



# SABER

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



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MARCH/APRIL 2019

## THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

**Allen Norris**  
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4-Seven@att.net



I was reading the remarks of President Bush at the dedication of the National WWII Memorial on May 29, 2004 when I came upon this quote. I think it says a lot about President Bush, a WWII Veteran who died last November 30, and those who serve and those who have served this country. If you get the chance read the whole speech. I'm sure you can find it online somewhere. I found it quite inspiring. Of course, the cynics out there will say that those words were likely written by someone else hired to write them. Maybe so, but a good speech writer would know the speaker and craft the words to reflect the feelings of the speaker – in this case President Bush.

Speaking of writers, we need scribes for the *Saber*, (how about that segue?). Unless someone has signed up recently, we need scribes for 61<sup>st</sup> Arty, and Silver Wings of the Cav. There are readers out there from those units who want to hear the latest news and reflections on the past. We need people to step up. If you have the urge (perhaps latent) and some untapped writing talent you can be an asset to the Association and your former/current unit. Besides the recognition and the appreciation of your colleagues and the Association, the pay is equal to that of those volunteers who serve on the Board of Governors, for example.

Speaking of the Board of Governors, we had our winter meetings Feb 23. We had a great turnout for the meetings of the Museum and Scholarship Foundations and the Board of Governors. As a reminder, these people come from all over the country at their own expense to conduct the business of the Association. By the way, your Association has a solid foundation and is well prepared for the future. Whenever you can, I ask you to thank your Association officers and the Association staff for a job well done. We have close to 29,000 members, all of whom want, expect, and deserve a well run and financially secure organization. We have that, thanks to Dara, her staff, and the volunteers on the Board of Governors and the various committees.

We want your input, it is important and helpful. Take care, be safe, and, as always, thank you for your service. Check it out: <[www.1CDA.org](http://www.1CDA.org)>  
Allen (TrailSpike 47)

## THE DIRECTOR'S CHAIR

**Dara C. Wylder**  
302 N. Main St.  
Copperas Cove, TX 76522-1703  
(254) 547-6537  
FirstCav@1CDA.org



My how time flies.... it's already March and the 2019 Reunion is just a few months away. If you haven't registered yet and intend on coming be sure to register before May 3 because the registration fee goes up to \$40. I don't like to make promises, but I can tell you this, the Division and its units are in the planning phase and it looks like a great time to be had by all who attend. We are looking forward to seeing y'all again. Texas, where my roots are firmly planted, makes a great Family vacation spot. I'll just name a few for you: The River Walk, Alamo, and Sea World in San Antonio; Visit the Texas Hill Country and you will find Fredericksburg, Luchenbach, Enchanted Rock (great hiking), and the home of our 36<sup>th</sup> President, Lynden Baines Johnson (LBJ); Dinosaur bones and the Magnolia Silos in Waco; the 'grassy knoll' in Dallas and our famous Stock Yards in Fort Worth. The list could go on forever and everything mentioned is between 45 minutes to a couple of hours drive from Killeen, TX.

On Thursday, 21 February, the Association hosted a luncheon for SGT (R) Daniel Cowart and his

**Cowart & Dennis Webster**  
previous 1CDA Exec. Dir.



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## HORSE DETACHMENT by CPT Jenny Nocella

2019 has been eventful for the Horse Cavalry Detachment. We've hit the ground running with parades, ceremonies and now our demonstration season and Yesterday and Today's presentations are starting to increase. During the month of February, our team traveled to San Antonio, TX for the Western Heritage Parade and then headed east to Houston to participate in the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo (HLSR) Parade, as well as Grand Entry for the Military Appreciation Night.

The detachment has been able to host many of our neighboring schools around the area for our demonstration and barn tours to include Texas A&M bringing down some of our Korean counter parts during a ROTC event. We will be kicking off the Change of Command season for the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division in the coming months so please come out and see a Cavalry Charge if you have some free time!



Texas Independence Day Parade, Austin

March and April once again brings us a list of events. We will be performing in several demonstrations and participating in different parades throughout the Central Texas area, so make sure you come out and support the Horse Cavalry Detachment: March 20 the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division will present SGT (R) Cowart with a Distinguished Service Cross, April 5 we will have a Yesterday & Today presentation at the Bronco Youth Center on Fort Hood for the Month of the Military Child, April 13 Bluebonnet Festival in Burnet, Texas, April 17 the 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Brigade Combat Team CoC, April 27 the King Williams Fair Parade in San Antonio, Texas. We are always available after events for photos opportunities and Q&A!

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

Photo above is of SSG Charleston & SGT Rodriguez with Pat & Jane & PFC Bouncer at the Texas Independence Day Parade.

## DIVISION DOINGS

### Upgrade to a Distinguished Service Cross: The Story of SGT (R) Daniel Cowart Story & Photos by CPT Scott Kuhn, 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division

It was maintenance day that Sunday May 13, 2007 in Samara, Iraq. Just another day for the Soldiers of 3rd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division. For SGT Daniel Cowart and 1st Platoon, Delta Co there was plenty to do to get the vehicles and weapons ready for the week ahead. Late that morning they got a call from a sister platoon in need of a repair part. It was easier for the platoon to run the part out to the unit than to spin up a logistics convoy.

It was just another Sunday in Iraq. It was Mother's Day, 2007 and for Sarah Cowart it was pretty much like any other day. Her two-year old twin daughters were at the table eating pancakes early in the morning while she talked on the phone with their grandma. She was looking forward to hearing from her husband later that day. It was just another Sunday at Fort Hood, Texas.

After the convoy dropped off the part they headed back to their base. They were on Route Tampa heading west and passed a slow-moving route clearance team heading east. The clearance team's rate of travel was causing a backup of vehicles behind it. LT Andrew Bacevich, Jr., the platoon leader, decided to set up a snap traffic control point. The Soldiers of 1st platoon dismounted to do a quick check of the vehicles. SGT Cowart was the ranking NCO on the ground. They had checked a few cars when SGT Cowart noticed a suspicious vehicle. He pointed it out and said, "let's check that one." There were two military-aged males driving the vehicle. The white, British-style car with the steering wheel on the opposite side was just too nice; it was out of place for the area.

Sarah Cowart was finishing up her phone call with her mother. It was time to get the twins cleaned up and get her day started. A phone call came through on her cell phone from a number that she didn't recognize.

Continued to pg. 19



ADDRESS  
CHANGE

**Don't Keep it a SECRET, Let us Know About It.**  
To submit by e-mail, send to [memberships@1CDA.org](mailto: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: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

1CDA EVENT CALENDAR

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

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

SABER

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[www.facebook.com/AlumniOfTheFirstTeam](http://www.facebook.com/AlumniOfTheFirstTeam)

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Tina Wilgeroth: Program Director / Editor / Graphics  
Karleen Maloney: Memberships / Scholarships / Chapter Coordinator

ARTICLE SUBMISSION

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

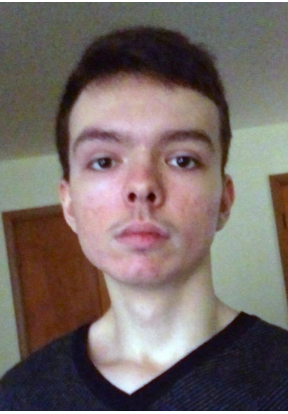
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:



Dear First Cavalry Division Association,


I would like to start off by saying thank you! This grant has helped me immensely through my first three years of college. I struggled last year trying to afford books but thanks to this grant I could buy all my required school books. I am very thankful for this grant because it helps cut down the stressful expenses of college. It feels good knowing that there is group of people willing to help college students (myself included) better themselves and their education by giving them this grant. As this semester begins, I know the grant will be as helpful as it was the last couple of years. This grant honestly means the word to me. I can't thank the First Cavalry Division Association enough for helping me further my education.

Sincerely, Jordan Bethune



I am writing to thank you for your generous Ia Drang Scholarship grant. I was very happy and appreciative to learn that I was to again receive your scholarship. I am a Digital Media Production, Journalism and Mass Communications major with an emphasis in Digital Film student. I plan to pursue a career within the Communications Industry upon graduating from Kent State University. I am currently a sophomore carrying 13 hours, and plan to graduate in June 2021. Thanks to you, I am one step closer to that goal. By awarding me the Ia Drang Scholarship, you have lightened my financial burden which allows me to focus more on the most important aspect of my schooling--learning. Your generosity has inspired me to help others and give back to the community. I hope one day I will be able to help other students achieve their goals just as you have helped me.

Sincerely, Zachary Forsythe



I wanted to write a letter to your organization thanking you for the scholarship that you provided. I have applied for numerous scholarships, with organizations large and small. Your organization is one of the only ones that has actually acknowledged my application and awarded me with the promised scholarship. I come from a military family that has a large part of its roots in 1<sup>st</sup> Cav. My grandfather who was in Vietnam was in the Cav along with my father, and my two godfathers. One of those two served in the Special Forces. My father told me from a young age that his favorite division that he served in was the Cav. He also said that his favorite CO was his captain, CPT Bonheim who was in the Cav. To me, this scholarship is a large aid for helping me to reach my goal of becoming a helicopter pilot to fly life flights. I have already made the Dean's List at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University two times prior. In fact, the first Deans List I made on my very first term. I expect to receive more of these laurels with the money that I was provided. I am truly grateful that there are organizations out there that take care of the American Soldier and his children.

Thank you for the work that you do, Dallas A. McNeal

Continued to pg. 3



## 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 Wednesday, 1 May 2019. Please send to Karleen at Memberships@1CDA.org or mail to 302 N. Main St. Copperas Cove, TX 76522, Attn: Karleen.

### ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

Anyone in the Albuquerque, New Mexico area looking to start up a Chapter? Please contact Jim Jordan at 505-508-5454.

### 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>.

### COLUMBIA WILLAMETTE CHAPTER

Pictured are Jim and Nancy Jordan with friends saying goodbye as they leave Oregon for Albuquerque New Mexico. Jim is also known as JW and Yosemite Sam. He is seated and is not wearing a Stetson – his wife Nancy has it on! Jim is a member of the Columbia Willamette Chapter of the 1st Cavalry Division in Portland Oregon. They will be missed, and all of us will stay in contact. Jim was in Vietnam from 1969 to 1970 with B Company 2nd of the 12th. Jim is interested in starting a 1st Cavalry Chapter in Albuquerque New Mexico. If you are interested in beginning a Chapter in the Albuquerque area, you can contact Jim at 505-508-5454.



### CROSSED SABERS CHAPTER

Cross Sabers Chapter will be holding its April 2019 Stable Call at Temple VFW Post 1820 on 25 April at 1800. Please come out and enjoy the comradery. Stetsons and Spurs are welcome!

Our Chapter is in the planning phase to support the upcoming 1CDA reunion being held at Kiln and Ft Hood this June 5<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>.

We are the Host chapter and are in need of volunteers for all events. If you are interested in coming to a volunteer and planning meeting or just want to help at the reunion, please call the 1CDA headquarters to get on a volunteer list, 254-547-6537. If

you can spend an hour or two helping, it would be greatly appreciated. The host Chapter sets the standard for the reunion! Thank you and look forward to seeing all of our Brothers and Sisters from all over the Country!

Take Care and God Bless! First Team! Tim Hodge

### Letters to the Editor: Continued from pg. 2

This scholarship grant means the world to me. I have always known that I wanted a career in which I could help people, and with this grant I can accomplish that by graduating with a nursing degree. I could not thank enough or be prouder of my dad for his service, and I am beyond grateful to the 1st Cavalry Division Association for this scholarship opportunity.

Nicholas Smith



The scholarship that has been entrusted unto me is a breath of fresh air. This scholarship means so much to me due to my ability to pay for my schooling without taking a heavy blow to the pocket. Having this means I do not have to worry about how my semesters tuition is going to be paid each time I start classes. I greatly appreciate the financial aid that the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division Association has given me so that I may get an education and make something of myself.

Trenton Nicholas Wilson



### 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>.

### JAMES H. UNRUH, CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA



The first new chapter of the First Cavalry Division Association to be formed in twenty years received its charter on Tuesday, March 5, 2019 during a brief ceremony at the chapters March meeting which was held at Lititz VFW Post 1463 in Lititz, PA.

First Cavalry Division Association, Board of Directors member, COL Jack McNiff presented the charter to Michael Mazzaro, President of the James H. Unruh, Central Pennsylvania Chapter.

The chapter has been working to secure its charter since it first began meeting a year ago.

To date, there are about fifty members in the newly formed chapter which meets every other month. For additional information, call 717-389-1000 (leave a message) or email <cenpenn1cda@gmail.com>.

Photo above: Chapter members, left to right, seated COL Jack McNiff, Jane Unruh Good and Michael Mazzaro.

Standing rear, left to right, Jim Pontz, Therion Baker, Nobel O'Shell, Doug Johnston, Ray Conrad and Jim Bowen.

Photo to the right: Charter being presented to Michael Mazzaro Left to right, COL Jack McNiff, Jane Unruh Good, Michael Mazzaro



### NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY



New York-New Jersey Chapter will hold its spring meeting on Saturday April 13, 2019 at 11:00 AM at Elks Lodge, Ridgefield Park.

Set GPS to 30 Cedar St. There will be New chapter Golf shirts available. New color / No mail orders, hot buffet lunch also Chapter and Veterans' updates.

See old buddies/make new friends. Bob Arbasetti will be celebrating 20 years as Chapter President.

Photo caption: Bob Arbasetti and Paul Hanson at Army and Navy Game

### SHERIDAN'S CHAPTER

The Pritzker Library & Museum and Union League Club both in Chicago Illinois hosted chapter member and MOH recipient Allen Lynch's book signing for his recently issued novel "From Zero to Hero – From Bullied Kid to Warrior." Allen has been a chapter member since 200, his book is available from <www.andersonsbookshop.com> or at 630-355-2665.

The Chapter Current Officers will continue for 2019: President: Don Smolinski, Vice President: Bruce Peterson, Secretary: Mason Holmes, Treasurer: Rich Hildebrand, VP Public Relations: Terry Hodous.

2019 Chapter Meeting Dates: April 13, June 15, August 10 Picnic, October 12, December 7 Xmas Party. Meetings held at American Legion Post #1084, 322 East Maple Ave., Roselle, IL 61072. The Sheridan Chapter cordially invites anyone who served or was attached at any year with the 1<sup>st</sup> Cav to join our group. Contact Terry Hodous POC at <us67-hodo@outlook.com> or 773-445-1213 for additional information regarding attending our future events.

### TAPS

We were notified of the death of the following:

**BILL**, LTC (RET) Gary R., B Co, 15<sup>th</sup> TC, 17 December 2018.  
**BLOSE**, LTC (RET) Kenneth M., B Co, 1-7 CAV, 1950. 29 January 2019.  
**BUTTRAM**, SGT Carlos G., I Co, 3-8 CAV, 1951. 2 February 2019.  
**CLARK**, MSG (RET) Val D., D Co, 1-227 AVN, 1988-91, 24 October 2018.  
**ELLINGER**, MSG (RET) Archie E., D Co, 227 AVN, 1965. 30 January 2019.  
**FINNEY**, SGT Jerome (Jerry), D Co, 2-5 CAV, 1967-68. 7 December 2018.  
**GROOMS**, PFC Dennis F., B Co, 2-7 CAV, 9 January 2019.  
**KINNARD**, CPT Raymond D., HSC, 15<sup>th</sup> MED, 1967-68. 25 December 2018.  
**LEFEBVRE**, LTC (RET) Louis R., D Co, 1-7 CAV, 1965. 24 February 2019.  
**LEVINE**, 1LT Frederick I., A Co, 8<sup>th</sup> ENG, 1945-46. 11 December 2018.  
**LONDON**, SSG Dennis C., B Co, 2-5 CAV, 1969. 26 February 2019.  
**MARKUSEN**, 1LT Bruce R., HHC, 2-8 CAV, 1970. 17 February 2019.  
**MOWERY**, SSG Frank L., A Btry, 61<sup>st</sup> FA, 1949-50. 13 January 2019.  
**RIFE**, Trooper Harold L., 2-8 CAV, 1967. 14 December 2018.  
**SCHELL**, MAJ (RET) Charles P., C Co, 1-8 CAV, 1968. 21 December 2018.  
**SHAKES**, CSM (RET) Harry S., B Co, 7 CAV & 27<sup>th</sup> ORD, 1947. 9 February 2019.  
**VAN RAVENSWAAY**, SP-4 Arlen, D Co, 2-5 CAV, 1969. 23 January 2019.

### ACTIVE DUTY TAPS

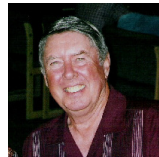
We have been notified of the following non-combat Active Duty deaths.

**LAKES**, SPC Octavious D. Jr., 3 BEB, 3ABCT, 2017. 14 January 2019.  
**ORTEGA**, SPC Andrew S., 91<sup>st</sup> ENG, 1ABCT, 2017. 13 January 2019.



## 61st FA News

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



Hopefully this issue of the *Saber* will be reaching you around the middle of April. Trust that you all got your taxes in to Uncle Sam. As I mentioned in the last *Saber*, this will be my 100<sup>th</sup> and last article on the 61<sup>st</sup> FA Bn. After more than 16 years I think it's just time. Our alumni list is shrinking yearly and it's getting almost impossible to get enough input to keep the column alive and interesting. Considering that our battalion was disbanded around 62 years ago, it's understandable.

There are so many people that I'd like to thank for their support and assistance. They include, in no special order, Speedy Speedman who preceded me as the 61<sup>st</sup> Scribe and, at age 89, is still active in Big Bear, CA in the Sheriff's mounted posse, Don Duggleby, Ed Jakubowski, Bob Kagamida who I visited a couple of times in Hawaii, Bill McSpadden, Peter O'Brien for his many interesting and historical items, Warren Sand, Grady Tucker, Richard Weakley for his many calls, alumni updates and arranging so many of the Chitose-Youngmans reunions, Jim Miller, Ted Covington, Dick Mazzocca, Bill Fancher, Howard Inderdahl, Jimmy Marks, Curt Aronson, Ted Cadwallader, Robert Hasselmeier, Earl "Popeye" Cooley, Fred "Pink" Martin, Ray Wright, Pete Coppock, Frank Mowery who sponsored many of the early Association reunions, Charlie Pillers, Norm Prasatik, Bill Stewart for his countless homey inputs and sponsoring Association reunions, Norm Kaplan, Art Moser, Richard Walter for sponsoring the reunions in Iowa and others whose names escape me. Anyway, you get the idea. I couldn't have done it without such great support and encouragement from all of you.

And, of course, many thanks to Dennis Webster, Lorinda Davison (starting back in 2002), Dara Wydler, and Tina Wilgeroth for their guidance, support, and excellent work in making the *Saber* the outstanding publication that it is.

In late December I was surfing around on Facebook and came across this photo of **Ted Covington**. Ted passed away in January 2017, but his daughter Cindy posted the picture in his Florida Gators shirt and his "Never Give Up" ID card. I hadn't realized that Ted was such a gator guy, but evidently, he was associated with them for many many years. RIP, Ted.

By the way, I still have about a dozen hats like this one shown here. If anyone is interested just let me know and I'll be glad to send



**Ted Covington**

you one. If no one wants them, maybe I'll just take them down to the VA Medical Center in San Diego. There might be some 1<sup>st</sup> Cav guys there who would enjoy them. I've already been taking them copies of the *Saber* (gives me an excuse to get the motorcycle out for a little ride) and they seem to appreciate it.

I did get a chance to chat with both **Dick Schotlaender** and **Matt Tringali** in early January. Dick's doing well, but Matt was telling me that a couple of weeks ago his car was T-boned by a Ford pickup truck. Thankfully the air bags deployed as advertised and all he got was some bruises. Lucky Matt.

I did get a very nice letter from **George Cooper** of Ft. Worth, TX in late January. He joined the 61<sup>st</sup> during WWII in the Philippines. He had sailed from San Francisco on the Troop ship Dorothea L. Dix and asked me for some information on the ship and the history of the lady it was named for. The internet provided the whole history of the ship from its launching in 1940 to the decommissioning in 1946. It also provided a whole biography of Dorothea L. Dix. The letter I sent back to George included it all. I'm betting it's a whole lot more than he expected! George is turning 95 in the middle of February and he and his wife Bonnie have been married for 62 years. He spent over a year in the occupation of Japan following the surrender in August of 1945. George and Bonnie along with their daughter Kathy have spent a lot of years with their 5<sup>th</sup> wheel trailer visiting all sorts of places in CONUS as well as Alaska. 'Sta Bueno to you, George, and wishing you and your family a great 2019!

Received a note from **Bill Stewart** saying that **Frank Mowery** had passed away on January 13<sup>th</sup>. Frank was with A Btry from 1949-50 and had served as coordinator for a number of the 61<sup>st</sup> FABn Association reunions. Our condolences to Claudette and the family.

**Rich Weakley** sent along this... "Gordon, in the last *Saber* with reference to the passing of two of my good friends, on one line it was reported that I receive 100% disability. I don't receive 100% disability. Sorry to see you giving it up but can see why. Hope your wife is recovering, and good luck to you and many thanks." Sorry about the misunderstanding, Rich, hope this clears it up. Will miss your phone calls and article inputs.

From **Peter O'Brien**... "Gordon, on behalf of myself and **Dick Mazzocca**, Congratulations and a big THANK YOU for 100 columns reporting on the comings and goings and health and welfare of our old 61<sup>st</sup> Field Artillery Battalion. Keeping the column interesting and timely was no easy task over those 16+ years, especially at times when you were dealing with personal issues of your own.

At the request of my kids, I've just finished my own military memoir and I ended it by saying the best part was knowing I served and having met some of the finest men I've ever known. Those 61<sup>st</sup> days at Chitose and Youngmans are priceless memories. Everyone reading your column has their own views about their long-ago and far-away tour of duty, but I'm certain all will miss your upbeat attitude and extremely well written column. So, we say, so long Gordon and thanks for the memories and the many long hours putting them together for us. This sent with all good wishes for you and your wife from Peter O'Brien and Dick Mazzocca of Foxboro and Walpole, Massachusetts." Many thanks again, Peter, for your contributions to the 61<sup>st</sup> articles. Think of you and Dick and the rest of the DivArty baseball team often.

From **Edwin Jakubowski**... "Gordon: thanks for all the memories and present happenings about all friends and comrades many of whom we had only met briefly at the few reunions I attended, but all forming a common bond. Sadly, I was informed by my oncologist yesterday that I have about 4-6 months left. I'll be having my 87th birthday in about a week so I'll cherish this one. I know we had only met once at the first reunion I attended in Iowa, but I feel as if we had been friends for many more years. God Bless you and all 61<sup>st</sup> FA Vets, and until we meet again, 'Sta Bueno. Ed Jakubowski, HQ Btry 1950-51." And thank you for all the memories, too, Ed. I consider you as one of my oldest friends and so sorry to learn of your diagnosis. 'Sta Bueno, Ed.

Received this from **Jim Marks**... "Thank you Gordon for all your years of service, it is greatly appreciated. My good wishes to Mrs. Cress. Your friend, Jim Marks." Thanks for the nice note, Jim. It's great to hear from you; your friendship is treasured. About two days after receipt of Jim's note, I got a phone call from Richard Clark in Greenfield, IN and he was trying to reach him. I sent Jim his phone number and hope it was worth a call.

From **Jimmy Marks** in late February... "Hello, Gordon. I just got off the phone with John Scrip, a fellow member of the 61<sup>st</sup>. John and I were on the same boat going to Japan back in 1949 along with another Trooper, PVT George Hinkle. The three of us were all assigned to Battery A 61<sup>st</sup> FA after processing at Camp Drake. The three of us became good friends and stayed in touch until George's passing a few years back. Scrip was on his second tour having served in the Military District of Washington, Hinkle had re-joined the Army after being discharged in 1946 and said he just missed Army life. I think there may have been more to it than that. Hinkle joined the Army in 1941, was in an Armored Division in North Africa in 1942, was captured at Kaserine Pass by the Germans and spent the rest of WWII as a POW. I can only imagine how this must have affected him. In any case, Private Hinkle would leave Korea as a Sergeant First Class as well as John Scrip and Jimmy Marks, all three would become Chief of Section. On the 5th of November 1950, Scrip would be wounded in combat with Chinese Regulars. After the 1st Cavalry Division Association's reunion in Billings, I drove to Salt Lake City to see Scrip. After Korea, Scrip was assigned to Fort Douglas, Utah. Scrip's 1st Sgt was a WWII Vet that had married an Italian girl, whose sister Carla had come over for a visit. They invited Scrip to dinner and he and Carla met, and it was love at first sight, two weeks later they were married. They have continually made their home in Salt Lake and John worked for the Utah National Guard. Recently because of Carla's failing health, they have moved into assisted living. John is a retired CW4, he and Carla have one daughter and one grandson. Never finer Soldiers than Scrip and Hinkle." Thanks for the great note; always nice to hear about old friends getting together again.

From **Bill Stewart** in mid-February... "Gordon, I want to Thank You for all the effort, hard work and dedication in writing the articles for the *Saber*. You will surely be missed. Pat and I want to wish you and your wife both better health in the future. I re-read your article about the ship USS General H. J. Gaffey the other day and then realized that was the ship I went to Japan on in 1949. Have some nice pictures of our layover in Manila (they had a tour of the city to let us get off ship for a while if we wanted to). It was interesting. Also have some pictures of crossing the International Date Line ceremony. Sure, brought back some memories of the trip overseas. My tour of duty was quite a long one, but I guess I made it OK. I left from Camp Stoneman, CA about 7 or 8 Jul 1949, sailed under the Golden Gate Bridge sometime in late July. I got to Japan, Camp Drew in Koizumi around the middle of Aug 49. Then we went to Korea, landing on 18 Jul 1950. When I finally got out of Korea (24 Oct 1951) I was ready for home. I finally got back to Indiana around the middle of Dec 1951. That makes a tour of duty of about 2 1/2 years, not bad for a 19-year-old kid to live through. I don't regret it as I served almost 32 years with my reserve time. Have some fond memories but wouldn't want to spend another winter like 1950, just a little cold for me. I hope someone keeps writing about the 61<sup>st</sup>, otherwise I won't know anything about what the unit's Vets are doing. 'Sta Bueno, Bill." Thanks again, Bill. Always appreciated your inputs over the years; helped make the column interesting to all.

Had a nice phone call with **Speedy Speedman** up in Big Bear, CA. He related the story to me regarding a young man and his 5-year-old daughter. Apparently, they recently took off for an afternoon hike in the Big Bear mountains with nothing in the way of emergency supplies. Of course, they got lost and after spending a freezing night with no shelter, food or warm clothing, Speedy and the Sheriff's rescue group found them the next day. Speedy was just irate at the guy for placing his daughter in that much danger. I think it took a couple of the other posse members to keep him from busting him in the chops. Speedy brought the little girl back on his horse and by the time they got there she had pretty much recovered and they were fast friends. Not so much with her father.

Speedy also said he'd been going through some of his old 61<sup>st</sup> stuff and found this 1<sup>st</sup> Cav Christmas card from way back in 1951. Thought it might bring back some memories.



**1951 Christmas Card front**



**1951 Christmas Card inside**

For the final time, it has been my pleasure, privilege and honor to have been your 61<sup>st</sup> FA Bn Scribe for all these years.

**Take care and 'Sta Bueno, friends!**


Gordon Cress







**5th CAV News**  
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Greetings 5th Cav Troopers! It's time for another issue. I'm trying to get my thoughts together for this article. I was just released from the hospital and when I got home an email said story was due March 1st. I had 3 heart attacks in 3 days. Emergency heart cath resulted in 2 stints and 1 balloon added to my heart. It's been 20 years since my heart problems so I should be good for 20 more years.

I had an interesting phone call about the Apache Dog Story. **Len Barnard** called and said he read the story and that the medic, Jerry Sniezyk was the medic that saved his life in Vietnam. It was the result of a fire fight June 20, 1967. Two

or three were KIA's including the Company Commander of Alpha Co. Len was wounded a couple of times to include a sucking chest wound. Jerry plugged the wound and he was sent back, treated properly and is alive today. I finally contacted Jerry and gave him Len's phone number. Your stories are important and might help someone else.

Another call I had was from **Troy Linthicum**. He is looking for a fellow Cav member that was in Japan and they went to Korea together. They were issued special belt buckles in Japan before they went to Korea. Wright was wounded and Troy has his belt buckle he found in his things from Korea. If anyone knows how to get ahold of **Loyd Wright** or any of his family, please contact me and I will connect you. Hopefully we can have another happy ending. Remember the reunion is coming up so I hope I'm well enough to go and see a lot of you there. Hoping all your LZ's are cold.

Loyalty and Courage, Control 27 Mike Out, Bill



OTHER REUNIONS

**15<sup>th</sup> 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.

**2019 OCS Alumni Reunion and Hall of Fame Inductions.** The 2019 reunion will occur April 28 to May 1, 2019, Columbus / Fort Benning, GA. Online registration at - <https://www.ocsalumni.org/>. For more information, contact Nancy Ionoff, Reunion Coordinator, at 813-917-4309.

**8 CAV (Airborne) D Co. 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

**1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division Association 72<sup>nd</sup> 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>.

**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion C 1/7 CAV, 5-9 June 2019.** Shilo Inn, Killeen, TX; POC Tom Hartin <tomhartin@sbcglobal.net> or 972-387-4451.

**30<sup>th</sup> FA Regiment Association Reunion, 10-15 June 2019.** Sheffield Village, 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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!*

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## 12th CAV News



**Ken Howser, Jr.**  
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Facebook.Com/12thCavalryRegiment



**Herbert Farmer and Grandson**

February 2019. Herbert, service rank unknown, served in the 3rd Platoon of D 2-12 Cavalry in Vietnam in the 1966-1967 range. Herbert lived in Dahlonega, Georgia and kept that deep southern accent until he died. "A good and patriotic man. This photo I think, is one of his grandchildren sitting with him." <Recon Jim Breen>. I have found no funeral notice or obituary. If this notice is in error in any way, I will admit it, and correct this notice. Semper Paratus!

**0608 The Midnight March** of D 2-12 continued: "In February 1969, I was serving in the 3rd platoon, D 2-12 Cavalry. I had been lightly wounded in my right thigh by friendly fire February 1 and had spent a week in the company rear. It took a week before my leg would function again, and now, a few days after having returned to the bush, our platoon leader LT John Howe called us together in the late afternoon. Company C had had a massive firefight with an NVA unit, had extensive casualties who couldn't be medevaced, and Stacked Deck was being sent in to support Wild Card. We were to conduct a combat assault (Charlie Alpha) by chopper to an open area near Wild Card, then march to their location at night. Seemed like an impossible mission, and if the NVA were still there, we could end up being ambushed and in the same mess as Wild Card. Anxiety, fear and dread was on every face. After an artillery and gunship prep the CA was successful. Well after dark we proceeded single file through the forest and heavy underbrush holding on to each other since it was like being in a pitch-black closet. The point man was an NCO whose name I don't remember, and we proceeded on a compass bearing with an occasional small light to check direction. I don't remember how long we crashed and stumbled through the underbrush, but we connected with Wild Card sooner than I expected. There was no ambush and no contact with the NVA. Our point man should have gotten a medal for valor, but since we had no contact with the NVA he didn't get one. It didn't seem right. Wild Card was very happy to see us, and we were guided to positions around the perimeter. We stayed alert the rest of the night waiting for first light. It seemed like it was forever, but the sky gradually lightened, and I could see bandaged up Wild Card wounded all around. Three of us of the third platoon were assigned to a small foxhole on the perimeter. It wasn't nearly big enough for us and the Wild Card wounded to our rear, so we started to dig with the sole D-handled spade we had. We expected the NVA to return, so we dug as fast as we could, spelling each other when one got winded from the effort. When I took a turn in the hole, in a corner of my eye I noticed movement to our front. It was a single individual in green fatigues walking toward my left front. I figured it one of our guys having gone out to relieve himself alone without informing anyone. This was a stupid act on several different fronts, and I was going to chew him out when I noticed the rifle he was carrying had a brown stock. He noticed us and turned my way. He was close, we locked eyes, and his eyes got as big as saucers. He was so close I could see the whites of his eyes. I yelled "It's a g\_\_d gook! Shoot'em!" "I dropped the spade, whirled around and grabbed my rifle. I noticed my two buds and the Wild Card wounded didn't have their weapons and were low crawling as fast they could to the rear. I spun back around, flipped the selector switch to semi and starting shooting. All this happened in a split second and I could see the NVA disappearing in the underbrush, moving to my left. I emptied my rifle in the direction I thought he was moving. Then nothing. We all were in the hole locked and loaded, waiting for what might come next. Was he lost, a straggler, or the point man for an advancing NVA unit coming to resume yesterday's fight? Who knew? So, we waited. It was quiet. After 30 minutes or so, the NVA unit we feared hadn't made an appearance. I began to wonder if I should venture out and see if I had shot the NVA. Maybe pick up a souvenir. Then I concluded that wouldn't be prudent and I stayed put. After another 30 to 60 minutes, two Wild Card Troops in the foxhole to my immediate left signaled they were going out in front of their position. "Not a great idea" I whispered, but they went anyway. After a few minutes they came back in carrying an AK 47. I yelled, "Hey! I believe that AK belongs to me!" One replied that the AK was from the previous day's firefight. Did I shoot the NVA? I wasn't about to go look, so I'll never know for sure. But it was possible, even probable. Later in the morning, Wild Card was evacuated from the same LZ Deck came in on. We left on patrol. All this set the stage for a massive firefight on March 1, 1969, where I got hit again. And the stage for two huge ground attacks on LZ Grant occurring mid-March with Stacked Deck defending the perimeter." <Scott Jeter>.



**Scott Jeter**

**1008 A:** The Delta Devils Veterans return to where Delta began their Great and Terrible Adventure in 1963. D 1-12 Cavalry Vietnam return to Fort Benning & Columbus, Georgia for a Reunion October 3-6, 2019. Details



**1-12 Slowly but surely rolling back in from 'The Box'**

are at: <CatTrack6India.Com>. To register for the reunion, make checks payable to **Thomas Kjos** and mail with completed, form to 9817 W Mockingbird Dr., Sun City, AZ 85373. Reunion site, The Doubletree by Hilton includes breakfast, airport shuttle, accommodation for the open-bar/Hospitality Suite, and Houlihan's on-site restaurant. Room rate is \$104 (\$126 after taxes), is good from 1-8 October

**0001 Hey Sailor**, new in town? This space is for you. If you didn't send it in – it ain't here. Support your Scribes. **0208 We were** notified that Trooper **Herbert Farmer** received orders to Fiddlers Green on 15

2019, and is cancel-able until one day before the reunion. Book as soon as possible, but by 20 September to get this rate. Book on line at Delta's room block link <tinyurl.com/D-1-12-Cav> or by phone at (866) 238-4218. Identify your group as Delta, 1/12th Cav (Group Code is CAV). **B:** Please join Linda Doole and a contingent of Delta Brothers to say goodbye to distinguished Brother-in-Arms, Chuck Doole. Full Military Honors will be given at the burial service Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019, 12 noon at Pikes Peak National Cemetery, Colorado Springs, Colorado. **C:** Please honor and reflect on our fallen Brothers; Brian Anderson, Timothy Boesch, Walter Bowers, William Broady, Ronald Burkle, William Carlisle, Carl Crow, Robert Flinn, Rudolph Ford, Dennis Hassemer, Allen Martin, Ronald Martinez, Thomas McGarrigle, Michael Metchnik, Terry Miller, Mark Minor, Alexander Paczkowski, Albert Perry, Roy Stapleford, Charles Swanson, and James Tyson. Semper Paratus! <COL Gergulis and Delta Newsletter>.

**1208 2.2.2019.** "After 30+ days deployed and 14 days of non-stop action in the Fort Irwin training area the Charger Battalion is coming home. I couldn't be more proud of our team. Everyone fought and improved every day. Yesterday we recognized 2 Soldiers with Army Commendation Medals, 7 with Army Achievement Medals, and 52 with battalion coins. These Soldiers demonstrated tactical and technical excellence, perseverance, and a positive attitude that lifted the entire 500+ Soldier formation. #NTC 19-03; 162 km of movement, 277 hours of continuous contact, 5x Bde attacks, 2x Bde defense, 8x combined arms breaches. 66x CAS sorties, 2x air assaults, 12x integrated SOF missions, 1x Ready Brigade Combat Team. #WeAreGreywolf! #WeAreReady! #WeAreLethal! #WeAreHungry! @1stCavalryDiv!" <Facebook.Com/OneTwelveCav>.

**1608 12.12.2018** Ahja, Estonia. "The snowy forests of the Baltic Republic of Estonia were home to Soldiers of 2-12 Cavalry during Christmas Thunder, a training exercise with Estonian Soldiers Dec 11- 2, 2018. In Estonia in support of the 1st ABCT Atlantic Resolve rotation across Europe to improve the interoperability between U.S. Forces and their NATO partners, their mission was to link up with a battalion of Estonian forces and scout the area for other Estonian Soldiers role playing an enemy. It was a large exercise to improve Estonian and U.S. teamwork and non-commissioned officers' tactical leadership. The exercise began with a convoy of up-armored Humvees departing the unit's base at Voru at 7am. Earlier in the morning, unit leaders assigned Soldiers to vehicles who checked radios, gear, and maps for the event. The convoy wound along country roads passing farms, shops and villages over 50 kilometers to the 10 square kilo training area. After linking up with one squad of Estonian Soldiers the U.S. Soldiers fan out along the forests and roads looking for the enemy. Teams of Soldiers march forward, scouting the area as the vehicles advance close behind the advance team. The unit's commander keeps in constant contact with Estonian Soldiers via radio and an Estonian Soldier attached to the unit and coordinated their movements. The scouts march over 7 miles during the 36-hour mission. They contacted several Estonian squads. Soldiers dive for cover, returning fire as the Milukas reports the contact to the Estonian battalion headquarters. The exercise didn't just improve coordination between allies, but sharpened skills with each force learning from the other. The 27 Soldiers of 2-12 deployed to Estonia in late November, visiting several schools in the region and conducting marksmanship, and communications field training with Estonian Soldiers at a base in Voru, Estonia." <Army.Mil>.



**SGT Nikita Ivanov is interviewed by Estonian media**

**1808 1.18.2019**, Germany. "Soldiers of 3rd platoon, A 2-12 Cavalry Regiment, along with more than 5,500 service members from 16 nations participated in the first phase of Combined Resolve XI at the Joint Multinational Training Center in Hohenfels, Germany, Nov 26-Dec 14, 2018. The exercise allowed the Soldiers to fill new roles and step out of their comfort zone because they were the only unit from their battalion who actively participated. They represented the main U.S. element in their area while coordinating with Lithuanian and Ukrainian forces, a task usually reserved for bigger elements. Though the Soldiers operated efficiently on their own, they encountered difficulties obtaining fuel and various classes of supply, something normally provided by supporting units and the forces had to work together to solve problems. Although NATO partners are continents away, they still have similar ways of preparing for a mission. Tactics were an important aspect that was discussed before going on movements between U.S. and Lithuanian Soldiers. Lack of radios to effectively communicate between partner nations was a particular problem. To overcome limitations in communications, Lithuanian vehicles with good comms stayed near the American forces to push messages. This improved the overall effectiveness on the battlefield. CbR XI has not only strengthened interoperability on the battlefield but has also cemented strong bonds with Soldiers on a personal level. "The Lithuanian Army and the Ukrainian Army were very strategic," said PFC Joshua Beeney. "Honestly they were just as prepared as we were." After spending 11 days in a single room with his unit from different walks of life, he was able to connect better with his fellows. "I think we became closer as a team and honestly as a family," he said." <DvidsHub.Net>.

**2008 1.31.2019** "If a loved one has been diagnosed with PTSD, you know some of what they are going through. They might be anxious or get upset frequently. They may struggle with nightmares and flashbacks. But PTSD doesn't just affect the person living with it. PTSD can cause people to withdraw or disconnect from the people they love. You may feel confused about your loved one's behavior. You may feel depressed or guilty if you can't seem to help them. You might not even know *how* to help them. PTSD can make somebody hard to be with. Living with someone who is easily startled, has nightmares, and often avoids social situations can take a toll on the most caring family. Early research on PTSD has shown the harmful impact on families. Research shows that Vietnam Veterans have more marital problems and family violence: their partners have more distress; their children have more behavior problems than do those of Veterans without PTSD. Veterans with the most severe symptoms had families who function the worst. It may be because those suffering with PTSD have a hard time feeling emotions and may feel detached from others. This can cause problems in personal relationships and may even lead to behavior problems in their children. The numbing and avoidance that occurs with PTSD is linked with lower satisfaction in parenting.

**Continued to pg. 17**



## 7th CAV News



**Karl Swenson**  
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Greetings and Salutations to all you GarryOwen Troopers! It's good to still be here, breathing and using my computer to offer you another edition of the 7th Cavalry news. Things could always be worse, right?

To lead off, YES, there was a glaring error made in the last issue. Bob Anderson resides in the great state of Michigan, not Wisconsin as was reported. Believe me, it takes an Infantry officer a great deal of pushback to **admit to a mistake**, especially a geographical one, just ask that Lieutenant/Captain who was leading that patrol you were on when you knew you were absolutely lost! My apologies to Bob and thanks to the many who called or emailed me to make me aware of the error. Consider it fixed.

So, we are inching toward the 72nd Reunion of the 1st Cavalry Division Association and you're probably getting a bit tired of seeing all the hype, but that's because we all want to see you there. Last year, I connected with folks from the Korean War, Vietnam, and the Iraq/Afghanistan Wars. I connected with active duty First Team Soldiers. It was fun, it was invigorating, it was cathartic. I came away from West Virginia with a lasting smile on my face because of all the people I met and all the friends, comrades, and brothers with whom I was able to reconnect. If you haven't yet made up your mind to join us in Killeen in June, please do give it serious consideration. Would love to meet you, too! And I would love to hear your stories – and be able to put them in this column so that other 7th Cavalry Troopers can hear (read) them, too. Please consider sharing. You can call me, email me, even strap the story to the leg of a carrier pigeon – just get the story to me....

**This is from Charlie Company, 1st Bn 7th Cavalry (Vietnam):** We are making a big effort to get ALL of the men of C 1/7 Cavalry to attend the First Cavalry Association reunion at Fort Hood in 2019. Our focus for the "Fifty Year Anniversary" is on the men who fought in the 1967-1969 period. These years included the Tet Offensive, the siege of Khe Sanh, A Shau Valley Assault, and the Saigon Offensive. We hope that all the units of the Seventh Cavalry will make a fifty-year reunion effort. We want all the Charlie Company Troopers to know about this reunion by identifying them, locating them, and mailing them "invitations" so that they will contact us for further information.

This effort started because of our concern that older C Company Troopers who do not attend this special reunion, will never attend a reunion! Many of our ranks are getting too old to travel, and many of our ranks have already passed away. A reunion is only a success when combat brothers come face to face! The value of attending is reflecting on things that happened many years ago - events, experiences, laughs, and sharing of memorabilia that only those who were there can understand and value. This is one of those "once in a lifetime" experiences. What started as trying to find just the first platoon Troopers expanded to all of C Company. We encourage all the 1/7 units to attend, but our focus for this Fifty-Year Reunion is the men of C Company.

There is always a regret when we hear of the passing of another C Company Trooper. We regret not shaking his hand, not thanking him for being our brother in battle, and we regret not being able share those special memories. After 50 years it is a good time to thank the guy who took care of all of our injuries, the guy who pumped out M60 rounds when we needed it most, the guys who could lob a M79 round into a hooch, the guy who walked point, the guy who pulled you out of harm's way, and the list goes on. The list of regrets will get longer for those who do not attend this reunion. Do not miss this opportunity to be with those guys who shared the Vietnam experience with you.

If you served with C 1/7: You walked point. You had a mad minute. You attacked a hill and took it. You set an ambush. You weathered a typhoon and drank water out of bamboo. You walked up the middle of the A Shau Valley, and you fought in combat before you were old enough to buy beer back home. And now you have the opportunity to reunite with men who had your back!

#### YOU SHOULD ATTEND THE REUNION

If you are C Company, 1/7 Cav 1967-1969 alumni we also want to hear from you. If you know of the whereabouts of other 1/7 C Company Troopers, we want that information. You can email information to any of these Troopers:

**Glynn Donaho** email <gdonaho@canaryranch.net>

**Tom Hartin** email <tomhartin@sbcglobal.net>

**Ron Shortround Migut** email <shortround7cav@gmail.com>

Or you can text any information to 979-450-2373.

**Here's some news from the newest batch of 7th Cavalry Troopers.** In May 2018, 1st Squadron, 7th Cavalry Regiment deployed from Fort Hood, Texas to Świętoszów, Poland in support of Atlantic Resolve 2018, which is a part of the greater European Reassurance Initiative between the United States and our NATO allies. Our objective was to continue fostering interoperability between U.S. and NATO countries. The deployment spanned nine months for 1-7 CAV and encompassed live fire training exercises in Poland, Hungary, Slovakia, Lithuania, and Germany.

The Troopers tirelessly worked side by side our NATO allies, learning about each other's differences while highlighting our many similarities; these training events helped to build confidence and trust between our formations. Our time was not only well spent in a training capacity but also in cultural education. The proximity to so many countries afforded us the opportunity to experience European culture on various MWR sponsored trips and passes.

The Squadron finished the deployment in Grafenwöhr, Germany after completing Combined Resolve XI (CbR XI). CbR XI consisted of a 10-day Force on Force scenario with a live opposition force and culminated with a 4-day live fire exercise. These final events put our tactical and technical skillsets to the test. The Troops benefitted from maneuvering through unfamiliar terrain in harsh weather conditions and were able to bring home a unique skillset to our Texas brothers and sisters. Finally, we have returned a more lethally trained Reconnaissance Squadron, ready to fight and win our great Nation's wars. *Thanks to CPT Gary Oakland for this update.*

PFC Zachary Fries, left (top right photo), assigned to 1st Squadron, 7th Cavalry

Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, prepares to load a 35-pound training round as SPC Enrique Revelo, assigned to 1-7 Cavalry, gives a fire command at a qualification range at Camp Aachen, Germany, Jan. 9, 2019. The 1-7 Cav Soldiers are in Germany in support of the 1st ABCT Atlantic Resolve rotation across Europe, which is to improve the interoperability between U.S. Forces and their NATO allies and partners. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by SFC Robert Jordan, 382nd Public Affairs Detachment/ 1st ABCT, 1st CD)



**I had the pleasure of meeting Stan Reed** at the West Virginia reunion this past June. As I listened to his story, I was intrigued by several aspects of it and asked Stan to share some of it with all of us. Stan sent along some pictures to go with his narrative using Facebook to transfer all of it to me. You see, I take your stories any way I can get them. Hope you enjoy this story of a 7th Cavalry Trooper!

PVT Stan Reed, 1963 Basic Training at Fort Leonard Wood with my newly issued M-14. Turned in my M1 that for it. After Basic, then served at Fort Carson. Made it to SGT, then went to NCO Academy at Fort Riley, graduated top of the class and made SSGT. Went to Drill Instructor school at Fort Leonard Wood, graduated 2nd and was assigned FLW training recruits. In 1969 went to OCS at Benning. Graduated 4th in class, top 5 got Regular Army commissions. Assigned Fort Riley in 1970 and requested Vietnam. Got caught up in a REFORGER exercise and was locked in and didn't get to Vietnam until 1971. Went to MACV and later requested a transfer as MACV was cutting back. Went to 3rd BDE 1st Cav as OPN's Officer of the orientation Jungle School. After some time, I managed an assignment to 1/7 Cav, which was important to me as my Dad was with 1/7th in WWII. I lead the 1st

Platoon, Delta Company from late Jan 72 until Task Force Garry Owen stood down Aug 72. I then found a position with MACV and stayed in Vietnam until Jan 73. After Vietnam I was assigned to 1st Infantry Division at Riley. I had a physical profile from Huey crash and was advised I'd never again be promoted by the Infantry Branch boards. I transferred to QM in 75. Served 3 years with 3rd ID in Germany. Was then Boston Defense Contracts Program Manager for various weapons systems, Fire Control system for M60/M1 tanks, Chain Gun for Apache, etc. I retired as Major in 1987.

Sending this picture of my father. He was the reason I vigorously sought assignment to 1st of the 7th Cavalry in Vietnam. He was in Alpha Co, 1/7th through the Philippines, including the Battle for Manila, 1st Cav was "First to enter Manila." Went on to Tokyo Occupation of Tokyo. T/SGT Clifford V. Reed, my father and I, both received CIBs, PHs, and BSMs in 1/7th. My Dad went from private to Platoon SGT with 1/7th, earning 2 Purple Hearts along the way. First in Manila, First in Tokyo.

I grew up on an Oklahoma farm enthralled by the stories of my Dad and 6 uncles who served in WWII. Growing up I never thought about anything else besides playing ball and joining the 1st Cavalry someday.

I joined 1/7th at Fire Base Crossed Sabers, helped rebuild the 11th ACR FB Fiddlers' Green into 1/7th FB Spudis, then went on to Grunt about a click out of Bien Hoa Army Base for the final act.

As you can see from this picture, both Stan and I have aged well, just like a fine wine! This picture was taken at the West Virginia Reunion during the 7th Cavalry luncheon. What a great time we had! Folks from all the battalions and squadrons of the 7th Cav together in one room. For some of us, it was an opportunity to meet and see people we had not seen in 50 years or more. I was fortunate to meet and speak with the battalion surgeon of 1st of the 7th from 1968-1969, Dr. Robert Tortolani, who provided and supervised those excellent medics we had. I remember my medic very well – Sp4 Frank "Doc" Richardson, the best medic I ever had. I can still hear him ordering me to roll down my sleeves and take my malaria pill. Frank taught me much about life during our time together in Vietnam, sometimes in a most irreverent manner. After his hitch was over, Frank went on to earn a PhD and continued teaching. To this day Frank is still caring for me as my medic. Thanks Frank, I will always be grateful and in your debt for the sage advice and guidance you provided then and now.

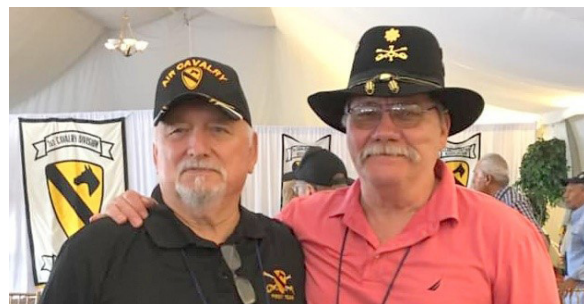
Until next time, thanks for reading my ramblings. May your days be many, may your troubles be few, may we always be brothers, and may we all meet at Fiddler's Green when this life is through.



PVT Stan Reed



TSGT Clifford V. Reed



Stan Reed and Karl Swenson



## 8th CAV News



**Thomas J. De Young**  
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Hi again from the cold North, I hate to sound like a broken record, but it was 4° F this morning here. That's all I have to say about that. (*Stop whining about the weather, Tom.*) As I said before, on days like this it's simply time to grab a good book, put a log in the fireplace, pour a nice glass of Scotch, and enjoy the beauty that is *Pure Michigan*.

**Conversation with an old Soldier:** I had a nice chat with **Bruce Davis** over the phone yesterday. Bruce is one of our great Troopers who served with the Cav on horseback way back in the late 1930's. His years of service took him into WWII as a supply sergeant, and on through the ranks as he continued to serve in Korea. Now retired in Bakersfield, CA and well into his 90's, Bruce misses the camaraderie of fellow Veterans with whom he served. He and his wife, Rosa Lee, enjoyed attending many 1st Cav reunions over the years. She died not too long ago, and Bruce indicated that he is not able to attend our upcoming reunion in Killeen due to declining health issues. Some of you probably remember Bruce and his wife from those reunions or may have even served with him at one point or another over the years. He would really like to hear from you. If you remember Bruce and would like to get in touch with him, please call or write to me with your contact information so that I can pass it on to him. He would surely appreciate it.

**More on the 2nd Battle of Tam Quan:** Glenn Sheathelm wrote recently and included a couple of interesting photos. He writes: "The Quyet Tien flag was captured December 2, 1967 when LTC Christian Dubia and his staff told CPT Al Conetto of D-1/8 to send a platoon to verify the use of a trail by NVA moving from the An Lao Valley to the Bong Son Plain. Intelligence suggested that the NVA Unit might be a battalion of the 22nd NVA Regiment. We caught the NVA and local VC having a planning mission and while we were consolidating them, I found a cave entrance. I borrowed a .45 and dropped in finding two cubic feet of documents in two metal boxes along with the flags. The documents proved the 22nd Regiment was already coming in and parts of two battalions were already coming to the Bong Son Plain where Tam Quan was the district headquarters. From those documents we also learned that the 18th Regiment was also coming and would be there so the two Regiments could have a decisive battle against the Americans and South Vietnamese in mid-December and hold the captured areas over the Christmas truce. It also gave several assembly and supply points for the battle. All the documents were sent to 1st Battalion Headquarters where LTC Dubia, the S-2 and the S-3, MAJ Edwin Burba (later a 4-star General) determined the threat was real. They notified COL Rattan, the Brigade Commander, who had previously ordered the rest of the brigade across the country to Dak To where they had been helping out the 173rd Airborne Brigade. As fast as he could get companies pulled out of the mountains and jungles around Dak To, he started sending them back to LZ English to prepare to fight the 22nd NVA Regiment. 2/8th and 1/12th along with the rest of 2/19th Artillery were moved back to English as fast as possible. The battle opened before the NVA got organized and did so with 1/8th, 1/9th, two companies of 1/50th Mechanized and the four artillery batteries that were within range of the battle area. Naval gunfire and Air Force close air support was on call as needed. It was a 'find them, fix them, and then pile on' battle. The 18th NVA Regiment started arriving after the battle was already lost; they held back and dispersed. They were the ones who hit LZ English and the 173rd AVB during TET '68, but the 22nd NVA Regiment was rendered combat ineffective in the 2nd Battle of Tam Quan (SEE my column in the last issue of *Saber* for Skip Saylor's detailed description of that battle from his perspective. Ed)."

**Lest we forget:** A new memorial brick has been placed at the base of the Virginia State flag at the Infantry Museum at Fort Benning. May **LT Karr** and all who gave their lives in service be remembered in perpetuity for their sacrifice. May they rest in peace.

**Remains from Korea Battle Returned:** Michael E. Ruane wrote in the *Washington Post* about the recent repatriation of remains of SGT Charles H McDaniel (3/8th Cav) from the Korean War. His sons were there to receive these dog tag and medals that belonged to their father at a ceremony at the Renaissance Arlington Capital View Hotel. Their father had vanished, like so many others, in the battle of Unsan. These remains were among 55 boxes returned to American authorities by the North Koreans and Ruane states that they were the only ones that could be connected to a specific Soldier. The dog tag was the only item in those boxes that could be positively identified, and Retired Army Chaplain Charles Hobert McDaniel Jr., his eldest son, said that he and his younger brother had little if any memory of their father, so that this was a precious link to him. I quote this from the Ruane article which was reprinted in *Palmetto* in <TheState.com>, a copy of the Columbia, SC paper sent to me by Tom McAndrews last August.

"The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency said that SGT McDaniel was with the medical company of the 8th Cavalry Regiment's 3rd Battalion when it was attacked by the Chinese in early November 1950." The author quotes this from an account of the battle he drew on from the 1st Cavalry Division Association's website:

"The regiment was surrounded, and the bulk of the 3rd Battalion was trapped. Fighting was hand-to-hand in many cases. After a rescue force was beaten back, some men tried to escape in small groups. At approximately 1600 hours on the afternoon of 6 November, the action of the 3rd Battalion, 8th Cavalry as an organized force came to an end. It died gallantly...more than 600 officers and men were lost at Unsan, most of them from the 3rd Battalion."

The Ruane article continues: "The Pentagon estimates that nearly 7,700 Troops are unaccounted from the war; among them are 5,300 believed to have been killed north of the 38th parallel...Most died on the battlefield and were buried in

shallow graves or in cemeteries that were intended to be temporary. But some also perished in prisoner-of-war camps run by North Korea or China, experts say." The search and process to repatriate the remains goes on but is hampered by North Korea for its own political purposes.

**A rather novel memorial to those who served: Doug Magruder** and friends stopped by a unique military Museum recently. It's a coffee shop and so much more located in Mooresville, NC. It goes under the name: **Welcome Home Veterans Living Military Museum at Richard's Coffee Shop**. LTC John Hedley USA (Ret) is President of the organization. He describes the Coffee Shop in this brief history reprinted with permission from their website:



"OUR HISTORY: What started out... as a little shop named Pat's Gourmet Coffee Shop, named in honor of his wife, became much more. It became not only a Coffee Shop but a "Living" Military Museum, named in honor of the man who spent the last 14 years of his life honoring and supporting America's Veterans. It was owned and operated by Richard Warren, a U.S. Army, Vietnam combat pilot who flew a Huey attack helicopter, or "gunship", with the call sign "Mustang 53." With his background Richard made a point of extending the traditional Veterans greeting of "Welcome Home" to every Veteran who came in the shop. Over time, Pat's became a gathering place for Veterans of all ages and a collection of artifacts, awards, magazine and newspaper articles slowly accumulated. "Our State," the official North Carolina state magazine labeled it "The Most Patriotic Coffee Shop in America." Not far from the truth, since it is the only non-profit coffee shop and living military museum in the United States. Sadly, in May of 2009, Richard died of complications from exposure to Agent Orange. He had spent many years of his life aiding and supporting Veterans.

But just months before he passed away, he started forming a non-profit organization and he wanted it to be named "Welcome Home Veterans." This non-profit would oversee and keep Richard's dream, to see that what he started grow and continue to recognize, serve, support, and honor those who gave so much. After his death there were some issues with the lease, being so old, and Pat's Coffee Shop closed. We're not sure at this point if it was the need for a good cup of coffee, missing other comrades or the honor and tradition of carrying on for a fallen comrade but a number of Richard's regular patrons were determined that his special legacy would not be lost. Richard's Coffee Shop, named in Richard Warren's honor and with oversight from Welcome Home Veterans, Inc., opened on July 4th, 2009 just down the street from the original site of Pat's Coffee Shop, underwritten by the members of the non-profit's Board and the generous contributions of so many others from around the world.

"As a 501c3 tax-exempt non-profit organization we have the following mission statement: 'To ensure the memory of, and support to, those who serve through Welcome Home Veterans Living Military Museum at Richard's Coffee Shop.' With this mission statement we are continuing the legacy of Richard Warren's love and respect for all of those who have served our country. We strive to carry forward the values of Honor, Respect, Duty and Love of country that is reflected by not only the Veterans but by a large part of the American people. Richard's is an incredible place of support, healing and camaraderie for Veterans, their families and many members of the community. We have Veterans of all ages and time periods from WWII to the current conflicts coming to the coffee shop, several of our Veterans have even called it therapeutic. Each Thursday, a traditional free coffee day, we often have gatherings of more than one hundred Veterans of all ages. Saturday is a music day when Veterans and professional musicians alike gather to play country, bluegrass, traditional old hymns, and patriotic music.



We sponsor the "Book of Honor," which is signed by the Veterans when they first visit the coffee shop and carries the names of around 9,000 Veterans from all over the world. With this signing, they are formally presented a two-row, beaded keychain that represents the American Flag, which they served, and either the branch of service or conflict(s) they served in. This keychain is visible and recognized symbol in almost any part of the world in which the United States has a presence. The "Living" segment in our name consists of all of the Veterans who gather on a daily basis to share their memories and stories with each other and the community, through our outreach and school programs, and with anyone who values our heritage. The "Military Museum" consists of artifacts donated to us by our patrons, by the very people who used, lived, worked with them. Many are donated by the families of Veterans. Some are priceless. The many awards that hang on our walls, such as "Beetle Bailey" presented and signed, the "Tuskegee Airmen" presented and signed, and the North Carolina State "Order of the Long Leaf Pine" (highest State Governors' award), remind us of the value we represent and our duty to the American people. Sadly, we have very little time left with most of the WWII and Korean Veterans and a short time left with the Vietnam Veterans. But gratefully, we see the current Veterans and active duty members of the military picking up the torch of freedom in the stories they share when they come to the coffee shop and get signed into the "Book of Honor."

"THE NEED: It has become clear and we have identified the need to become a "clearinghouse," a centralized point to further support the many Veteran, school, and community initiatives that are coming to light. During these past many years, Pat's/Richard's has been traditionally involved with Toys for Tots, Freedom Honor Flights, the Ride of Pride sponsored by Freightliner on Memorial Day, Blue Star families, Daughters of the American Revolution (Ft. Dobbs chapter), Marine Corp League, VFWs, Honor/Flag Guard for the Traveling Wall at Charlotte (Lowe's) Motor Speedway, American Legion, the Fourth of July Parade in Troutman, NC, Patriot Guard, Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association, nursing home visits, public school speaking engagements, children's field trips, grave-site flag honors for Veterans on holidays, Purple Heart Homes, Troop supplies

**Continued to pg. 17**



IN MEMORY OF  
1LT JOHN P. KARR  
1PLT, D CO, 2BN 8TH CAV  
FIRST CAVALRY DIVISION, VN  
KIA MAY 25, 1969  
HONOR AND COURAGE  
ROANOKE, VIRGINIA



## 9th CAV News

Jim Kurtz

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Because this column is about the 9th Cavalry in all its incarnations, the last issue mentioned a plan to learn how the 1st Squadron went from being “the Cav of the Cav” in Vietnam to the 1st Battalion in today’s Division, and how the reconnaissance mission that once belonged solely to the 1st of the 9th came to be shared with the 4th and the 6th of the 9th.

A Center of Military History Publication by John B. Wilson, *Maneuver and Firepower: The Evolution of Divisions and Separate Brigades* <[https://history.army.mil/html/books/060/60-14-1/cmhPub\\_60-14-1.pdf](https://history.army.mil/html/books/060/60-14-1/cmhPub_60-14-1.pdf)>, describes how in April 1962, Secretary of Defense McNamara wanted the Army to take a new look at employing aircraft, particularly helicopters, in land warfare. The resulting Howze Board (named for its president, then-LTG Hamilton H. Howze) recommended sweeping changes, including the organization of “air assault divisions” to replace airborne divisions; air cavalry combat brigades for classic screening, reconnoitering, and delaying actions, to include employing attack helicopters in an anti-tank role; more aircraft for infantry, mechanized infantry, and armored divisions; and the formation of aviation units for corps, army, and special warfare units.

Continental Army Command, the ancestor of today’s FORSCOM and TRADOC, developed tables of organization for an air assault division, which the Army decided to test. The 11th Air Assault Division (formerly the 11th Airborne Division) was activated as the test unit in February 1963, at Fort Benning, Georgia. Joining the 11th Air Assault Division was an experimental air cavalry squadron, the 3rd Squadron, 17th Cavalry. In October-November 1964, the experimental division, including 3,250 Soldiers from the Benning-based 2d Infantry Division, conducted full-scale tests of air assault tactics. The test team concluded that the unit should be added to the permanent force structure.

The Air Force, which had watched the growth of Army aviation with increasing concern, didn’t like the idea. The Air Force apparently felt that airmobility infringed on its ground support mission. Secretary McNamara disagreed, and directed the formation of an airmobile division as part of the permanent force. The Army selected the 1st Cavalry Division to become the first airmobile division (the book doesn’t say why the 11th Air Assault Division wasn’t chosen). The 1st Cav was stationed in Korea at the time, so Troops and materiel remained in place there while unit Colors moved back and forth. In Korea, what had been the 1st Cavalry Division was reflagged as the 2d Infantry Division, while at Fort Benning, the assets of the 2d Infantry Division and the experimental 11th Air Assault Division were used to form the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile).

For a squadron reunion at Fort Rucker in October 2000, the late Bert Chole produced a historical summary of the 1st of the 9th’s Vietnam Years. His account says the 11th Air Assault Division became the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) on 16 June 1965, and the 3rd Squadron, 17th Cavalry became the 1st Squadron, 9th (Air) Cavalry the same day.

The Airmobile Division proved its ability to concentrate men and firepower on the Vietnamese battlefield, and the Army planned to organize a second airmobile division as early as 1966. However, execution was delayed until 1968 because of the aviation needs of other combat units in Vietnam and the general shortage of aviation equipment. After the 101st Airborne Division arrived in Vietnam, USARV (US Army, Vietnam) began converting the division to an airmobile configuration, a process that took over a year to complete. *The Evolution of Divisions and Separate Brigades* says that once the 101st was reorganized as an airmobile unit, “confusion and contention reigned over its designation.” Instructions from Washington renamed it the 101st Infantry Division (Airmobile), but officers in Vietnam (and more than likely, “Screaming Eagle” Veterans all over America) opposed the change. After much discussion, the Army Staff sent new instructions to name both the 101st Airborne Division and the 1st Cavalry Division as “air cavalry,” but that didn’t sit well either. In July 1968, General Westmoreland, who by then was the Army Chief of Staff, directed that the divisions retain their historic designations. Thus the 1st Cav Division’s reconnaissance squadron, the 1st of the 9th, could rightfully claim sole possession of the title, “Cav of the Cav.”

On 8 June 1969, President Nixon announced that 25,000 men would be withdrawn from Vietnam as part of “Vietnamization,” which involved transferring increased responsibility for conducting the war to forces of the Republic of Vietnam. In July 1969, the Colors of the 2nd Brigade, 9th Infantry Division, departed Vietnam for Fort Riley, where the brigade was inactivated. In August the 9th Division base and its 1st Brigade moved to Hawaii, and the 3rd Brigade was reorganized as a separate brigade to continue serving in Vietnam.

In Vietnam, units were not rotated as they are today. Army units deployed to Vietnam stayed “for the duration” while personnel came and went as individual replacements. The tour of duty was a year. Under redeployment policies, company-size and smaller units were inactivated in Vietnam, while battalions and larger units returned to the United States for retention or inactivation. Units selected to leave Vietnam stopped receiving replacements sixty days before their scheduled departure. Personnel whose DEROS (date eligible to return from overseas) was a long way off were reassigned to other units in Vietnam, while some whose DEROS was close enough could qualify for a “drop” and come home with their unit rather than staying a full year. In late 1970, the 1st Cavalry Division was alerted to prepare for redeployment to Fort Hood. Bert Chole’s account says the 1st of the 9th was originally included, but in January 1971, word came down to disregard those instructions, because air cavalry units were to be among the last ones departing. On 26 March 1971, a ceremony was held at Bien Hoa as the 1st Cav’s Colors were cased for shipment to Texas. Next day, the 3rd Brigade was designated a separate brigade, and B Troop, 1st of the 9th was assigned as its reconnaissance element. B Troop was briefly known as H Troop, 16th Cavalry before being redesignated as F Troop, 9th Cavalry—thus continuing the 9th Cavalry as the Cav of the Cav.

On 8 April 1971, the 1st Squadron, 9th Air Cavalry (Minus) was assigned to the 1st Aviation Brigade. The squadron’s last day of combat was 19 May 1971, and on 22 May, a stand-down ceremony was held for the squadron at Di An. The Colors were to leave a month later.

The journey home of the squadron’s Colors is a story best told by two of members of the escort detachment who brought them to Texas. Then-MAJ Bert Chole was a two-tour Veteran of the squadron, so it was altogether fitting and proper that he be the man to lead the 38-man detachment. For the squadron reunion in

October 2000, Bert put the story in writing:

The morning of 21 June 1971 arrived, all morning reports were zeroed out, the barracks were swept out, the Squadron area was transferred back to the Vietnamese Marine Corps, and the last Troopers of the Squadron boarded buses and our small convoy moved out to Bien Hoa.

Our last night in country was memorable. Every man in the detachment was wearing his black Stetson when we arrived at Bien Hoa. 1SG Derald Jackson and I ensured everyone had an assigned bunk for the evening, discussed where we would hold our 0600 formation in the morning, and then turned everyone loose. The Enlisted Men headed for the “EM” club and the Officers headed for the “O” club. In both clubs, as soon as we walked in the door a bell was rung. Since we weren’t going to take off our Stetsons, we bought the bar for the rest of the evening. As the night progressed the booze was flowing like a river and everyone was relaxed. One of the officers came up with the idea that what we needed to do was take a sauna. We all agreed and off we went to this sauna bathhouse they had on post. Upon our arrival we stripped, except for our Cav hats, and jumped into the pool. There was a lot of horseplay in the pool and within minutes the dye from our hats was turning the pool black. With much laughter and an unsteady gait, we returned to the barracks and called it a night.

At 0600 hours the next morning we had a sorry looking group of cavalymen standing in the formation. We boarded the buses and drove to the flight line where we boarded our flight for home. As the wheels came up, I recall thinking, “Another chapter in the history of this squadron has just closed,” as I dozed off to sleep.

We arrived at Travis AFB and as we were moving through the terminal in our khakis and Stetsons, a lady came up to me and wanted to know what Army we were with? The Stetsons we were wearing made her think we were Australians. We boarded a Texas International flight and flew on to Fort Hood, Texas.

What happened when they all got back to Fort Hood is told by **Jeff Cromar**, at the time a Captain and Cobra pilot in A Troop:

The plane landed at a little airport in Temple, Texas late in the afternoon. As the plane was taxiing, we saw a number of Soldiers waiting. MAJ Chole said he didn’t know what this was all about, but that we should fall into formation when we disembarked. The CG of the 1st Cav, MG James C. Smith, and his staff were there, along with a number of others from the Division, as were some 1st Cav band members playing music. The CG went to a microphone that had been set up and welcomed us home. I remember him saying that the 1st of the 9th was the most decorated unit of the 1st Cav in Viet Nam. He had more to say but took one look at us and said we would have a more formal ceremony in a few days, but for now he wanted us to load the Colors and ourselves onto a waiting bus and go to the Fort to get something to eat and some sleep.

By the time we arrived at the barracks they had ready for us, it was well after dark, but we were told the mess hall across the street was open and waiting just for us. We all were starving by then so went over there where the Mess Sergeant greeted each of us with tears in his eyes and told us to help ourselves. They had a grill going outside to BBQ our steaks and there were real potatoes and ice cream. One of the finest meals I’ve ever eaten.

Over the next few days we were issued new fatigues and gear and were told to rest up. Several days later we gathered our stuff and were bused to the parade field where the Troops of the 4th of the 9th Cav (Provisional) were all in formation flying their Colors. The CG made some very nice remarks welcoming the 1st of the 9th home and our Colors were unfurled. The 4th of the 9th Colors were cased and put back into retirement.

Following the ceremony, several UH-1s landed right on the parade field. A deuce-and-a-half with our stuff in it pulled up to the aircraft. GEN Smith then told us to grab our gear and load on the Hueys, as we were all being flown to Dallas Love Field to begin 30 days leave before reporting to our various units.

When the 1st Cav Colors returned to the United States, the Army was planning to test a new air cavalry combat brigade in conjunction with airmobile and armor units. The 1st Armored Division at Fort Hood was designated to be the test unit, but when the 1st Cav returned from Vietnam it replaced the 1st Armored, which was then to be inactivated. Members and Veterans of “Old Ironsides” protested against taking their unit out of the active force, which led GEN Westmoreland, to retain the division on the active rolls by transferring it to Germany, where it replaced the 4th Armored Division. The 1st Cavalry Division, minus its 3d Brigade, which remained in Vietnam, was reorganized at Fort Hood. In June 1972 the last two US combat brigades left Vietnam, the 196th Infantry Brigade and the 3d Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division. The 3rd Brigade rejoined the rest of the division at Fort Hood, replacing the 4th Brigade.

On its return from Vietnam, the 1st Cavalry Division was to evaluate the interaction of armor, mechanized infantry, airmobile infantry, and air cavalry (armed helicopters). With the division combining armor, infantry, and air cavalry in one organization, GEN Westmoreland coined the term “TRICAP” (triple capability) to describe it. The division was to include an air cavalry combat brigade (ACCB). That’s the unit **Jeff Cromar** joined when he came back from leave:

I returned to Fort Hood 30 days later to rejoin the 1st of the 9th Air Cavalry Squadron. I know we had Cobras, Hueys and Scouts, but I can’t remember if we had Blues assigned to us anymore. I don’t think so.

About a year or so later, the 7th of the 17th (Heavy Cav) was formed. It was to be the test bed for new weapons and tactics being developed to fight a conventional war in Europe. The nucleus of the 7th of the 17th was formed by taking some of the Cobra assets and pilots from the 1st of the 9th. I moved to the 7th of the 17th to keep flying Cobras and to participate in the testing activities. We were among the first to try to fly with first-generation night vision goggles and to fire new kinds of rockets.

Next time, we’ll try to track the 9th Cavalry’s journey through TRICAP, the Division Restructuring Study, and Division 86, and its commitment in various forms to the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Jim Kurtz, Apache 03, 1970-71

**See the Witness to War Foundation opportunity pg. 16!**



## 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.

For planning purposes, our schedule of events are as follows:

Check in at the Homewood Suites will be on Monday 10 June. The Hospitality Room will be up and running on Tuesday, 11 June, and you are free to tour the local areas. We have secured a block of tickets for the Cleveland Indians Baseball Game on Wednesday 12 June. We will hold our Business Meeting on Thursday, 13 June at St Teresa's Parish Life Center. After the meeting we will hold our Annual Memorial Service to pay homage to our departed Hard Chargers. On Thursday, 14 June we will be going to downtown Cleveland. We made reservations to have lunch aboard the Good Times Cruise Ship. After lunch, we'll be cruising the inner harbor, and up the river!

The local attractions are as follows:

- 1: Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in downtown Cleveland
- 2: Great Lakes Science Museum next to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame
- 3: The Cleveland Zoo
- 4: A Cleveland Indians Baseball Game
- 5: The US Cod WWII Submarine
- 6: Cedar Point Amusement Park in Sandusky
- 7: A Cruise on the Lake Erie Harbor and the River aboard the "GOOD TIMES" ship

Look for updates in our periodic newsletter in the near future. Hard - Charger ~ Sirs!

1SG Dan Gillotti. End of Mission ~ Out!



## BRIDGING THE GAP:

### SERVANT-LEADERSHIP AND THE ENTREPRENEURIAL DREAM

Greetings 1st Cavalry Division Association Members. My name is Michael and I am the Chairman of the Board of Vet-Com.org. That's right, a Veteran developed educational non-profit designed to Advocate-Mentor-Educate our Veteran Families and the communities they live in. How did a retiring Master Sergeant in Alaska start a second career as a non-profit entrepreneur? Well, the explanation may sound simple, however the time and energy invested came with an exceptional amount of effort, commitment, and humility.

#### 1-The Transition Mine Field:

As a Veteran, I took control of my transition. Three years before to be precise. I communicated with and observed thru those who separated before me, the difficulties of transition and reintegration. Not just for the Veteran but also for their Families, especially their Spouses. I participated in every transitional briefing. Researched the benefits of utilizing my GI Bill. I attended employment search and resume writing classes that focused on translating my years of military jargon into digestible pros for the civilian corporate population. I also investigated the possibility and value of business ownership.

At 48 years old, I was a Master Sergeant stationed in central Alaska. This created a laundry list of difficulties. If the mantra "Location-Location-Location" means anything to you, then you can see how this could have a negative effect to my Family and I. Most notably knowing we were going to retire to the lower 48. The East Tennessee region and 150 miles from the closest active installation. Every resource and informational pipeline I accessed over the last twenty years, would dissolve. What were my choices?

**GI Bill Option-** I wasn't very interested in attending another learning institution. I had already attained a Bachelors in Aeronautical Engineering, a Masters of Aerospace Engineering, and an MBA in Business. Besides, I had decided to transfer this benefit to my son. College was off the table.

**Employment/Resume Option-** Entering the civilian workforce was a solid possibility. I looked at leveraging my future VA rating, to apply for a government services (GS) position or to enter the corporate career field. Quickly discovered that there are a lot of other Veterans just like me out there looking into the same exact thing. Competition is fierce. Personal connections matter. The region I wanted to settle in was neither near a dominant installation, nor were there any personal points of contact I could reach out to for application advise.

**Business Ownership-** This was a possibility. Who hasn't thought about this? Sitting around during countless hours of guard duty, talking to your battle buddy about how to improve a piece of equipment that always broke? A more efficient process? Or to simply start something new. Yep! We've all had this conversation at one point or another. Owning a business would allow me to focus on what I wanted to do, and not what someone else required me to do. But unlike a 9 to 5 desk job with guaranteed and predictable income, going out "on my own" could prove to either be rewarding or maybe even a bridge too far...or both!

#### 2-Committing To A Plan:

While creating our business concept, my wife and I took the initiative and traveled to the place we would call home. I researched the local economy. I wanted to know what the dominant industries that were in place. An auto maker, a solar panel manufacturing facility, and a globally known candy company. The work force was primarily middle class in income. 39K per household on average. I collected all the known economic data that I could.

While interacting with the government and state organizations commissioned with knowing and sharing the exact information needed for Veterans to start their own business, I discovered an immense knowledge void. Organizations designed

## 1st CAVALRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION HISTORIAN

**Clifford Boxley**  
 crboxley@hotmail.com

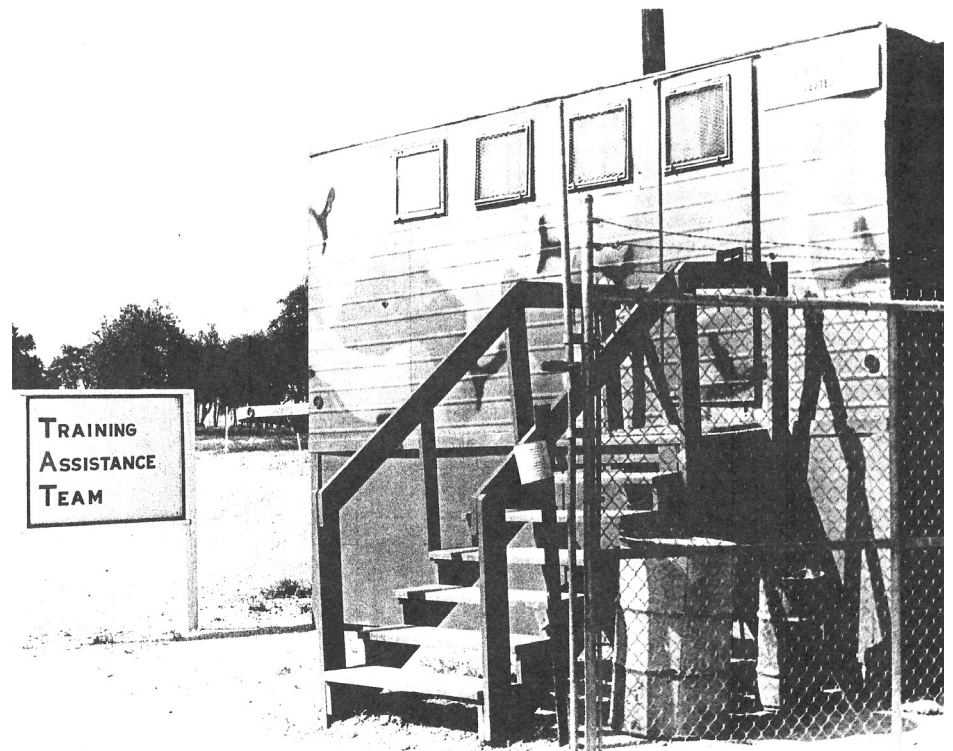


### Training Assistance Team 1st Cavalry Division, 1979 Division Headquarters G-3 Section

The Training Assistance Team was made up of several different sections:

- 1.) TGAT- Tank Gunnery Assistance Team which operated the mini-tank range complex along with tank tables VII and VIII. This team had 12 NCO's assigned, they also taught gunnery classes.
- 2.) Tow/Dragon Team taught and evaluated Tow and Dragon Weapon System Teams.
- 3.) Mortar Gunnery Team taught and evaluated 4.2-inch mortar crews in the division.

A lot of responsibility for just 17 Soldiers, but all NCO's.



in supporting our Veteran population were at best lethargic in action and ineffective. The very organizations charged with providing this knowledge were not prepared, uninformed, and reluctant in researching up the chain to provide the right answers. Outside the spheres of influence of the Garrison and Installation, Veterans and their Families are not the primary focus of local economy. This is a massive hurdle for any Veteran to overcome.

#### 3-How can Vet-Com.org help you:

With all that stated and experienced, I decided to take a direct Servant-Leader approach and provide the proper information to our Veteran Community. This is how the concept of The Veteran Entrepreneurial Training Command, Vet-Com.org, a 501(C)(3) was formed. By sharing what I had learned as an MBA graduate and applying practical experience in creating and maintaining a profitable business, Vet-Com can help you research and develop your marketable skill and turn an idea into a thriving business concept.

**Advocate-Mentor-Educate:** Vet-Com has provided an educational conduit to 45 Veterans and their Families so that they may realize their entrepreneurial dreams by assisting them with the reintegration process back to the communities they call home. Vet-Com continually communicates with local and national Chambers of Commerce, Federal and State Government agencies, and local business owners in the constant search for new and accessible programs that will assist and elevate the development of the Veteran Owned Business. In partnership with organizations of higher learning, Vet-Com continually updates and provides a complete, common sense approach to the knowledge and education process for all of our student Veterans.

**Our Mission:** The Veteran Entrepreneurial Training Command (VET-COM.org) mission is to enrich opportunities for Veterans, their spouse, and dependent adult children in the entrepreneurial market place, enhance the economic development of our communities, and prevent unemployment and homelessness by providing an educational conduit to inspire our United States Military Veterans.

**Our Curriculum:** Vet-Com has developed a simple, direct approach to helping you develop and launch your business goals. This free 9-week program provides the essential tools and understanding needed to succeed in your entrepreneurial endeavor. Written and presented in easy to digest segments, Vet-com translates the day to day use of business jargon to allow you to follow the course structure without being distracted. Research into NAICS Codes, SAMs application, and Marketing Techniques of your product or service are just some highlights into what you can expect with the Veteran-Preneur Program. At the completion of the course, you will have a solid, formalized business plan that you can use as a source document for formal loans, grant applications, and cultivating investor relations.

**Eligibility is Simple:** Your service to our nation is your access. The same standard applies to your spouse and your adult children ages 18-26 years old. Your GI Bill eligibility benefits are not required for the Vet-Com program. Sign up at <www.Vet-Com.org/enrollment> or call 833-838-2661.

Thank you and Vet-Com.org looks forward to the opportunity to help you with your entrepreneurial journey.

Michael J. MacDonald <www.Vet-Com.org> 833-838-2661





The President of the  
United States of America,

authorized by Act of Congress, 9 July 1918,

(amended by act of 25 July 1963)

has awarded the  
Distinguished Service Cross to:

SERGEANT  
DANIEL E. COWART

UNITED STATES ARMY



For extraordinary heroism while engaged in an action against an enemy of the United States while serving as a gunner with Company D, 3d Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment on 13 May 2007 in Iraq. During the conduct of a combat patrol along a main supply route, Sergeant Cowart's platoon halted to conduct a traffic checkpoint. When the occupants of a stopped vehicle would not exit their vehicle, Sergeant Cowart and three of his comrades dismounted their vehicle and approached the stopped vehicle and took positions to engage with the occupants. While they were near the vehicle, the occupants burst from the vehicle, one wielding a rifle which he fired at two of the nearby Soldiers and the other wearing a suicide vest. As the rifle wielding insurgent was engaged by another Soldier, Sergeant Cowart maneuvered around the vehicle and engaged the suicide vest wearing insurgent in hand to hand combat, tackling the man and hurling himself and the man away from the vehicle. Despite the confusion, the insurgent detonated his vest, thereby traumatically wounding Sergeant Cowart. Due to his ability to discern the threat to his comrades and his utter disregard for his own safety, Sergeant Cowart was able to prevent further injury to his fellow Soldiers and nearby civilians. Sergeant Cowart's actions are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service, and reflect great credit upon himself, the 8th Cavalry Regiment, and the United States Army

WANTED:

My name is James Pontz and I served in Vietnam with the Cav in the First Forward Platoon, 15th S&S BN from July 1966 thru July 1967, five months as an ammo supply man and after that I served in clothing and equipment supply. I'm trying to locate others who served with the unit during that time period. I would like to have some assistance in clarifying the names of the various towns, LZ's, firebases, etc. where the platoon was located. Most of the men in the unit went by the first names or nicknames and I never really got to know many of them, where they lived, etc. I do recall a few names including SGT Riley (PA), Keel (Chicago), Dick Turner (Flomatin, AL) and Charlie Meade (VA) but that's about it. I have tried to locate these men without success. On my fourth day in country, the platoon was sent by convoy out to the Cambodian border where we were at a mountain village for about a month. I recall that it rained almost the entire time we were there. I do not know the name of this village. The balance of my time in country, the unit moved all around the highlands with a good bit of the time spent at an LZ at Phu Cat. One time we were sent up north to I Corps to assist at a Marine Firebase that was under heavy attack. I do not know the name of that base either. Even if you cannot help me with names of these locations, I would still love to hear from you. Thank you.

SP4, James (J.C.) Pontz, Member of the James Unruh, Central PA Chapter <jcpontz@yahoo.com>, 717-725-3131.



I am trying to find the very good friend that I graduated from OCS at Fort Knox then to Jungle Training in Panama. We split at the 90th Replacement Station in Saigon in 1967. I left first to go to the 3/4 CAV. He, 1LT Richard Gregg, I found out later, went to the 1/8 Air Cav. The last address I have for him is: ADV tm 37Mat.tm.25, Song Mao, APO SF 96317

That is over 50 years ago. I served in Charlie Troop, 3/4 CAV, 25TH Infantry Div. I have tried many times to find him to no avail. His first assignment in Viet Nam was as an Infantry Platoon Leader, E Company 1/8 Air Cav in June 1968. He was in A sham Valley, Quang Tri and around Hue. I cannot find anything that says he died, and I can't find anything in Torrence, CA which is where he lived. Can you help me or point me in a direction? I am at 408-838-4275. I will appreciate anything you can do.

Thank you, M. Steven Prehm <sprehm@reagan.com>



I was a crewchief on UH1-D for 6mo in General Support and 6mo in C company 227th Assault Helicopter Bn 1st Cav. I would like to get in touch with my pilot CPT Germani and door gunner Tom Umbaugh from Marion, Ohio or anyone who knows anything about them. CPT Germani, if still living could tell some tales. Best pilot I ever had the pleasure of flying with and there were several. That was while in 227th. <alawa2@att.net>

First, allow me to introduce myself & then tell you about the reason I am contacting you. I am a member of the Jewish War Veterans of the USA and a Vietnam Vet (1<sup>st</sup> Cav December 69-70). Our national organization has a Vietnam Veterans Committee of which I am currently the chairman (I am also a life member of VVA). The JWV Vietnam Veterans Committee has an on-going project to collect the military stories of Jewish military personnel who served during the Vietnam Era (1959-1975) regardless of whether they were in Nam or wherever Uncle Sam sent them. We have plans to publish the stories on disc with all profits going to JWV's museum at our National HQ in Washington. The official name of the museum is the National Museum of American Jewish Military History.

Here is what I am requesting. Please put a notice in your organization's publication, soliciting the following:

1. Military story of Jewish personnel (1959-1975).
2. Make it 1.5-2 pages discussing whatever you feel comfortable writing about.
3. Include, if possible, a "then" photo & a "now" photo.
4. Be assured that nobody is going to make any personal profit. Once your story is on the disc (We are getting ready to start a second disc), all profits will go to our museum.
5. Your story and photos may be e-mailed to me at: <conrailbob2003@yahoo.com>
6. If you have any questions, feel free to call me (Bob Jacobs) at 732-691-6139.

PURPLE HEART RECOGNITION



As a Purple Heart Recipient of the 1/7<sup>th</sup> C Company, Tet Offensive 1968, I am proud to continuously promote the Purple Heart Medal. By doing so I feel the over million military men and women killed, and millions wounded in all of America's wars will always be honored.

As NYS Assemblyman David Dipietro works with American Legion, post 632 and Sahlen Meat Company to purchase a Vietnam Moving Wall for permanent display at East Aurora's Knox Farm State Park. We are so fortunate to have dedicated businessmen and an elected official to honor our fallen military. We local Purple Heart Recipients look forward to having a Purple Heart Display as part of the wall display to promote recognition for Purple Heart Recipients, active military and all Veterans to appreciate.

Russell D. Ward 151 Glendale Drive Tonawanda, NY 716-587-1120 <russbuis@aol.com>



2019 72<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL REUNION OF THE 1<sup>st</sup> 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:

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



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.





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 1CDA: Y / N

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY/STATE/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
NICKNAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact #: \_\_\_\_\_  
  
Unit#1: \_\_\_\_\_  
Unit#2: \_\_\_\_\_  
Unit#3: \_\_\_\_\_  
  
Gold Star FM: \_\_\_\_\_

Is this your first 1CDA 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	
<b>THURSDAY JUNE 6</b>			
Ladies Tea		\$40.00	
Welcome Mixer		\$25.00	
<b>FRIDAY JUNE 7</b>			
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
<b>SATURDAY JUNE 8</b>			
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			
<b>SUNDAY JUNE 9</b>			
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) 989-7630  
KenWhite68@yahoo.com

announced that this year's procession will mark the final year of the ride in the nation's capital. In a recent statement, Artie Muller, founder/Executive Director of the group said "Rolling Thunder XXXII, scheduled for 2019 Memorial Day Weekend, will be the final Thunder Run in D.C. Its Organization and Mission need to be reorganized and reevaluated as a result of changing times. Reasons that led to this decision were the continued lack of cooperation and increased harassment of our supporters by the Pentagon Security Force and the Washington, D.C. police."

Rolling Thunder began in 1987 in the nation's capital after Muller, who served in Vietnam as an infantry sergeant, sought to call attention by way of a demonstration to Veterans in need and POWs. The first procession was held on the 1988 Memorial Day Weekend. Approximately 2,500 motorcyclists from across the country converged on Washington, D.C. to demand from our government leaders a full accounting of all POW/MIAs. The number of participants and spectators for the procession has grown significantly since then to an estimated 900,000.



Photo caption: Rolling Thunder Leaving Fairfax Patriot Harley for Pre-ride to Pentagon (2018)

Department of Defense spokeswoman Sue Gaugh said that "the Pentagon is prepared to support the 2019 Rolling Thunder ride as we have for the last 31 years." D.C. police said in a separate statement that the department "welcomes those who come here to exercise their First Amendment rights in a safe and peaceful manner."

"Rolling Thunder is not going away," Zaleski said. "In the future, it will continue outside Washington, D.C. in regional events organized by state chapters." Rolling Thunder is a spectacle like no other in the world. It is uniquely American. It is a display of patriotism and a show of respect for all who have served in our military, and it is a reminder to our government leaders by way of a demonstration that our country should never again abandon its service members like it did in the Vietnam War.

On a different note, I recently received a call from **Harvey Claypoole** (1970-71), North Olmsted, Ohio. We got talking about some of the missions he was on and he mentioned that he served on LRRP/Ranger Team 22 and was there when team leader SSGT Tim Harper died. Team 22 operated out of Phuoc Vinh, a former 1st Infantry Division brigade base, in Phouc Long Province, which was the 1st Cav's main base camp in III Corps. In addition to Harvey and SSGT Harper, the other team members were Sam Dixon, New Castle, Delaware; assistant team leader James Doyle (deceased 1978); Charles Monroe, High Point, North Carolina; and, Richard Wall (deceased 2016).

(**Harvey Claypoole** and **Sam Dixon** provided the following account of Team 22's February 15th mission. The times are from the 2nd Brigade AAR.) On the afternoon of February 15, 1971, at 1240 hours, LRRP/Ranger Team 22 was inserted into War Zone D in Phouc Long Province, along the Cambodian border, north of the Fishhook area, for the purpose of reconnoitering a major trail leading out of Cambodia into South Vietnam. The trail was suspected of being an important North Vietnamese transportation route that linked the Ho Chi Minh Trail in Cambodia with Communist occupied territories in the Saigon area. It was 12-18 feet wide and was mostly covered with woven mats of bamboo leaves.

The mission was uneventful until the night of February 16th when the team set-up a night defensive position on a hilltop near the trail. During the night, the team members heard voices and splashing and monitored an enemy unit of unknown size in a draw located below their position. The draw was heavily forested and provided concealment from aerial observation. At daybreak on the morning of February 17th, the team moved down the hill on a small dirt trail towards the location where the enemy unit had camped overnight. SSGT Tim Harper was walking point. Halfway down the hill at 0730 hours, the team members spotted three individuals coming up the trail towards them. They were wearing mixed khaki uniforms and were carrying AK-47s. SSGT Harper initiated contact by rifle fire with the enemy soldiers and the other team members opened up on them with their M-16s. Rear scout Monroe fired several 40mm grenades at the enemy soldiers, one of which struck some overhead jungle canopy and exploded scattering fragments back at him wounding him. During the firefight, RTO Dixon called in the contact to a radio relay station and requested helicopter gunship support and a ready reaction force. The 1/9th Cav Blues were dispatched to the site but were redirected in flight to another friendly unit that was in contact and needed immediate reinforcement - LRRP/Ranger Team 61. The enemy soldiers broke contact at 0945 hours and maneuvered back down the trail.

Team 22 continued to move towards the enemy camp. On the trail they found three NVA backpacks filled with enemy supplies and one AK-47. The enemy camp turned out to be a sizeable bunker complex next to a river along the Cambodian border.

SSGT Harper notified brigade of the situation and the team continued moving

Hello from the nation's capital. Rolling Thunder, Inc., the nonprofit group that organizes the Rolling Thunder motorcycle procession on Memorial Day Weekend in Washington, D.C., has

along the trail in the direction of a possible pickup zone (PZ) with Harper walking point. Whether it was a chance encounter or a counter ambush, the North Vietnamese soldiers spotted Harper as he rounded a clump of bamboo thickets at the exit of the bunker complex and opened fire on him, hitting him with multiple small arms rounds. One of the rounds hit the wooden stock of the AK-47 rifle he was carrying. It went through the stock and through his hand. Several other rounds hit him in the lower abdomen/pelvic area. The team members were forced to drop back into the scattered bunkers. RTO Dixon called in the second contact and requested immediate medical extraction for Harper.



**SSGT Timothy V. Harper**  
(KIA 2/17/71)

SSGT Harper was out of sight on the trail bleeding badly and was unable to maneuver back around the bamboo thickets and link up with the other team members. Doyle assumed leadership of the team at that time and relayed the situation to brigade. Claypoole was able to maneuver along the trail towards Harper and eventually reached him. He was able to drag him back into the bunker complex and out of the line of fire while Wall maintained suppressive fire on the enemy position. At 1015 hours, the brigade quick reaction force (QRF), Bravo Company, 1/8th Cav, was alerted to move by helicopter to the site.

With Harper recovered, Team 22 established a defensive position in the bunker complex. Doyle continued to relay information to brigade. Shortly afterwards, a LOH from the 1/9th Cav arrived on station at tree top level and made several attempts to extract Harper but received intense enemy ground fire each time and was forced to exit the area. Helicopter gunships from the 1/9th Cav and aerial rocket gunships from the 2/20th ARA arrived on station and directed suppressive fire on the enemy positions. A Dustoff then arrived and was able to lower a jungle penetrator to the ground and lift out Harper. He was transported to a field hospital at FSB Buttons. On the way to the field hospital, the pilot of the Dustoff radioed Team 22 to inform us that Tim died in flight to the hospital from his wounds at 1046 hours.

Brigade instructed the team to maintain its current position in the bunker complex while the Bravo, 1/8th Cav Troops moved to its position. There were no clearings nearby for the helicopters to land - other than the PZ further up the trail which was now covered with enemy soldiers - so the 1/8th Troopers were forced to repel down ropes to the jungle floor under the cover of a 1/9th Cav Pink team. They immediately set cutting charges to trees in order to create an LZ/PZ for the rest of the QRF to get on the ground.

At 1118 hours, the QRF linked up with the team in the bunker complex. A sweep of the area produced assorted clothing, enemy web gear, grenades, and numerous rounds of ammunition. Team 22 was extracted at 1453 hours along with the QRF.

Once back at Phouc Vinh, the team members were informed that they most likely encountered a point element of a battalion-size North Vietnamese unit that had just crossed the border into South Vietnam. Over the next couple of days, the area was heavily bombed and units of the 1st Cav were inserted into the area to drive the remaining North Vietnamese soldiers back into Cambodia.

Sam Dixon commented "Over the years, Harvey and I have realized that the February 15th mission could easily have resulted in a very different outcome. Without the help of the helicopter gunships from the 1/9th Cav and 2/20th ARA, and the Bravo Company, 1/8th Cav QRF, the members of Team 22 most likely would not have gotten out of there and survived."

On a different note, the following email was received from **Robert S. Taylor II**, Bowling Green, Kentucky. "My name is Robert S. Taylor II. My father, **CSM Robert S. Taylor** (deceased) served as **1SG with Hotel Company, 75th Rangers**, from December 1971 through April 1972. LTC Bill Anton was acquainted with him. In fact, they served together. About 15 years ago, I traveled to Las Vegas and met with LTC Anton. Unfortunately, I was not far enough along in my research of my dad's career to ask pointed, intelligent questions. It is my understanding that LTC Anton passed away since then."

"I am wondering if there may be anyone in the Association who may have known my father and could provide me with information about his time with Hotel Company. Thank you in advance for any consideration you may be able to provide on my quest for information. Sincerely, Robert S. Taylor II 270-784-0700."

The following email was received from **Jim Regan** (1968-69), Lexington, Kentucky: "Doc Gilcrest (1967-68), had emergency aneurism surgery on Tuesday, January 29th, had a heart attack on Wednesday, and had emergency bypass surgery on Thursday. He is still in the hospital and needs our continued prayers. His wife, Katey, says that, perhaps, he'll be discharged next week. She said they were talking about a nursing home for Doc, but she said NO WAY, she'll take him home. There's a 22 yr old grandson to help her at home. She said David Russell, (reckon that's our J.D. Russell (1967-68), Ft. Worth, Texas) was in to visit them. Maybe we can start planning a get together at our reunion in June to visit Doc & Katey. Don't want to get him too excited though. Please pass the word for our folks to keep Doc & Katey in our prayers. Thanks, and stay warm and dry. Jim RLW/L&P."

Finally, I hope to see everyone in Washington, D.C. on the 2019 Memorial Day Weekend, and remember, this year's Rolling Thunder ride marks the final ride in the nation's capital. You don't want to miss it.

RANGERS LEAD THE WAY

**Help us recruit,  
make sure those that you served with in the Division  
are also members of the  
1st Cavalry Division Association!**



# SABER

## CHAPTER INDEX

**ALMOST HEAVEN  
WEST VIRGINIA**  
POC: Jim Hays  
713 Diamond St.  
P.O. Box 97  
French Creek, WV 26218-0097  
(304) 924-6380  
Email: purplehays\_05@yahoo.com  
Facebook: Almost Heaven Chapter  
1st Cavalry Division Association-  
West Virginia

**CALIFORNIA  
CENTRAL COAST**  
Pres: Barney B. Jones  
P.O. Box 444  
Pebble Beach, CA 93953  
(831) 917-5952  
Email: firstcav-cc-chapter@outlook.com

**COLUMBIA-WILLAMETTE**  
Pres: Terry Low  
16560 S Harding Rd.  
Oregon City, OR 97045-9679  
(503) 210-5558  
Email: tangolima2505@comcast.net  
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.  
Colchester, CT 06415-1009  
(860) 537-1716  
Email: kpmoyerco@hotmail.com  
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.  
El Paso, TX 79924-3047  
(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 H. UNRUH  
CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA**  
Pres: Michael T. Mazzaro  
2600 Willow St. Pike North  
PMB 231  
Willow Street, PA 17584  
(717) 389-1000  
Email: cenpenn1cda@gmail.com  
Meets on 3rd Thursday of odd number months at 7pm, at the Blue Rock Fire Co., Station #1, 1697 Temple Ave, West Lancaster, PA 17603

**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 MUSTANGS 1-8 Cav**  
Pres: Harvey Auger  
4825 King Arthur Dr  
Charlotte, NC 28277-0052  
(704) 321-2011  
E-mail: ltauger@aol.com  
POC: James C. Knafel  
5510E - 500 South  
Columbia City, IN 46725-7621  
(260) 244-3864  
Email: jjknafel@gmail.com  
Website: www.JumpingMustangs.com

**KETTLE MORaine**  
Pres: Gordon Weidner  
1219 Cleveland Ave.  
Racine, WI 53405-2929  
(262) 637-3835  
POC: Robert Richter  
W204 N11945 Goldendale Rd.  
Germantown, WI 53022-2321  
(262) 628-8056  
Meetings held at 3-month intervals with a banquet dinner in Dec when elections are held.



**LOS ANGELES/  
ORANGE COUNTY**  
Pres: John Guillery  
780 Mandevilla Way  
Corona, CA 92879-8251  
(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

**LRPP/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 Re-unions.

**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 630-841-1452  
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

**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  
7923 Jansen Dr.  
Springfield, VA 22152-2413  
(703) 220-5322  
Email: enrussell@msn.com  
Facebook: 1<sup>st</sup> 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

P.O. Box 5774 Fort Hood, TX 76544-0774  
Phone: 254-532-2075 FAX: 254-532-6490

**NEW  
HOURS!**

E-mail: 1stcavgiftshop@gmail.com  
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*The Crossed Sabers Chapter Souvenir Gift Shop is a Non-Profit Organization. Net income is distributed to the Association for the Scholarship Program, to the Soldier Travel Fund, which allows active duty Soldiers of the Division to attend away Reunions as guests of the Association, and to the 1st Cavalry Division Museum.*  
*The shop accepts telephone orders with payment by MASTERCARD, VISA, DISCOVER or AMERICAN EXPRESS credit cards or you can order online using your credit cards.*

#### Printed Catalogs Are Available For Purchase!

Send \$3.00 to the ASSOCIATION located at: 302 N. Main St., Copperas Cove, TX 76522-1703.  
Make your check out to 1st Cavalry Division Association.

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1 per person

Expires: May 31, 2019

Excludes Stetsons & Consignment items

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](http://www.1CDA.org)!



From the  
Director's Desk

Office of 1CDA

WE SUPPORT



UNITED STATES ARMY  
SOLDIER FOR LIFE

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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division. “Once Cav, Always Cav.... First Team.”

The next *Saber* newspaper is the  
May/June 2019 edition.

Deadline for submissions of your stories or photos is  
**Wednesday, 1 May 2019**

Please email to [Programs@1CDA.org](mailto:Programs@1CDA.org)

**ACTIVE DUTY SCHOLARSHIPS**

Must be member of 1st Cavalry Division Association  
Must be assigned to Division for length of grant, not be on orders or ETS  
Need Letter of recommendation from Command Team

Accepting Applications: 1 Apr - 31 Jul 2019 **ONLY**  
This grant encompasses Fall 2019, Spring & Summer 2020

All selected applicants will receive  
letter of acceptance by 2 Sept 19

**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 many even reconnect with a few.

Email your stories to [programs@1CDA.org](mailto: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](mailto:Programs@1CDA.org)

**WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!**

Do you have a long lost story to tell, perhaps you want to share an old photo of you and your battle buddy?

Share your treasured thoughts with your  
1st Cavalry Division Association Family

Feel free to submit to [Programs@1CDA.org](mailto:Programs@1CDA.org)

**2019 CALENDAR DONATIONS**

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

E-4 HESTER, Robert  
E-2 ROTHERMEL, L. Kehl

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](mailto:Martin@WitnessToWar.org) or 770-628-0024, or visit [www.WitnessToWar.org](http://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**. The Division has some great events planned for you, our Veterans!

As of now, events for 6 June 19 are as follows:

10AM Horse Cavalry Detachment Demonstration

DIVARTY Radar Static Display

Possibly an opportunity to get ya'll into the Simulators!

Stay tuned for further information as it comes available to us!

**1CDA STAFF**



Dara C. Wydler: Executive Director  
<[FirstCav@1CDA.org](mailto:FirstCav@1CDA.org)>

Tina Wilgeroth: Program Director / Editor / Graphics  
<[Programs@1CDA.org](mailto:Programs@1CDA.org)>

Karleen Maloney: Memberships / Scholarships / Chapter Coordinator  
<[Memberships@1CDA.org](mailto:Memberships@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 again from '66-'67 15th MED Veteran **Earl Kinard**. Of course, it was in response to my last *Saber* column mention of him. I cannot do him justice

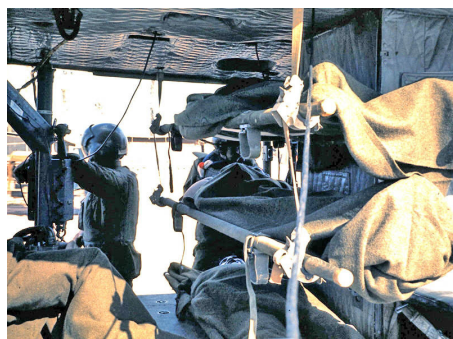
because he has so much to say. To get it all correct you would have to talk to him. Again, he can be reached at 202-441-0363. He says he is now retired so he would be glad to talk to anyone.

Earl went on with a list of the professionals in the 1st Cav with whom he had worked with and for. His allegiance to the 1st Cav is unending. I mentioned that Earl was not assigned to a 1st Cav combat unit as a Medic, but he stressed that the sierra was hitting the fan everywhere when he was there. What the 15th MED was doing for the 1st Cav was of extreme importance.



**MEDEVAC coming in for wounded A Shau '68**

started in Dec '67. We had the 1st of 102nd 101 airborne company there also. I was wounded on Jan 31st, 1968. Our LZ was around Quang Tri. Somewhere. Can't remember exactly where or the name. MAJ Gardner was our commanding officer. I was MEDEVACed to LZ Jane. Then to 1st Marine hospital at Da Nang, then to the USS Constitution hospital ship in Da Nang harbor. From there to the Air Force hospital at Cam Ranh Bay for about thirty days. That's why I use the 'Vet tet '68.' Then I was sent stateside, ended up at Valley Forge General Hospital. All this time I was still with the 1st Cav. All my records were misplaced as I was being moved so much. Got dismissed from the hospital and was given orders to 226th MPs Fort Ben Harrison, IN where I discharged August '68. That's when I finally got all my back pay. Until then I was only receiving parts coal pay. You can check the Cav after action reports to see how close I'm on the dates and units the 2nd FSE (FSB) was with. We were with the HHQ & HHQ Band and Support Command."



**MEDEVAC patient backhaul Phouc Vinh to Long Binh**

From the FINAL DEROS page, a recent passing is:

**Raymond D. Kinnard**, CPT, Medical Service Corps, of Engelwood, CO passed away on 25 December 2018. Ray served as a MEDEVAC pilot with the 15th Medical Battalion in Vietnam from May '67- May '68. I see no pilot call sign for him on the list so I cannot add it here.

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

## 12th CAV NEWS

### Continued from pg. 6

If you notice a difference in your loved one after return from combat, it might be worth talking about. 'Normal' is different for everyone, but there are signs a Veteran may need help. Examples are sleep problems, feeling down or depressed, becoming easily angered or withdrawn, difficulties at work or in personal relationships, excessive drinking or drug use, or reckless driving. It can be hard to tell someone you think they need to seek help. It can be difficult to say what you mean if you are worried. It can be hard for someone to listen if he or she is anxious, or even angry. Encourage your loved one to get treatment. Every VA medical center offers effective, evidence-based treatments in the form of talk therapy and medication." <Content.GovDelivery.Com>.

**2208 2.4.2019** "Stroke is the leading cause of serious, long-term adult disability in the U.S. The effects of a stroke range from mild to severe and can include paralysis, problems with thinking, difficulty with speaking, and emotional problems. Stroke is preventable and treatable. A better understanding of the causes of stroke has helped Americans make lifestyle changes that have cut the stroke death rate nearly in half. Some risk factors for stroke you can't control are increasing age, gender, family history and race. The best treatment for stroke is prevention. The following risk factors can be managed with lifestyle changes, such as diet, exercise and medications, if needed. • High blood pressure or hypertension is the leading cause of stroke and the most significant controllable risk factor. If you have been diagnosed with high blood pressure, work with your provider to reduce it. • Smoking/cigarette smoking is the number one preventable risk factor for stroke. Using oral contraceptives combined with cigarette smoking greatly increases stroke risk. • Physical inactivity and obesity can increase your risk of stroke, heart disease, high blood pressure, diabetes and high blood cholesterol. • Eat healthy. Limit foods high in saturated fat, trans fat and cholesterol. Diets high in sodium can increase blood pressure, and diets with high calories can lead to obesity. • Diabetes. If you have Type 1 or Type 2 diabetes, keep blood sugar controlled. Having diabetes increases one's risk for stroke. • Illegal drug use/cocaine and heroin use have been associated with an increased risk of stroke. Talk to your doctor about your personal risk factors for having a stroke. Comprehensive information about stroke prevention and treatment can be found on the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke website:" <Ninds.Nih.Gov>. <Health.Mil/News>.

**2400 Journal** closed. "Before you're married, it's sugar and pie. After you're married, it's root hog, or die!" - June Carter. Semper Paratus! Write if you get work.

## THE HICCUP - Health Care Information Committee Report

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### Disabled Veterans Now Eligible for Space-A Travel

The 2019 National Defense Authorization Act was recently signed, which included a measure that will allow fully-disabled Veterans the ability to utilize Space-Available travel.

Under the Disabled Veterans Access to Space-A Travel Act, Veterans with a service-connected, permanent disability rating of 100 percent will be able to travel in the Continental United States or directly between the CONUS and Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, and American Samoa (Guam and American Samoa travelers may transit Hawaii or Alaska); or traveling within Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, or the U.S. Virgin Islands on flights operated by Air Mobility Command (AMC).

Prior to this authorization, only military retirees, meaning those with a blue DD Form 2, and current service members were entitled to this benefit. This legislation was originally introduced by the House Veterans Affairs Committee in 2016.

According to lawmakers, this proposal will allow travel on Space-A at no additional cost to the Department of Defense and without aircraft modifications. Additionally, data from the Government Accountability Office noted that roughly 77 percent of space-available seats in 2011 were occupied by only 2.3 percent of the 8.4 million eligible individuals for the program.

Travelers should contact their local Passenger Terminal for further details and review travel information found on the AMC Travel Page for specific details on the Space A travel program. <<https://www.amc.af.mil/Home/AMC-Travel-Site/>>

**Remember:** Passengers seeking Space-Available or Space-A travel must keep in mind that there is No Guarantee you will be selected for a seat. Be aware that Space-A travelers must be prepared to cover commercial travel expenses if flight schedules are changed or become unavailable to allow Space-A travel. Per DODI 4515.13, Section 4, Paragraph 4.1.a, Reservations: There is no guarantee of transportation, and reservations will not be accepted or made for any space-available traveler. The DOD is not obligated to continue an individual's travel or return the individual to the point of origin or any other point. Travelers should have sufficient personal funds to pay for commercial transportation, lodging, and other expenses if space-available transportation is not available.

**Bottom Line:** If you have a 100% disability rating and want to travel cheap, this is an option. But you need to make sure you are in no hurry and have money to cover expenses if you need to come back commercially.

## 8 CAV NEWS

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donation barrels, and various fund-raisers at the local, state and national levels. We are currently raising funds to purchase the commercial property at 165 N. Main Street, Mooresville, NC, which is four times our current facility size, because of our growth and because it is ideally located in the heart of downtown directly across from the original coffee shop. We see the need to create a state-of-the-art media center to further exhibit the growing collection of artifacts and electronic media. Our goal is to provide both an exhibit and meeting resource for the many groups with which we are involved and a place for shared media events. These goals will ensure better communication and exposure within the various Veterans groups and the general media such as WBTV and WSOC television, DOD, WBT and WHIP radio, with local stores and shops, and regional magazines, newspapers and websites. Our press releases would then reflect a broader, better coordinated exposure for all the groups. At some further date, our history has shown, this will naturally expand to such names as CNN, Fisher House, <Military.com> and the Library of Congress because of our involvement with other Veterans groups. We were recently covered in Time Magazine. We further plan to extend our current presence through our website at <WelcomeVets.com>, on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and through web link sharing with our sponsors and other community groups."

I am pleased that we can highlight another great organization serving Veterans. Thanks, Doug, for bringing it to our attention. If you are ever near Mooreville, NC it might be well worth your time to stop by Richard's Coffee Shop. Additional information on this unique gathering spot can be obtained at their website: <[www.WelcomeVets.com](http://www.WelcomeVets.com)>, email: <[welcomeVets@gmail.com](mailto:welcomeVets@gmail.com)>, by calling 774-663-0488, or writing them at 165 North Main ST, Mooreville, NC 28115 Hope to see you in Killeen. Honor and Courage!

## DIRECTOR'S CHAIR

### Continued from pg. 1

wife Sara. Several Board members were able to attend the luncheon along with MG Calvert and CSM Pospisil and members of 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team. SGT (R) Cowart will be presented the Distinguished Service Cross at a Retreat Ceremony on 20 March 2019.

February's Board of Governors meeting went off with little to no mishaps and we would like to thank the members who attended. Our Social started the weekend off with a meet and greet of the Division Command Teams with our Board of Governors. As always it is great to see our active duty Division Staff and Command Teams interact with their fellow Veterans. Both of our Foundation meetings were fully staffed and thanks to new technical capabilities, the Association can conduct its meetings with members who cannot attend via tele-conference.

I know I mentioned needing new Scribes for the *Saber* but I'm going to mention it again. The Association is in desperate need of new Scribes. In order to keep your stories and the history of your units alive, someone needs to step up and take on the task. This will be the last column for Gordon Cress, scribe for the 61st FA. Also, we are still looking for a replacement for Silver Wings. If you are interested in writing, please give us a call at the office.

Don't forget about your reunion registration!!





## 20th and 79th Artillery Regiment News



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A healthy greeting to you all from the water-soaked grounds, mud sliding hillsides, overflowing creeks and raging rivers in East Tennessee as a result of the 13.64 inches of rain we have had thus far this year. That is on top of a record breaking 2018 rainfall total of 67.1 inches which had left the ground saturated. With all that working against us, it didn't take long for the conditions to worsen. We had many warnings! The low-lying area soon had streets flooded. Roads were covered with swollen creeks. Some county residents did not heed the warnings of the authorities and ventured out. A woman in an adjoining county said, "The water didn't look that deep, I thought I could get through!" Luckily, she had rescue workers immediately responding who pulled her from the floating vehicle! County workers posted Road Closures signs to prevent anymore close calls. If one drives for any distance in Kingsport, they will cross our famous Reedy Creek up to five times in less than 8 miles as it meanders all over the lowlands of the

northern side of town. A historic landmark just a few miles away has taken a beating and the famous Amis Dam is in jeopardy of vanishing! All that will be left is the old mill house. As a pilot, one flooded area got my attention. With all the warnings of heavy rains and severe flooding, how in the world did this airport base operator let these aircraft remain tied down on the ramp? Gives me the heebie jeebies!!



**Mail Bag:** I am embarrassed to say that I found a letter in my files that was mailed to me in Florida on February 22, 2016, a year after we sold our house and permanently moved back to Kingsport. The letter was forward under other correspondence and I made a note to include the information in the May 2016 *Saber*, but obviously I blew that big time!!!! I checked back to see if I included it and can't find any evidence; so here goes! I had been asking for letters so I could tell about life in Vietnam from different perspectives. This very detailed letter was from **Martin Greenbaum** of Solomons Island, Maryland who served in B Battery 2/20 ARA from September 1969 to May of 1970. First, he was a 45J20, Aircraft Armament Repairman, and later became a clerk-typist in the orderly room. I remember calling Martin and thanking him for his story and talking about my days of fishing off Solomons Island for Blue Fish.

Back to Martin's Story: *Hi, my name is Martin Greenbaum. I have been a member of the 1st Cav Association for at least 10 years. And, I have been reading stories from the Saber for just as long. The stories have involved the pilots of the 2/20th and mostly other officers. Very few times has it involved the Enlisted Men (EMs). However, I do enjoy reading all these stories of bravery, heroics, and tragedy! I haven't seen any stories from the Mess Sergeant or his staff, the Motor Pool people, the Ammo Handlers, or other Ordnance people. Maybe they didn't have any extraordinary experiences; but I believe they still have stories to be told, just not as thrilling. Actually, I would still like to hear about them. The Medics in the unit, although not combat medics, must have had a bunch of stories worth regurgitating.*

*Your call to those of us who served in the aerial rocket artillery units to come forth and write stories of our experience in Nam had finally released me to do this: to sit down and write some stories. I don't know if our stories merit inclusion in the "Archival Book" you mentioned. I would hope you could set aside at least one chapter for us EMs. Besides, I consider my time in country as the most memorable year of my life!*

*The First Sergeant supposedly needed another clerk-typist and found out that I could type. As an armament repairman, I and all the others never repaired any of the Cobras Systems. I think parts were in short supply. At least 2 gunships were always grounded at any one time. Our daily task was taking apart the mini-gun, cleaning it in solvents, and finally re-assembling the units.*

*My job as clerk-typist; along with other clerk-typist, was to type letters, orders, directives (sometimes in triplicate or 4-5 copies). Also, I had to update and re-arrange regulations in a bookcase. I did type the Mess Menu every day, and all of us E-1 to E-4 pulled guard duty every 10 to 14 days. That was the only time I handled an M-16 Rifle – never fired it, and glad I never had to use it!*

*By the way, I saw an old movie on TCM this past January about the Vietnam War. The movie was "The Quiet American." It was made in 1958, but was set in 1952, when the French were in country. Medal of Honor recipient turned actor Audie Murphy played the title role. The movie was based on the 1955 novel by Graham Greene. Most of the scenes were shot in Nam. A place very familiar to us in B Battery personnel was mentioned several times, Tay Ninh. I don't know whether any of the scenes were filmed there. Murphy's American role was shown in a sympathetic light, while Greene's book was very critical of America's involvement with the South. A later 2002 film version of the book took a more critical view of our involvement*

*I may have more to write in the next issue. I'll have to go through my letters I sent home, plus the magnetic tapes which were more detailed. Now, where is my old reel tape machine?"*

Martin, I thank you for your letter. I hope that you are still willing to write stories of your days in Vietnam. I promise that the next ones will get better attentions than I did with your first!

There is an ongoing effort to collect as much ARA history as possible at the Field Artillery School. The Field Artillery Historian who retired in December 2018 has arranged for your written books, notes, journals, mission briefings, personal logs, personal accounts of missions; and audio recordings to be received by the Morris Swett Library and archived. Please send your written and audio accounts of your ARA experiences to Morris Swett Library, 730 Schimmelpfennig Road, Fort Sill, OK 73503.

**Jesse Hobby** and I are still interested in your personal stories and memoirs of your time in ARA for the writing of the History of Aerial Rocket Artillery. What happened to us were events that occurred 46-56 years ago! Reality tells us that

times they are changing, and so are we! Some stories will never be told because the passing of friends took those stories with them. We are not guaranteed tomorrow, so let us be writing these stories now while we still can remember the details. Start by calling those who experienced the event/action with you and collaborate with them the stories, so they are preserved for others to read. It will be good reading for Luke Skywalker's grandchildren!

I just got off the phone with Martin, where I apologized profusely for my three-year gap with his article. Martin is trying to get a reunion together in the Aberdeen, Maryland area at the old Ordnance Facility at Aberdeen Proving Grounds which is now a community for active duty and retired military housing with all the amenities. He is interested in that location because he lives close and that is where he had his AIT military training. With that suggestion, I recommended that he consider getting his friends together and attending the 2021 reunion planned for Fort Belvoir, VA, which is still in his general area.

**Reminder:** Having said that, let me remind members (that is all ARA people) of the up-coming reunion in San Diego. At the Fort Sill Reunion locations for the 2019 and future projected reunions drew the liveliest discussion. The issue of how to be inclusive of all the ARA units at their original locations and units, alternating east coast/west coast and mid U.S. locations and naming individuals as sponsors was hotly debated. In the end it was agreed that San Diego, CA would be next year (hosted by Dave Borgeson) followed by Savannah, GA (hosted by Jerry Hipp). I have been contacted by Jule Szabo that the Fort Belvoir, VA was scheduled for 2021, and Fort Campbell, KY (hosted by Dave Cooper) will be in 2022. The change was based on the new U.S. Army Museum is opening in Nov 2020 at Fort Belvoir.

One of the objectives of having the reunions at the different units is to open the ARA Association to more members. The impression has been that the ARA is mostly drawn from the 2/20th and it should be all who served in the different ARA units. A main point from several members was to keep the costs of these reunions affordable for all who desire to attend.

**Celebrating a Life Well Lived:** This is one of those times when the writer has



difficulty saying goodbye. Last Sunday, February 17, 2019, **Diane Neeb** died at home here in Kingsport, TN, at the age of 72 years, after a brief illness. Diane, the wife of LTC (Retired) Randall "Randy" Neeb, B Btry, 2/20th ARA 1967-68, had become a very close friend to Patti and me since our move here in 2005. She and Patti played Bridge at least twice a week, many times in our home and Randy would pet sit our Shih Tzu, Maggie, whenever we were out of town. Sometimes on pickup, Maggie would go back in their house rather than get in our car to come home! They loved our Maggie! Maggie loved them as much!

Diane was born at Fort Bragg, North Carolina on October 17, 1946 and lived her early years in Kingsport, Tennessee. She is survived by her husband of 54 years, Randy Neeb, her mother, Joyce Shelton of Kingsport, Tennessee, one son, Patrick R. Neeb and daughter-in-law, Steffanee Neeb of Las Vegas, Nevada as well as many relatives and friends in the local area.

Early in life, Diane's family left Kingsport and moved many times because of her father's work. They finally settled in Mineola, New York where Diane completed her education. From a young age, Diane was always a high energy person who loved people, bowling, reading, and playing bridge. After her marriage to Randy Neeb in 1964, she moved to Fort Bliss, Texas because of his military assignment. For the next 22 years, as a supportive Army Aviation wife, she moved many times. After many years of working for someone else she became the owner/operator of Sun Floors of El Paso, Texas, until her retirement and relocation back to Kingsport, TN in 1998 in order to be closer to her family. During her lifetime she was an active volunteer and office holder in: Volunteer Services Council of the El Paso State Center, Pilot Club of El Paso, Texas, CASA of Kingsport, and the Sertoma Club of Kingsport.

Diane loved children and was a supporter of the Fordtown Baptist Academy. Memorial gifts in Diane's memory can be made to the Fordtown Baptist Academy (Attn: Kay Scalf, 444 Old Fordtown Road, Kingsport, TN 37663). Online condolences may be made to the Neeb family at <www.eastlawnkingsport.com>. Diane, you will always be in our hearts. We pray that God has taken you into his loving arms and given you his perfect peace! Randy, our prayer is that God gives you the confidence in his loving care, to cast all your sorrows on him so that you may know the consolation of his love! God bless you, my friend!

**Reunion Update:** Email from Treasurer **Herb Hirst:** Hi Bruce Just read your draft *Saber* article. Thought I would send you a few notes re: the upcoming reunion. We will be staying at the Handlery Inn. They will accept room reservations now. Details of our Wednesday night dinner have been finalized and our banquet has been set up. Tours are in place and free time to jaw with one another has been calculated in. A reminder to retirees - the San Diego Naval Station is relatively close by. Dave and Pat Borgeson have done a fabulous job of setting it all up. We received a very nice donation of \$5,000 (thanks to Dave) from his local American Legion Palisades Post 283, The Palisades Coast Post, which will

be used to underwrite some of the costs. Pat also received a donation that is being used to provide a gift for attending. It is shaping up to be a truly wonderful reunion with something for everyone. Hope this helps. Herb, it helps a lot, thanks! And a great big thank you to Dave and Pat Borgeson for all their hard work and coordinating efforts! ATABOYS and ATAGIRLS to you both!!!!



Joseph Galloway

Phone conversation with our President, **Clovis Jones**, confirmed that Joseph L. Galloway and Marvin J. Wolf will be our guest speakers. Both gentlemen have cleared their calendars for our reunion week and promise their attendance. Remember the weather prevented their

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Marvin J. Wolf



## 20th & 79th ARA NEWS

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attendance at Fort Sill last year. Joe Galloway is known to many of us who served in 1965 and remember the Battle of the Ia Drang and LZ X-Ray. Most have read the book he and LTG Hal Moore co-authored, "We Were Soldiers, Once and Young," or watched the movie starring Mel Gibson. Joe Galloway was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device, in 1998 for helping rescue a badly wounded Soldier while under enemy fire on Nov 15, 1965, during the Battle of Ia Drang at Landing Zone X-Ray in Vietnam. Marvin Wolf is also an award-winning author and photojournalist who has published many books and covered many wars and great events.

Marvin J. (for Jules) Wolf flunked an LAPD Internal Affairs polygraph administered in a cramped, stuffy Parker Center room with puke-green walls, and was once arrested by Hermosa Beach's chief of police for selling encyclopedias. He's worked as a Farmer's Market pearl diver, sold cameras, served as an Army Drill Sergeant, taught hand-to-hand combat at the Ranger School, and while serving as a First Cavalry Division combat correspondent, walked away from three helicopter crashes, earned a Bronze Star, an Air Medal, a Purple Heart, a battlefield commission and later commanded a signal company. Oh, and he's written hundreds of magazine articles and 18 books, including best-sellers *Fallen Angels* and *Where White Men Fear to Tread*. Marvin will speak at our Wednesday welcome dinner and Joe will be our keynote speaker at our Saturday evening farewell banquet. They are working on a new book together about Vietnam Veterans who have made significant contributions to their communities after Vietnam. Marvin Wolf was a Combat Photographer with the 1st Cav, First Shift, in 1965 and has pictures of the ARA in action. Joe and Marvin will share and illuminate their ARA experiences with us. Please mark your calendars now while it is fresh in your mind and you are in the mood to hear two great speakers on their experiences (and some of ours) and share that moment with your friend from your days in Vietnam.

We, the Aerial Rocket Artillery (ARA) Association, will have a presence at the Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association (VHPA) Reunion in Kansas City, MO with a TOC and recruiting table. The VHPA reunion is 28 May-1 June 2019 at the Kansas City Marriott Downtown Hotel, 200 West 12th Street, Kansas City, MO 64105. The goal of this effort is to reach out to those aviators who served in the ARA and bring them into our organization.

We are just short of six and a half months away from our reunion in beautiful San Diego, CA at the Handlery Hotel, 950 Hotel Circle North, 92108, September 11-15, 2019. Dave and Pat Borgeson have done an outstanding job of planning; and garnering financial support for our 2019 reunion. I highly encourage all of you to make your reservations as soon as possible. President Clovis Jones has already made his hotel reservations and will register for the reunion very soon. I encourage you to do the same so that Pat and Dave can increase our room block early, if necessary, and not have to get an overflow hotel. Additionally, plans are in process to have a Cobra available to provide rides during our stay in San Diego. The Arizona Chapter of the Army Aviation Heritage Foundation and Flying Museum has a Cobra that is stationed in Chino, CA during the summer months until the end of September. Clovis is working with the Chapter President to have it on hand for those who desire Cobra rides during our reunion. Please reach out to anyone that you know that served in the ARA, at any time, during its existence and encourage them to join us at our San Diego Reunion!!! You do not want to miss this reunion.

### It just keeps getting better! Here is the word on the 2019 reunion:



This message is from your hosts, **Pat and Dave Borgeson**, for the San Diego Reunion in September 2019. Pat and I just completed our second planning trip to San Diego. I will start with the Handlery Hotel. The dates of the reunion are September 11th (Wed) to September 15th (Sun). We have a choice of a superior king or a superior double room. The rate is \$119/night plus a 12.7% tax or about \$135/night. You can

book reservations now through the reservation office at (800) 676-6567 or (619) 298- 0511. Callers must refer to our group name of the Aerial Rocket Artillery Reunion to receive our preferred rate. To register online, the link is: <<http://reservations.travelclick.com/98118?groupID=2409813>>. The hotel address is: The Handlery Hotel, 950 Hotel Circle North, San Diego, CA 92108. The hotel is located about 6 miles from the San Diego Airport, adjacent to the Riverwalk Golf Course (27 holes), and close to Fashion Valley Mall with 200 stores. The hotel has a large pool and breakfast is included. The hotel will extend our rate if you are planning to come in a couple days early or stay a couple extra days. There is no charge for parking for hotel guests. There is an Enterprise car rental agency within the hotel. Malia Wimmel is the manager and she can be reached at (619) 296-7493.

On Wednesday night at 5:30 pm, we will bus to the Casa Guadalajara for a Mexican fiesta in Old Town San Diego. It will be a fun evening including a complimentary margarita. On Thursday, we will depart the hotel at 9:30 am. Our destination is the San Diego Air and Space Museum. After a couple hours at the museum, we will travel for a waterfront lunch at the Harbor House Restaurant. Next to the restaurant is Seaport Village so the ladies can look for some souvenirs. The bus will take us around the downtown area and then return to the hotel. Friday is an optional day. If you choose the bus will take you to the WWII aircraft carrier Midway. The cost of admission is included. After the tour of the Midway, there is about a two-hour harbor cruise with a box lunch. After the cruise the bus will return you to the hotel. The cost for the day is \$79. A minimum of 20 people must sign up. We will refund money if enough people do not sign up. On Saturday morning, we will hold business meetings between 10:00 am to 12:00 noon. The afternoon is free time. The farewell banquet will be at the Handlery at 6:00 pm. This will be a fun filled week with many choices. San Diego is a special city so plan ahead to take full advantage of your time here. We look forward to seeing everyone and sharing time together.

"This is Armed Falcon 28 Delta, breaking right!"

## DIVISION DOINGS

### Continued from pg. 1

"Normally, I don't answer the phone if I don't recognize the number," she said. But something told her to take the call. "It was the rear-d commander. He was calling to let me know that Daniel had been wounded, but he was still alive. They couldn't tell me more than that. And my first thought was, I have to call his mom on Mother's Day and tell her that her child's been wounded." Her mother-in-law had already left for church, so she had to wait to give her the bad news. By a twist of fate, Sarah had changed her number and the rear detachment did not have her new number, so they had already called Daniel's mom. It was one worry off her shoulders. She then called her friend who happened to be the wife of SGT Cowart's loader. She had not heard if her husband had been wounded. Sarah gathered up the kids and headed to her friend's house to await further word.

"We rotated positions just to change things up," SGT Cowart said. "I was actually driving that day and had my loader jump up on the gun and that's how it happened to be on the ground when it occurred." The two men exited the vehicle. One had a gun. The other didn't. As members of the platoon engaged the man with the rifle, SGT Cowart took a split second to assess the other occupant. He did not have any weapons that were noticeable. SGT Cowart then engaged the man hand-to-hand, knocking him to the ground. "It all goes black after that." The blast from the suicide vest killed LT Bacevich, who was also nearby and cost SGT Cowart his left leg, but his quick actions caused most of the blast to be contained by the ground and the vehicle, saving the lives of others in SGT Cowart's platoon and countless other lives by keeping that device from reaching its intended target.

He would earn the Silver Star for his actions. He still doesn't remember much about the actions that day. Most he pieced together from friends and witnesses. "After the explosion it starts to get a little blurry. I know I didn't see a weapon. I didn't see a suicide vest. I wasn't just going to shoot an unarmed guy. But I knew he was a threat and had to do something. We had a struggle, but then it was all black and I woke up in a hospital in Ballad." According to the Cowarts it has been a roller coaster since then. In addition to losing his leg, SGT Cowart suffers from nerve damage to his right leg and hearing loss in both ears. After his injury, he had 20 surgeries over the span of 18 months.

He retired from the Army and moved to Santa Fe, Texas where he had a good job and was active in sports such as cross fit and rock climbing. He was the chapter captain of the Houston chapter of Team Red, White and Blue. Then, four years ago, SGT Cowart suffered another setback

when he got an infection in his leg, causing the loss of an additional 4 inches of his femur. He was no longer able to use his prosthetic and spends most of the time in his wheelchair, but he is determined to walk his girls down the aisle for their wedding one day. "That one was hard. It felt like we were starting all over again," Sarah said. But they got through it as a family. Sarah now works, while he plays chauffeur to his daughters. "I'm kind of enjoying my retirement right now," he said with a chuckle. "I get to go to all of my kids' events and just enjoy the moment."

Fast forward to a few days before Christmas, 2018. Dan, Sarah and their now teenaged twin daughters are preparing for the holidays. It was just another day in the Cowart home when the phone rang. "Sergeant Major of the Army [Daniel] Daly called me and he said he was one of the people on the review board for the possible upgrade of medals earned during the war," Cowart said. "I didn't even know the Army was reviewing awards. That book was closed as far as I was concerned."

SGT Daniel Cowart was to be awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, the second highest medal awarded for valor after the Medal of Honor. The upgrade was ordered after the completion of a comprehensive, year-long Military Decorations and Awards Review, which was ordered by then Sec. of Def. Ash Carter. "I broke down a little bit. My first feeling was why me," Cowart said. "I don't deserve that." Sarah smiles and shakes her head. "I always think he deserves everything. I tell him all the time. We're his biggest cheerleaders."

"There's always that little bit of survivor's guilt," he said. "My Lieutenant didn't make it. If my Lieutenant would have lived then, maybe, but I'll always feel like it is a little unfair." When asked if he would do it again, he quickly adds, "Absolutely. I wouldn't hesitate."

SGT (R) Daniel Cowart will be presented the Distinguished Service Cross at 4:30 P.M. on March 20th at Cooper Field, Fort Hood, Texas.



SGT Cowart in Iraq 2007



Cowart and his wife Sarah



1st PLT D Co 3-8 Cav



## ENGINEER News



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**JACKSONVILLE CHAPTER:** If you live in a zip code starting with 322, call me. I'm trying to stir the local pot of interest. How about a monthly meeting at the VFW Post on St. Augustine Rd? All eras welcome. Yes, and infantry as well. The first person to call me from the Jan/Feb *Saber* was Ron Murphy who, ironically, turned out to be an Engineer from the Evans to Phouc Vinh days. Those of you who remember Ron may contact him at 904-993-8148.

**THIS IS WHAT I LIVE FOR:** Look over in the corner where you tossed your Nov/Dec 2018 *Saber* that didn't arrive on time. (None did. Suck it up and quit calling Copperas Cove.) Find the paragraph from the Hidden Scribe (who is not me) regarding the consumption of C-rations. He has been firmly rebutted in notes sent to me worthy of publishing. Just like that Case 550 story of last summer-autumn-winter, this one may not die either. Other than the life sustaining properties of C-rats, they also offered these attributes; can be eaten quickly, actually taste like the product printed on the tin, can be combined into a stew, officers actually ate them, could be used as trail markers, had smokes and matches, were less dusty than air lifted, served in the open cans, and fruit juices could be left to ferment for later consumption. All in all, a pretty good deal considering the price.

**FOOTBALL'S COLONOSCOPY:** Some schools by contract have one. Pity the SEC West. Now it is the March 1 deadline for submitting the March/April *Saber*. So, can we talk freely? Those of you on the West/left Coast may want to tune out for a paragraph but there are those of us who need this therapy. We have Clemson that is the best college football team not named Alabama. That supremacy has been proved mightily. And so, the center of college football gravity shifts to a one stoplight town in the foothills of South Carolina. Ok, maybe there is a second stoplight on the bypass. And where else would you find a coach named Dabo? It fits. Too bad half the team will go NFL by the time you are reading this.

**ACTIVE DUTY:** Before each *Saber*, I scrounge around the Ft. Hood Sentential looking for Engineer news. You guys get the news in the next daily issue but a repeat a month or two later won't hurt here. Well, gulp. No Engineer by that cross reference since July 2018 when the 91<sup>st</sup> Bde, Eng Bn, 1BCT, was in Zagan, Poland for training in breaching, mine laying, demolition and bridge building. So that leaves us with the third annual Christmas bird count At Ft. Hood. (That's right bird count) Unusual finds were purple finches, and a rare golden fronted woodpecker. All this was managed by the Natural Resources Management Branch with the final 5771 head count sent to the National Audubon Society. While voluntary and doubtless worthwhile, we might wonder if NRMB was included in the later government shut down.

**THE 501<sup>ST</sup> ENGINEERS:** Too easily we forget that the 501<sup>st</sup> succeeded the 8<sup>th</sup> when the 8<sup>th</sup> went home from RVN. **Pete Stevens** first called me to add a finishing touch to the Case 450 story extending back over several issues. As it turns out, Pete is out Wyoming way and has been known to have coffee with a certain retired MG who has a similar zip code. Pete was a 62E20 which means he knows a lot more about dozers than we 12Bs who did little but string wire, sweep for mines and ride around in Huey's with our feet hanging out the doors. (And BTW, if anyone has a 501 emblem or logo, send it to me please.) To jog your memory and mine, Pete reminds us that the fully air transportable Case 450 was frequently used on an LZ to pull and position the tracks, blade and body of the bigger Cats into assembly. The story goes on. Seems like some of the previously published pictures on this topic were mislabeled. A sharp eye notes the difference between drive sprockets, radiator shape, headlight position and a dozen other things that would be back pocket knowledge to one dealing with these ornery creatures' day in and day out as did Pete. Now, **Ron Wiseman** from Omaha Nebraska, if you are reading this, call Pete at 307-214-3603. You have been missed since the wedding at Ft. Carson. To sort of round out the story, Pete couldn't get enough of the military, but he was smart about it. He joined the Navy, had a twenty-year career winding up as a Warrant Officer.

**QUIZ TIME:** Mr. Gold, Brown and Blue live in the three houses on 1CDA Avenue. None of the three live in a house the same color as their name. Brown lives next door to Gold. Where does Blue live? (answer on page 77 of AARP Jan 19 issue.)

**A BIT OF ACTIVE DUTY AND THE CASE AND THE CATS:** Forget about them. They are past history, worthy of memory but now replaced. The HMEE-1 is now the dozer, backhoe, loader and evacuator of choice. The High Mobility Engineer Excavator flat out kicks butt. Able to achieve speeds up to 60mph, this bad boy does it all including armor protection for the crew all while keeping pace with brigade level operations. LTC Brian Watson, Project Manager, described the HMEE as "the all-purpose Swiss army knife of construction equipment."



900 have been fielded and 1300 are authorized. Upgrades will allow future models to interrogate buried IEDs. And don't forget hurricane restoration as the HMEE was employed after storms Florence and Michael. (picture courtesy of JCB Company—J C Bamford Excavators—Pooler Georgia) Now I'm curious. I think JCB is the company on I 95 with the excavators on display just north of the Mighty 8<sup>th</sup> Air Force Museum, Savannah GA. YEP. I checked with them. Go see it on your way to or out of Florida.

**FACEBOOK:** If you're not visiting the Sky Beaver page, you're missing out on some great pictures and stories. Better yet, join and submit your own memories.

**15<sup>th</sup> MED:** Hey! What are they doing here in our space? Well, **Terry McCarl** is a friend of the 8<sup>th</sup> and all Engineers. For that matter, the 15<sup>th</sup> may have saved your life or that of a buddy. Terry is looking for people that you may know. Give the guy a hand. Just go over to the 15<sup>th</sup> MED page and help where you can.

**INTERESTING WORDS:** Obloquy: speak against, strong commendation; Febrile: relating to fever; Nimbus: luminous vapor surrounding a god; Augury: a divination from omens or portents, prediction of future.

**TIMES UP:** Those of you who read this column in detail will recall that after the Case 450 fiasco going back to last summer, that this writer would insert an error into each column to check your attention level. The error had to be noted by call or email and submitted before the next publication deadline. The check to cover your winnings from Jan/Feb still sits in my bank account. Curious? Try the A10 story. Thought it would be easy? Nope. Ya gotta pay attention.

**MY REMEDY:** For the A-hole behind you at a red light who honks as soon as the light turns green: drive off slowly. For the braggers that tell how much money they make: "Oddly that's the amount I deposit in my 401k."

**IF HE CAN DO IT, YOU CAN DO THE EQUIVALENT:** Colin O'Brady, an American obviously of Irish descent, crossed Antarctica alone, on skis, unaided, unsupported less what he could drag along. That is a testament to the human spirit and will, considering he also suffered leg burns some years ago. Think he might have had a conversation with God somewhere along the way? What equivalent you ask? Right now, right this second, toss *Saber* on the floor. Get off the couch. Quick Time March to the end of your block. Double time back. Don't tell me about your knees. Move out! Tomorrow repeat and add a half block. You get the idea. And forget the nachos. See if you can shrink one belt loop hole by the next *Saber* issue.



**CAN YOU BELIEVE THIS?:** Sara Idan, Miss Universe Iraq 2017, (yes you read that right—Miss Universe Iraq- and later Miss Universe) served as an interpreter for U.S. Forces in the Green Zone when she was a teenager. She now lives in LA, and hosts on an Indian TV channel. It wasn't like she had a desk job either. She manned check points and road blocks and nearly bought the ranch in one car bomber incident. Okay, so welcome to America even if it is LA these days. (extracted from AUSA Jan 2019 issue)

**NOT AS SEXY BUT IMPORTANT:** Army GEN Mark Milley was appointed as Joint Chiefs Head of Staff by President Trump. The difference? Milley has a consecutive four-year term not a two-year renewable for two more term. Think about it.

**A FINAL NAGGING:** If you were wondering why you get more editorial type stuff here rather than straight Engineer stuff, look no further than your nose. If I or the other scribes don't hear from you, we fill space. In this case, it's halfway interesting but if you want Engineer whose done it news, you gotta tell me about it. Look at it this way. You've got a story to tell and you're running out of time.

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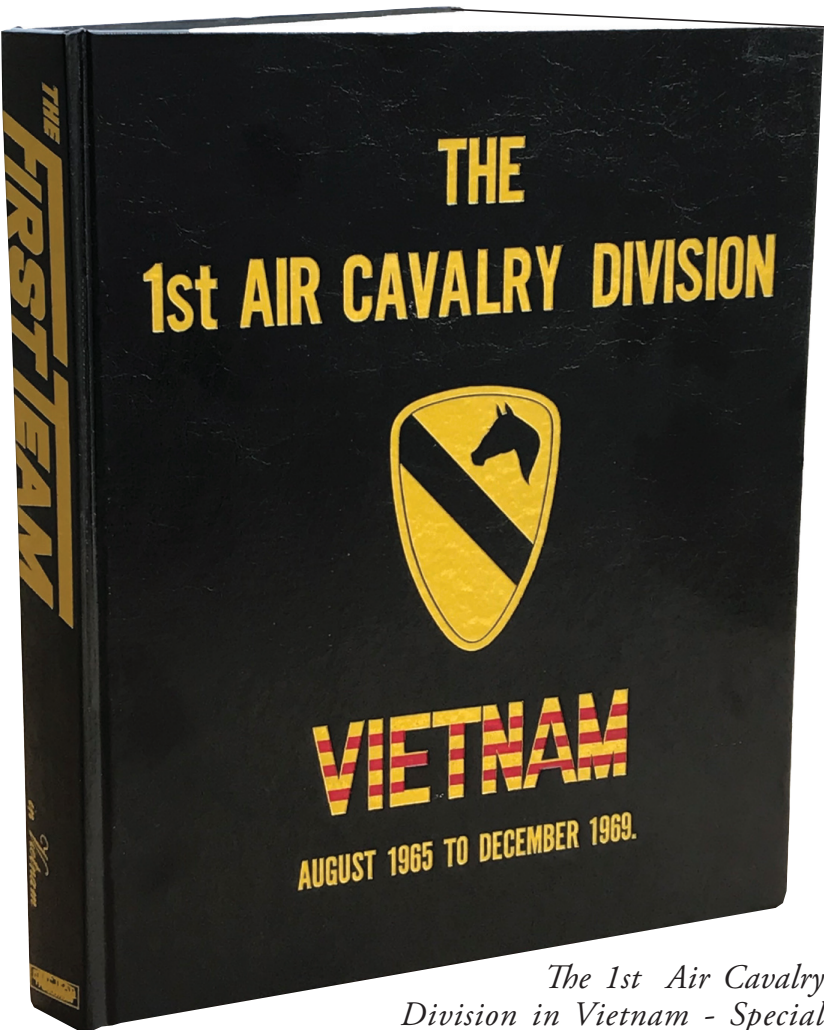
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## HQ and Special Troops News



**Ron Killingsworth**  
10329 Caddo Lake Rd  
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Are you as proud of the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division Association (1CDA) as I am? Ever wonder how you can support this great Association? Well, the best way is by attending the annual reunions, or at least those that are somewhat near where you live. It is a great way to meet old friends and to make new ones. The second way is to support the calendar program. Each year the 1CDA sends out a calendar that contains many important dates pertaining to the 1<sup>st</sup> Cav and some great pictures. Simply send in a small donation to help with this program. And, finally, contact USAA Bank and sign up for a 1CDA rewards Visa signature card. You can start earning one point for every \$1 you spend, no annual fee, and the Association receives a part of each dollar you spend. You can also donate your points to the 1CDA which helps pay for air travel and other things for the Executive Director, Dara Wydler, when she checks out future reunion sites. Come on Troopers, get with the program!

Sue and I attended the annual Association board meeting, foundation meeting and museum foundation meeting in Killeen, TX, the 22-23<sup>rd</sup> of Feb. Photo to the right is of Karleen Maloney, Association Chapter/Scholarship Coordinator, Tina Wilgeroth, Programs Director and Rosey Carter, Board member and trustee.



The annual reunion at Killeen in June is going to be a special one, so if you haven't attended a reunion recently, be sure to send in your registration. The Division has plans for many chances for us to meet with the Troopers of the Division and to participate in the grand re-opening of the Division HQ building.

Company D of the 8<sup>th</sup> Eng Btn is the Military Intelligence company of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Bde. I had the privilege of having lunch in the dining facility (mess hall) with CPT Bryant Kim and 1SG Derick Mickey, the CO and first shirt of the company. This company inherited the honors of the old 191<sup>st</sup> MI in Vietnam and the 312<sup>th</sup> MI Bn at Fort Hood. I also attended one of their "formations" and it was great to meet and greet the young Troopers of this company. CPT Kim's command time is almost up, and he will soon be moving on to a new assignment.



**CDR & 1SG of Co D 8th ENG**

During the reception I also met the G-2 SGM, SGM Cummings, who is leaving soon to become the CSM of the Defense Language Institute (DLI). I attended DLI twice and she is really going to enjoy the Presidio of Monterey, CA. There were several other "G" staff members there as well as a few of the Commanders of some of the battalions of the 8<sup>th</sup> Cav and 12<sup>th</sup> Cav. The SGS, MAJ Joseph Power, is heavily involved in the upcoming reunion and it was a pleasure to meet him.

I heard from **Mike Cooper** of Wichita, KS, who answered my request in the last *Saber* for anyone who served with the Cav in 71-72 and was on FSB Mace. Mike served as a platoon leader for Delta Co, 2<sup>nd</sup> of the 8<sup>th</sup> Cav until he was injured by an explosion causing the temporary loss of his hearing. Unable to listen to a radio, he was sent for medical care and then assigned as the S-5 of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Brde (Sep) in about Nov 70. At that time the 3<sup>rd</sup> Bde was located at FSB Mace. Later the Bde HQ moved to Bien Hoa but one of the combat battalions remained at Mace. Mike had some interesting stories to tell and sent me several interesting pictures and quite a write-up about his tour in Vietnam. Unfortunately, it arrived after my column was finished and you will have to wait until next time to read of his experiences. Thanks Mike.

I also heard from **Gary Jostes** who served with the 229<sup>th</sup> AHB (Smiling Tigers) who was stationed at Bearcat, and often visited FSB Mace, but he was not able to add much to the history I am seeking. The 229<sup>th</sup> was part of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Bde (Sep) at that time. Thanks, Gary.

**Warren Dupre's** story of his service in South Korea in 62-63, in the 27<sup>th</sup> Ord Btn, was started in the last issue and continues in this issue. Warren wrote: "I finally got situated at the track section. They had 1/2 of a 'hooch.' The SFC in charge looked like he had served in the Spanish-American War. But he was easy going. We had a big shop next to the hooch. We were attached to Hq Company of the 3<sup>rd</sup> MED, 40<sup>th</sup> Armor. They had tanks. M48-A2C's. Now, if you know anything about tanks, you know the track part gives you 90% of the problems. The turret very seldom had problems. To be honest, I did not know diddly squat about being a turret mechanic. I obtained the MOS of 424.20 by being in the 129<sup>th</sup> Ordnance Company at Fort Hood. I was fortunate enough that the other turret mechanic had been to school. I learned a lot from him. On Sep 1<sup>st</sup>, the 40<sup>th</sup> Bn went to the firing range – one company at a time. I spent 26 days living in the maintenance tent, but Oh, Boy, I was going to see tanks fire. Well, it took them a few days to get set up. One day I was sitting on a box, reading a magazine

with my back to the firing line, when that first tank fired that 90 MM cannon. I bet I jumped three feet into the air. It scared the living crap out of me. At first, they were shooting at some old tank hulls down range. Then they set up moving targets by mounting them on a rail system behind a 6 to 8-foot berm. There was a concrete block house at one end to run the target rail system. The range was 1500 meters. The targets were held up by a 2x4 wooden frame. When the tanker shot up the target, they started on the 2x4's, which really made the NCO in charge angry. Behind the targets was a huge mountain with two gullies on each side. The Koreans would get in the gullies and wait until the firing was over. Then they charged out to pick up the scrap metal. The Battalion had a helicopter they used to clear the range before firing. The pilot landed next to our maintenance tent and we walked over to talk with him. He was really upset! He said the Major in charge wanted him to fly closer to that mountain, but the pilot told the Major that he could not do that because the wind from that mountain would suck him right into the side of the mountain. If you had a "misfire" on the 90MM, the company commander had to carry the round to the disposal area. When that happened, everything on the range came to standstill. We would all get behind something big while the misfire round was exploded. There was a little "river" between us and the range and when the river flooded, we had a foot of water in our tents. We had to ride on a M-88 to get to the road. I was also later with the I.G. and CMI inspection teams, along with James Hopper. I was the turret mech and he was the track mech. This would have been around Oct 62. The 9<sup>th</sup> Cav was undergoing an IG inspection. We really tore them up. They had M-41s. Then we had a re-inspection after 90 days. The biggest problem in Korea at that time was getting spare parts. The re-inspection was in January and the tankers were all in the motor pool crowding around the heater. They had not corrected many of the problems. Hopper and I were both freezing inside those tanks. We looked at each other and said, 'Never again will we fail anyone.' Later I was doing an IG on the battalion that we were supporting. Usually when I had to go inside a turret, I would take my boots off because I knew how hard it was to clear. But during an inspection you do not have time to do this. I hopped up on one tank and this little "Buck Sergeant" hollered at me to take my boots off. I said, 'Sarge, I would like to, but I do not have time today.' I did my inspection and when I was back on the ground, he said, 'I'll remember this about you.' That really peeved me off so I got right in his face and said, 'How would you like for me to crawl back in that SOB and see what I really can find wrong.' An LT was standing close by and he yelled at the SGT to back off. Funny, I never saw that SGT again."

Thanks, Warren for those memories. Now that Buck Sergeant knows where to find you. Maybe he has forgotten by now! But then again, old age is funny. I can remember everything that happened in the 60's but can't remember if I took my medication today or not.

In my next column I plan to provide more information on the various branches of the U.S. Army and more about the various types of units represented by this column. The Army has picked up quite a few new "branches" since my retirement and I find some of them very interesting. While most of the branches represented by this column tend to be combat support, I am always willing to give space to any Trooper that wants to sound off, tell an interesting story, or ask for information. I will try to print some pictures of some of the branch insignias across the top of the column if I can get that to work. The Army has also picked up some new "G" positions ("S" positions in the battalions). We had G1 (personnel), G2 (intelligence), G3 (operations) and G4 (supply and maintenance) back in my day but now they have G5-G9, and a group of us had an interesting discussion about these new "G" positions, during the reception at the board meeting.

That's all folks for this time. Hope to see you at the reunion in June. Best wishes to all of you and may God bless you and your family, the great USofA, the U.S. Army and the Troopers of the active 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division.

### **Ironhorse Brigade Colors Return to Fort Hood** Photo by MSG Jacob Caldwell, 1<sup>st</sup> Cav Div Public Affairs

The colors of the 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Brigade Combat Team "Ironhorse" were officially uncased at The Great Place on Friday following the brigade's successful nine-month rotation to Europe in support of Operation Atlantic Resolve. COL Wilson Rutherford IV, brigade commander and CSM James Light, brigade senior enlisted advisor, uncased the colors during one of the final welcome home ceremonies on Cooper Field.

Rutherford made appoint to thank the FRGs here for their support during the rotation.

"The secret weapon of any unit that has success is the FRG and the Families behind it," Rutherford said. "We had 37 companies over there, and 37 strong FRGs that provided for those folks on holidays, decorated their rooms as they redeployed, and what it does is remove a major concern for Soldiers about what's happening back here so they can focus on the mission forward."







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SGT FRYE, MATTHEW MD HHC 213MI 9705  
SGT GANDARA, GEORGE R. IL HHC 1- 9C 0006  
E-5 GARLINGTON, CECIL PA D 2- 5C 6802  
SP-4 GOLDSTEIN, MIKE MI B 8ENG 6706  
E-4 GUPTILL, CHARLES CURTI TX E 1- 12C 0810  
SP-4 HALE, ROBERT CA 1ACB 65  
SFC HANKINS, ROBERT HHC 3- 8C 1709  
SPC HARRIS, EZRA L. OK 3 -8C 17  
SPC HEIDEN, CASSIDY NJ HHC 2- 5C 1702  
CW3 HODGES, JERE TN HHC 229AVN 6607  
SFC JOHNSON, BRYANT PA 1- 228AVN 6604  
LTC (RET) JOHNSON, FRANK MT C 1- 7C 6807

SP-4 JONES, EDWIN PA E 1- 7C 7005  
SSG JONES, PATRICK E SC E 1- 7C 7112  
SGT KEELS, MATTHEW CA 3- 82FA 1008  
E-5 KENNEDY, THOMAS J LA HQ 2- 19FA 6810  
CPT KIM, BRYANT TX G2 4- 9C 1601  
PFC KOEP, DEAN NJ A 1- 8C 6101  
CPT LAICER, TRISTAN TX B 1- 12C 1706  
SGT LONG, SHELTON A. SC A 2- 7C 7102  
SGT LUX, GARY OK A 13SIG 7011  
MSG MACDONALD, MICHAEL J. TN 615ACB 06  
CPT MALIS, BRYAN TX 91ENG 68  
SGT MARTIN, ROBERT CO B 1- 7C 9810  
SGT MITCHELL, THOMAS MA A 1- 5C 6810  
SP-5 NAGAN, DANIEL A. WI HQ 3BCT 6909  
E-4 O’GRADY, MICHAEL OH 15SS 6512  
SGT OWENS, DAVID W. TX D 1 9C 6703  
MR. PARISH, DANIEL FL 1380 ASSOC  
1SG PARK, TERRY CA H 75INF 7111  
SGT PERKINS, DONALD KY A 8ENG 6710  
SGT PHILLIPS, DONALD OH 1- 7C 66  
CSM PRICE, STEPHANIE TX HHC DISCOM 8907  
E-5 ROHNER, JOHN C. WA A 3BDE 6603  
SSG ROLLINGS, CLINTON TX B 1- 5C 05125  
SGT ROMO, ESTEBAN TX A 1- 12C 6605  
SFC RUTKOWSKI, ALEKSANDER TX HHC 3- 8C 1704  
SGT SCATURRO, STEPHEN NJ 545MP 62  
E-5 SCHEIDLER, STEVEN WI C 2- 12C 7001  
1SG SIMMONS, LARRY TN C 2- 7C 8405  
SGT SIMPSON, THOMAS CO D 2- 5C 7201  
MSG SLATER, STEPHANIE TX HHC 8ENG 1901  
SSG SPAWR, CHAD MI HHC 2BDE 6901  
SP-5 THIESS, RICHARD E. TX 545MP 65  
SGT VAUGHN, JACK TN HHB 1- 68ADA 7404  
MS. WATTS, SUSAN VA 1394 ASSOC  
LTC WEBER, HOWARD BUD FL C 2- 17FA 6507  
SGT YORK, MATTHEW T. TX B 2- 12C 9809





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

FRANK F. SCHOELCH  
Turns 90 on 3/2/19

ROBERT W. STRUNK  
Turns 90 on 3/9/19

WALTER J. SEEBA SR.  
Turns 90 on 3/10/19

ENOCH I. POTTER  
Turns 91 on 3/15/19

HERMAN A. AHO  
Turns 91 on 3/17/19

JACK P. RUSHING  
Turns 90 on 3/28/19

WILLIAM R. OAXACA  
Turns 93 on 4/14/19

JOSEPH A. MCCADDEN MD  
Turns 93 on 4/16/19

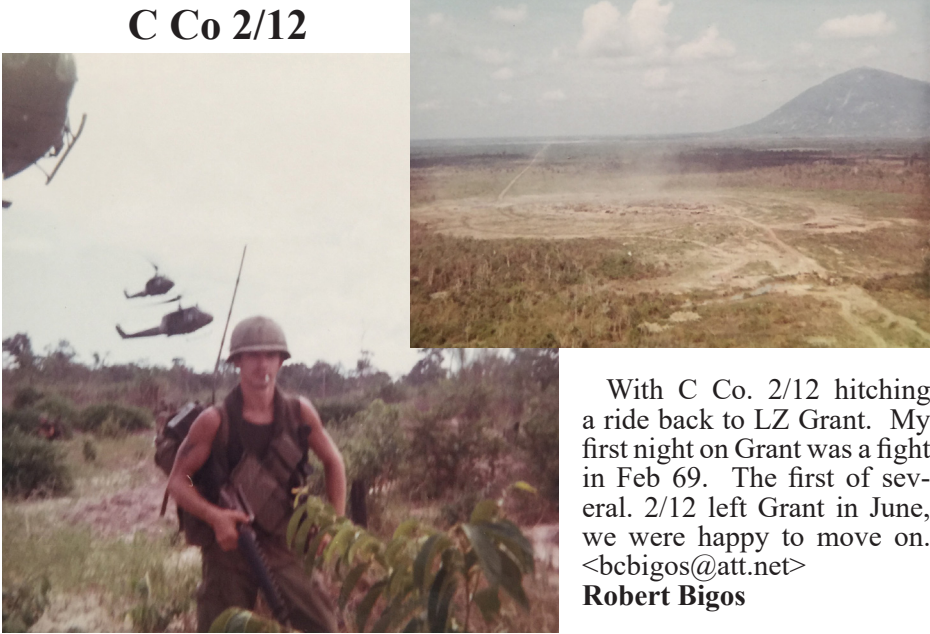
DANIEL B. PEYSER  
Turns 93 on 4/21/19

FLOYD G. SPICE  
Turns 91 on 4/21/19

**Happy Birthday  
young Troopers!**



**C Co 2/12**



With C Co. 2/12 hitching a ride back to LZ Grant. My first night on Grant was a fight in Feb 69. The first of several. 2/12 left Grant in June, we were happy to move on. <bcbigos@att.net>  
**Robert Bigos**



Former Wings Scribe-**Hank Llewellyn** sent in these 2 photos.  
Hank and his wife, Susan during our Oct 2017 trip to Bell Helicopter, Ft. Worth. "Bell treats us 1<sup>st</sup> Air Cav folks with great respect and appreciation. Couldn't do enough for us during our visit."



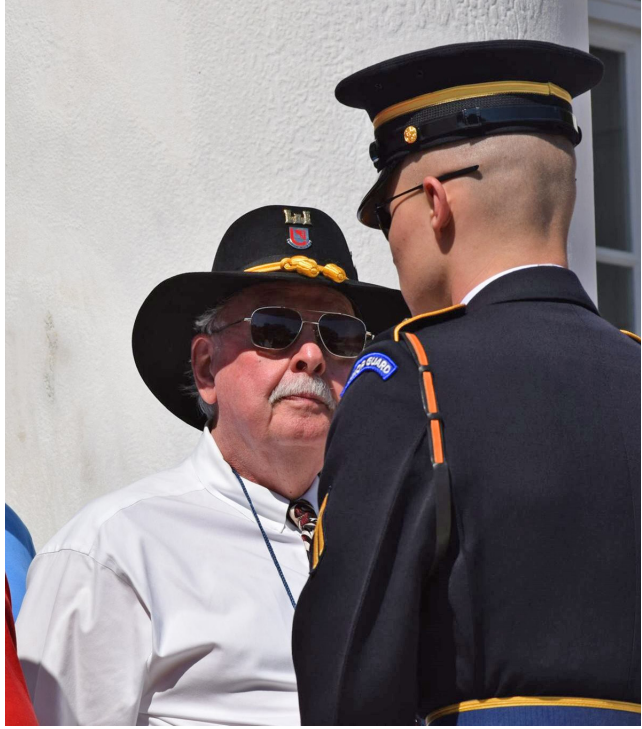
**Susan Llewellyn**



**SFC Jose R. Muniz**  
COB Hotel, Iraq  
2011



**Tomb of the Unknown Soldier**



On September 29, 2018 I was honored to help present a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Washington D.C.  
I was with 2nd PLT, A Co, 14th Combat Engineers and attached to the 2/7 Cav from December 22, 1966 to April 6, 1967 at Phan Thiet, RVN.  
To the left is a picture of me with the Corporal of the Guard. I also received a certificate from the Vet Center in Cincinnati, Ohio who arranged for us to take part in the ceremony.  
Respectfully,  
**Glenn R Blankenship**



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



**FALLEN NEVER FORGOTTEN**