilson, Infantryman, Charlie Company, 2-12 CAV and SGT Tyler Huston, Infantryman, Charlie Company, 2-12 CAV. These Soldiers are now considered subject matter experts (SME's) and will return to their respective units and spread the wealth of knowledge that they have acquired and ultimately provide the brigade with enhanced capabilities and combat effectiveness of an already lethal armored combat team. It brings a third-dimensional capability allowing ground and maneuver elements to reach out much further than they were previously used to. With a range of 6,000 meters of destructive power, the ability to destroy enemy air platforms is greatly multiplied." <DVidsHub.Net>

1307 11.16.2018 "Soldiers from across Fort Hood provided support to the Central Texas Food for Families food drive. The one-day food drive collects non-perishable food, and stocks the shelves of 20 area food banks and pantries across nine counties in Central Texas. The goal is to collect enough food to last past the holiday season. Vehicles and Soldiers picked up food at collection points throughout the local area and delivered it to the Killeen Civic and Conference Center. Once the food arrived at the destination it was weighed, and then local school children took the various items to different stations where more Soldiers including 80 from Company B, 1st Battalion, 12th Cav sorted and boxed them. "We were looking for a way for our company to continue to build as a team while giving back to the community," 1Lt Taylor VanValey said. "People always talk about the incredible Thanksgiving and Christmas meals they have with their families, but that isn't the case for everyone, so we wanted to do something that involved giving food and meals to families during the holiday season." According to VanValey, B Co plans on trying to fit more opportunities to help the community into their schedule. "I think the Soldiers had a lot of fun participating in this day and they also recognized what an incredible opportunity this was to give back to the community that supports us," VanValey said. At the Killeen location, Fort Hood Soldiers were responsible for helping to collect 317,066 pounds of food, which exceeded the Killeen Food Care Center's goal of 250,000 pounds according to Duphey." <FortHoodSentinel.Com>



1507 11.21.2018 The annual Best Dining Facility Thanksgiving Competition had NCOs and officers post-wide dressed in Army Service Uniforms serving meals to Soldiers and their families. The dining facilities were judged based off three categories and sub-categories and scoring was done from one to five, with five being the highest. Taste was broken into the sub-categories: flavor, texture, and appearance. Décor was broken into the sub-categories: originality of theme, ambiance, and displays. Customer service was broken into sub-categories: speed, service with a smile, and diner satisfaction. During the annual Best DFAC Thanksgiving Competition, families were encouraged to eat at the dining facilities on post with their Soldier. ISG Ryan Boyd, Company C, 1-12 Cav, his wife Jessica, and their 3-year-old daughter Marie, shared a meal together during the competition at Operation Iraqi Freedom Memorial Dining Facility. The couple also have a 1-year-old son, but being sick, he had to spend the day with his grandparents. Jessica said that this Thanksgiving she was thankful to be able to spend it with her family, because next year her husband will be deployed. The Boyd family shared that they have spent many months and holidays apart. Jessica said the hardest thing about being apart is having her husband miss their children's milestones. Boyd said that he enjoyed getting dressed up in his service uniform and serving his Soldiers and their families. Being able to relate to his Soldiers, Boyd was happy to serve them and said even if it was not mandatory, he would have still done it. "There are a lot of Soldiers that may not go home or can't go home, and at least we know that they had a good Thanksgiving meal," Boyd said. "And it's pretty rare when your boss has to get all dressed up and serve you on Thanksgiving." <FortHoodSentinel.Com>

Continued to pg. 10

7th CAV News



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Greetings to all 7th Cavalry Regiment folks, and a most happy New Year to you and yours. If you're like me, you've already had several opportunities to break all those New Year's Resolutions that you made, like not eating as much, exercising more, not stalking all of the Vietnam Vet sites on Facebook, and spending more time thinking about the future instead of the past.

Can you believe that we are already this far into the New Year? Wow! Time flies when you're having fun, doesn't it? Time is moving so fast that the Reunion in June seems to be just around the corner. If you have not registered, please consider doing so as soon as you can.

Those of you who have been reading this column over the years surely remember Bob Anderson, the former scribe and current Treasurer of the 7th Cavalry Association. Bob has served the 7th Cavalry Association for almost two decades, he was scribe for 18 years. (I, on the other hand, have only been here for 12 months.) Bob was recently recognized by Kent County, Wisconsin as the Veteran of the Year. Following is a story written by Michael Kranz and published in the Grand Rapids News. Please congratulate Bob when you have the chance.



Bob Anderson

U.S. Army Veteran Bob Anderson has helped provide final honors at funerals for nearly 830 fellow servicemen and women in the past four years. "It's a way to give back and honor someone that like me and so many million other Americans, served their country in her time of need," Anderson said. "I think I have a calling to do this."

The United Veterans Council of Kent County recently named Anderson as Kent County's Veteran of the Year. The Kent County Board of Commissioners honored him at their meeting Thursday, Nov. 8.

"It was surreal, actually," Anderson said.

"Every other nominee was as equally deserving as me. It's just a tremendous honor to have received this award from the United Veterans Council of Kent County."

Four others were nominated for the title. Anderson is a Veteran of the Vietnam War. He served as a First Lieutenant infantryman in the Army's 1st Cavalry Division, earning, most notably, a Purple Heart, two Bronze Stars for Valor and one for Meritorious Service. While overseas in April 1970, Anderson was wounded by shrapnel from a rocket-propelled grenade, earning him the Purple Heart. Later that same day, he said, the company commander was killed, forcing him to take over and lead the Troops out of danger. He and the platoon sergeant later carried his commander's body off the battlefield. He earned a Bronze Star for those actions.

In June 2014, the 70-year-old Ada resident joined the Kent County Veterans Honor Guard, a group of just under 100 Veterans who put on about 600 military funeral honors ceremonies each year in the county. Since that time Anderson has participated in roughly 830 of them, sometimes up to four a day.

"You do what you can," he said. "There are a number of us that do anywhere from 160 to 180 funerals every year." Each ceremony consists of a eulogy, a prayer, a three-volley rifle salute and the playing of Taps, folding of the flag and presenting the flag to next of kin. Lastly, there is the final salute. Anderson's role, most often, is funeral detail commander, the person designated to talk with the family beforehand.

"The family members are always so gracious and so thankful that we're there," he said. "I can't impress probably enough how much an honor and a privilege it is for us to do this." Anderson concedes some funerals, particularly those involving suicide or a young Veteran, can be tough. But, he said, just like his combat service taught him, it helps to distance emotions from service.

"If our emotions get too involved then we aren't able to provide the service that the Veteran is entitled to," Anderson said. "Just like in combat, you can't let your emotions show or the Soldiers that you're leading are going to have some trouble." Thanks Bob, for all that you do and have done.

This from John Guillory, President, 7th US Cavalry Association:

Hello all you former Garryowen Troopers, I have a few announcements for those attending the 1st Cavalry Division Association 72nd Reunion.

1. To all of you participating in the Golf Tournament, 0900-1300 Wednesday, June 5, let me know if you want to make some current and former Garryowen mixed-teams. Please contact me as soon as possible with your name and contact information.
2. The 1/7 and 2/7 Open House at Fort Hood is scheduled from 1200 to 1500 Friday, June 7. If you have any questions or comments about this event, please contact me.
3. For those of you who desire a "Gold Spur" certificate, please contact me and provide your full name and your rank at the time you served in the 7th Cavalry. You must be at the 72nd reunion in order to receive the Gold Spur certificate, no certificates can be awarded to those who do not attend.

Feel free to contact me at 951-278-3740 or <manhunter6869@yahoo.com>. I'm looking forward to seeing you all in 2019, in the great state of Texas.

Thank you, *John Guillory*, President, 7th US Cavalry Association

I had a great telephone conversation with COL (retired) Allen Brewster, who served as a forward observer for Company A, 77th Field Artillery during the Korean Conflict. During his time in Korea, he had the honor of being a forward observer for each of the line companies in the 7th Cavalry. He wasn't sure if being FO for all five-line companies was an honor or something else. He told me that it was a great experience, until the unit was overrun. COL Brewster is trying to find a person who was responsible for saving his life. Do any of you know the whereabouts of **Michael Dearth** from **Lodi, Ohio**?

If so, please contact me and I will relay the information to COL Brewster.

I had another conversation with a Korean Conflict Veteran, talked at length with Bernie Shankman, currently of Cayce, SC. He sent me a few pictures of that war. And he told me the following story:

"I was drafted in 1943. When I reported for basic training, they asked if anyone in the group had experience riding motorcycles. Well, I'd been riding bikes forever, so I raised my hand. After basic training, I was sent to Camp Hood, where I became a motorcycle scout for an Armored Division that would be headed for the war. Before we had a chance to go, I was reassigned to the artillery and was sent to Camp Sill for training there. While I was there, some people from the Army Air Forces came around and asked if any of us wanted to be pilots. I raised my hand, and they sent me off to Camp Roberts in Colorado for flight school. But then the siege began at the Battle of the Bulge and all draftees were pulled back into the Army to await deployment overseas.

"In 1944, I was assigned to the 70th Infantry Division and we made our way to Camp Campbell. While we were in training there, someone came in and asked if any of us wanted to become officers. I raised my hand. I went off to Officers Candidate School (OCS) and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Infantry. From that point, I became a training officer and moved to Camp Croft, South Carolina where I trained recruits. After a while there, I was transferred to Camp Roberts, California to again train recruits. In 1946, I was transferred to Fort Meade, Maryland, where I was mustered out of the service and I went home after being promoted to First Lieutenant.



MG Harrold along with 1LT Shankman at 1st Cav Division HQs

"When Korea broke out in 1950, I was called back from the Army Reserve to active duty. My first assignment Company K, 3rd Battalion, 7th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division. My job was a scout platoon leader. We did many patrols scouting out the enemy, but we also attacked a lot of hills. So many hills I can't remember all the names and numbers of them. On one attack in October of 1951, the Chinese were firing mortars from the top and a shell exploded behind me. I was hit in the back with shrapnel. It was bad enough that I had to be sent by train to a hospital in Pusan for surgery and recovery. Once I was ready for duty, I became a liaison officer for the 1st

Cavalry Division G3. My first job was to be liaison between MG Harrold, the Division Commanding General and General Cassel, the commander of the British Commonwealth Division.

"In 1952, the 1st Cavalry Division was reassigned to Japan, where we became part of the occupation force. Again, I was a liaison officer between the 1st Cavalry Division and the US Air Force. While we were there, we were instructed in winter warfare by Swedish ski instructors. I mustered out of the Army in 1956.

"I still ride my motorcycle, I have a Harley-Davidson. I belong to the American Legion Honor Ride and to the Patriot Honor Ride. We provide honor mission motorcycle escorts for fallen heroes here at Fort Jackson."

1LT Shankman is a spry 95 years old and has many stories to tell. And I'm here to tell you he is still sharp as a tack. That's what being Cav will do for you!

Former PFC Larry Stevenson has been writing articles and stories for local newspapers for a few years, and he was kind enough to send some of them to me. I plan to share them with you over the next few issues. Larry joined the Army in 1964 and had the luxury of taking basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, in February. After that, he went to Fort Sill for AIT. Then, on to the 1st Bn 7th Cav about 2 months before full deployment of the Division. Once in Vietnam, he was assigned as a mortarman in Delta Company. This is one of his stories.....

Something We Take for Granted

"The year was 1965. The location was deep in the jungles of South Vietnam. The base camp at An Khe was now completed. Strong restrictions were placed on the local Vietnamese who came to the base camp as workers; they had to have a pass to enter and leave the compound. Portable electric generators were now in use, we had lights in the tents and bunkers and around the grounds. Beginning to look like home. We had constructed a drainage system, all by hand, to move the rain water away from the base camp to reduce the amount of mud we had to deal with.

One morning, I heard a loud whirring, thumping noise and looked to the sky. Slung beneath a giant CH-54 "Skyhook" was a gigantic refrigeration unit equipped with, of all things, an ice maker! It wasn't quite automatic, though, we had to carry water to the ice machine for it to work. Can you believe that there, in the middle of the jungle, we had ice to cool our drinks? What a life!! And life was getting better!!

During the few times I was able to go into the village, I would gather together a big bag of that ice and take it with me. The village kids knew me and would flock around me just to get some of that ice, they would even beg for it. I enjoyed passing the ice out to all who came to get it. This simple act gave me great pleasure; it was something to see those Vietnamese kids putting the ice into cups with their drinks or just eating the ice, usually something they had not done before. Here at home we take such simple pleasures for granted. Life for us has always been so much better."

Thanks for your time. Looks like I've run out of things to say for this issue. A reminder to you that if you would like to see a story published, then all you need to do is send it in! If you would rather tell me the story, then feel free to give me a call. My phone number, address, and email address are all at the top of the column. I look forward to the possibility of seeing some of you at the Annual Reunion in Killeen in June.

Garryowen, my brothers and sisters!

8th CAV News



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Hi again from the cold North, I have been enjoying Florida sunshine from November thru April for the past many years. The recent sale of my Florida escape has challenged me to try and enjoy the beauty that is a Michigan Fall/Winter once again. I have a confession to make: I'm not 20 years old any more – I'm 72 pushing 73 and, given my age-related health issues, I no longer participate in ice skating, skiing (alpine and cross country), snow is pretty in pictures but not on my driveway and sidewalk, I don't like a \$165/month natural gas bills to heat my house... need I go on? Mother always said, "There's no fool like an old fool." I am having "seller's regret." I wonder if the people who bought my FL house would be willing to sell it back to me. Ugh! Forget it. I'm not moving again until the permanent one to Arlington National Cemetery. I'd better just grab a warm blanket, light a log or two in the fireplace, pour a glass of The Famous Grouse scotch, sit down in my Eames chair, kick back with a good book and adjust to my new life in the wintery beauty that the marketing geniuses call "Pure Michigan" for the next four months.



On a well deserve honor: It is always good to see someone recognized for his service to the Nation and to our fellow Veterans. The outgoing Governor of Florida did just that recently as he awarded the Governor's Medal of Merit to Fred Taylor. Governor Rick Scott said this at the ceremony on August 18, 2018, "It's a privilege to present Fred Taylor with the Medal

of Merit in recognition of his exceptional service to our country. We should take every opportunity to thank our Veterans and I am proud to honor Fred with this small token of gratitude for this service and sacrifice, and for the work he continues to do in his community."

The Governor's website adds this information about Fred: "Fred Taylor is an Army Veteran who served during the Vietnam War. During his service, he was awarded three Purple Hearts for injuries sustained in the war. He served as the National Commander of the Military Order of the Purple Heart and the Combat Infantryman's Association. His many awards include the James Dean Foundation's Humanitarian Award and a Distinguished Alumni Award from both his high school and college. In 2013, Fred was recognized for volunteering 10,000 hours of service to Veterans. He has resided in Florida since 2002 and continues to serve Florida Veterans and their families." Congratulations Fred on receiving this important honor and thanks for your years of service to our fellow Veterans!

Veteran Benefits: Many of us are aware of Federal VA benefits but few of those available from our home states. Here from Military.com is a handy reference for benefits by state: <<https://www.military.com/benefits/veteran-state-benefits/state-veterans-benefits-directory.html?ESRC=banner.nl>> Give it a look, you may be surprised at the many benefits available to you. You've earned them.

In Memoriam: Doug Magruder was the inspiration and power behind the



LZ Carolyn Memorial at the National Infantry Museum, Fort Benning. His dedicated efforts to its creation and placement were boundless. You can read about the dedication of the memorial in the January/February 2017 and March/April 2017 issues of *Saber*, in my 8th Cavalry columns. Doug sent me a note recently about an important addition to the memorial. On December 16th he wrote: "On Tuesday, February 5, 2019,

we are going to have a quiet little ceremony at the National Infantry Museum at Ft. Benning to dedicate the memorial in honor of the 50th Anniversary of the day Chester Jon Kmit was KIA; and by extension the 50th Anniversary of the day that Mike Cromie, Don Stoltz, Chuck Williams, and Willie Jones were KIA on 18

November 1968 and 4 December 1969 respectively. The plaque is the same type as the bronze plaque for the LA Carolyn Memorial and will be placed on a small black granite stone to rest to the left of the LZ Carolyn Memorial just under the tree. Perhaps you can use your *Saber* article to invite the Troops to stop by to see both memorials the next time that they might have an opportunity to visit the National Infantry Museum." For those of us who have had the opportunity to visit the museum during one of our reunions in Columbus it was an experience not to be missed.



The museum is wonderfully done with powerful dioramas dealing with the history of the Infantry, and the adjacent memorial park is very moving. It is well worth the time to visit if you have the chance when you are in the Columbus area.

Doug also just returned from a 20-day trip to Cambodia and Vietnam. He passes on this photo he thought you would like to see of Nui Ba Den, the site of LZ Santa Barbara in 1969.

On Agent Orange: The new issue of "Agent Orange Newsletter" just came in the mail. Bill Outlaw, the Communication Manager at VA's Patient Care Services, writes to us on the benefit of joining the Agent Orange Registry. He

speaks from his personal experience as a Vietnam Vet. While being in reasonably good health and not having been affected by the health issues he saw in others, he did not sign up for the registry thinking it would be a hassle. It was only after working at VA that he came to understand the dimensions of the problem as we in the Baby Boom generation of Vietnam Vets grow older. He signed up himself and found out, as I did, that it was a painless and easy process to get on the Agent Orange Registry. Not only is the process free, but I was surprised that when I drove down to the VA Hospital in Battle Creek, MI for the interview with the doctor, they paid mileage. As a result of getting on the registry, one is enrolled in VA health care. Information on the registry can be found at: <<https://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange/benefits/registry-exam.asp>>.

There is a lot of additional information in the newsletter for Veterans and their families as well. Information on disability compensation eligibility and claims procedures, qualifying medical conditions, etc. are all outlined in another article. You can subscribe to the printed edition of the Agent Orange Newsletter by writing to: Post-Deployment Health Services (10p4q), Department of Veteran Affairs, 810 Vermont Ave NW, Washington D.C. 20240. You might prefer to read the Newsletter online. Simply go to: <<https://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/publications/agent-orange/agent-orange-2018/index.asp>>.

The Second Battle of Tam Quan: Skip Saylor has written an extensive and well researched personal recollection of this battle in his article "Twenty Hours at the Second Battle of Tam Quan," a fight that profoundly affected those in the 1st Brigade and the 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry particularly on December 7th, 1967. Illustrated with maps, the Maneuver Summary from the 1st Cav After Action Report, and other supporting documentation, Skip brings detail and clarity to what for many is to this day still clouded in the fog of battle. Graphic is his descriptions of these events and how they personally affected him, I was deeply moved and forced to reflect on battle actions and other traumatic non-combat events in which I was involved during my two tours in country. Read here the beginning paragraphs to "Twenty Hours at the Second Battle of Tam Quan" by Gerald B. (Skip) Saylor:

"On the morning of 7 December 1967, C Company, 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry, First Cavalry Division (Airmobile), Republic of Vietnam sat waiting for the ground fog to clear. The company (minus one platoon) was assembled for insertion by helicopter along the coast in northeastern Binh Dinh Province one of the northernmost areas of II Corps. The insertion was in response to a 1st Squadron, 9th Cavalry White Team's (Aerial Scout ships comprised of observation and gunship helicopters) previous day's observation of NVA (North Vietnamese Army) radio antennas in a hut in the village of Dai Dong and the subsequent Blue Platoons (rifle platoon Troops A and D) commitment and engagement of the enemy. Additional Sky Troopers from 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry were inserted 6 December 1967 to aid Troops A and D. Intelligence indicated that a possible regiment size NVA unit (eventually determined to be the 2nd NVA Regiment) had infiltrated into the Tam Quan proximity. It wasn't the first time that the enemy had contested ownership of this region. Earlier in the spring of 1967, a battle of significant proportion was fought in the same area. Simply enough, the spring encounter as identified as the battle of Tam Quan. The battle I was about to experience became known as the Second Battle of Tam Quan begun 6 December 1967 lasting to 20 December 1967 resulting in 650 enemies killed, 58 Sky Troopers killed and 250 American wounded. The significance of the date, Pearl Harbor Day, was not lost on me. But unlike World War II battles measured in geography gained we were to fight for territory previously taken but voluntarily relinquished. Unfortunately, this abandonment of territory repeated throughout the war causing additional American casualties over and over for the same villages, regions, hills, valleys, and mountains.

"The morning ground fog that day played havoc with 1st Brigade's operations, to which 2/8 Cavalry was assigned. The order of march was to surround the NVA location with 2/8 and other 1st Brigade Cavalry units cordoning the area to prevent the escape of the enemy regiment. Search and clear operations were to be conducted to find and fix the enemy. C Company (-) was to insert on the coastal plains by CA (Combat Assault – use of helicopters to land Soldiers at a specific location) southeast of the suspected NVA Regiment's location and move north then west. Linking up with our sister company, B Company, was integral with the operations plan to ensure massing of Troops and their firepower should contact with the NVA Regiment occur. C Company's (-) CA, once begun after lifting of the fog, started several hours late but was routine. Huey slicks inserted the first platoon who secured the LZ without incidence and the balance of C Company (-) arrived by CH-47 Chinooks. Our deployment was complete at 0915 hours. Point of insertion was map grid coordinates BS930075. See attached maps for specific locations. The order of march was the first platoon second platoon with my platoon, the weapons platoon bringing up the rear. The Company Command Group was between the first and second platoons. Though hours behind schedule, we were underway.

"The third platoon, led by LT Jerry Weldon, had been temporarily attached to another unit and was not with us that day. That is the reason for the Company (-) designation. The company was under strength to begin with averaging a foxhole strength of 105. Foxhole strength is the number of Soldiers available in the field for combat operations. Without third platoon, the company's strength was less than 75. Army Table of Organization for an infantry company was over 200 personnel.

"Although our CA was uneventful, once we began moving north through a coastal village, we came under sniper fire. While we were organizing to move out post insertion, the NVA had maneuvered a few of their soldiers toward our location to further delay our progress. What Mother Nature had begun with fog, our enemy exacerbated by impeding our forward movement. Although the sniper's fire hit no one our efforts to root them out took precious time. To expedite routine the NVA snipers, ARA (Ariel Rocket Artillery – Huey helicopter fitted with 2.5-inch rocket launchers) was employed against suspected locations and again we were underway. Way behind schedule higher echelons of command urged us to speed up. Concern was real that the NVA Regiment could slip away through gaps between the American units. A linkage between units was crucial now, to prevent the enemy's escape.

"The battalion chaplain, CPT John Gunderson, had chosen this day to accompany C Company during an operation. His presence was always a boost to the men's morale. Being a man of the cloth, he was not only available for spiritual

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9th CAV News

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Regular visitors to Page 9 of the *Saber* will have noticed that the 9th Cavalry column was missing from the last issue. That's because Mike Bond, our scribe since January 2013, passed away on October 17, 2018, after a long and valiant

struggle with heart disease and other ailments.

Like many of you, I got to know Mike through this column, where he wrote about his time in the 1st of the 9th; alerted us to upcoming reunions; entertained and enlightened us with war stories, both his own and those contributed by others; and kept us informed as old friends and comrades came and went. But I had the further privilege of getting to know Mike in person.

We first met on the shores of Smith Mountain Lake, "the Jewel of the Blue Ridge" as he called it in every column he wrote. That's where Mike and his wife RoJane lived in a lakeside home, not far from where my son lives in Southwest Virginia. Later, at an Apache Troop Reunion in Alexandria, Virginia, I got to know Mike better while driving him to a dialysis treatment across the Potomac River in Maryland. Mike and I served in the same Troop but at widely different times, Mike in 67-68 and me in 70-71, but that didn't stop us from hitting it off. I've seen that happen many times, at Bullwhip Squadron reunions, A Troop reunions, C Troop "mini-reunions" and even one gathering of B Troopers that I was invited to join. I credit our shared heritage as members of what was described by Shelby Stanton in *Anatomy of a Division: The First Cav in Vietnam* as "the Cav of the Cav." Stanton further described the 1st of the 9th as the unit that carried out the first stage of the division's operating maxim that "aerial reconnaissance found the enemy, gunships fixed him, and airmobile infantry and artillery finished him." At any 9th Cav gathering I've ever attended, the old rivalries about which Troop was best are always present, but the mutual respect between fellow Veterans of a distinguished unit quickly turns strangers into old and valued friends.

Perhaps one reason our squadron could be called "the Cav of the Cav" is that throughout the Vietnam War, the division had one and only one unit of the 9th Cavalry Regiment on its rolls, the legendary 1st of the 9th. The organization chart in our Association's 2019 calendar shows that today there are three cavalry squadrons in the division, one in each armored brigade combat team. Two of them are from the 9th Cavalry Regiment: the 4th of the 9th is part of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team and the 6th of the 9th Cavalry is part of the 3rd Brigade. (As shown, the 1st Brigade Combat Team's cavalry squadron is the 1st of the 7th Cavalry.

There is one more 9th Cavalry unit in the division, our 1st of the 9th. But it is a battalion, not a squadron.

Under "Current Structure" on the Wikipedia page of the "1st Cavalry Division (United States)" you'll see, in parentheses after the name of each of the *squadrons*, the abbreviation RSTA. That stands for "Reconnaissance, Surveillance, and Target Acquisition" and indicates the 4th and 6th of the 9th (and 1st of the 7th) are doing for their parent brigades what our 1st of the 9th did for the division as a whole during the Vietnam War. Back then, the squadron was directly under division headquarters, and the division's three brigades were each supported by one of the squadron's three air cavalry Troops. How today's cavalry RSTA squadrons are equipped, what missions they are assigned, and how they perform those missions is a topic many of us older Veterans would like to learn more about. I invite all who are now serving in or have previously deployed as part of the 4th or 6th Squadron to send me your stories so they can be shared with your fellow 9th Cav Veterans.

There is one other *squadron* in the 1st Cavalry Division's organization chart, part of the Division's Combat Aviation Brigade. The Association's 2019 calendar calls it an Attack/Recon Squadron and the Wikipedia page calls it a Cavalry Squadron, but both agree it's the 7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry. Really old-timers reading this, such as those who served in the 11th Air Assault Division before it was reflagged as the 1st Cav and who later "rode the boat" to Vietnam, will recall that the 1st of the 9th was also reflagged. Originally it was the 3rd Squadron, 17th Cavalry. It's nice to see the 17th Cavalry affiliated with the division once again, but it doesn't seem right for the 1st Cavalry Division not to have the 1st of the 9th in that role.

The changes in cavalry structure and unit designations began when the Army switched from deploying whole divisions to deploying brigade combat teams instead and rotating them to and from overseas assignments as intact units rather than deploying them "for the duration" and keeping them manned by an individual replacement system, as was done during Vietnam. As the changeover to brigade rotations took place, there was a good-faith effort to keep the 9th Cavalry in the reconnaissance business. Units were redesignated and/or converted back and forth between cavalry squadrons and mechanized infantry battalions (so that the 1st *Squadron*, 9th Cavalry might have been a RSTA unit for one deployment, then redesignated during "reset" as the 1st *Battalion*, 9th Cavalry for the next). Today, the battalions of the Armored Brigade Combat Team are designated "Combined Arms Battalions," with a mixture of mechanized infantry and armor companies, and each Brigade Combat Team has one cavalry *squadron*, as outlined above.

When the 1st Cav Headquarters stood down in Vietnam and the colors went back to Fort Hood, units that stayed on to fight were reassigned to other commands in country. I remember how all of us in the 1st of the 9th felt when we had to remove the Cav patches from our left sleeves and replace them with the "Skewered Buzzard" of the 1st Aviation Brigade: it wasn't something we wanted to do. Was it the same for those who've had to switch from being a squadron for one combat tour to being a battalion for the next?

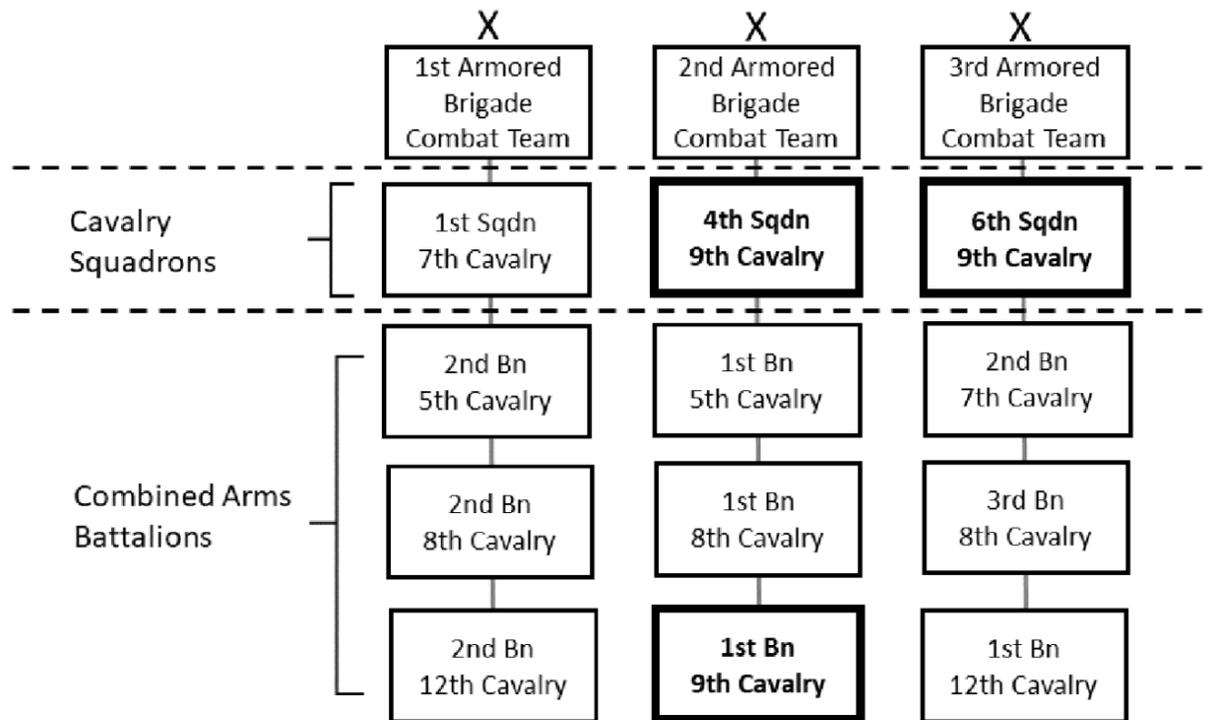
Once again, I invite younger Veterans of the "We Can We Will" 9th Cavalry to

share your stories. Until you tell us what it was like, us old guys can only guess. In addition, since the Center of Military History, which tracks unit designations along with lineage and honors, is not far from where I work, I hope to visit them and in a future column describe how unit redesignation decisions are made and how the process works (and perhaps reveal whether any plans are afoot to restore the 1st Squadron, 9th Cavalry, to its proper place in the 1st Cavalry Division Order of Battle).

This first column has to end the way it began, on a sad note. Word was recently received that former squadron commander James W. "Pete" Booth passed away peacefully on August 22, 2018. Pete's name actually appears twice on the list of Vietnam squadron commanders. He led the squadron from June 1969 until August, when he was wounded in action, and after recovering from his wounds he resumed command from September to December 1969. I once heard Colonel Booth speak (at a Bullwhip Squadron reunion at Fort Hood) about his experiences with the Utility Tactical Transport Company, the Army's first armed helicopter unit (H-21 "Flying Bananas" armed with M-60 machine guns) that deployed to Vietnam in 1962. Pete wrote about those experiences in a book titled *Returning Fire: In the Beginning*, described by Amazon as "the factual story of the development of armed helicopters in the U.S. Army and their first employment in combat."

I'm sure I speak for all 9th Cavalry Veterans when I express heartfelt condolences to the families of Mike Bond and Pete Booth. May the two of you Rest in Peace.

Jim Kurtz, Apache 03, 1970-71



Cavalry Squadrons & Battalions in the Division's Brigade Combat Teams

8 Cav News

Continued from pg. 8

guidance but also provided individual counseling. Traveling with a combat unit allowed more infantrymen access to him especially during breaks. Chaplain Gunderson was traveling with my platoon as we continued our order of march toward an afternoon that would indelibly stain both the Chaplain's and my senses with the horror of this particular war.

"It began with the accidental killing and wounding of Vietnamese women and children by members of C Company (-). This occurred as the result of clearing village bunkers while proceeding through the coastal villages. Having been sniped at earlier, we were highly alert and edgy knowing that a superior force may be close by. Consequently, every village hut, well, boat, hedgerow, tree and animal pen were searched probed, and double checked for the enemy or signs of their presence. Bunkers used by the villagers for protection for friendly or enemy action received extra attention. The last thing we wanted was a group of NVA attacking us from the rear. But the pressure was on to move fast. Brigade timetables were rapidly falling further and further behind. We became rushed... too carelessness."

To continue reading Skip's vivid and graphically detailed description of his experience in the Second Battle of Tam Quan, write to him for a complete, updated copy of this story at <Jetiii62@outlook.com>.

Information please: John Thiel continues his search for memories of SFC Al Boody who served with C -1/8th Cav in 1969. John is working on SFC Boody's biography. SFC Boody was a hero in WWII and a POW in Korea, but little is known about his infantry service in Vietnam where he earned a second star on his CIB. If you know anything about SFC Boody and perhaps served with him in RVN and can help flush out this part of his life story, please email his biographer, John Thiel (1st Cav 68-69) at <drjthiel@gmail.com>.

I will close with the following:

A Dignified Departure: When General Mattis retired on January 1st as Secretary of Defense, he sent out a truly dignified memo to the Department. What a class act he is! Here it is:

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EMPLOYEES
SUBJECT: Farewell Message

On February 1, 1865, President Lincoln sent to General Ulysses S. Grant a one sentence telegram. It read: "Let nothing which is transpiring, change, hinder, or delay your military movements, or plans."

Our Department's leadership, civilian and military, remains in the best possible hands. I am confident that each of you remains undistracted from our sworn mission to support and defend the Constitution while protecting our way of life. Our Department is proven to be at its best when the times are most difficult. So, keep the faith in our country and hold fast, alongside our allies, aligned against our foes.

It has been my high honor to serve at your side. May God hold you safe in the air, on land, and at sea.

James N. Mattis, Honor and Courage!

30th FA News



"HARD CHARGERS"
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Greetings, Hard Chargers. On behalf of the Executive Board of the 30th FA Regiment Association, I'd like to extend our warmest greetings to you and your family, whether you are currently serving, a Veteran or retiree, a family member or a survivor of a Hard Charger.

We have been steadily preparing for our 2019 Reunion in Cleveland, Ohio. Our president has decided 10 thru 15 June 2019 is the time period for our 2019 Reunion. We have contacted the Homewood Suites right here in my home town of Sheffield Village, Ohio. I've been working on gathering information about the costs for the local attractions listed in this article.

The local attractions are as follows:

- 1: NFL Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio
- 2: Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in downtown Cleveland
- 3: Great Lakes Science Museum next to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame
- 4: Museum of Natural History
- 5: The Cleveland Zoo
- 6: West Side Market
- 7: A Cleveland Indians Baseball Game
- 8: Women's Air & Space Museum
- 9: The Mather Steamship
- 10: The U.S. Cod WWII Submarine
- 11: Cedar Point Amusement Park
- 12: And a cruise on the Lake Erie Harbor and the River aboard the "Good Times" ship

Hard Charger Condolences: I received an email from Ron Schnelle informing me that SP4 James Wasney Jr. passed away quietly on Thanksgiving Day. James served in C-1-30th FA and earned a Purple Heart among his other awards. Let us pray for his family that their loved one is safe in the arms of our Lord, Amen!

Look for updates in our periodic newsletter in the near future. Hard - Charger ~ Sirs! 1SG Dan Gillotti. End of Mission ~ Out!

12 Cav News

Continued from pg. 6

1707 11.19.2018 Drawsko Pomorskie, "Ironhorse Soldiers assigned to the 2-12 Cav deployed to Europe in support of Atlantic Resolve, participated in a live-fire exercise during Anakonda 18 at Drawsko Pomorskie Training Area, Poland, Nov 6-17. Anakonda 18, a Polish-led exercise held at various training areas included service members from the United States (specifically the 1stABCT, 1st Cav Division),



Canada, Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and the United Kingdom, helped ensure and improve interoperability while training on a wide variety of scenarios. On the final day of live-fires, 2-12 CAV's M1A2 Abrams tanks and M2A3 Bradley Fighting Vehicles fired alongside their Polish allies in a demonstration of firepower as Polish F-16 Fighting Falcons flew overhead, and artillery dropped in the distance. SPC David Velasco, a joint fires support specialist assigned to H&HC, 2-12 CAV, had the opportunity to work alongside the Polish joint terminal attack controllers (JTAC). "It's been a really good experience," said Velasco. "I learned a lot from them and vice versa. I was able to help them in one of their exercises and we were able to control Apaches and F16s." The Polish-led training exercise offers Soldiers a unique opportunity to exhibit their capabilities and capacity for integration among participating nations. In addition to live-fire exercises, the U.S. Army was able to assist in ground operations and notional scenarios. Scenarios focus on joint actions to implement concepts based on shared resources and current capabilities. "We develop the most likely enemy course of actions based on their scenario," said SPC Jordan Villarreal, an intelligence analyst assigned to HHC, 2-12 CAV. "We talk back and forth on how we want to depict movement." Villarreal said they were also able to share capabilities with their Polish allies, such as their one system remote video terminal, a receiver that provides the tools necessary to collect real-time video and data from manned and unmanned aircraft." <DVIDsHub.Net>

1907 "Depression may occur any time of the year," said Air Force 1LT Danielle Dockery, licensed clinical social worker. "However, there are some individuals who are normally happy and content who can also experience holiday blues." Dockery explains there are many things that can contribute to holiday depression. "A person may experience some symptoms of depression, but that doesn't mean they are clinically depressed," she said. "Sadness is a normal human emotion that can be triggered by a difficult, hurtful, disappointing experience or situation. It is important to remember that there are going to be some difficult times throughout life, but it is how you cope through those difficult times that will [guide] you in the right direction." If you or someone you know are experiencing holiday blues that are lingering well after the holidays, Dockery said it's important to talk to someone or seek help. "It is important to discuss your feelings with loved ones, friends, co-workers, primary care managers or a therapist," said Dockery. "The more a person isolates themselves or disengages in previously desirable activities, the more that person is fueling their depression." There are also professionals that can help: MilitaryOneSource.Mil 47 or dial 1-800-342-9647. Suicide Prevention Hotline: 1-800-273-8255 (24/7) Press 1 for Veterans line; or text: HOME or MATTERS to 741741 or text 838255. <Health.Mil>

2307 I read a great story: "The U.S. Coast Guard is America's oldest seagoing service. Their motto: 'Semper Paratus,' in English means, 'Always Ready.' (Maybe if you were not 12th Cavalry you wouldn't know that. As for us, yes.) One of their catchphrases is more to the point: 'You have to go out, but you don't have to come back.' Art Katz served as an officer in this elite service branch, both in the states and in the death-defying backwaters of 1966 Vietnam. This is his story." Armaments, tactics, responsibilities, boarding boats, gunfire support, battle damage, loss, etc. I can email you the story or spot you the link. I can gar-rone-t it's a gooder!

2400 Journal closed. "The aging process has you firmly in its grasp if you never get the urge to throw a snowball." ~ Doug Larson. Never; I say never, let this happen to you. Always succumb to throwing a snowball at someone, or some object. 'Ken's Law'. Semper Paratus! Write if you get work. To your author! Why demure?

Division Doings

Continued from pg. 1

a look a look at how you communicate news (good and bad), changes, goals, and successes. Also, how do you receive feedback? Do you encourage it, listen to it, and respond to it?

Model Your Values: Luckily for those of us in the Army, we have a pretty good set of core values that, if lived and modeled properly, strengthen the culture across all formations. But do you have any additional values? Identify those values and model them every day for your team. Get their buy-in and empower them to address areas where those values are not being met.

Develop Your Team: Whether you are a squad leader or a division commander, building a strong culture starts with integrating new Soldiers and developing your current Soldiers and leaders. Are you counseling them, engaging with them, sharing your vision for the team? Do you teach them how to engage with their Soldiers or teammates? Do you mentor your junior leaders and do they in turn mentor their junior Soldiers? One of the keys to engaged team members is engaged leaders.

Your organization's culture is defined by the shared attitudes, values, goals and practices of your team. Our culture in 3rd Brigade is more than just the words "We Are...GREYWOLF!" It is reflected in how we operate, how we engage with others inside and outside of our organization, and in how we live our daily lives. The example of how to do that starts at the top. As a leader, people follow the example you set, and the culture will mirror you. "For the strength of the pack is the wolf."

OFFICIAL NOTICE ELECTION OF OFFICERS – REUNION 2019

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

The President has appointed a nominating committee to recommend Life members of the Association for election or re-election to fill the terms of office for the following positions that become vacant as of 8 June 2019:

1st Vice President/President Elect

2nd Vice President

3rd Vice President

Executive Trustee and Trustee of the Foundation

Executive Trustee and Two Trustees of the Museum Foundation

Ten Places on the Board of Governors

Any Life member of the Association, including an incumbent, who wishes to be considered by the nominating committee for one of these positions, should forward a letter to the Chairman, 2019 Nominating Committee, 302 N. Main St., Copperas Cove, TX 76522-1703, requesting consideration for nomination to the specific office. The Nominating Committee must receive all requests no later than 01 April 2019 to assure sufficient time for processing and full consideration. Requests must be accompanied by appropriate documentation that includes proof of service with the 1st Cavalry Division (e.g., a DD214 or equivalent) and a biographical sketch. The biographical sketch needs to outline the applicant's full name and provide ranks, dates of service and units assigned to in the 1st Cavalry Division. Additionally, it needs to provide the dates and positions for any offices held at National or Chapter level in the Association and similar information for any other Veteran's organizations the applicant belongs to. Any instances of special support for Association programs should also be included if applicable.

The election will be held during the General Membership meeting at the 72nd Annual Reunion of the Association on Saturday 8 June 2019 in Killeen, Texas. Nominations from the floor will be accepted. A Life member making such nomination will be expected to provide the information outlined above on the nominee and in addition provide assurance that the nominee is either present at the General Membership meeting or has agreed to accept nomination to the specified office.

Did you realize that a donation to the Foundation helps a student achieve their educational goals and is an investment in the future of America?
 Consider donating today.

Trooper's Tale



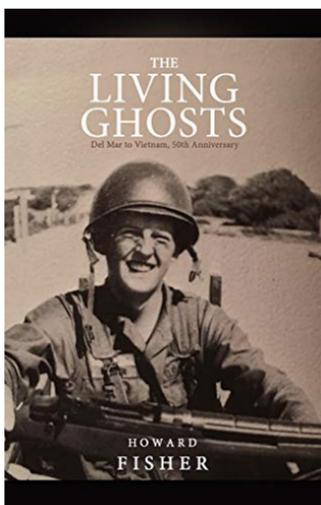
Culmination of treasured long lost stories or photos from our members.

The Living Ghosts: Del Mar to Vietnam, 50th Anniversary

by Howard Fisher, available on Amazon
Preface:

This account of combat actions in Vietnam was written by one of the finest Soldiers who served during this war. This is his personal story based on what he recalled and learned from contact with others who were there during actions at LZ Grant. I applaud his dedication to his fellow Soldiers and telling their stories is important for all Americans to realize the courage and valor of the Vietnam Veterans. All combat elements on LZ Grant performed in an outstanding manner and were recognized with unit awards. Howard Fisher is to be commended for his effort to remember his fellow Soldiers.

James W. Dingeman
Colonel (Ret) U.S. Army
Honorary Colonel—12th Cavalry Regiment



Military Hall of Fame Brings Endless Stories of Bravery to Norman

by Adam Troxteel | Transcript Staff Writer Paxson Haws / For the Transcript
Every year, some of Oklahoma's greatest military achievements are gathered into one room in Norman.

Some of the Soldiers whose service earned them commendation are there to be seen, to shake hands and enjoy the ceremony. Others are there only in thought, having passed away many years before or having given the ultimate sacrifice on the battlefield.

The Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame enshrines them all into history and preserves their stories for the ages. Saturday night, once again, they gathered at the Embassy Suites in Norman to induct 10 more Soldiers.

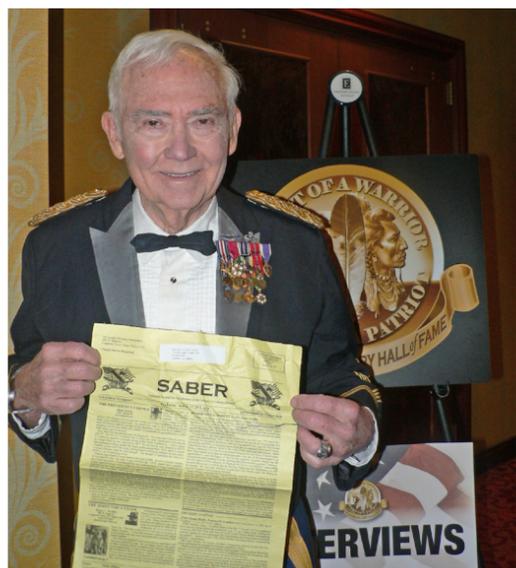
They put them up there at the Embassy, from which the living inductees can either relax or explore the area until the banquet. Also, before lunch, each of the living inductees gets the chance to go in front of a camera and talk about their experience and what they got from it.

"This is a fantastic organization, and it works like a well-oiled machine," said LTC William Hamilton, who received a Silver Star for Gallantry and Bronze Star for heroism in Vietnam. "We've been so well guided."

Recently, documentary filmmakers Shawnee Brittan and Joanna Champlin have been making the videos which are then uploaded to the Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame Inductee's webpage. And though they all include stories of valor and heroism, they range as much as the inductees' backgrounds and lives.

Hamilton is a Pauls Valley native who came to the University of Oklahoma and joined its ROTC program. He was halfway through law school at OU when his unit was called up, and eventually he found himself in Vietnam.

He was assigned to the 1st Cavalry Division, looking to become a company commander in combat. He did not escape the fear that comes with touching down on a battlefield, but his ROTC roots put him in the right mindset.



LTC Bill Hamilton with his copy of the *Saber*

"I was very scared, until one moment when I came off the ramp, saw what the situation was and all of my infantry training took over," Hamilton said.

His Silver Star came when he was part of a crew situation in a helicopter over an infantry company, supplying them with ammunition while surrounded. The craft was forced down six times due to enemy fire, and one last time he got called into action.

"During one of those times, the crew was shot so badly that I had to fly the helicopter," Hamilton said. "I'm not a trained Army Aviator. I had training as a fixed-wing pilot. One of our Charlie crews offered to teach me how to fly a Huey, which it wasn't all that difficult." So, Hamilton took the controls

of the helicopter and flew the crew to safety. His Bronze Star Medal came from an instance when Hamilton spotted an incoming enemy force while assisting a South Vietnamese unit. He relayed the information to an aircraft, which then informed the enemy's position to artillery for support.

Hamilton credits his time with OU ROTC for getting him through Vietnam and helping him excel in his military career.

"At OU ROTC, we had really skilled officers who were Veterans of Korea," he said. "So, after four years, I had a good understanding of what an officer was supposed to do."

If getting a good early start has anything to do with it, inductee CPT Phillip Boatner, from McAlester, has a lot of people beat. He entered the Army National Guard when he was just 15 years old.

"For the next three years, they kept asking me for my selective service number, and I just kept telling them I forgot to bring it," Boatner said. "The year that I joined, they didn't need my birth certificate."

He made his way up to Army Ranger school, and from there he was sent to Oakland, California to await orders. They were to keep everything packed and ready to go and go to a central location where a blackboard displayed the names of those to be deployed.

"So, I packed everything up, went down and looked at the blackboard, and my name was on it," Boatner said.

As a captain he was assigned a company, with which he earned two Silver Stars for heroism and two Purple Hearts. One of his Silver Stars brought him face-to-face with the enemy.

"We get in there and all of the vegetation is cut down to about six inches off the ground," Boatner said. "Stateside, I couldn't do a low-crawl without my but sticking up about two-foot high. Over there, I could crawl like a snake and just slither around. So, we slithered around there, and we got to what looked like a logging trailer."

He tried to call men across for support and to spot the enemy, but he couldn't get a response.

"You don't dare talk. You just motion," he said.

So, he took out his gun and began crawling closer himself.

"I jumped in a hole and I was in there with three North Vietnamese soldiers," Boatner said. "My rifle is short, so I took it and squeezed it, but I had it on safe. So, I jumped back out, put it on automatic and sprayed in there."

His actions led to the company taking the bunker complex without losing or suffering an injury to a single Soldier.

While the Soldiers and their families are happy to get the recognition, it's sometimes harder for some to talk about their experiences. COL John Carl Johnson, a Tennessee native who settled in Oklahoma after Vietnam, is admittedly a recluse these days.

His fellow Soldier and friend COL Paul Tiberi nominated Johnson for the Hall of Fame and encouraged him to take part in the documentary. He knows of Johnson's heroism personally.

"Colonel Johnson saved my life at the risk of his own, battling both direct fire and enemy barrages," Tiberi said. "He should have been court marshaled for risking his own life to save mine. But it's very painful for him [to talk about] and I can understand why because it's painful for me. But he's one of the most heroic sons of a gun I have ever known. And he was a fabulous leader, cool under crisis."

Tiberi was with Johnson when he advised an elite South Vietnamese Regiment between 1971-72. Though elite, the regiment was in bad shape, with ill-discipline, desertion and heavy losses taking their toll.

Johnson, a West Point graduate and who spent time on the Intelligence Corps, said when he first arrived, the South Vietnamese commander, he discovered, had a drug problem. So, he told his superiors who then replaced the officer with a man Johnson identified only as COL Khan.

"He was a good tactician, a good strategist, knew his Troops, and knew how to treat them," Johnson said. "They respected him, and he was well loved."

Johnson, Khan and their crew of officers turned the regiment around, practically eliminating the desertion rate and improving the morale. Johnson jokes, though, that Khan's attitude made him think he wanted to kill him.

"His favorite expression if there was ever a problem was, he'd take his pistol out, raise it in the air and say, 'We go now!'" Johnson said. "That always scared me to death."

In 1977, Johnson said the North Vietnamese Army eventually ran down Khan's regiment and publicly executed him. It was at this point that he could hold back his tears no longer.

"It was a very intense period that I really can't talk about," Johnson said. "Too many bad memories."

"I'd just as soon forget it."

Though painful, Johnson, Tiberi and their group left the interview room seeming to understand how much of a milestone it was for him to even speak that much about it. It was important, Tiberi said, that people know how much of a hero Johnson is.

And that's the mission of the Military Hall of Fame; to remember stories like those of Muskogee's CPL William Kelly Downing, who died as a Marine in Vietnam on May 3, 1967. He refused medical attention to keep defending his Soldiers' positions and halting an enemy advance, earning a Silver Star. When his body was located, it was surrounded by six dead enemy soldiers.

For the full list of 2018 honorees and to view past inductees and their videos, visit <Okmhf.org>.



LTC William A. Hamilton, accepts his induction into the Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame



(L-R) Carolyn and Bob Barker, Bill and Penny Hamilton

2019 72nd ANNUAL REUNION OF THE 1st CAVALRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION 5-9 JUNE KILLEEN, TX

The Crossed Sabers Chapter invites you to join the rest of the First Team family in Killeen/Fort Hood, Texas for the 72nd Annual Reunion of the 1st Cavalry Division Association from 5-9 June 2019. Most of the First Team will be home for this reunion and we are planning a CAV-tastic event. All Life and Associate Members are welcome to attend this special event. As always Gold Star Families and Widows of our members are welcome to join us at the 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 \$20 Registration Fee except for our Active Duty Troopers who pay \$10 to register. Early registration is October 2018 through 03 May 2019 for all members. Those sending in registrations post-marked after 03 May 2019 must pay a 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. **NOTE: Cancellations are non-refundable after the May 03, 2019 deadline.**

HOTEL INFORMATION

We will be utilizing the Shilo Inn as the Reunion Headquarters and we will hold all our paid events 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 transport members to the Shilo Inn.

The Shilo Inn has guaranteed a room rate of \$109 per night plus tax for up to 130 rooms on peak nights and there is no charge for parking. Make sure that you identify yourself as attending the 1st Cavalry Division Association Reunion. The Shilo Inn tends to fill quickly so make your reservations sooner rather than later. The Shilo restaurant will be open for breakfast will be open to support our reunion. The hotel does provide a free shuttle service from the Killeen Airport and rental cars are available at the airport.

ADDITIONAL HOTELS IN THE AREA ARE LISTED BELOW:

Shilo Inn & Suites	\$109	(254) 699-0999
3701 S. W.S. Young Drive, Killeen, Texas		
Courtyard by Marriott	\$109	(254) 616-2000
1721 E. Central Texas Expy, Killeen, Texas		
Premium Inn and Suites		(254) 432-0100
2603 E. Elms Rd, Killeen, Texas		
Residence Inn		(254) 634-1020
400 E. Central Texas Expy, Killeen, Texas		
Holiday Inn Express		(254) 526-2022
2603 Gateway Dr, Killeen, Texas		
Candlewood Suites		(254) 501-3990
2300 Florence Rd, Killeen, Texas		
Holiday Inn Killeen		(254) 690-5511
300 E. Central Texas Expy, Killeen, Texas		
Fairfield Inn and Suites		(254) 526-3333
200 E. Central Texas Expy, Killeen, Texas		

There are several other good hotels in the Killeen area however, if you choose to stay at one of those hotels we will not 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 RV parking directly behind the Killeen Civic and Conference Center. 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 72nd Annual Reunion will run from Wednesday through Sunday (5-9 June 2019) and will be 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) which supports 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 Active Duty Scholarship Program. We will have teams/players from our Active Duty population and hope that many reunion attendees will also want to play and enjoy this event.

As usual, we will have our Welcome Mixer, War Era Lunches, Unit Lunches, Gold Star Family Breakfast, Purple Heart Breakfast, Ladies Tea, Association Banquet, Texas BBQ, Group Breakfasts 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 2022 reunion.

This year's Ladies Tea will be a Wine Pairing event hosted by the Shilo. Chef and a local Sommelier will introduce the ladies to various wines and how to pair the wine with the perfect meal for their Trooper.

Seating for all events is open except for 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, jeans, or shorts. We want you to attend and aren't overly concerned with what you wear, so long as it isn't indecent!

The Association will provide a Reunion Room in the Shilo Hotel for you to gather together and enjoy yourself. Drinks (beer and wine) in the Reunion Room are free but we ask that you generously donate to help us pay for this room. The Reunion Room will open daily at 0900 with the bar opening at 1200 hours.

The Crossed Sabers Chapter Souvenir Shop will set up a store in the Shilo 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 (on-post) during the reunion.

The Division leadership is coordinating events to be held throughout "Cav Week" to include a Division Run and unit specific gatherings. On Friday, 7 June, the Division HQ will be open to our members for walking tours, a static display on Cooper Field, and finishing the day out with the "Spirit of the Cav". Busses will transport reunion attendees from the Shilo 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. 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 and Houston. Airlines with flights to Killeen are American Eagle and United. 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.

You will find the following rental car agencies in our airport: Alamo, Avis, Budget, Enterprise, Hertz, National, Dollar.com, 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 and 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.

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 ride on down to Killeen in 2019!



2018 photos courtesy of Marie Dockery



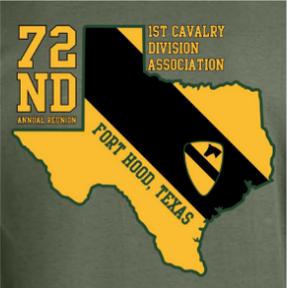
Korean War Veterans photo courtesy of Tim Hodge

Cut off date to pre-order your shirt is 01 March 2019

72nd Annual 1st Cav Reunion T-shirts

Pre-order Yours Today!!!!

Adult Sizes Only

<input type="checkbox"/> S	Please indicate quantities in boxes	\$17.95 each	Back Design 
<input type="checkbox"/> M			
<input type="checkbox"/> L			
<input type="checkbox"/> XL	(2XL & 3XL Add \$2.00)	\$19.95	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2XL			
<input type="checkbox"/> 3XL			
			+ S/H = Total

Shipping Chart:
 1 Shirt @ \$7.50
 2-8 Shirts @ \$14.00
 8 + @ \$19.00

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

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

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____
 E-mail _____

Reunion T-shirts will NOT ship prior to 01 May 2019.

Check Enclosed Visa M/C Discover American Express

Card Number _____
 For Credit Card, CVD # _____
 Expiration Date (MO/YR) _____
 Signature _____

**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 @ shop.1CDA.org



Banquet 2018 photo courtesy of Emil (Lefty) Ercolano



Reunion Room 2018 photo courtesy of Marie Dockery



Banquet 2018 photo courtesy of Scott Hancock

WEDNESDAY JUNE 5

- 0900-UTC Association Golf Tournament
- 0900-1800 Registration Desk Open
- 0900-1800 Souvenir Shop Open
- 1200-2400 Reunion Room open

THURSDAY JUNE 6

- 0900-1800 Registration Desk Open
- 0900-1800 Souvenir Shop Open
- 0900-2400 Reunion Room Open
- 0930-1030 Museum Trustee Meeting
- 1045-1145 Foundation Trustee Meeting
- 1200-1400 Ladies Tea (3 Crs Meal & Wine Pairing)
- 1330-1500 Board of Gov Meeting
- 2000-2130 Welcome Mixer (Cash Bar)

FRIDAY JUNE 7

- 0730-0900 Gold Star Family Breakfast
- 0900-1600 Registration Desk Open
- 0900-1800 Souvenir Shop Open
- 0900-1700 Events on Fort Hood
- 0900-2400 Reunion Room Open
- 1100-1300 War Era Luncheons
- 1500-1700 Spirit of the Cav
- 1800-2000 Texas BBQ

SATURDAY JUNE 8

- 0730-0845 Purple Heart Breakfast
- 0900-1100 General Membership Mtg

SATURDAY cont'd

- 0900-1600 Registration Desk Open
- 0900-1600 Souvenir Shop Open
- 0900-2400 Reunion Room Open
- 1200-1400 Unit Lunches
- 1400-1500 Chapter President's Mtg
- 1500-1600 Veterans Benefits Briefing
- 1745-1845 Cocktails (Cash Bar)
- 1900-2230 Association Banquet

SUNDAY JUNE 9

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

1st CAVALRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION 72nd REUNION (2019) REGISTRATION FORM

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

I will attend the 1st Cavalry Division Association 72nd Annual Reunion at the Killeen Shilo Inn, Killeen, TX June 5-9, 2019. Cancellations must be received by 5:00pm Friday, May 03, 2019 in our office (254-547-6537) for a refund. ****Cancellations are non-refundable after May 03, 2019 deadline.** Registration fee required for Association Member only (Widows and Gold Star Family members pay no fee). Registration fee includes: Name Tags, Reunion Booklet, Reunion Pin, and an information packet.

Are you a member of the ICDA: Y / N

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

NICKNAME: _____

Contact #: _____

Unit#1: _____

Unit#2: _____

Unit#3: _____

Gold Star FM: _____

Is this your first ICDA Reunion: Y / N

I will be accompanied by:

(As name will appear on Name Tag)

Spouse/Partner: _____

Guest#1: _____

Guest#2: _____

Guest#3: _____

Guest#4: _____

Guest#5: _____

Guest#6: _____

I am staying at: Shilo Inn Home RV

Other: _____

FUNCTION	#	AMOUNT	TOTAL
Registration Fee (Members Only)	1	\$20.00	\$20.00
After May 3, 2019	1	\$40.00	_____
Active Duty (w/ID Card)	1	\$10.00	_____

THURSDAY JUNE 6

Ladies Tea	_____	\$40.00	_____
Welcome Mixer	_____	\$25.00	_____

FRIDAY JUNE 7

Gold Star Family Breakfast	_____	\$23.00	_____
War Era Luncheon (circle one)	_____	\$25.00	_____
Korean War	_____	_____	_____
Vietnam War	_____	_____	_____
Gulf War	_____	_____	_____
OIF/OEF	_____	_____	_____
Texas BBQ Dinner	_____	\$30.00	_____

FUNCTION	#	AMOUNT	TOTAL
<u>SATURDAY JUNE 8</u>			
Purple Heart Breakfast	_____	\$23.00	_____
Unit Luncheons (circle one)	_____	\$25.00	_____
5C 7C 8C 9C 12C	_____	_____	_____
ARTY HQ LRRP ENG Wings	_____	_____	_____
Association Banquet	_____	\$40.00	_____
5C 7C 8C 9C 12C Wings	_____	_____	_____
ARTY HQ LRRP/Ranger ENG	_____	_____	_____

SUNDAY JUNE 9

Group Breakfast	_____	\$23.00	_____
LRRP Breakfast	_____	\$23.00	_____

Credit Card Check Cash (circle one)

CC# _____

Exp Date ____/____ CCV# _____

Signature _____

Add a little extra (Donation)	_____	_____	_____
Saber Renewal	_____	\$10.00	_____
New Life membership	_____	\$10.00	_____
Rank: _____	_____	_____	_____
Last four of SSN: _____	_____	_____	_____
DOB: _____	_____	_____	_____
GRAND TOTAL		\$	_____

LRRP/Ranger News



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

Hello from the nation's capital. This issue of the *Saber* marks the beginning of my 10th year as your scribe for the LRRP/Ranger column. I got involved with it at the request of Keith Phillips

(1971-72), Kemp, Texas, who at the time was the president of the LRRP/Ranger unit and had his hands full with some legal matters with several members/non-members of the unit and had asked me to take over the column on a temporary basis. Well here it is almost a decade later and Keith hasn't asked for it back yet, so I guess it's mine for the time being. At any rate, writing the column has provided me with an opportunity to learn about the history of our unit and help ensure its legacy along with that of the 1st Cav and the Vietnam War. It has also provided me with an opportunity to talk with members of other Cav units (e.g., 1/9th, 1/7th, 2/12th, 2/8th, 2/20 ARA, 229th AH, and others), who were involved in incidents involving our unit and hear their stories. If you've got stories about the unit or about the 1st Cav that you would like to share with us, please don't hesitate to send them to me. If you've got pictures, that's even better. Send them too.

Veterans Day 2018 marked the 25th Anniversary of the dedication of the Vietnam Women's Memorial on The National Mall, and as such, a number of special events were held to commemorate the event. Things got started on Saturday, November 10th, with a candlelight ceremony at the Vietnam Women's Memorial at 6:00 pm and continued on Sunday morning November 11th, at 9:00 am with story-telling at the memorial. A photo session immediately followed the observance at The Wall. In addition, there were related activities at the hospitality suite at the Embassy Suites Hotel Downtown, which served as the host hotel for the women's anniversary commemoration.



1st Cav Honor Guard at The Wall, Veterans Day 2018

Diane Carlson Evans, the founder of the Vietnam Women's Memorial, was the master of ceremonies for the observance at The Wall. Ms. Evans was a captain in the Army Nurse Corp and served tours in Vietnam in 1968 and 1969 working in surgical and burn units. She spearheaded the campaign to place a national women's memorial on The National Mall that

recognized the contributions of military women to their country, as well as civilian women's patriotic service.

The day's keynote speaker was Colonel Amelia Jane Carson (USA) Ret., who served 27 years in the medical corps in a variety of positions, to include chief nurse, and personnel management officer in the Office of the Army Surgeon General. COL Carson retired in 1989. Other speakers at the observance included Allen Kale'iolani Hoe, Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army, who served with the 196th Light Infantry Brigade, with the Recon Platoon, 2nd Battalion 1st Infantry Regiment, Americal Division; and, Lieutenant Commander Kimberly Mitchell USN (Ret.), who is president and CEO of the Veterans Village of San Diego. LCDR Mitchell served 17 years as a Surface Warfare Officer serving onboard surface ships and at shore commands. Mr. Hoe's son, 1LT Nainoa Kealiihokuhelelani Hoe, 3/21 Infantry, 25th Infantry Division, gave his "last full measure of devotion" on January 22, 2005 in Mosul, Iraq.

The Veterans Day Dinner at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Crystal City that evening was a sellout, and our unit had a good turnout as usually with LTC Jim Wright USA Ret. (1967), Yorktown, Virginia, and his wife Mary; Stephania Ryan, Gold Star Daughter of Dwight M. Durham (KIA); and my wife, Katrina, and me. Lieutenant General Anthony R. Ierardi USA, Deputy Chief of Staff G-8, was the evening's keynote speaker. LTG Ierardi commanded the 1st Cav in Operation Enduring Freedom – Afghanistan 2012–2014.

On a different note, I'm happy to report that the construction of The National Museum of the United States Army is almost finished, as shown in the picture below. The museum will occupy 80 acres on the North Post at Fort Belvoir, which is approximately 20 miles south of the nation's capital in Virginia. It will consist of a central exhibition facility and three main galleries. The exhibition facility will be 185,000 square feet and will display selections from the Army Art Collection "honoring America's Soldiers, past, present, and future; providing an educational experience that explains the Army's role in creating and defending our nation for more than 240 years; and helping to preserve the history of America's oldest military branch." The galleries will cover different themes, such as Soldier's stories, fighting for the nation, and the Army's strength as an agent of peace and nation building. "Service and Sacrifice" will be the dominant theme throughout the museum.



December 2018 construction

According to the Army's website, the construction of the museum will be finished in early 2020 and will be open to the public at that time. However, it was originally scheduled to be completed in early 2019 with the opening set for June 6, 2019, which would have coincided with the 75th Anniversary of the

Allied Invasion of Europe in World War II. As we know, our unit, Company H, 75th Rangers, traces its lineage to one of the three units, the 2nd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, that was in the first wave of Soldiers to hit the beaches of Normandy, France in the early morning hours of June 6, 1944, D-Day, beginning the liberation of Western Europe from Nazi control.

The following email was received from MAJ Peter Dencker USA (Ret.) (1971-72), Brentwood, Tennessee, who served as company commander of H Company, 75th Rangers, from July 1971 – June 1972: "Greetings to all H Company Rangers and others. I volunteered to help Bob Raab (1968-69), Mason, Michigan, our new unit president by acting as the H Company representative for *Patrolling Magazine*, which is published quarterly by the 75th Ranger Regiment Association. As such, I'm asking for your help in providing information that will highlight members of the H Company family and of the activities that we participated in while in-country, as well as anything since that we would like to share with the Ranger community in general via the magazine. What immediately comes to mind is the most recent reunion. I could use a list of attendees' as well as some pictures (rumor has it Scott Hancock (1967), Huntsville, Alabama, can be a big help here)."

"For those of you who don't know me – as I've only attended a few reunions (missed the last one as I was at Fort Benning pinning a Ranger Tab on my son), I arrived at H Company at the end of 1970. Prior to that, I completed Airborne, Ranger, and Jungle Warfare schools. I spent my first 6 months in-country as a platoon leader with Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 7th Cavalry, and like many platoon leaders at that stage of the war, I came away from that experience with a Purple Heart and a real appreciation for H Company's reputation. When I arrived at H Company, I was CPT Frank Stewart's XO. My first mission a few weeks later, which I remember vividly, was with Tim Harper (KIA) and his team. A few months later, CPT Stewart left, and I took over as CO. Contrary to a widely held belief, the war was not over at that time. Many of the missions – and most of you who were part of H Company at the time were in my opinion "legendary." I remained with H Company through the An Loc and Loch Ninh exercises and left during the summer of 1972. My experience with H Company changed my life. The lessons learned either in the field or even in camp have impacted everything I've done since. So, in addition to providing *Patrolling Magazine* with a quarterly update on H Company, this is also an opportunity for me to say "Thank You" to all who were part of my life then, and most importantly an opportunity to try and capture some of those experiences so they are not lost to history or to the Ranger Community or our families."

"I also recognize that this is not an easy task. The memories are in many cases tough to deal with, but I feel some obligation to making sure that if nothing else our families are left with an appreciation of what we did as a team and of the sacrifices that we made along the way."

"I'm hoping that I can generate enough participation so that all can be recognized for the part we played in the history of the Vietnam War. Some of you are aware that for the past 5 years or so I've talked about putting together some history of the later years of H Company – an attempt to add to the tremendous job Ron Christopher (1966-67), Beverly Hills, Florida, has already done for the early years. I'm hoping this opportunity can help me re-connect with those who were there at that time, resurrect some of that history and document the tremendous contribution we made as a team before we're all gone, and that history and those stories are lost to those who follow in our footsteps." "Thanks – Looking forward to hearing from all!! Best – Pete. RLTW"

The following was received from Bill Hornbuckle (1971-72), Hamburg, New York: "There is some good information available on Agent Orange in the latest edition of the yearly *Agent Orange Newsletter*, which features information on disability compensation, Veterans' experiences with the Agent Orange Registry, benefits for those who served at Camp Lejeune, information about bile duct cancer and liver fluke infection, and more. See link below. Bill." <<https://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/publications/agent-orange/agent-orange-2018/index.asp>>

On a different note, I mentioned in the November-December 2018 issue of the *Saber* that I had talked with a representative of the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) at the National Archives in College Park, Maryland, who was there researching events surrounding American POWs/MIAs from the Vietnam War. Well I neglected to mention, however, that our unit lists two LRRP/Rangers as MIA: Deverton C. Cochrane, Brookline, Massachusetts, and Carl J. Laker, Clearwater, Florida. Both Cochrane and Laker went missing on June 17, 1970 and are still classified as MIA, Cochrane as Presumptive Finding of Death/Body not Recovered, and Laker as Killed in Action/Body not Recovered. Ron Andrus, Schererville, Indiana, and Royce E. Clark, Spokane Valley, Washington, were wounded in the same incident. They were all members of Team 52, a five-man team that was operating in Mondol Kri Province in Cambodia, north of the Fishhook area, and directly west of Dak Song in South Vietnam.

During the Cambodian Invasion of 1970, the LRRP/Ranger teams had the missions of maneuvering deep into enemy territory to scout the network of trails, bunker complexes, and troop encampments of the North Vietnamese and Viet Cong, and to report on their movements in advance of the 1st Cav's main assault into the Fishhook area and the area north of it in Operation Toan Thang (Rockcrusher) #43. On the night of June 17th, Team 52 unknowingly walked into a Viet Cong bunker complex and before it could withdraw to a safe position, was hit with intense automatic weapons and small arms fire, killing both Cochrane and Laker. The 1/9th Cav Blues were inserted into the area on the next morning, and Andrus and Clark, and the 5th member of the team, Dwight E. Hancock, California, were rescued but the bodies of Cochrane and Laker were never found. Laker had been hit in the forehead by enemy fire and died instantly. Cochrane was hit in the throat and mouth by enemy fire but was believed to still be breathing and alive, at least for a short time, according to the team members as they attempted to pull Cochrane and Laker back from the kill zone.

Finally, the following was received from Donny Pettibone (1967-68), Walnut Creek, California. "Bob Alexander (1971-72) Hinton, Oklahoma, died on Friday, November 23, 2018, in Altus, Oklahoma. Bob served two tours in Vietnam, including one tour with H Company, 75th Infantry (Ranger), 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile)."

RANGERS LEAD THE WAY

CHAPTER INDEX

ALMOST HEAVEN WEST VIRGINIA

POC: Jim Hays
713 Diamond St.
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(304) 924-6380
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Website: www.Hood2Hood1stCav.webs.com
Meets 1200 2nd Thurs of ea mos at the Bomber Restaurant, 13515 SE McLoughlin Blvd, Portland, OR.
No meeting in Dec.

CONNECTICUT

Pres: Keith Moyer
48 Boretz Rd.
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Website: www.ConnCav.com
Facebook: CTCAV
Meeting info in newsletter and on webpage.

CROSSED SABERS

Pres: Tim Hodge
(254) 718-4533
Email: allabout_insurance@sbcglobal.com
Facebook: 1st Cavalry Division Association Crossed Saber Chapter
Board meeting is the 4th Tues of the mos (except Dec), 11:30 at 1CDA HQ at 302 N. Main St. Copperas Cove, TX. Open to everyone.
General Membership meeting is 3rd Thurs of Mar & Sept at 6pm, place TBD.

FIRST CHAPTER

Pres: Robert H. Wolfe
4756 Haracourt Dr.
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(915) 755-7944
Looking for new leaders to run this Chapter.

FLORIDA

Pres: Ferd Gardiner Jr.
2290 W Tall Oaks Dr.
Beverly Hills, FL 34465
(407)-473-8407
Email: fgardiner@cfl.rr.com
VP: Gill Harris
(585) 704-2758
Facebook: Florida Chapter 1st Cavalry Division Association
Meets 1300 2nd Tues of ea mos at VFW Post 2093, 4444 Edgewater Dr, Orlando

FLORIDA TROOP E "BLACK HAT"

Pres: Juan Kellog
607 SE 47th St., Apt. 7
Cape Coral, FL 33904-5506
Email: juankellog@embarqmail.com
POC: Johnnie Robertson
2641 Ashwood St.
Fort Myers, FL 33901-0910
(239) 265-1509
Website: www.seahog.org/cav/index.html
Meets 4th Sat ea mos from Sept.- May 1:00 pm at Biggys Place, 3701 Fowler St., Fort Myers, FL 33901

FOLLOW ME

Pres: Robert Dodson
Meets 1900 4th Tues ea mos
Veterans Ctr., 1000 Victory Dr.,
Columbus, GA. No meeting in December.

FORT KNOX AREA

Pres: Thomas Ken O'Barr
12210 Valley Dr.
Goshen, KY 40026-9501
(502) 228-8032
Email: ko42@bellsouth.net
POC: Larry A. Whelan
2103 Winston Ave.
Louisville, KY 40205-2535
(502) 485-1270
Email: lawhelan@att.net
Facebook: 1st Cavalry Div Fort Knox Area Chapter
Meets 3rd Sat of mos at 1100 at the Barker Masonic Lodge, 705 Main St., West Point, KY.

GERALD F. KINSMAN

Pres: Owen Levine
77 Clubhouse Dr.
Leominster, MA 01453-5170
(978) 534-6284
Email: sonny01453@comcast.net
Meets yearly.

JAMES J. MASON WEST MICHIGAN

Pres: Ron Kloet
POC: Bob Anderson
9030 Conservancy Dr. NE
Ada, MI 49301-8822
(616) 682-5446
Email: rj.anderson2243@comcast.net
Website: jjmwmc1cd.com
Meets on 3rd Thurs of Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, and Dec, at 7pm, at the Grand Valley Armory in Wyoming, MI.

JUMPING MUSTANG 1-8 Cav

Pres: Harvey Auger
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Charlotte, NC 28277-0052
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KETTLE MORAINE

Pres: Gordon Weidner
1219 Cleveland Ave.
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(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.

LOS ANGELES/ ORANGE COUNTY

Pres: John Guillory
780 Mandevilla Way
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(951) 278-3740
Email: fisheye1@sbcglobal.net
Vice Pres: John Burgner
228 South Hacienda St.
Anaheim, CA 92804-2569
(714) 535-0737
Email: jburgner@sbcglobal.net
Meets 0900 on 3rd Sat. of mo. at American Legion Post 132, 143 S Lemon St., Orange CA 92866



LRRP/RANGER of the 1st Cav Division during the Vietnam War

Pres: Robert J. Raab Sr.
725 Tuttle
Mason, MI 48854
(517) 525-0747
Email: RJBarsr@yahoo.com
Website: www.lrrprangers.com
Full chapter meeting during Reunions.

NEW YORK/NEW JERSEY

Pres: Bob Arbasetti
973A Thornbury Ln.
Manchester, NJ 08759-5296
(732) 657-4284
Email: b.arbasetti@gmail.com
Facebook: New York New Jersey Cavalry
Meets at Elk Lodge at Cedar and Spruce, Ridgefield Park, NJ.

NORTH CAROLINA TARHEEL

Pres: Johnny Parker
0915 Tradition View Dr.
Charlotte, NC 28269-1411
(704) 517-5445
Email: shagon19@gmail.com
Contact for Membership: Don Gibson
803 McDonald Church Road
Rockingham, NC 28379-8529
(910) 417-9104
Email: dtbjgibson@gmail.com
Meets 2nd Sat of Mar, Jun, Sept & Dec.

NORTHWEST

Pres: Earnest Ryan
112 17th St.
Bremerton, WA 98312-2623
(360) 602-9712
Email: ryans0920@comcast.net
POC: William Al Jackson
9703 Vantage Terrace CT SE
Olympia, WA 98513
(360) 539-8110
Email: williamaljackson@comcast.net
For meeting info contact William Jackson.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN

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
Email: lemieuxpe@live.com
Meets 9am 2nd Sat of mos at Valley Hi Country Club, 610 South Chelton Road, Colorado Springs, CO.

SHERIDAN'S CAVALRY (Greater Chicago Area)

Pres: Don Smolinski 630-894-2606
POC: Terry Hodous
3718 W 114th Place
Chicago, IL 60655-3414
(773) 445-1213
Email: us67-hodo@outlook.com
Website: www.sheridansfirstcav.com
Facebook: Sheridan's Chapter 1st Cavalry Division
Meets at the American Legion Post #1084, 322 E. Maple Ave, Roselle, IL 61072.
2019 Meeting Dates: Feb 9, April 13, June 15, Aug 10 Picnic, Oct 12, Dec 7 Xmas party

SOUTHEASTERN COLORADO

Pres: Gregorio Trujillo
P.O. Box 215
Las Animas, CO 81054-0215
(719) 456-0028
POC: John Campos
1308 Lewis Ave.
La Junta, CO 81050-3024
(719) 384-0379
Email: campos@centurytel.net
Website: www.firstcavalry.net
Meets 1st Sat of ea mos at 10am at the Holiday Inn Express in LaJunta, CO.

WALTER H. WESTMAN NORTHLAND

Pres: Donald A. Delsing
3607 Gresham Ave. N.
Oakdale, MN 55128-3212
(651) 770-5422
Email: dandmdelsing@aol.com
POC: James D. Wright
12781 Able St. NE
Blaine, MN 55434-3261
(763) 757-7140
Email: 1stCav-MN@comcast.net
Facebook: Walter H Westman-Northland Chapter 1st Cavalry Division Association
Meets quarterly at different locations. Call or write for information.

WILLIAM A. RICHARDSON NATIONAL CAPITOL REGION

Pres: Gene Russell
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Springfield, VA 22152-2413
(703) 220-5322
Email: enrussell@msn.com
Facebook: 1st Cavalry Division Nat'l Capitol Region
Meets 3rd Sat of the mos Jan-Apr and Sep-Oct 9am 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.

CROSSED SABERS CHAPTER SOUVENIR GIFT SHOP

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SAVE THE DATE!

Plan now to attend the 72st Annual Reunion of the 1st Cavalry Division Association from 5-9 June 2018 in Fort Hood, Texas.

Details and registration form are on pages 12 and 13 of this issue of *Saber*,

or for your convenience register online at www.1CDA.org!

From the Director's Desk Office of 1CDA



The mission statement for *Soldier for Life* is to connect Army, governmental, and community efforts to build relationships that facilitate successful reintegration of our retiring Soldiers, Veterans, and their Families in order to keep them Army Strong and instill their values, ethos,

and leadership within communities.

Soldiers start strong, serve strong, reintegrate strong, and ultimately remain strong as Army ambassadors to their communities. The 1st Cavalry Division Association (1CDA) and its members will help to ensure Veterans connect to resources and their communities as they make the important transition from active, Reserve, Guard or become civilian leaders. The 1CDA stands ready to help prepare those Soldiers to thrive as civilians and Veterans.

Why is this important to the Association?

The *Soldier for Life* concept helps Veterans 'bridge the gap' from the service through reintegration into their communities. The 1CDA has 25 chapters across the US to help facilitate veterans during their reintegration and beyond. It is here that their Army Story becomes a legacy that perpetuates the proud traditions of the 1st Cavalry Division. "Once Cav, Always Cav.... First Team."

The next *Saber* newspaper is the March/April 2019 edition.

Deadline for submissions of your stories or photos is **Friday, 1 March 2019**

Please email to Programs@1CDA.org

We regret to inform our members that our long-time supply of yellow newsprint is unfortunately no longer available.

Our printing company has told us we have cleaned out all his suppliers of this famous Cav paper.

Sorry for any inconvenience, but unfortunately this is totally out of our control. Thank you for your understanding.

DID YOU SERVE IN CAV DURING GULF WAR, BOSNIA OR WAR ON TERROR?

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Everyone has significant memories, possibly with your battle buddies down range? Please consider sharing.

We are interested in hearing from our younger generation, and hearing your stories. Let your stories be heard. Let us publish them! You may even reconnect with a few.

Email your stories to programs@1CDA.org today. Write your War you represent in the subject line please.

LOOKING FOR GULF WAR, BOSNIA & WAR ON TERROR CAV VETERANS



DO YOU WANT TO SEE YOUR UNIT REPRESENTED IN THE SABER?

Please consider sharing your stories with us and become a column writer for the Association!

Email for details! Programs@1CDA.org

THANK YOU!

We have been receiving many compliments on the *Saber*. The *Saber* is only as good as our writers.

So, THANK YOU to our members who have decided to share your long-lost Army stories in Trooper Tales! You may not realize it, but many lives are touched by your stories. KEEP THEM COMING!

Special THANKS to our scribes who take the time every other month to submit an article! Your interesting material, thoughtful encouraging words are always appreciated by your fellow 1CDA Members.

2019 CALENDAR DONATIONS

Thank you to our following members who have donated \$100 or more towards our new calendar:

ANONYMOUS
SFC BARTON, Leter
SP-4 BENSON, Richard J.
PFC BOBBITT, George
SP-5 BONN, Henry L.
SGT DEMING, Michael
COL HOLLAND, Francis B.
CPT MOORE, Robert W.
MSG SCHRODER, Richard L.
PFC SCULLY, Richard E.
E-4 WAITT, Jeffrey

Hope you are enjoying your 2019 calendar!

Calendar donations keep this program operational. Without your donations we are unable to continue this program.

Thank you to all our members that support this program!

WITNESS TO WAR FOUNDATION OPPORTUNITY

Going to the 2019 1CDA Reunion?

Then you don't want to miss this opportunity!

This year the Association is working with the Witness to War Foundation, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization from Atlanta, GA, that is dedicated to preserving the oral histories of combat Veterans and is planning to attend this year's reunion to help you capture your stories for future generations. These interviews are on video, last around an hour, and focus on your personal stories the way you want them told. You will receive 3 DVD copies of the unedited interview mailed to you in addition to a copy being donated to the Library of Congress' Veterans History Project.

For more information or to sign up for an interview, contact their interviewer Martin Madert at Martin@WitnessToWar.org or 770-628-0024, or visit www.WitnessToWar.org to see their work (search 1st Cavalry Division as well!).

Attending 72nd 1CDA Reunion?

If you are making arrangements to attend the 72nd Reunion, you may want to ensure you're here for Thursday, 6 June 19. We are working with the Division to have events planned on Fort Hood. Stay tuned for further information!

SHOUT OUT!

We had a few out of town visitors detour and stop by the office just to check out their Association HQ's!

Larry Parrish of Alturas, Florida
Alvis Tubaugh of Tallahassee, Florida

It was great meeting some of our members!

Have you checked out the webpage lately?
www.1CDA.org

15th MED/15th FSB/15th BSB

Mike Bodnar
13010 N. Lakeforest Dr.
Sun City, AZ 85351-3250
(623) 972-4395
MBodnar27@Gmail.Com
www.15thMedBnAssociation.org



I received a telephone call from Earl Kinard who said he was a SP5 Medic in HHC 15th MED at An Khe '66-'67. Earl mentioned something about he was in the Congressional

Record. I ran his name on Google-as you can-and found an article from the Washington Post: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/local/1987/07/24/judge-questions-prosecuting-physicians-aide/60b9598d-83fa-4bf8-98d5-fa0467357369/?noredirect=on&utm_term=.708f583ec084>.

Earl was arrested and prosecuted by the D.C. government for misrepresenting himself as a medical practitioner. When questioned by a D.C. Superior Court judge he was told that he could continue performing routine medical functions as a physician's assistant.

Judge Harry Greene said that Earl Kinard, a former medical corpsman in Vietnam and a trained physician's assistant for thirteen years, appeared to be the victim of foot-dragging on the part of the D.C. government. The judge also questioned whether federal prosecutors could continue with their prosecution, the first of its kind in the city. You have to read the article to get all the details, but the judge allowed Earl, who had been licensed in Maryland and graduated from a Howard University program, to return to the clinic where he has worked for ten years, and said he found Kinard to be competent.

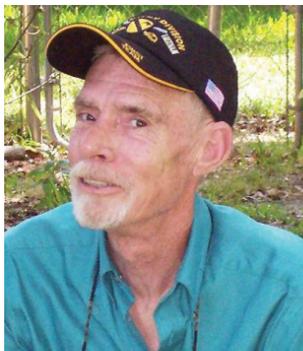
Earl is functioning as a physician's assistant. The District's effort to license physician's assistants "is becoming inexcusably slow," said Nicole Gara, legislative director of the American Academy of Physician Assistants.

From the Washington Post article: "There are about 18,000 physician's assistants nationwide, and all but three states have some kind of licensing or certification procedure. Until the recent legislation was passed, physician's assistants could practice in the District under the supervision of a licensed doctor without violating the law. Physician's assistants, most of whom have had some medical background before enrolling in a two-year course, typically take medical histories, give physicals, make diagnoses, assist in surgery and, in some cases, write prescriptions."

Earl said that although he was not in a 1st Cav combat unit, he learned a lot about medical practice during his time in 15th MED. He said he went out on every MEDCAP treating the local civilian populace which educated him and perked his continuing interest in medicine, enough to want to become a physician's assistant when he got out of the Army. Earl said he had no previous interest in medicine before he was drafted.

Earl said he would like to hear from anyone who knew him in the Army. He said that he knew a MEDEVAC gunner in Ah Khe who was killed on one mission, assuming that when the gunner never returned. Earl said the door gunner went by the nickname 'Buddha.' Another name Earl mentioned was Ray William Johnson. **Earl is at (202) 441-0363.** Earl apparently just started getting the *Saber* again, so he read my column and contact information.

I saw in the last *Saber* Taps section the names of 15th MED members Randy Brewer '67-'68 and David Cooper '70. From the website Last DEROS page: Randell "Randy" Johnson Brewer passed away at home 28 September 2018, in Biloxi, MS. Randy was born in 1946 in Marianna, FL. Randy was a crew chief in MEDEVAC and apparently later in the 101st Airborne Division Airmobile. He was at A Shau Valley, Khe Sanh, Da Nang, and Hue. His medals include the Air Medal, the Distinguished Flying Cross, and two Purple Hearts.



Randy Brewer

David Cooper passed away on 30 September 2018 at his home in Dallas, GA. He was born 13 July 1946, in Atlanta, GA. His Last DEROS reads, "Dave Cooper, aka 'Coop' served in the 15th MED Bn. as a Medic and a door gunner and was extremely proficient in both."

R.I.P. to Randy and David. Carpe Diem to everyone else.

I received e-mail from Lynn Wellman <viattetvet1968@gmail.com> who asked me in response to the last column about the MEDEVAC



David Cooper

Maintenance helicopter crash if those killed received a Purple Heart.

I would say no, because simply, you have to be wounded by the enemy, and that was a non-combat accident. I replied to Lynn to find out his unit, but I did not hear from him. I asked our *Saber* editor and she said his member information says he was in HHC 2 FSB '67, if I heard her correctly. Tina also researched deeper and found out that was in 1st Cav DISCOM.

Photo caption: MEDEVAC tail number 68-16429 which WO1 Arnold, SFC Brooks, & SP6 Conway died in crash near Song Be Bridge 25 Apr 70.



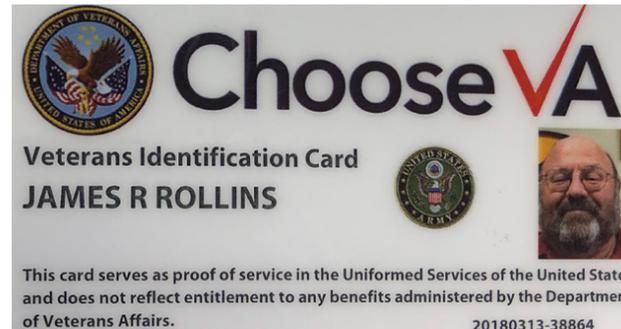
A l w a y s remembering our 1st Cav Troops on duty around the world; over and out.
FIRST TEAM!
Garryowen,
Mike Bodnar C 2/7 Cav 1969
M E D E V A C
1-7/1970
S O T H A T
O T H E R S M A Y
L I V E

THE HICCUP - Health Care Information Committee Report

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

Veterans ID Card (VIC) - Update

The U.S. Congress directed that VA honor Veterans and provide an ID Card to be used to verify their service, this was passed in 2015. It is finally available through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.



Veterans Identification Card
JAMES R ROLLINS

This card serves as proof of service in the Uniformed Services of the United States and does not reflect entitlement to any benefits administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs. 20180313-38864

The purpose of the Veterans ID Card (VIC) is to provide a form of photo ID you can use to get discounts offered to Veterans at many

stores, businesses, and restaurants. When you have this card, you won't need to carry around your military discharge papers or share sensitive personal information to receive discounts. If you have a VIC, you don't need to request another type of photo ID card to prove you're a Veteran or to get retail or business discounts.

After a rocky start and sending pictures back and forth via email, I finally got my Veterans Identification Card:



The process:

- Eligibility:
 - Served on active duty, in the Reserves, or in the National Guard (including the Coast Guard), **and**
 - Received an honorable or general discharge (under honorable conditions)
- Must have an account in DS Logon, My HealtheVet (how you access your VA medicines, secure email to your VA medical staff, etc.), or ID.me account (used to get access to the online PX access verification) or create an account at <<https://www.va.gov/records/get-veteran-id-cards/vic/>>.
- Must have the following documents:
 - Your Social Security number.
 - A digital copy of your DD214, DD256, DD257, or NGB22 that you can upload. This could be in a pdf, jpeg, or png file format.
 - A copy of a current and valid government-issued ID, such as a driver's license, passport, or state-issued identification card.
 - A digital copy of color photo of yourself from the shoulders up in jpeg, png, bmp or tiff format.
 - Photo must meet the following standards:
 - ❖ Show a full front view of your face and neck (with no hat, head covering, or headphones covering or casting shadows on your hairline or face), and
 - ❖ Be cropped from your shoulders up (much like a passport photo), and
 - ❖ Show you with your eyes open and a neutral expression, and
 - ❖ Be taken in clothing you'd wear for a driver's license photo, and
 - ❖ Be a square size and have a white or plain-color background (with no scenery or other people in the photo), and
 - ❖ Show what you look like now (a photo taken some time in the last 10 years).

After VA has verified your eligibility, they will send you an email letting you know the status of your application. If you have an unknown or uncharacterized discharge status, your application will take more time to process while they verify your eligibility. (They may need to request your records from the National Personnel Records Center).

If you receive an email from VA asking for additional information or evidence to process your application, you'll need to sign in to AccessVA and update your application with the information they ask for.

BOTTOM LINE - go to the website, enter your email address and wait and see. Again, this will be a card similar to the VA card that you receive if you have a disability rating or registered in the VA Health Care system prior to 2001. It is free for now, but that could change in the future, so do it now. Remember, you are dealing with the government, so be patient, and save copies of everything you submit.

**WE ENJOY HEARING FROM YOU!
LET YOUR STORIES BE HEARD,
LET US PUBLISH THEM!**

Email to Programs@1CDA.org

20th and 79th Artillery Regiment News



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www.araassociation.com



“Holiday Greetings” to those who served in the ARA units during the Vietnam Era! God’s richest blessings to you all! As I write this, I am watching the remnant of the most recent eight-inch snow fall here in East Tennessee as it melts away under the beautiful blue skies and 51-degree temperature! But hold on to that thought because we have forecast another front that will bring more snow the



week of Christmas! We will not see much; however, those in the higher elevations will see about five inches!

Opportunity: I received a call from a fellow artilleryman, John Rogers, who lives in Tulsa, OK and is working with the Fort Sill Field

Artillery Museum and he wanted information on LTC (then MAJ) Al Woodruff (DAT), S-3, 2/20th. Al graduated from Field Artillery OCS in June 1954 as the Distinguished Military Graduate. After Al’s death, Mrs. Joanne Woodruff sent his dress mess cape to the museum and I had subsequently sent Al’s flight suit. The museum is seeking additional information about each so they can properly display the items with an appropriate narrative.

Information Request: All my contact information for Joanne Woodruff had been disconnected. A search of the web produced an obituary May 24, 2017, for her. I know Al and Joanne had two sons, Charlton and Kevin. Charlton at one time lived in Phoenix, but I cannot find a point of contact. If anyone can help me in reaching either Charlton or Kevin Woodruff, please give me a call. This is the start Joanne made to get ARA recognized as a member of the Field Artillery community at Fort Sill and we need to provide the requested additional information to complete our part of the museum.

Additional Request from the Museum at Fort Sill: Relayed from our president, Clovis Jones. Please include the following information regarding the collection of written accounts and audio recordings of ARA Vietnam experiences to be digitized and made a part of the Field Artillery history as very little is documented about the Aerial Rocket Artillery in Vietnam in the archives. The retired Field Artillery historian has arranged for written and audio experiences to be received by the Fort Sill Military Library. Personal stories, memoirs, histories, books, missions, recaps and audio recordings of those who were assigned to an ARA unit; or received support from an ARA unit are to be sent to:

Morris Swett Library
730 Schemmelfennig Road
Fort Sill, OK 73503
Official Business

Things are looking good: Additionally, a Cobra has been located that served in one of the 4/77th Batteries. Transportation arrangements need to be made to transport the helicopter to the U.S. Army Artillery Museum at Fort Sill to be placed on display in the Vietnam section of the museum. More on this as the movement of the Cobra is finalized.

2019 Annual Reunion Site Evaluation: Let us address the September 2019 reunion in San Diego, CA. Dave and Pat Borgeson made a trip to visit this amazing town on September 27-28, 2018, to check out hotels (prices and locations, because it is a big conventions town and can be a bit pricey) and they wanted to see firsthand some of the hotels. They found a great diversity of things to see and do from the great beaches, the San Diego Zoo, Sea World, the USS Midway Aircraft Carrier and the unique parts of the city. They had prior contact with the San Diego Tourism Authority, who was very helpful in providing information and soliciting proposals from a variety of hotels.

Evaluation Results: Dave did a compare and contrast of the different sections of San Diego. The downtown area is known as the **Gas Lamp Quarter**. It is close to the water, Seaport Village, and the USS Midway Museum. The Embassy Suites is located here. This could be a good choice; however, the \$180 per night with a \$50 per night parking fee was a negative, plus they could not provide a hospitality suite. **Old Town** is another section that was considered. It is a fun place to visit, but it is very busy and touristy. The pricing is less than downtown, but still expensive. The third area is **Mission Valley**. It is about a 10 minute drive from downtown San Diego, plus the trolley serves that area so it is convenient for ground transportation. The hotel that met our needs is the Handlery Hotel which

is just off I-8 and 3.1 miles from the center of town. Also, the hotel has a free shuttle to area attractions as well as an on-site restaurant and lounge. The room rate is \$119 per night plus tax for a total of \$134.11. The rooms have been recently updated. Free wifi and a cable tv is available in each classically styled guest rooms which are furnished with a work desk and equipped with a coffee machine and ironing facilities. There is a modern fitness center and large pool and a hot tub providing a very nice place for socializing. They have free parking, a free breakfast, and will provide us a large hospitality room. They have a lovely banquet room which opens on a grassy area. Rooms are available for the days before and after the dates of our event.



Board of Director’s Recommendation: Your Board of Directors accepted Dave’s recommendation of the Handlery Hotel in Mission Valley for our reunion which would begin on Wednesday, September 11th and end on Sunday, September 15th, 2019.

In addition, our Wednesday dinner will be held in Old Town at a Mexican restaurant. It will get us in the spirit of San Diego. Thursday will be a free day so members have a chance to become acclimated to the time change and visit on their own. Friday, we will rent buses to visit the San Diego Air and Space Museum, where they have a Huey and Cobra on display. Another venue to consider for the afternoon is the Miramar Naval Air Station. More on the tours as plans are finalized. Stay tuned!

Old Business: As I signed off in the Nov-Dec *Saber* I mentioned correspondence received from Gary Adams and said I would give attention to that in this article. Gary’s letter, dated 26 October 2018, Idaho Falls follows:

“Greetings Bruce, I didn’t make the last two ARA Reunions, but still the aviators and other friends from 2/20th are frequently on my mind. When I saw in the last *Saber* that Stan Cass and Richey Hinton had passed on, it was a stark reminder that our ranks are dwindling. Both Cass and Hinton were platoon leaders in “A” Battery when I was there. In Hinton’s platoon, I was Spark Gap 28B until I became Spark Gap 27 in what had been Cass’s platoon when I first arrived in RVN as a 2LT in Aug 66.

Recently, my VN slides were digitized and this exercise was a good reminder of 18 months spent with some of the finest men in the Army. Also, some of my 2/20th papers were sorted and I found some paper work used to get Richard L. “Dick” Mills a Silver Star for a night mission which he led on 6 April 1967, when he was the Operations Officer for “A” Battery.

My aircraft was flying mortar patrol from LZ Two Bits at Bong Song, when we received a fire mission to help a LRRP whose position had been compromised. The patrol was taking fire and being probed. As a single ship we expended our 48 rockets, and the door gunners laid down suppressive M-60 fires. When I needed to return



to Two-Bits to refuel and re-arm, MAJ Mills came on station to relieve us. He made the correct decision to saturate the area around the patrol with 2.75-inch rockets and 5.62 covering fires while he went in and successfully extracted the three-man team.

For his action and leadership, MAJ Mills was awarded the Silver Star. In the photo (above) he is receiving the award from the 2/20th Bn CO, LTC Robert B Knowles. Gary Adams the third in line from the left.”

Thank you, Gary, for sharing this story of very daring mission that saved the lives of the Long-Range Reconnaissance Patrol (LRRP). Hope to see you in San Diego in September 2019!

Follow-up: I learned that Dick Mills, living in Pleasant View, UT, is dealing with some of the health issues brought on by our tours in Vietnam and is having to use oxygen 24/7. Dick, you are in our prayers for healing and comfort and know that all of ARA membership is pulling for your improvement. God bless you, my friend!

After Dick’s tour with 2/20th ARA, he served his second tour with 4/77th ARA as a Battery Commander and the S-3 during the campaign into Laos in Lam Son 719.

New Business: On 7 December I received a letter from Jesse Hobby with articles about the AAAA’s “Outstanding Aviation Unit Award” to MAJ Lawrence E. McKay, Jr. and SFC Lionel S. McDonald, of F Battery, 79th Field Artillery (AFA) for 1971-1972. (Then BG) James Hamlet wrote the following reason for the nomination for the unit award:

“F Battery (AFA), 79th Artillery, has performed all assigned missions in support of U.S. and allied Troops in an outstanding manner. The only remaining AFA unit in Vietnam has maintained an availability rate of 91 percent utilizing one of the finest maintenance safety and standardization programs in Army Aviation. During the first month of the Loc Ninh/An Loc siege the average of 12 AH-1Gs flew 1472 hours versus a USARV program of 660 and expended 23,056 rockets versus the unit average of 9,972 2.75-inch rockets. The unit has proven the theory that the AH-1G Cobra can successfully engage and destroy the Soviet T-54 Tank in a high-intensity ground-to-air environment. “Blue Max” is a unit of professionals who have been battle tested in the most extensive antiaircraft fire ever experienced in South Vietnam and demonstrated the unselfishness and courage required throughout the most challenging period in the history of Army Aviation.” The award was presented by GEN Creighton Abrams, Chief of Staff, U.S. Army.

“During the Battle of An Loc, F/79th Aerial Field Artillery (AFA) thwarted an attack of three enemy divisions which was spearheaded by an armored tank regiment. Six T-54 and four PT-76 Soviet tanks were destroyed and six more T-54’s were severely damaged and abandoned by the enemy. Shown that the Soviet tanks could be defeated, AVRN soldiers were spurred to attack the remaining armor with antitank weapons and prevent a superior enemy force from gaining its objective.” Thank you, Jesse for providing that interesting ARA story.

I will feature a story about the successful military and civilian careers of LTC Larry McKay in the next issue. I feel that Larry’s story is one for our archives and can serve as reference for other’s stories we need to collect.

Turning for the home stretch: Well, here it is New Year’s Eve and I am at my desk getting this article ready for submission to Fort Hood for the *Saber* Jan-Feb 2019 issue. Another year has come and gone! This will continue for all of us who are still around each New Year! We ARAers are a lot like the Doolittle Raiders; not in numbers (they were only 80), but in our objective as we were formed and used for the sole purpose of aerial rocket field artillery support for the Troops in

Continued on pg. 21



**IN LOVING MEMORY
WE HONOR THE PASSING OF
OUR FIRST TEAM
FRIENDS AND COMRADES IN ARMS**



A fond farewell to the late Colonel (Ret) James Welton "Pete" Booth
September 09, 1929 - August 22, 2018

COL (Ret) James Welton "Pete" Booth, age 88, of Tennille, died Wednesday, August 22, 2018 at his residence following an extended illness. A memorial service was held on Sunday, September 9th at 2:00 p.m. at Sandersville United Methodist Church with military honors. The Reverend Dr. Stan Littleton officiated. COL Booth's cremains along with those of his late wife Sue will be interred in Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.

COL Booth was born in Hartwell, the son of the late James Plumer Booth and the late Ruth Allen Booth. He graduated from Hart County High School in 1946 and attended North Georgia College before transferring to the University of Georgia where he graduated in 1951 with a Bachelor of Science degree. COL Booth then entered the military where he began a distinguished career in the U.S. Army. Soon after joining the Army in 1952, he was trained to fly Army helicopters. COL Booth was instrumental in the development and deployment of armed helicopters for the Army. His training and expertise took him to Vietnam for two tours where he served as Squadron Commander of the 1st of the 9th Cavalry Division. He saw many hours of combat duty and earned two Purple Hearts, a Silver Star, a Distinguished Flying Cross, two Bronze Stars and the St. George's Medal of Valor. In retirement, COL Booth wrote a book, "Returning Fire" that chronicled his time in Vietnam. After serving in Vietnam, COL Booth went on to become the Battalion Commander of the Lightning Brigade in Fort Knox, Kentucky. He completed his service in the Army in Seoul, South Korea at the U.S. Army Headquarters. After retiring from the Army in Seoul, South Korea he went to work for McDonnell Douglas, a defense contractor. He later became the President of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in Seoul where he performed many diplomatic duties. He and his wife, Sue traveled widely while living overseas.



He retired from his work in Seoul and moved back to Sparta, where his wife had grown up. They also enjoyed a home in Clearwater, Florida. They eventually moved to Sandersville, GA where COL Booth became very active in the Sandersville Rotary Club, Sandersville United Methodist Church, and the non-profit, and Broken Shackle Ranch where he served as Chairman of the Board of Directors. COL Booth was a member of the 1st Cavalry Division Association Board of Governors for four years and held all three VP positions before being elected to serve as the Association President from 2008-2010, then in 2010 he went on to being on the Association Advisory Council. He was the Honorary Colonel of the 9th Cavalry Regiment.



Colonel Booth is predeceased by his wife, Sue Jackson Booth and his son, Michael Clinton Booth. Survivors are his daughters, Cheryl Giordano of Roswell and Cynthia Rogers-Thomas and her husband Christopher of Sandersville; grandchildren, Christopher Giordano, Shannon Marie Rogers and Jessalyn Thomas; great granddaughter, Charlie Jane Zbinden; and sister, Tempie Booth of Greenville, SC. The family received friends on Sunday, September 9th from 1:00 p.m. until the hour of service at 2:00 p.m. in the Heritage Hall at Sandersville United Methodist Church. Donations may be made to Broken Shackle Ranch, 1542 Francis Bridge Road, Davisboro, GA 31018 or to Sandersville United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 611, Sandersville, GA 31082. May and Smith Funeral Directors is in charge of these arrangements. <www.mayandsmithfuneraldirectors.com>.



Colonel Booth is predeceased by his wife, Sue Jackson Booth and his son, Michael Clinton Booth. Survivors are his daughters, Cheryl Giordano of Roswell and Cynthia Rogers-Thomas and her husband Christopher of Sandersville; grandchildren, Christopher Giordano, Shannon Marie Rogers and Jessalyn Thomas; great granddaughter, Charlie Jane Zbinden; and sister, Tempie Booth of Greenville, SC. The family received friends on Sunday, September 9th from 1:00 p.m. until the hour of service at 2:00 p.m. in the Heritage Hall at Sandersville United Methodist Church. Donations may be made to Broken Shackle Ranch, 1542 Francis Bridge Road, Davisboro, GA 31018 or to Sandersville United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 611, Sandersville, GA 31082. May and Smith Funeral Directors is in charge of these arrangements. <www.mayandsmithfuneraldirectors.com>.

Fiddler's Green

Halfway down the trail to Hell,
In a shady meadow green
Are the Souls of all dead Troopers camped,
Near a good old-time canteen.
And this eternal resting place
Is known as Fiddlers' Green.
Marching past, straight through to Hell
The Infantry are seen.
Accompanied by the Engineers,
Artillery and Marines,
For none but the shades of Cavalrymen
Dismount at Fiddlers' Green.
Though some go curving down the trail
To seek a warmer scene.
No Trooper ever gets to Hell
Ere he's emptied his canteen.
And so rides back to drink again
With friends at Fiddlers' Green.
And so, when man and horse go down
Beneath a saber keen,
Or in a roaring charge of fierce melee
You stop a bullet clean,
And the hostiles come to get your scalp,
Just empty your canteen,
And put your pistol to your head
And go to Fiddlers' Green.



***A fond farewell to the late
Captain Michael Wade Bond***

April 11, 1946 - October 17, 2018



Michael Wade (Mike) Bond, 72, of Hardy, VA, died Wednesday, October 17, 2018, at the VA Hospital, Salem. Born April 11, 1946, in Bluefield, WV, he was a son of the late Wade Franklin Bond and Mildred Jane Faulkner Bond. Also preceding him in death were two brothers, Mark Bond and Matthew Bond. He was a Veteran of the United States Army, served in the Vietnam War as a helicopter pilot, and among his service awards are a Purple Heart, Distinguished Flying Cross, Vietnam Service Medal with one Silver Star and three Bronze Stars, and the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Gold Star.

Mike was a member of 1st Cavalry Division Association and was the 9th Cavalry *Saber* scribe since 2013. A retired realtor, and Mike formerly served as the Director of Lake Christian Ministries. He was a member of Bethlehem United Methodist Church where a memorial service was held on Saturday at 2 P.M. with the Rev. David Lord officiating.

Surviving are his wife, RoJane Chandler-Bond, children, Leigh Bond Kurtz (Edward), Bil Bond, Aaron Chandler (Rose Brister), Whitney Bond Webster (Greg), Sarah Bond (Tom Keegan), Rachel Chandler (Luke McLean), grandchildren, Josh Kurtz (Meghan Epperly), Jordan Kurtz, Connor Kurtz, Alex Bond, Grayson Bond, Isabella Bashioum, Sophie Bashioum, Silas Bashioum, Jack Webster, Sam Webster; great-grandchildren, Ramsey Anne Kurtz and Avery Michael Bond and sister, Mitzi Rowsey (Harry). Memorial contributions may be made to Lake Christian Ministries, 13157 S Old Moneta Rd., Moneta, VA 24121 or to Bethlehem United Methodist Church, 13586 S Old Moneta Rd., Moneta, VA 24121. Arrangements made by Conner-Bowman Funeral Home and Crematory, 62 VA Market Place Dr., Rocky Mount, VA.

ENGINEER News



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A Place to Be Welcomed: If you are reading this and live anywhere north of Palatka, FL, south of Murrells Inlet, SC, or east of Valdosta, GA, then once a year you should head over to St. Simons Island, GA in November for the RSM Golf Classic. Here is why. It's not the golf or scenery or ocean or even the buffet laid out for you as a Veteran. It is that when you hear those words "thank you for your service," the greeter is looking you in the eye and almost asking permission to shake your hand. Extend yours. Those of you in the "Follow Me" Chapter might consider a bus trip getaway with the wives. A night or two at the Methodist Epworth Retreat Grounds is pleasantly priced and near that most dear of things, Island shopping. Oh, did I mention that the highest rated BBQ, according to Southern Living magazine, is on the island? As to the tournament itself, it is a competitive event and will start the PGA 2019 season, but the atmosphere is more that of serious effort followed by fun rather than grinding out another week on the tour. Go. Enjoy.

Don Manville Begins the New Year: Here is my Pop Corn Story: I had been at LZ English with the 8th Engineer Battalion and was sent back to An Khe for a special assignment at the 1st Cav Division Headquarters. By this time An Khe had the tropical buildings for barracks. I really like popcorn, so I had my wife send me a Sterno stove, a can of fuel, and a Jiffy Pop. These are the ones in an alum pan with the alum foil top that expands as it pops. One night I popped this in the barracks and shared it with several others that were there. It was GREAT! The next day I got this idea. I would write to Jiffy Pop and tell them how much we all liked their product and that we couldn't get it here in Vietnam. I was hoping they would send me some. I had forgotten about writing that letter. Several weeks later, in the early evening, I was called to the Company Commanders office. What had I done wrong? He just said follow me. And he headed to the mess hall. It was full of people. He said it was my fault why we were all here and everyone will stay until this is done! Most of the guys were not happy! Then the cooks pulled out all these cases of Jiffy Pop and said the popcorn was on me! They cooked all of it and everyone had a great time eating popcorn and drinking beer.

James-Mike Miller Picks Up the Thread: I think it was probably in Feb 1970, 3rd platoon of A Company was detailed to place 3 culverts across a stream. Seems like they were probably 48" culverts. Didn't look like it was adequate as we were waist deep in water and had trouble getting all 3 in position. During a lunch break SGT Michael Woodcroft decided we should go fishing. He placed a blasting cap in a block of C-4 and threw it into the pool of water on the outlet side of the culverts. After the explosion and shower of water, we kept looking for fish to surface. No such luck, but after awhile we started noticing chunks of fish. I guess we over charged the fishing. Later we were rewarded for our efforts by getting to pull leeches off our legs. A Co. 1970 (PS Woodcroft, Blackford and Crimm were in the 1st Instant NCO class at Ft. Leonard Word)

Just Curious: You will recall last issue's presentation on the new bullet currently being tested and likely employed by the Army. I can't help but wonder if the Baklaf as endorsed by Kalis, the founder of the Klingon Empire, wouldn't be the best close-in combat weapon. Proper employment of the weapon would ensure an honorable send off to Stokovor. Your opinion?

Fact or Fiction? I used to think that the brain was the most important body organ. Then I realized where the message was coming from.

Interesting Words: Defenestration: The act of throwing a person or thing out of a window. Fey: A foreboding of death. Umwelt: the outer world as perceived by those within. Quotidian: Occurring daily. Oneo: of or relating to wine. Jerimand: A prolonged complaint (as in the prophet Jeremiah). Arriviste: An upstart, one who rose rapidly.

Ground Pounders and Wire Stringers: That's us and there is some good news. The Air Force has finally admitted that close air support is a good thing for us guys who look up. The beautiful, A-11 Warthog is not to be retired and will be modernized to be kept in the inventory till the 2030's. Helmet mounted integrated targeting will reduce target acquisition time. All wings will be replaced, and the project is funded by Congress with the contract expected to be awarded in 2019. At last some clear thinking! Is the A 10 an effective weapon system? Ask the Hammurabi Division.



What? Are You Serious? Those of you familiar with the name Greg Norman will know that he had an enviable professional golfing career. You can't sneer at winning two British Opens. Then came his second golfing life, designing courses. And guess what, Viet Nam has become his country of designing choice. His trifecta of Da Nang, Ho Tram and now Cam Rahn are all reminiscent of Scottish links courses hard upon the ocean. And yes, that is Cam Rahm Bay you either remember or wished you could have gotten to for some in country R&R. Only no snow or bone chilling winds here.

Serious? Part Two: The reality of Viet Nam has changed from your memory. The Peoples Republic or whatever they call themselves now, has become the number two producer of coffee behind only Brazil. Then, to further befuddle you, VN is the world's largest producer of civet coffee. What the heck is that you ask? Look it up. It's sort of gross but I am told that a cup of civet coffee sells for \$100 a cup in Paris. That would be Paris, France not Paris, Tennessee.

Christmas: The secret scribe that occasionally populates this column writes that his memory of an RVN Christmas was a Loach passing over the LZ with red and green smoke flares decorating the sky.

Reunion 2019: Already one of our own presently unnamed Engineers has boldly announced his intent to attend. It's not too early for the rest of us to at least look at a 2019 calendar. Oh, what the heck! It's Lynn Titus.

Mt. Vernon, Mt. Vernon, Mt. Vernon: Yes, there are at least three of them, the

big house you might say, then there are the Illinois and Indiana versions. Well, one fine day Robert Wellmaker from the Illinois version called to say he was done with feeding his beef cattle for the day and was thinking back 50 years or so. It turns out that Robert is hoping that Glenn Baggett from the Indiana version of Mt. Vernon might read this column and call 618-246-8747. Robert says he was a big Georgia farm boy at the time so with B 1/7 he carried the M60, extra barrel, and straps of ammo. Robert couldn't quite remember about the glove to



twist off the hot barrel, but I suspect that was a lesson he only learned once. Carrying the M60 meant that you didn't have to walk point, a small blessing. Look for Robert at Ft. Hood this year as he has already made his reservation just like what's his name a couple of paragraphs above this one.

Oh, Why Not? Let me brag a little bit. Here is your writer and his son. Against my better advice, he went Navy but is now properly and ironically assigned to Ft. Belvoir. That's not the rest of the story but enough



for now.

In the Meantime: While the rest of you are slog-ging through another Yankee winter, I thought you might like a picture of our backyard here in Florida. That's the Angel Trumpet tree in full bloom. I will admit that I put on a cotton sweater today. It looks better on the internet *Saber* than in this black and white print version.



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 Combat Infantrymen's Association
 825C Merrimon Ave Suite 354, Asheville, NC 28804
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**20th & 79th ARA News
 Continued from pg. 18**

Vietnam. Our strength in numbers has been dwindling, just Gary Adams said. One day when we are down to the two surviving members, we should meet in the last existing phone booth to open that one sacred bottle of our own "1896 Hennessy Very Special" cognac to toast those comrades who have preceded us in death! So, until then, let us raise a glass this New Year (I am lifting my glass now!) to toast the memory of those who have passed!

The Finish Line: My wish for all of you is a wonderful New Year with good health, joy, and happiness! God bless you all! Let us all make plans to be together in San Diego on September 11, 2019! I have heard that we are in for a surprise with the two guest speakers we have scheduled to be with us! I'm looking forward to an exciting West Coast Reunion! Hope you are, too!

This is Armed Falcon 28 Delta, breaking right!

Attention: Vietnam Skytroopers, Family & Friends...

**THE 1ST AIR CAVALRY DIVISION: MEMOIRS OF THE FIRST
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In 1970, the Division published a full-color hardbound commemorative book to document the time spent by 1st Cavalry Skytroopers in Vietnam, from 1965-1969. Many of our members received a copy of this special book nearly 50 years ago, but over time the books were lost, damaged or worn down from frequent use.

Good news! The 1st Cavalry Division Association and Acclaim Press are offering a special one-time-only REPRINT edition of this book for our members, friends and family. This reprint will be identical to the original printing that rolled off the presses in 1970, but brand new and in pristine condition!

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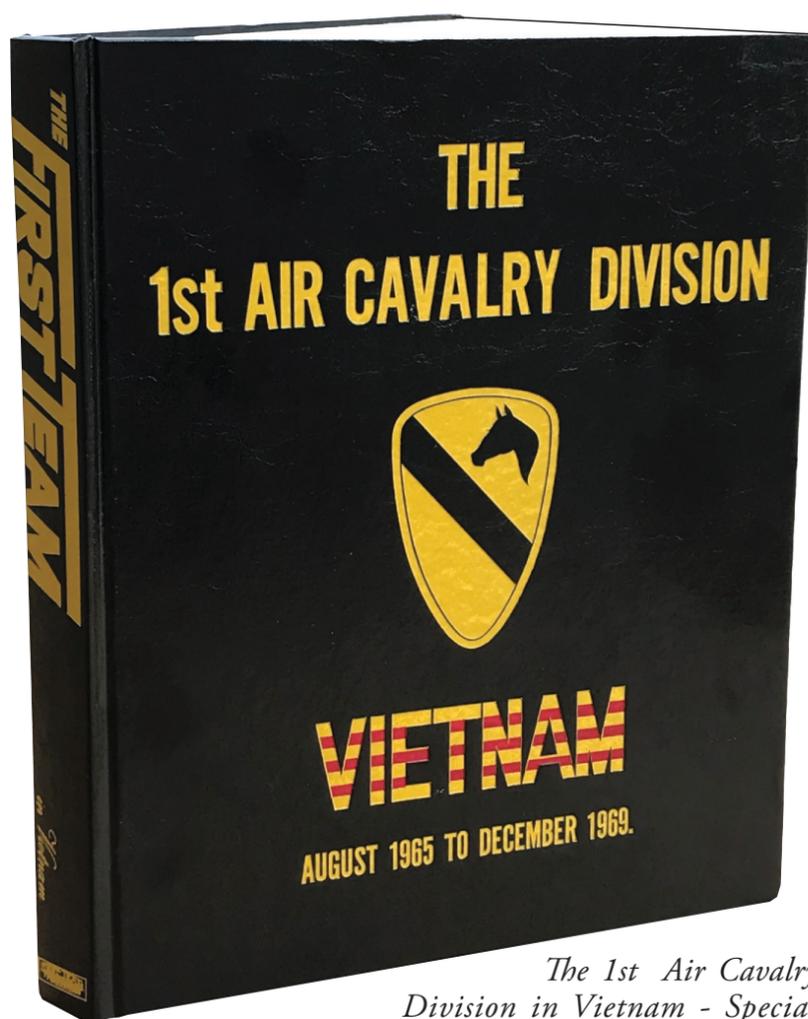
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HQ and Special Troops News



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Greetings Troopers from NW Louisiana where the weather has been mild, but the rain has been more than enough. Historic Caddo Lake is at flood level. Sue and I wish all of you the very best in the New Year. I hope that you plan to attend the 72nd Annual Reunion at Fort Hood from June 5 through June 9. We will be celebrating the 75th Anniversary of the great 1st Cav Div Association and the re-opening of the remodeled Division Headquarters, as well as many other activities.

I heard from Warren Dupre who wrote me about his time in South Korea. Warren writes: "I arrived in Korea the same day Marilyn Monroe died. We shipped over on the USNS Barrett and then they put us on a train to the 1st Cav Div headquarter. They fed us chicken cacciatore. A little Buck Sergeant ahead of me said, 'That chicken must have had boots on when he crossed this!' A truck came later and took some of us to the 27th Ord Btn. All the Troopers I met there said 'boy, you are going to have the track section.' I did not have a clue what that meant. I worked in the supply room until the guy I was replacing left. One day the COL walks in and was preparing to go home. He was turning in his .45 pistol and was 'apologizing' to me for it being so dirty. I told him I would be glad to take care of it for him. The 1SG was on my rear end to get that 4th US Army patch off my uniforms and put on the 'horse blanket'. I stayed in the 27th Ord about two weeks and was then called into the orderly room and told to pack my bags. I was going to the track section. The track section consisted of one SFC, 2 track mechanics, 2 turret mechanics and the track section was TDY to the 40th Armor Btn. Talk about having it made. No guard duty, no inspections, no formations, we even carried our pass in our pockets! I was one of the turret mechanics. I'll write more for you next time."

Theresa Reeves had contacted me a while back about her uncle Bill who served in the Texas Guard with the 112th Cavalry Regiment in Dallas, TX. She had a newspaper article she wanted to share with the 1st Cav Troopers about her uncle Bill. The article, from the Dallas newspaper, is re-printed in summary below:

"Little Bill" Mathis, Dallas Youngster, one of Happiest "Troopers" at Guard Camp

Mineral Wells, Texas, July 15 One of the happiest "Troopers" at the current annual encampment of the Fifty-sixth Cavalry Brigade, Texas National Guard is "Little Bill" Mathis of Dallas. "Little Bill" is the official mascot of Troop B, 112th regiment, of Dallas. However, he is more than that. He is one of the Troops. He eats and sleeps with the enlisted men and does virtually all the work they do. This is the fourth camp for the lad. Last year the Troop bought him a regulation uniform, and he wears it whenever there is opportunity. He goes on all the rides and participates in the annual maneuvers, which consist of four or five strenuous days of riding and mimic warfare.

"Little Bill" is a natural horseman. Perhaps he inherited part of his ability, as his father is the Troop's Stable Sergeant, supervising the care of the horses. The boy is a better rider than some of the members of the Troop and the enlisted men have been known to call on him for advice in adjusting a bridle or saddle.

After every ride, Bill grooms his own horse and that of the Troop's Captain (David P. "Top" Stafford). He is so small he has to get on top of the horses to do part of the grooming, but that doesn't stop him. When the Troop bought "Little Bill" the uniform last year, Captain Stafford at that time was unable to get spurs and a hat to fit. The lad received the gift an hour before inspection. When the inspection came, Bill not only was in uniform, but he was wearing a hat and spurs.

"Where did you get them, Bill." Captain Stafford inquired. "That's all right, captain," the boy replied quickly. "Don't ask too many questions. I'll tell you this much: I didn't get them from this Troop."

See photo of "Little Bill" Mathis, official mascot of Troop B, 112th regiment, of Dallas, astride his favorite horse, Trixie. This diminutive Trooper can ride and Soldier with the best of them.

Thanks for the article, Theresa. I'm sure Little Bill was not the only Texas youngster to ride a horse at that age. If any of you readers are interested in contacting Theresa, email me for her email address.

If you haven't checked out the new association website yet, now is the time to do so. Go to <www.1CDA.org> and establish a log-in account. You can do all kinds of neat things once you are in the website. You will also find recent photos and news articles.

If you are looking for a good charity don't pass up the 1st Cav Div Association Foundation. The Foundation provides scholarships to active duty Troopers and, when available, to their spouse. The priority is scholarships to children of our KIA Troopers. The Foundation also provides scholarships to children of the Ia Drang warriors. Do you have a buddy that served in the Cav and is not a member of the association or not receiving the *Saber*? Why not send him a New Year gift of membership or a subscription to the *Saber*?

Sue and I hope to see you in Texas in June. We always have a great time at the reunions and are so happy to see old friends we haven't seen since the last reunion. Of course, we also make some new friends at every reunion. If you have never attended a reunion, you are missing out on a great event. And, since this one is at Fort Hood, the active division always rolls out the red carpet for the Association Veterans.

Well, Troopers, don't be shy to write. Let me print your war story. Let me print the funny thing that happened to you in the Cav. Let me print the HORRIBLE thing that happened to you in the Cav.

Meantime keep your powder dry and watch your back. May God bless you and your family, the great 1st Cav Div, the US Army, and the USofA. Don't forget to VOTE!

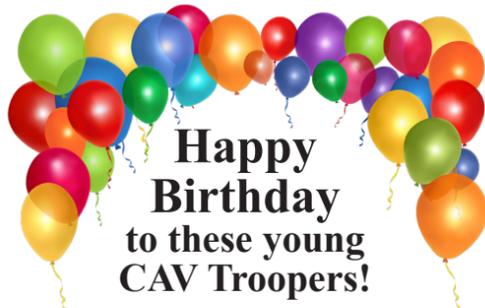


**Birthday Wishes
to the Roaring 20's; Birthday Babies!!**



James J. Source
turned 90 on 12/02/18
Edward C. Meyer
turned 90 on 12/11/18
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Ernest F. Rhodes
turned 90 on 1/04/19
Frank N. Rodono
turned 90 on 1/04/19
Charles W. Chatterton
turned 93 on 1/06/19
Oliver H. Peters
turned 91 on 1/08/19

Richard H. Smith
turned 90 on 1/10/19
Edward P. Wilson
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Joseph R. Burkhart
turned 91 on 1/16/19
Edward Bridgett
turned 90 on 1/26/19
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Sherman C. Flanders
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Dall H. Miller
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Robert H. Kies
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Robert M. Sanders
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Boris R. Spiroff
turned 99 on 2/14/19
Floyd E. Gieske
turned 91 on 2/16/19
George A. Cooper
turned 95 on 2/18/19
Tony Radetic
turned 92 on 2/25/19
Arlie D. Wood
turned 96 on 2/25/19
James L. Brown
turned 90 on 2/27/19
Dewey E. McKee
turned 91 on 2/28/19
Raymond J. Di Caprio Jr.
turned 90 on 2/29/19



Howard Dean celebrated his 90th birthday earlier last year. He asks, "Am I now Air Cav or just ordinary Cav?"



Flags are flying high at Association Headquarters

**FOR THE SOLDIERS WHO FOUGHT & DIED
WEARING YELLOW**

