



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

THE PRESIDENT’S CORNER

Rich Kaye
254-291-4890
RichKaye@hotmail.com
1CDA President 2023-2025



To the Troopers of America’s First Team, Summer has finally released its grip on Central Texas.

After months of 100+ degree temperatures we have just had two successive days of freeze warnings. It seems that Texas only has two seasons ...Summer and Winter. Spring and Fall are simply a concept.

In September, your Association participated in the 1st Cavalry Divisions 102nd birthday celebration. Cavalry Week included five days of games, competitions ranging from golf to tug-of-war including softball, powerlifting, and soccer — all of which ended with family festivities and the division’s horse detachment storming across Cooper Field for the traditional Cavalry Charge. MG Kevin Admiral presented the Commander’s Cup to the 2nd Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team for earning the most points during the annual competition,

During the final day’s celebration, hundreds of attendees, Soldiers, city officials and high school students got to see the formation of Troops and a history presentation on the division’s weapons and uniforms throughout the generations. The division brought in food trucks and other activities for families to enjoy throughout the day, culminating with a showing of the “The Super Mario Bros. Movie” late Friday.



Oh, and one more thing: MG Admiral invited 1st Cavalry Division Veterans to participate in the Division’s pass in review ... being in step was not required.

Continued to pg. 3

THE DIRECTOR’S CHAIR

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



November 11th gives us an opportunity to reflect on what it means to be a Veteran, to reflect on a nation tested by war, and to reflect on the costs and blessings of liberty.

America is the country she is because of her heroes, past and present. People who put the nation’s interest above self... who put patriotism above profit... and who put love of country above love of self.

Thankfully, our nation has always been blessed to have strong men and women with exceptional courage. People willing and able to stand and defend America whenever Lady Liberty is threatened.

Our service men and women have answered that call to defend our nation time and time again, on every front and in every battle. From our war for independence more than 240 years ago, to World War I, Pearl Harbor and World War II, to Korea, Vietnam, 9/11, Afghanistan, Iraq, and every war in between, America’s brave sons and daughters have willingly come forward to stand and engage our enemies.

Our Veterans made that conscious choice to live a life of sacrifice and service for the greater cause... and for America... that has made all the difference. While we each walked a different road, we all faced challenges, and we have proven ourselves well-equipped to meet those challenges. We come from across America, representing the diversity and character of our great nation – and our military was stronger for it.

I would be remiss if I failed to recognize the families of those who serve. They also sacrifice so much for our nation. Mothers and fathers, sisters and brothers, wives, husbands, daughters, and sons... close friends and loved ones. When our military members deploy, they leave behind their families and friends... who in their absence Soldier on... life as normal – only you and I know it’s anything but normal.

Across the many distant miles that separate them... over the weeks and months that divide them... those who are deployed abroad are always in our thoughts... and our prayers. Those who stay behind carry the concerns, and the worries, and the fears that their loved ones might go in harm’s way. For our military families, theirs has never been an easy burden.

HORSE DETACHMENT by CPT Michael Gates, Commander



Mt Pleasant Rodeo Current and Former Troopers

It has been a busy end to Summer and the start of Fall for the Horse Cavalry Detachment! In September we rode in the Division’s 102nd Birthday Celebration, hosted five soldiers of the British Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment (HCMR), participated in a joint parade with the Texas A&M ROTC, and travelled to the National Cavalry Competition where our unit won seven ribbons! That led us into a busy October of training and events at the Veteran’s Appreciation Day in Leon County and a rodeo in Mount Pleasant with former HCD Troopers. We also supported the Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion “Trunk or Treat” event at the Stables followed by our own Soldier and Family Readiness Group Trick or Treat to close out the Halloween season.

In November, five of our Troopers travelled to London, England to meet up with the HCMR and ride with them in the Lord Mayor’s Parade! Simultaneously, our Troopers stateside participated in the Tarrant County Veteran’s Day Parade in Fort Worth, one of our annual events to celebrate those who have served. Afterwards it was all gear-up for the event of the year: the Rose Parade and Equifest in Pasadena, California. The event is televised internationally and is seen by over 40 million people every year! Tune in to see our Troopers represent the 1st Team and the Army!

In mid-October we conducted our semi-annual test for our coveted A-Group of elite riders, and although several came close to achieving glory the only one who met the standard and now wears the buckle is SSG Jammer! We also have a new member of our B Group, SPC Cortez! The Detachment promoted four Troopers in our ranks, please congratulate SSG Jones, SGT Flowers, SSG Jammer, and SPC Davis! Due to our high demand and workload, all our Soldiers have to be at the top of their fields, and these Troopers most definitely deserve their new ranks.

The Horse Cavalry Detachment is fully open to the public! Our stables are open 7 days a week for barn tours, and we put on our demonstration every Thursday at 1000. We love and appreciate the support that this amazing community provides us and look forward to giving back to it in every way that we can. Please check out the link on the association website for information to request the HCD to support an event in your area. We ask that you have the request turned in 120 days before the event to allow us to prepare and deconflict our schedule. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call our stables at (254) 287-2229. Social media is a great way to stay in touch with us for events, highlights, and the most up to date news. Check us out on Facebook as “Horse Cavalry Detachment, 1st Cavalry Division.”

INDEX	PAGE	INDEX	PAGE
1CDA OFFICE NEWS	16	CHANGE ADDRESS	2
1BSTB	3	NEW MEMBERS	21
545th MP CO	21	OTHER REUNIONS	6
5th CAV	5	REUNION	12-13
7th CAV	7	REUNION PINS	9
8th CAV	8	SABER RENEWAL	2
9th CAV	9	TAPS	4
12th CAV	6	TROOPER'S TALE	3
15th MED	11	VIETNAM BOOK	19
AIR CAV	22	WANTED	2
BOOK OF INTEREST	10		
CALENDAR	2	LETTER TO EDITOR	2
		LRRP	4

ADDRESS
CHANGE

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

Last 4 #'s of your SSN _____

Tel: (____) _____

Rank and Name: _____

New Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-Mail: _____

SNOWBIRDS

If you have two addresses during the year, we need to know them. Please give us the dates and addresses for both households.
(Circle one) Winter Summer

Rank and Name: _____

LAST 4#s SSN: _____ DOB _____

1: Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Dates: _____ Tel: (____) _____

2: Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Dates: _____ Tel: (____) _____

1CDA EVENT CALENDAR

Feb 24, 2024 Board of Governor's Hybrid Meeting

June 19-23, 2024 76th Annual 1CDA Reunion, Louisville, KY

Nov 9-11, 2024 15th Annual Veterans Day in Washington, D.C.

SABER RENEWAL / DONATION FORM

☐ Renew my *Saber* \$ _____ for _____ year(s) @ \$20 per year (6 issues).
Fill out and return the form below or attach your *Saber* label so we have your pertinent information.

☐ D-Trooper Fund \$ _____
In Memory of: _____

☐ Association General Fund Donation \$ _____
In Memory of: _____

Your "In Memory of" acknowledgements will appear in the HONOR ROLL section of the *Saber*

D-Trooper Program consists of a donation of \$25 or more. This donation will give you one year of *Saber* with the remainder going into the **D-Trooper Fund**. The **D-Trooper Fund** is one of the more positive means by which you can actively participate in furthering the programs of the Association and again show your pride as a CAV Trooper—a LifeTime Member of the First Team! If you choose to participate in the **D-Trooper Fund**, your name will be published in the Honor Roll section of the *Saber* newspaper and we will send you a certificate suitable for framing, for your first donation only.

LAST 4 NUMBERS OF SSN _____ DOB _____

Rank _____ Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Phone (____) _____

E-mail _____

CREDIT CARD # _____

EXP DATE: _____ CVV: _____

TOTAL AMOUNT \$ _____

SIGNATURE _____

You can also renew online at www.1CDA.org
Log in>>> *Saber* Newspaper >>> *Saber* Subscriptions/Renewals

LOOKING FOR A LONG LOST BATTLE BUDDY?

If you have been searching for someone that you served with within 1st Cav, try posting it here.
Submit requests to
<Programs@1CDA.org> for the next *Saber*!



SABER

The newspaper of the 1st Cavalry Division Association
published during each even numbered month at
302 N. Main St., Copperas Cove, TX 76522-1703
Phone: (254) 547-6537

Website: <http://www.1CDA.org>
www.facebook.com/AlumniOfTheFirstTeam

Dara C. Wydler: Executive Director, firstcav@1CDA.org
Tina Wilgeroth: Program Director / Editor / Graphics
Programs@1CDA.org

Karleen Maloney: Memberships / Scholarships / Chapter Director
Memberships@1CDA.org

ARTICLE SUBMISSION

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

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

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

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

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


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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

My name is SPC Ethan T. Balthrop, and I am eternally grateful to the current and former members and soldiers of the 1st Cavalry Division Association for selecting me as a recipient of this active-duty scholarship. For some time now I have wanted to get my master's degree to set myself apart from my peers, but now I realize the utility of such to promote my peers with my own success. I plan to finish my degree and continue to coach my fellow Soldiers to pursue their education goals and never let money be the issue that you must give up on a dream. I also want to say thank you to my command team, my wife, my family, and the soldiers in my company who have pushed me to never stop.


Praise the Lord, Gig'Em Aggies, and GO 1st Team.





I can't thank the 1st Cavalry Division Association enough for the opportunity to be a recipient of their scholarship grant. The chance to be supported by such a great Division who also supported my dad during his military career, is so meaningful. Education is extremely important to my family and the drive for success has been instilled in me for years. The chance to further my education while receiving financial support doing so, is not an opportunity everyone can receive. Thank you for giving soldier family members grants to help us to keep moving forward. I pray that many others get blessed through their growth as I have these years.

Michael R. Goudeau



Becoming a veterinarian is my goal. This requires a great deal of focus and schooling. I am excited for my future, as I envision myself being able to provide care for animals. This grant will allow me to pursue my dreams. I greatly appreciate the CAV Association for believing in me and providing me with this generous gift. Thank you.

Respectfully, Eliana Mora

SEARCHING FOR / WANTED:

SP4 GARY THOMAS, 1969-70

My name is Gary Thomas, and I was in B company 2/12th Inf, 1969 - 70. I am looking for an individual I met in the Cav (Vietnam) whose name is also Gary Thomas. We met twice, once in late 1969 and again in early 1970. The first encounter was at a hospital, the 24th Evacuation.

The second encounter was on FSB Buttons. I do not know which Cav unit he was with, but he was also in the infantry and had a wound to his foot or leg.

If anyone knows of a Gary Thomas in the Cav during 1969 - 70, please contact me at the email address <Sahasapa@hotmail.com>.

Trooper's Tale



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

Send your stories to Programs@1CDA.org

Remembering the Founding Father of 1CDA, William Archie Richardson

The William A. Richardson National Capital Region Chapter of the 1st Cavalry Division Association met on October 21, 2023, to remember the man for whom the chapter is named.

Born in 1921 in Salida, CO, Bill Richardson rode horses from childhood. After high school and 2 years in the Civilian Conservation Corps, Bill enlisted in the US Army on July 12, 1940, joining F Troop, 7th Cavalry Regiment at a time when the 1st Cavalry Division was horse mounted and based at Fort Bliss, Texas.

Not long after, Bill courted a young lady in El Paso, Eva Ulias. Eva was a church goer, so Bill became one too. By April 1942, Sergeant Bill and Eva were married in El Paso, beginning a marriage that lasted 73 years and took them around the world. In September 1942, Bill was appointed as a Warrant Officer and Assistant Supply Officer for the 7th Cavalry Regiment. His first major duty assignment was to oversee the logistics of dismounting the division as it turned in its horses in February 1943. The 1CD deployed in June 1943 to Camp Strathpine, Australia for jungle infantry training, then in December to Oro Bay, New Guinea to prepare for the upcoming amphibious assaults.

In March 1944, the 1CD conducted amphibious assaults in the Admiralty Islands, their first combat operations of the war. While there, Bill and fellow Troopers decided, should they survive the war, they wanted to meet again yearly to keep their friendship going. That agreement was the genesis of the 1st Cavalry Division Association, and Bill Richardson would become a charter member and lifetime member of the Association.

In October 1944, the 1CD secured the Philippines, fighting their way thru Leyte and Luzon, and finally rescuing Philippine civilians in Manila. In September 1945, the division occupied Tokyo, and the 7th Cavalry became General MacArthur's Honor Guard.

WO Bill Richardson returned to Fort Bliss in October 1945, mustered out of the service, and sold insurance. But he missed the 7th Cavalry, and in December 1946 he reenlisted (as a Technical Sergeant) re-joining the 7th Cav, this time in occupied Japan accompanied by his family. While in Japan Bill was commissioned as a 2nd LT by General Douglas MacArthur.

In 1949 2LT Richardson returned to the US, for duty with the 82nd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion of the 2nd Armored Division, at Camp Hood. In 1951 the division deployed to Germany.

Bill retired from the Army in 1961 as a Major, after assignments to Ft Meade, Army Security Agency, Korea, and Vint Hill Farms Station, Virginia. He continued his service as an Army Civilian working at ASA & INSCOM until 1983.

Photo on the right is from the "First Team" book published in 1984. In it, Bill says: *"I hold many memories of the 1st Cavalry; long columns of Troops riding in the hot dusty desert of west TX; a memorial retreat parade with the roll call of heroes of Indian Wars, and the echo of Taps sounding across the parade field at sunset; the excitement of moving into Camp Strathpine, Australia; a small, lonely but infinitely beautiful little cemetery on Manus Island (Admiralties) where we left our first comrades killed in WW II; daybreak in Leyte Gulf with a long convoy slowly dropping anchor under the fire of Navy warships, the landing and first nights on the beach; and the day in Tokyo Bay waiting for our ship to slip by the Missouri so we could begin occupation of Japan."*

Bill and Eva Richardson attended EVERY 1CD annual reunion; his last was at Fort Hood in 2015, despite Bill's cancer. Bill was Association President (1996-98), Member Board of Governors, and 7th Cavalry Association President (1988-90), President Emeritus.

In the National Capital Region Chapter, Bill was dedicated to growing membership, monthly meetings (Quantico & Springfield Virginia), valued friendships, working with Wounded Warriors, and Veterans Day activities. For several years, Bill was honored to lay the 1CD memorial wreath at WWII Memorial.

Bill's life was filled with other interests: He was a volunteer for adult literacy, the founding member & President of Fauquier Habitat for Humanity (and built many houses), enjoyed spending time with family and friends and reading (especially Louis L'Amour's tales of Western cowboy), collecting old Western sheet music, traveling nationally and internationally, woodworking and guitar making, playing his guitar daily, singing (especially with Eva accompanying), and he was a church deacon & elder, census taker, and volunteer at voting places.

In 2014, the NCR Chapter was renamed the William A. Richardson Chapter in honor of the esteemed Trooper of the greatest generation, who proudly spent much of his life associated with the 1CD and the 7th Cavalry Regiment.

Bill and Eva Richardson are both buried at Arlington National Cemetery Section 55, the Soldier's tombstone honoring Bill and Eva Richardson - married on April 2, 1942, together 73 years, now Forever Together. Garryowen!



PVT Richardson, 1940



Family photo, 1949



1958



Vets Day Dinner 2014



2014

OIF / OEF VETERAN

1st Brigade Special Troops Battalion News

SSG Brandy Harvest
HHC 1BSTB, 2007-2009
Luckybme04@yahoo.com

SSG Kenneth Pannell
HHC 1BSTB, 2005-2009
KaPannell@gmail.com



This column is a collection of stories submitted from 1BSTB Soldiers that served during OIF / OEF.

Centurions' road to war began in earnest May 2006. After initially being formed a year earlier as part of the Army's new modularity concept, the BSTB turned its focus from transformation to preparation for combat operations in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Training exercises such as IRONHORSE Rampage in May and JRTC in June helped to facilitate this preparation. With its mission and task organization constantly in flux amid public rumors that the 1st Cavalry Division would not deploy. 1BSTB's leadership ensured that the Soldiers maintained their focus and continued to increase the battalion's overall readiness.

At the end of May and throughout June, the battalion deployed to JRTC at Fort Polk, LA, in support of 1BCT, for JRTC Rotation 06-08. The battalion was very successful during the exercise and was able to employ many of its assets and systems in a battlefield-type atmosphere. The UAVs, JNN equipment, the MPs, and the FOX vehicles are just a few of the examples. The Intelligence Prophet teams were utilized in unconventional roles on the battlefield and were very successful. The intelligence Common Ground System (CGS) was integrated for the first time during JRTC. All these examples are just a few of the events that we accomplished during JRTC in our continuous preparation for deployment.

In July 2006, the battalion hailed a new Sheriff, CSM Green, as he rode into town, and we bid farewell to CSM Thomas. These highlights are just the beginning of our history as a new battalion. In the months ahead, we continued to add to the history as we continued to prepare for deployment and waited to get our call.

Credit to the Soldiers of the 1BSTB Battalion Yearbook 2006-2008 Publication

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Continued from pg. 1

On October 25th, your Association's Gift Shop received a belated ribbon cutting from the Copperas Cove Chamber of Commerce. As many of you may know, the Gift Shop – which used to be located in the old 1st Cavalry Division Museum

on Fort Cavazos – relocated to the Association's headquarters when that museum closed. It was a great ceremony and reminds us just what a treasure that gift shop is. I invite you to check it out online at <<https://shop.1cda.org/>> or on Facebook.

Finally, I want to say something that I hope will not be too controversial.

I am sure that, like me, many of you have been watching the news of late with some degree of growing concern. If ongoing events in Eastern Europe or the Middle East spiral out of control, our Army and America's First Team might find themselves once again in harm's way. As we grapple with this unfortunate "new normal," I want to share a message of hope that was recently sent to me by a friend.

"In times like this, we all too often seek out the things that divide us. Evidence of this is all around us. Need an example? Just take a tour of any social media platform. Look at the things discussed and the tone in which they are discussed. The media reminds us about war and conflict in every news cycle. From local issues to those international, we can find ourselves despairing and wondering just how we can do anything of consequence in a too fractured world. I would like to share two simple, but transformative, actions that we control that can counter the divisiveness we witness around us. Those two actions are peacemaking and serving.

Popular culture glorifies many actions through the movies, songs, podcasts, books, and the games we play. One that is hardly ever displayed or discussed is that of being a peacemaker. We tend to think of peacemaking in world conflict scenarios. The type of peacemaking I am discussing is not that, but rather defined by helping others, like our co-workers, citizens, friends, neighbors, and family, find peace in their lives. As only someone who has suffered the horrors of war can attest, I am convinced that peacemakers are a key missing piece of the puzzle to the civility issues we see. There is no glory or glamor about peacemaking. Peacemaking is not about shining light on ourselves it is about getting outside the "world revolves around me" headspace and focusing on helping others remedy the conflicts they face. Peacemakers are contented by knowing they did something that brought stability and resolution to others. Imagine the exponential impacts peacemakers could have on our world!"

"The second action, and closely associated with peacemaking, is service. Look at those you see involved in your civic clubs, churches, volunteers for sports teams or City Boards and Commissions, just to name a few. These individuals give much of themselves in service to their communities to make them all they can be and better than they found it. These community leaders are not divisive voices, there is something about serving others that both benefits our communities and provides peace to our own souls. There is no mystery that there is great joy found in service. I am thankful to live in a community where so many give of themselves in service to others!"

Two simple actions – peacemaking and serving others. These simple things performed by enough of us can fundamentally transform our world."

"The Dash," written by Linda Ellis, is a poem about how we live our life. In part it reads, "I read of a man who stood to speak at the funeral of a friend. He referred to the dates on the tombstone from the beginning...to the end. He noted that first came the date of birth and spoke the following date with tears, but he said what mattered most of all was the dash between those years."

We never know when our time will be up. All we can do is the best with the time we have been granted. How will you live your dash?

The 1st Cavalry Division – Courageous, Audacious, Victorious! Until we meet again, God bless you all.

First Team! Gambler 6, out.

LRRP/Ranger News



Pete Dencker
234 Sontag Dr
Franklin, TN 37064
615-202-4804
pdencker@outlook.com



I would like to begin this article by honoring two of our Brothers who did not make it back from RVN. Donald Miller, and Juan Angel Elias. SGT Juan A. Elias and CPL Donald Miller were members of E Company (LRRP), 52nd Infantry, 1st Cavalry Division when on May 21, 1968, their team was rigging a grenade as a booby trap on an enemy trail in Thua Thien Province, RVN. During this process, the grenade accidentally exploded, fatally injuring PFC Miller and seriously wounding SGT Elias. Elias was evacuated to a naval hospital ship where he succumbed to his wounds on May 29, 1968. A third member of the team, SGT Larry Curtis, lost an eye in the incident. Donald Miller was posthumously promoted to corporal by the Army.



Donald Miller

Donald Miller is a graduate of Pompton Lakes High School in New Jersey and is buried in Laurel Grove Memorial Park Passaic County NJ. A note from one of his Classmates. "Donnie, Just a note to let you know that I am thinking about you & your family at this Christmas season 2005. You were always a great friend in school & I miss you brother. My prayers are for you and all my fellow combat Soldiers who unfortunately did not make it out of the jungle. The Lord spared my life while in Vietnam and brought me home because I believe He has work left for me to complete. I think of you often and will say a prayer in your honor. That time in-country will never go away. God Bless, Bob"

Juan Angel Elias was a full-blooded White Mountain Apache from Tucson AZ, Juan is memorialized at Holy Hope Cemetery and Mausoleum in Tucson. Juan was an inspiration to Oliver Stone when developing his movie Platoon (1986) which was based partially on his experiences in our unit. Stone served as a rifleman in both the 25th Infantry Division and the 1st Cavalry Division. In March 1968 Oliver Stone and Gair Anderson volunteered for the 1st Cavalry Division's Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol training, but Stone was dropped from the unit after completing the course. Platoon depicts two Soldiers from 2nd Platoon, Company E, 52nd Infantry (LRP), specifically, S/Sgt John Barnes portrayed by Tom Berenger and Sgt. Juan Angel Elias portrayed by Willem Dafoe.



Juan Angel Elias

A note from Juan's Daughter... On a cool November morning, I stood before the Wall, then on a stage to speak from my heart of you. My hands shook, but not my voice, for my voice is yours. As I scanned the crowd, your eyes I found, in every man who stood to listen. Yes, Father they even cheered, but I could not find the tears that waited and watched as well. Angel, until this moment I never understood... but now I do. You are always with me, and I am never alone, and in the cold dark of that November night, the tears that waited came, and with them the soul of every name upon that Wall. Father, your name is seared into my heart and soul, and I thank you for going back a third time, so that another daughter, could stand at this Wall, and know too the sacrifice this child had made. You are not held by this Wall nor the wind nor rain, just as you lived know that I carry you with me, for I am you, on a cool November morning. You held me on a cool November morning as I came to this world, as I hold you each and every day. I remember all too well the last time you held me another November day, looking into your eyes I held the world as I do now. Yes, I do remember... Father a new day has come, and yet you are never gone simply a breath away.

Your Loving Daughter, "Whiteraven"

RIP Brothers....

Have seen a number of stories about "stay behind ambushes. I remember going out on a stay behind as one of the Infantry Battalions was abandoning a firebase with Bob Crenshaw's Team. Amazing how much "stuff" was left behind by GI's. Ran across this story by Glen McCrary who wanted us to know that any inaccuracies are unintentional and purely a result of the passing of thirty-six years. The following tale is not so much a war story as one of twists, turns, and coincidences that resulted in this Soldier's journey from one unit to another and full circle back again. It was on or about 1 Aug 1970, at the time I had been in country since May serving with E Co. (Recon Platoon) 2/5, 1st Air Cavalry. As the Recon Platoon for the Battalion, we spent most of our time in the bush with an occasional stand down, usually in Quan Loi. The duration of our missions necessitated that the unit periodically be re-supplied by Helicopter (Log Bird). While I do not recall the exact intervals for re-supply, I would guess Log Day occurred approximately once a week. In addition to the necessities required to sustain a force of approximately 20 men there was the occasional small supply of beer and ice and more importantly mail from home, thank God for mail from home. It was not unusual for the Log Birds to carry human cargo as well. Replacement Troops or Troops returning from R&R, sick call or wherever, would hitch a ride back to the unit.

That being the case, on this particular Log Day we were not surprised to observe five men exit the Huey as it settled in for off-loading. Curiously, the Soldiers emerging from the slick did not look familiar and it was obvious they were not new replacements. Outfitted in camo fatigues with painted faces and sporting a strange array of weapons prompted the question, "Who are these guys?" It was apparent that the men of Echo Recon were in for a new experience. Our platoon leader assembled the squad leaders for a briefing, and it was revealed that the mysterious Soldiers were a Ranger/LRRP Team from H Company assigned to perform a "stay behind mission." It was a well-known fact that our field units were prime suppliers to the VC and NVA. Our discarded items were valuable commodities to the enemy. In addition to food and other supplies being carelessly abandoned, there was always the possibility that documentation identifying the

unit, or their intentions may also be thoughtlessly left behind. We were instructed to consolidate all the debris from the re-supplying activity into a centralized location and then to prepare to move out. The Ranger Team would assume a concealed position and "stay behind" to observe and attempt a prisoner snatch. In closing the LT asked for volunteers to stay with the Ranger Team. While I was no stranger to enemy contact, I was more accustomed to a friendly force of twenty some odd men, not seven or eight. Nonetheless I nervously stepped forward along with two others and volunteered. While we were made to feel welcomed, I have often wondered how the Rangers felt about having strangers attached to their Team.

To provide concealment the Ranger TL carefully selected a position behind a stand of small bamboo allowing for a clear line of fire to the ambush site. With the Team members in position the Recon Platoon packed up and moved out of the LZ. The rear guard of the Recon unit had not been out of sight for more than twenty minutes when two VC rushed to the bait. The trap was sprung with the blast of several Claymores and small arms fire. Miraculously, the first enemy raider danced through the wall of blistering steel never missing a step. The second, not as fortunate, went down...down, but not out! Armed with an M-1 carbine the wounded VC proceeded to lay well-directed fire on the Team's position. As if M-1 rounds splintering the bamboo just above our heads were not exciting enough, there was more to come. The commotion from the firefight disturbed a colony of fire ants that boiled from the ground and immediately attacked the Team. Man!! Rounds sizzling overhead. Fire ants making a meal of my exposed flesh. I thought, what am I doing here, had I learned nothing about volunteering? In a matter of minutes, which at the time seemed like an hour, the small battle subsided, and the TL directed the Team to move up to assess the results. At that point what moments before was a killing zone became a hospital zone as the Team did everything possible to save the life of their determined opponent. All attempts failed as the courageous VC sustained a fatal chest wound. Further examination of the ambush site revealed a blood trail leading off into the bush indicating that the first VC was not as fortunate as first thought. An attempt to track the wounded VC failed as a typical afternoon downpour washed away the trail. At that point Echo Recon returned to secure the LZ for the extraction of the Ranger Team. As we sat and talked, one of the Team members was casually poking around in the dirt with his Kabar and happened upon a spent round, a quick glance around revealed that we were sitting in a direct line with our ambush position and the kill zone, the assumption was that the slug was from the M-1. Many times, I have wondered what the chances were of finding that slug in the dirt. Is there a chance that the Ranger Team member was having some fun and messing with my mind? To this day I do not know the answer to that question.

And now, the rest of the story: Unbeknownst to me at the time was the fact that before my tour was completed, I would become one of "those guys." In an effort to raise the performance level of the unit our new platoon leader felt that additional training was in order. Being a young aggressive First LT with stateside Ranger Training his first choice for our additional training was the in-country course at, you guessed it, H Company. SSG Al Rapp and I were chosen to be the first to attend and reported for training on 4 Oct 1970. Having been in the boonies for most of our five months in country, we were unaccustomed to the harassment but fully recognized the value of the training and were determined to successfully complete the course. After completing the course and the required training missions we had developed a strong appreciation for the small unit tactics and more so for the professionalism and dedication of the men of H Co and discussed requesting transfers to the unit. In addition to our respect for the unit, rumor had it that the 2/5 was scheduled to stand down, which would result in the dismantling of Echo Recon. The demise of Echo would undoubtedly result in its members being reassigned, many to line companies. We reflected on the "stay behind" mission and concluded that if the enemy could easily track the movements of a twenty-man Recon unit what chance did a large line company have of operating undetected. Besides, we did not feel that our 11F40 (recon/intelligence) MOS would best be utilized serving with a line unit. The pros far outweighed the cons, and we requested the transfers. As we all know nothing happens quickly in the military and Al and I returned to the Recon Platoon on 7 Dec 1970 to anxiously await word on the transfers. Long story short, my transfer was approved, Al's unfortunately was denied. While disappointed that Al would be staying behind, I looked forward to returning to H Co and reported on 14 Jan 1971 to proudly complete my tour as one of "those guys." Upon returning I was saddened to learn that Omer Carson, my first TL, had been killed in action on 7 Dec 1970. Omer was one of the many warriors of H Co whose dedication, loyalty, and soldiering skills played a large part in my decision to volunteer to return to the unit. I think of him often.

Until Next Time - RLTW

TAPS:

We were notified of the following deaths:

ALLEN, 1SG (RET) Michael R., A Co, 1-7 CAV, 1966-67. 2 December 2022.
BRAY, CW2 David M., B Co, 1-9 CAV, 1965. 7 June 2023.
CARLEY, SFC Don Jr., A Co & B Co, 227 AVN, 1968-69. 8 March 2023.
CHAMPAGNE, PFC Joseph J., F Troop, 12 CAV, 1947. 17 September 2023.
COSTELLO, SP4 Michael, B Co, 1-9 CAV, 1969-70. 22 January 2023.
DURNO, SP5 Peter J., HHC, 27th MNT, 1965-66. 16 September 2023.
ELDRIDGE, SGT Eric P. HHC, 1-12 CAV, 1995. 23 June 2023.
HERNANDEZ, 1SG (RET) Jesus "Jesse," B Co, 1-8 CAV, 1958-59; C Co, 2-7 CAV, 1965-66. 12 September 2023.
HUDNALL, SGT Michael A., A Co, 1-12 CAV, 1969-70. 26 August 2023.
LAIL, MSG Joe D., HHC, 3BDE, 1948. 19 June 2023.
LEE, SP5 Robert E., C Co, 27th MNT, 1965-66. 26 September 2023.
LEVINE, 1SG (RET) Owen J. "Sonny", HHC, 15th S&S, 1967-69. 29 September 2023.
MALLERNEE, CW4 (RET) Garry B., B Co, 227 AVN, 1969-70 & A Co, 229 AVN, 1972-73. 19 December 2021.
SIMONS, CPL Merrill C., 15th MED, 1952-53. 8 May 2023.
SPENCE, MG (RET) Clyde W., HHC, 3BDE, 1971-72. 20 July 2020.
WILSON, 1LT Emmett A., 2-12 CAV, 1969. 1 October 2023.

ACTIVE-DUTY TAPS:

We have not been notified of any non-combat Active-Duty deaths.



5th CAV News

Harold P. "Doc" Truitt
4584 50th St W
Rosamond, CA 93560
661-810-5971
rr3-6bandaid@antelecom.net



Not long ago we were mulling over the impression I have had of interesting people finding their way to the Cav. Since then, I have become aware of another such individual. The current chaplain of 2/5th wears a CIB! When it comes to having a good idea the problems a Cav Trooper might have one would think a man like that would be a very welcome addition. His name is Ryan McCollum, and he did his combat tours in the infantry with the 101st, in the "Band of Brothers," 2nd PLT, B Co, 1-506 Inf 4th BCT, 101st ABN DIV (AASLT). And his current rank is Captain. I plan to spend time getting acquainted with the Chaplain so that we can have a bit of his story for you. Whether my impression is correct as an ongoing thing, I shall choose to ignore and merely continue as if it were the fact, I believe it to be. At any rate Chaplain McCollum is most interesting to me.

This man's pedigree appeals to me even more since the mode of operation the 101st currently uses is very similar to the way the Cav operated when I was in the 2/5. I have no real way of knowing how many chaplains have had the distinction of earning the CIB before training to be a clergyman, particularly when it did not appear to be the fulfillment of a vow taken under fire, but there cannot be much of a surplus of such people! If you know of others I would be interested to hear.

For folks who have followed this column as I have been writing, you will not be surprised that I am more interested in people than in war stories per se. War happens to combat units and in that way is not uncommon, but the people that form our units define our history and you know, that interests me a great deal!

I first heard of CPT McCollum at the 100th birthday party for my very sweet mother-in-law. As it turns out, he is married to the daughter of one of my wife's cousins! His wife and her mother were at the party and since most of those folks know of my time in the Cav the information was included in the introduction! Unfortunately for me Chaplain McCollum was unable to be in attendance. That he would be assigned to 2/5 struck me as serendipitous! It took me a little time to make connections with him by phone and I intend to present his story to you in detail as it becomes possible.

The 1st Cav, and my battalion, 2/5th are more than just numbers to me, as well as any Trooper who has been part of it. It takes on an aspect much closer to family than might make sense to an outsider, particularly if that Trooper has done combat tours. I am quite certain that Chaplain McCollum feels the same about his old combat team. Now he has joined a new family, with a storied past. We are not related by blood, but he was already part of my extended family before he came to 2/5 although I had never heard of him. Now he is joining another unit to which I have "family ties" and I wish him the best and hope all of you meet him as you can, and we will make him a man with two combat families! It is also my hope I can make his personal acquaintance and I hope he becomes as real a part of the extended Army family that I know personally.

For whatever reason, I seem to have very little problem getting along with Veterans of most any stripe with only a few exceptions. Even so I will recap a few of the things I never expected of a person just because they happen to be Veterans. First, they are always entitled to their own point of view. While they may cut me some slack for our shared experience, and always seem easier to have a good relationship with, I have not met many Vets who do not think for themselves. Treating them that way always seems appropriate. So, if you make the effort to meet Chaplain McCollum, which I really hope you will, expect that an experienced infantryman with an extensive education can be expected to have their own thoughts either formed or evolving on most things they might encounter. We want to get a chance for him to also make 2/5 his "home."

During my time in the field 2/5 had a Chaplain that was not shy about spending time away from headquarters and was often seen in the field. He continues to be in touch with some of the guys and I was privileged to meet him. Men and women who make the military clergy their career are some fascinating folks. And the more they know about their chosen flock, the better off the Troops are.

This column is about anything relevant to and/or of interest to our regiment. When I found our association, at the Division reunion in Riverside California many years ago, I had no idea what my unit and its history would do for me. There were many people in attendance, and it seemed like they all wanted to help and to share. Many still come to such gatherings, but the various regimental associations are finding a rough road in locating new help in keeping things ready for the next generation. The things that helped us find our combat families and begin to understand more fully what our service really meant. Vietnam, Korea, and WWII each saw large bodies of Troops and therefore Veterans, who presented us with many who were interested in our history and mission. The conflicts following though every bit as intense and important, have been fought by smaller groups and the time between Vietnam and Desert Storm was longer. Knowing the relief to my spirit and the importance all that go with that, makes it important to me that those who follow get the same chance to connect with those who fought with them but we and the regimental associations struggle to keep this possibility available to those who follow.

We are here for you but are dying off while waiting for the next generation to take the wheel. We know how far our brothers and sisters who carried things before us helped us move. From warriors carrying ghosts and wondering about old friends, to men and women who are just as proud as ever, but much more comfortable in our souls. We all want that for those who follow. The smaller size of the groups and the fact that younger Troops do not commonly read this printed column assure us it will be harder to find ones to keep this going. This is not the only effort to reach them, but we need your help just as they need every avenue of support, we can leave them.

**Please contact the scribe
above to share your 5th Cav
stories here!**



Need A 1st Cav Memento? 'First Team' Gift Shop Holds Ribbon-Cutting in Copperas Cove

by Thaddeus Imerman COPPERAS COVE — Though it has been open since before Thanksgiving in 2021, the Crossed Sabers Gift Shop, which used to be located at the 1st Cavalry Division Museum on Fort Cavazos, joined the Copperas Cove Chamber of Commerce Wednesday morning.

Before members of the 1st Cavalry Division Association cut a ribbon in front of the shop at 302 N. Main St. in Copperas Cove, Beth Galick, the president of the Cove Chamber, said she did not know the gift shop was at the location. It is inside the same former house that holds the 1st Cavalry Division Association.

"It's nice to belong somewhere," said retired LTC Rich Kaye, President of the 1st Cavalry Division Association. "For the longest amount of time, we coexisted with the 1st Cavalry Division Museum."

Once it was announced that the Mounted Warfare Museum would be built, the division museum shut down and the gift shop relocated to Copperas Cove in a matter of weeks.

All profits from the museum are used to support 1st Cavalry Division Association events or for scholarships, according to retired 1SG Dara Wydler, Executive Director of the association.

Crossed Sabers Gift Shop is open 9 am to 4 pm Monday through Friday. Beginning Nov 15, the hours will be 9 am to 6 pm Monday through Friday and 10 am to 2 pm on Saturdays to accommodate holiday shopping.



77th FA News

John Moran
1013 Willowdale Ave.
Kettering, OH 45429-4732
(937) 361-1333
JohnJanMoran@woh.rr.com



The 77th Field Artillery Regiment held its 2023 Reunion in Fernandina Beach, on Amelia Island, in Florida, September 6-10. We feared that Hurricane Idalia would have a negative effect on attendance, but that did

not happen. As a matter of fact, it helped in that the temperatures were lower. The weather was very pleasant.

Jeanette Chervony, Ray Kreiner, John Moran, Doc Bosma, Mike Carter, Lindsay Jones, Tony Hartley, Mike Maynard, Dave Morehead, Mark Schwartz, Warren Owens, and Lu Merritt attended.

We were joined by Paula Kreiner, Jan Moran, Mary Ellen Morehead, Ruth Schwartz, Joan Owens, and Joanie Bosma. It is interesting to note that of those attendees, some were connected by LZ Peanuts, and the others through battalion FDC at LZ Buttons. Jeanette's dad, SGT Eddie Chervony, was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross (Posthumously) for his actions at Peanuts.

Fernandina Beach is a relaxed town with plenty of good restaurants, nice beaches nearby, and activities on the island, to include Ft Clinch, where reenactors, in period uniforms, portray Soldiers of the time. Friday morning, most of us embarked on a river cruise out of Fernandina Beach, up along the coast of Georgia, next to Cumberland Island. Cumberland Island is interesting from a historical perspective; Light Horse Harry Lee is buried here and in the late nineteenth century, the Carnegies started to build here; and the Vanderbilts came along, too. And in 1996, John F. Kennedy got married here.

We had our Friday banquet dinner at DownUnder, a well-known seafood restaurant. Very good! We held our General Meeting Saturday morning, September 9, all attendees were present. We remembered the five members we lost this past year: Les Ward, Steve Mauer, Al Hatch, Pat Doyle, and Ben Scott. Our Treasurer, Ray Kriener, reported that the Association is in good shape financially. We are starting a Tuition Assistance program for members and dependents. A draft set of criteria has been developed by Casey Mendenhall and has been sent to the Board. We voted to hold the 2024 Reunion in Branson, MO, and Doc Bosma will coordinate that. We held elections, and Casey Mendenhall moved up to President, Gabe Garcia is 1st VP, Jeanette Chervony is 2nd VP, and Tony Hartley was elected 3rd VP. Since then, LTC Derek Reeves, 1/77th FA BNCO, has appointed 1LT Chris Anderson as the 1st BN Liaison.



I recently got an email from LTC Derek Reeves, 1/77. While the Battalion was in France earlier in the year, participating in Operation Orion 23, they took the opportunity to visit a WWI American cemetery. They found two members of the 77th Field Artillery Regiment buried there, and placed flowers and a coin on their graves.

12th CAV News



Thomas Lon Crabtree
195 Buzz Street # 18
Branson, MO 65616
432-853-4851
MMCTL3@aol.com
www.12thCav.US



Salute-Semper Paratus! Another year gone by, a new one on the horizon. Good tidings to ALL our Troopers and Families for a Happy Veterans Day, Thanksgiving, Chanukah, Merry Christmas and a better 2024 New Year. This past year has had some interesting occurrences in our household. In April we landed 'flat feet' here in the Villages, did not initiate the correct three-point PLF and fell backwards on our butts. Discrepancies between what the realtor showed us, and previous owner neglect put us in stunned silence for two weeks. Recovering from the blow and back on 'stand to' we did some work and 'retrofit,' now ready for IG Inspection. Welcome to Villages, FL. If you are thinking of moving here, give me a call. I do not have many answers but may have some helpful insights from lessons learned. There is a good count of 1-12/2-12 Troopers throughout the state, VA Health Care in the Villages is A-1.

This year several of our brothers crossed to Fiddlers Green. Most recent Emmett Wilson on 1 October 2023 of Germantown, TN. As reported by James Wright, Emmett was a "tremendous asset and blessing to C Co, 2-12 Cavalry, 1970-71. He served as a platoon leader and later as Company Commander in Cambodia. Also served with the 82D Airborne and Army Special Forces." He will be cremated and interred at West Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery. 'Slow Hand Salute' to Emmett Wilson and condolences to the family.

I want to Thank Gary Oliver, B Co, 2-12, 1965-66, for the 'Buckner Banner' copies he recently sent to me. 13 September is the 1st Cavalry Division's Birthday. This past September the Division celebrated 102 years. *The Buckner Banner* was a publication prepared by 2-12th volunteer Troopers to keep Soldiers informed and positive on the long and tedious trip enroute to Vietnam. Final edition (Volume 1 Issue 26) published 12 September 1965 the day before landing at Qui Nhon. In commemoration of the 44th anniversary, this letter appeared in the final issue: To: The officers and men of the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile)

Today the 1st Cavalry Division celebrates its 44th anniversary as a key member of the United States Army. It is particularly appropriate that this organization day commemoration finds the division returning to East Asia.

In this Pacific Theater, in two wars, the "First Team" has proudly acquitted itself. The Division's history is a glorious one. Its combat record is unsurpassed. General Douglas MacArthur once paid tribute to the 1st Cavalry Division in these words: "...swift and sure in attack, tenacious and durable in defense, and loyal and cheerful under hardship. It has written its own noble history."

Now the 1st Cavalry is known as the "Air Cav," and it has been restyled into a hard-hitting, fast-moving unit unique among Army combat units. We thus carry into action not only the old and glorious traditions, but the promise of even greater moments to come.

The eyes of the world are fixed on this division. We are a symbol of our nation's determination to resist tyranny and aggression wherever it may appear. We are also the embodiment of an exciting new technical doctrine.

Whatever lies ahead, we will prevail. We are "The First Team."

/s/ H W O Kinnard
/t/ HARRY W. KINNARD
Major General, USA
Commanding General

As our previous commanding general said, "We Are the Cav, Courageous-Audacious-Victorious. Given all that is erupting around the globe, no doubt many of our current battalions are on ready alert. We Soldiers of the Vietnam era hope these sentiments are encouraging to those who may find themselves in Israel or Ukraine. In Semper Paratus mode, we are behind the active-duty elements 'All the Way' and rallying to the 1-12th Cavalry motto of our time, "Boot to Boot!"

22-26 October 2023, 15 Troopers and guests gathered at FT Moore/Benning, GA for a trip down memory lane. The Troopers were members of 1-12/2-12 Originals who were stationed at FT Benning 1963-65. These were members of the 11th Air Assault-Airborne and 2d Infantry Division directly involved in the training and development of the Airmobile concept. In July 1965, the Troopers were ordered into 1-12th (Airborne) and 2-12th (Airmobile), departed August 1965 to Vietnam riding the waves on the USNS GEIGER (1-12) from Savannah, GA and USNS Buckner (2-12) from Charleston, SC. Both transports arrived at Quin Nhon Harbor 13 September 1965.

Troopers present and accounted for 1-12: LTC (RET) Chuck Rose D Co, Recon (SP4 at the time); SGT John and LeAnn Spranza, 1964-1970 (187th Abn Inf), D Co, 1-12 and C Co, 1-12 Mortar Platoon, (survivor of LZ Hereford May 1966); Walter Wilczak, D Co (187th Abn Inf), D Co, 1-12; COL (RET) John G. Gergulis, (HQ 187th (Abn Inf), D Co, 1-12 Company Commander 1965-66 (CPT at the time); Carolyn Arnold, widow of Dieter Arnold D Co, 1-12 1965-66; David and Judy Hamrick, (D Co 187th Abn Inf), C Co, 1-12, Mortar Platoon 1965; Michael L. Van Kirk, D Co, 1965-66 and an advanced party member in July 1966 (clearing the area) to build base camp); Don and Shirley Trotter, (187th ABN INF), D Co, 1-12, 1965-66; Pat Hastings of San Antonio, TX as special guest of Chuck Rose. Thomas Crabtree, C Co, 1-12 (ABN), 1966-67, in the first wave of replacements under the Airborne cloak in 1966.

Troopers present and accounted for 2-12: MAJ (RET) Ray and son Tracy, C Co, 2-12 Platoon Leader, 1965-66 and member of 2D Infantry Division, 1963-65 in training and development phase. Troops were welcomed on Monday with pizza



and drinks. Tuesday, we toured the National Infantry Museum and ate barbecue at Columbus's best. Wednesday was a tour of the Weapons Collection Museum housing military stockpiles from WWI to present, capped off with a visit to GEN Hal Moore's grave to pay our respects. Wednesday evening, we gathered for dinner at 11th and Bay Street Southern Table, outstanding food.

After dinner we regrouped at the hotel hospitality room for Fireball and Modelo. Needless to say, the 'Esprit de Corps' and camaraderie was fitting for a group of esteemed Soldiers who laid the groundwork for the most unique war protocols ever devised. And it will be done again should the 'Chief Chopper Pilot' carry us through another year.



Bob March & Lina Pham Editor 'Fragments of Memory' Documentary



USIP Dream Team

Other highlights for the 12th Cavalry in 2023: Completion of the LZ Bird Documentary by Linh Hoang Li, (VTV 4, Hanoi), "Fragments of Memory." At the USIP, Washington DC, 11 -15 September Peace Conference, the documentary was presented in conference with the production crew and two of our 12th Cavalry Soldiers, Bob March D Co, 1-12 (ABN), 1965-66 and Kinborne Lo, C Co, 1-12 (ABN), 1966.

Officials and representatives from Vietnam and Cambodia joined the conference, searching for the truth and resolution of the war's aftermath. According to Bob March, it was an

uplifting and informative event for all involved.

12th Cavalry, 18th Annual Reunion 5-9 September, 65 Troopers and guests showed up in Branson, MO. A 'Strack' Salute to Fred Wilson and Ron Rowden, D Co, 2-12, 1969-70, for a job well done. Fred took the baton handed from Thomas Crabtree in 2022 to continue the tradition initiated in 2006 by Terry Combs, Frank Greenleaf, Mike Barber, B Co, 1-12, 1966-68, Doug Warden and Thomas Crabtree, C Co, 1-12, 1966-68. At the business meeting, group consensus was to try it one more time, year 19 in 2024, details in first column 2024 (Jan-Feb).

Saturday night's banquet guest speaker was Janet Alheit. Janet was nurse and caretaker for Thomas Corey. Thomas served in C Co, 1-12, 1967-68, seriously wounded early in 1968, he is wheelchair bound all his life, yet accomplished much in service to Veterans. Janet made many trips to Vietnam with him, searching for MIAs and other peaceful relations efforts with the Vietnamese people. She presented a slide show of their trips and told the story of Corey's numerous accomplishments. Janet is supporting an effort through a congressional bill to have the West Palm Beach, FL VA Hospital named after Thomas. To help her in backing this effort, she requests that our Troopers contact their congressional representative's office to encourage Bill's passage. We thank Rich Valles, C Co, 1-12, 1967-68, for contacting Janet and bringing her to the reunion as our guest speaker.



Janet Alheit

Our Association is trying to recruit younger members from the Gulf War through current day eras. Anyone who served in a 12th Cavalry Unit, any time is welcome to our group, whether in war or peace time. If interested in joining contact Thomas Crabtree, Secretary-Treasurer, 432-853-4851, email <mmctlc3@aol.com>. If interested in serving as an Association officer, contact Jim Stokely, 724-992-8358, email <gunport1.6india@gmail.com>.

Until 2024- "May the chief chopper pilot hover over us, the original paratrooper correct our parachute malfunctions, the head point man keep us in the assigned AO!" To the active-duty Troopers-May the Lead Tanker keep the mud off your Track Wheels-Semper Paratus- 'Boot to Boot'!

Crabtree Out! Happy Holidays to all

OTHER REUNIONS:

8th Cav Association, 1-5 May 2024. Ft Hal Moore/Benning, Ga. More info to come, keep checking the website, <8cavalry.com>. POC: Tommy Harris 678-340-6512, Larry Hempfling 314-229-7701, or Top Gun 270-978-1075.

Angry Skipper D/ 2-8 Cav Reunion, 29 May-1 June 2024. Jacksonville, FL. Doubletree Inn. Reservations 800-222-8733, group code ASA. POC Jim Garvin <James.Garvin@yahoo.com>.

76th Annual 1st Cavalry Division Association Reunion, 19-23 June 2024. Louisville, KY. Crowne Plaza Louisville Airport Expo Center. (866) 888-0620. More info to come. Please DO NOT reserve more than one room.

Have your upcoming reunions posted here!

Email to Programs@1CDA.org

7th CAV News



Jack (Boz) Parente
143 Autumn Dr.
Hauppauge, NY 11788-1039
(631) 338-1365
bozparente@gmail.com



Greetings, Troopers! Welcome to the December 2023 edition of 7th Cav News. A couple of months ago I received a box of 1970-1-2 vintage 1st Cav magazines and newspapers from my buddies Kitty and Jimmy Capshaw that the SGM saved from his tours in Vietnam. The Fall, 1971, issue of *First Team* magazine had an outstanding 4-page tribute to the Ladies of the USO and their



Girls in Slick

Miss America Show which was performed on many FSBs and LZs including the bases of Sherman, Mace, Andy, and Jeffries. This shot of the girls in the slick is one of my favorites and looks like the inspiration for the famous scene in *Apocalypse Now*. The Department of the Army's Special Photographic Office (DASPO) trained some great photographers that unfortunately were seldom credited or recognized for their efforts. The 1st Cavalry publications *First Team* magazine and *The Cavalier* had some of their most outstanding work. In addition to the photos there were stories, written as they happened, without spin or opinion. I will be including some of them when space permits thanks to the SGM and Kitty. My wife Pam and I just got back to the mainland after an impressive Hawaiian vacation with Chris and Karl Swenson at the beautiful Hali Koa resort, located right on Waikiki beach on the Hawaiian island of Oahu. The Hali Koa, one of the four-Armed Forces Recreation Center resorts operated exclusively for the military and Veterans. These AFRC hotels are unbeatable value and provide an array of affordable family-oriented vacation opportunities to active-duty service members, qualified Veterans, and their families. If the Hali Koa is any indication, you simply cannot go wrong with booking a vacation at any of the other three resorts, located in Florida, Korea, and Germany. I know that this is old news for many members of the 1st Cavalry Division Association who have been utilizing this benefit for decades, but if, like me, you have never heard of the AFRC, and if you are thinking about that big vacation, it most definitely is in your best interest to check these four hotels out. The Hali Koa is located on the island of Oahu and is near many points of interest including Honolulu, Diamond Head, The U.S. Army Museum, and Pearl Harbor, and is only about ten miles from the airport. At Pearl Harbor we were able to pay our respects to those who died on the first day of our country's involvement in WWII at the USS Arizona Memorial which is expertly managed by the U.S. Navy. We also visited the original bullet-riddled hanger at Hickam Field that was strafed by Japanese Zeros during the December 7th, 1941, attack and stood on the Surrender Deck of the USS Missouri in the exact spot where the war ended. All these things were on my bucket list, and I only wish we had done this years ago. I would also like to thank Cav Trooper Lherif Loraamm for recommending the Hawaiian guidebook by Andrew Doughty, "*Oahu Revealed*." If you are planning a vacation on Oahu or any of the other Hawaiian Islands, this well-written series has the book you need to read.



Helen "Patches" Musgrove

In the spirit of the Christmas season I thought I would mention a great person from Christmas past that a few of our members might remember seeing. Some folks just rise to the top, way above us mere mortals, and yet they never lose their humanity. Patches Musgrove was one of those people. Christmas in Vietnam was just another day in Vietnam, but some GIs from 1/7 and the other line units scored bigtime when their COs picked them

to go to the big USO Show. A ticket to The Bob Hope Traveling Road Show, performed for the seventh year in a row in Long Binh's Curry Amphitheater, was a highly prized pass and it was the lucky GI that got picked to go. During the war, for the most part, comedy was not that common in Vietnam. Bob Hope kept his live audience, and those lucky enough to be back in a rear area to view the show on AFVN-TV, in a constant state of side-splitting laughter, taking shots at everyone from himself to the GIs. "With all of the Troop withdrawals, I'm surprised to see anyone here," said Hope. (Long Binh had a permanent GI population of about 100,000.) "It's nice of you guys to stick around for the show." Crowd estimates for the show were over 250,000 range. Everybody that could have been there was there. Hope was backed up by a group of wonderful performers including the beautiful and talented Lola Falana who played to the crowd, bringing a few lucky young GIs up onto the stage to dance the shimmy with her. One of Bob Hope's buddies was a remarkable woman, Helen "Patches" Musgrove, who showed up to the show dressed in a full Santa suit. Viet Nam is hot in December, really hot, and Patches ditched the outfit after losing 13 pounds in 8 hours. Patches Musgrove was a war correspondent. She got the job of war correspondent covering the Vietnam War after persuading a large Florida newspaper to hire her even though she had absolutely no newspaper reporting

experience of any kind. She received her nickname from the 364 different patches she earned during her eight years of reporting the Vietnam war. After collecting thousands of Christmas gifts from people in the States and having them individually wrapped, Patches passed out the greatly appreciated and totally unexpected presents to Soldiers on fire bases and LZs all over Vietnam. She was also a registered nurse who was instrumental in operating the Da Minh Orphanage, a children's shelter near FSB Buttons. Her career in Asia began two years after the death of her husband, when she traveled to Hong Kong, opened a dress manufacturing plant, and sold designer clothes to a hungry U.S. market. The business was quite successful, and she used much of the proceeds to open and operate a children's shelter in Hong Kong. Patches Musgrove first went to Vietnam in 1964 and for eight years she covered the war, entertained U.S. servicemen, and helped with medical needs. For her activities in Vietnam, the Veterans of Foreign Wars awarded Mrs. Musgrove the 1988 True American Heroine Award for service. She was a member of American Legion and the Marine Corps Combat Correspondents Assn. In 1987 she received the Lady Stetson Award for Outstanding American Woman of the Year.

Jim Savage sent in this tribute from a few years back to 3/7th Cav Trooper, Judge Robert Yonts:

Judge Yonts was born in Seattle, Washington, raised in California, and graduated from Junipero Serra High School. He completed his bachelor's degree in English at Santa Clara University in 1963. Upon graduation, he enlisted in the US Army and was a lieutenant stationed with the 3rd Squadron 7th US Cavalry in Germany. He was a long-time member of the 1st Cavalry Division Association. Judge Yonts was proud of his duties in the Army and shared his many fond memories with family and friends. Following his military service, he earned his Juris Doctor from Santa Clara University School of Law. His successful private law practice in Santa Cruz led him to an appointment as a Superior Court Judge in Santa Cruz County. Practicing for more than 16 years, Judge Yonts left many dear colleagues who still miss his leadership and generosity. Upon retirement from the bench, he remained involved in numerous civic activities and organizations including JAMS, CASA, and the Santa Cruz Rotary Club. He was member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Capitola and enjoyed numerous activities with family and friends.

FORT CAVAZOS, Texas - Story by PFC Julian Winston Sergeant Major of the Army Michael R. Weimer visited Fort Cavazos to introduce himself and assess the installation's needs. He expressed how important quality living conditions are for Soldiers, and that he takes it very seriously. From there, SMA Weimer took the time to brief sergeant majors from across the installation about his outlook on the future. He then met with the leadership of the III Armored Corps, the Fort Cavazos command team, and Congressman John Carter. SMA Weimer also took the time to focus on sergeant first classes, master sergeants, and first sergeants who had recently returned from deployment to assess challenges, solutions, and successes. While at the People First Center, Weimer had an opportunity to observe a class on suicide prevention. Weimer received a briefing on the effectiveness of closed-circuit television camera systems within barracks to assess the possible adoption of this security measure. This visit is part of a series of visits that SMA Weimer is doing across multiple installations.

Jesus "Jesse" Hernandez, Jr. grew up in Corpus Christi, Texas, and shortly after graduating from high school, entered the United States Army and served for 24 years attaining the rank of First Sergeant and was awarded the Bronze Star Ribbon, Purple Heart Ribbon, Army Good Conduct Ribbon (7), Vietnam Service Ribbon With 3 Bronze Star, Army Overseas Service Ribbon With 2 Numeral, and Republic Of Vietnam Campaign Ribbon, along with many others. Jesse had an illustrious career in the military beginning at Ft. Lee, Virginia in 1951 where he did basic training. He did a tour in Germany and then was sent to Fort Leonard Wood in 1955. In 1959, he served a tour in Korea before being transferred to Ft. Devens, Massachusetts. In 1961, he was sent to Germany and in 1962 was sent to Ft. Benning, Georgia, to join the 11th Air Assault Division, which became the 1st Air Cavalry.



Jesse Hernandez, 15G, 1950-73, C Co 2-7 CAV

While in Vietnam Jesse served with the C2/7 1ACD. It was his unit that went in to relieve LTC Hal Moore's Troop during the Battle of the Ia Drang. In 1967, he was transferred to Ft. Hood, Texas before being sent back to Germany in 1968. In 1969, Jesse was sent back to Vietnam and in 1970, he was transferred to Fort Leonard Wood and assigned to the 2nd Brigade before being sent to drill sergeant school. During his time in drill sergeant school, he was the oldest man in his class at the age of 38. Jesse met and was united in marriage to Ruby Bonnilea Kelly on June 2, 1956, in Tuscumbia, Missouri. He leaves to cherish his memory are his seven children, twenty-three grandchildren, sixteen great-grandchildren, one great-great-grandchild, three half-siblings, an ex-wife, lots of nieces and nephews as well as a host of other relatives and friends. Garryowen, Jesse Hernandez! That's a fitting legacy for a fondly remembered 7th Cav Veteran.

*If you have a memory of a Cav Trooper that you would like to share, or a tribute, or an obit, or a story you wrote that you would like to see in print; or if you would like to do a buddy search or ask for info about anything related to the 7th Cav, just email or text me at the numbers in the header and we will do our best to get it done. Your input is critically needed, especially current news from our active-duty Soldiers and our younger Veterans, in other words, anyone under the age of 75. What is happening in the Cav today?

*To all the GWOT/Desert Storm Era Veterans out there: Tell us your stories! Help us keep our history alive. Our WWII and Korean War Vets are almost all gone, the Vietnam Veterans are down to their last twenty-five percent, and ya'll ain't gettin' no younger, no offence intended. It is time for you folks to step up and contribute. Please help keep us relevant. Tempus fugit. Boz, out.

8th CAV News



James "Top Gun" Dotson
P.O. Box 684
Murray, KY 42071
270-978-1075
airmobile68@gmail.com
www.8Cavalry.org



Hello everyone, it is me again, your award-winning writer! Well, maybe not for these articles, but I did get a nice plaque from my local AMVETS. More on that later.

As I write this, fall is upon us. The leaves are changing colors, and that clean, clear, and wonderful freshness of the fall breeze is with us. I love it, it is my favorite time of year. By the time you read this it will be as cold as Aunt Tilly's heart in the places where some of you live. For those who live north of the Mason Dixon line, the Hawk is coming. I would like to hear from those of you who know what that statement means, call me. If I could, I would talk or text each of you at least once a week. The cold weather can be bad for anyone, but us older folks seem to have a harder time. Please be safe, watch your step and take care of your old bones. I wanna see you in the spring!

Holiday Season

Thanksgiving and Christmas are here now. I wish the spirit of the holiday season were observed the way it was meant to be, with love, compassion, and remembrance of what the "Christ" in "Christmas" means. This time of year, we should be more in touch with our fellow men and women no matter where they come from. I try to speak and just say hello to everyone I meet.

It does not matter where we live in this country, there are Veterans. Whether we live in bad neighborhoods, good neighborhoods, or sadly, neighborhoods that have seen better days. There are many ways to reach out to Vets: VA hospitals and clinics, Vet centers, churches, and organizations such as AMVETS, VFW and VVA to name a few. I am sure we all have friends who are Veterans. What I am asking all the *Saber* readers to do is reach out to a fellow Veteran and ask them to join your family for Thanksgiving or Christmas dinner, or just to come over for an informal get-together. Sometimes the person who looks like they need company the least, needs it the most. I would love to wake up Christmas morning and know that all my readers were anticipating a Veteran joining them for the day. Please share this idea with everyone you know. I wish you and yours a most special holiday season and Merry Christmas. The same goes for our deployed brothers and sisters all over the world, I hope they know that we are all behind them. God bless all of you.

LZs or Firebases

Ann, Becky, Joe, Caroline, Ike, Sharon: this might be a list of names on your Christmas list, or your worst enemies. But for 8th Cav Vietnam Veterans they are names of places we served on at one time. They were known as LZ's or Firebases. Since there were no front lines, no printing on a map telling us on one side and them on the other, we relied on grids and coordinates to make our way. Most firebases and LZ's were round, with firebases tending to be larger in size. They were capable of having Artillery, aid stations, mess halls and command headquarters. Some of the bigger firebases had the capabilities to use fixed wing aircraft. Both had helicopter landing pads for medivacs, resupply, and fire support. At times, line companies would come in to catch a break from humping the field or pull guard duty on the perimeter. The Troops occupying the LZ's mostly performed guard duty along with their normal duties. Everyone on the bases always had double and, at times, triple duty. As a grunt I was unable to thank those hard-working men on those bases that gave 100% effort in support for the grunt in the fields. I applaud you. When the Troops were on one of the bases, we would push out of them doing daylight patrols looking for Charlie. At night we would head out and set up an ambush. Hot chow, and clean, dry clothes would be available. A first aid station to check on your bites, cuts and bruises could be found. A cold beer or coke, a package from home. Time to get some much-needed rest or to write or read a letter from home. Sometimes, if you were lucky to be there on a Sunday, you might look up and see the Chaplain performing a religious service from atop a bunker. No matter if your service was on the base or you wandered into one, it was wonderful to have a place to come to. So, call it a LZ or a Firebase, but we sure did thank God for them.

Kentucky Kampout

As I sit writing this it is raining and has been raining for 2 days. 47 degrees outside... yuck. October 17 - 21 this year the average temperature was around 80° and sunny. It was a perfect week for the 22nd annual Kentucky Kampout. We had 20 folks show up here at Paris Landing, TN. When we started the list in August there were 35 names on it. Due to different circumstances happening, the list started to go down. But no matter the number of attendees it was a fun time spent together. We started the campfire on the first day and never let it go out until the last day. Lots of stories were told, both funny and sad, and lots of great memories were made. Jim Garvin D 2/8, and Jerry Stevens D 2/8 came and brought tons of pictures from then and now, from Nam to reunions. They spent some time looking at and matching pictures up. Jim has an ongoing project and is reaching out to Angry Skipper Troopers that were part of the company 1965-1972 to send him pictures. His email is: <JamesGarvin@yahoo.com>. He would be happy to get them!

I would like to give a big shout-out to the folks who give us so much support for these reunions. Foremost and most importantly goes to my wife, Jennifer, and the AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary. They make sure we get breakfast and desserts for the whole campout and a special dinner one night. Thanks for a wonderful fish fry and all the help we get from AMVETS Post 45 and Commander Kathi Duncan, they truly stand by their Veterans and are strong in their efforts to help Vets in Tennessee and Kentucky. Both groups do a lot of projects for Veteran & patriotic programs, children & schools, VA hospitals and nursing homes, college and vo-tech scholarships and community service such as volunteer fire departments, service dogs & The Shed, which gives clothing, household items and personal care items to needy people free of charge. Thank you to Richard



Randy, Larry, Paul. Do you think these fellas shop at the same store?

Felton who was there every morning at 6:30 to help cook us breakfast too!

Overall, another great year! We would love to have any Veterans come join us next year, just contact me for information.

Attendees View of Kentucky Kampout

As those who attended know it was a lean year regarding attendance. However, that did not subtract from the good time had by all who were there. Several of the brothers were unable to make it due to health issues and a death in the family of Phil Chaffey. We will all miss Christie Chaffey. May she rest in peace. AMVETS and their Ladies Auxiliary, piloted by Chef extraordinaire Jennifer Dotson, once again were great hosts. They provided a wonderful breakfast and two dinners which included a fish fry on Friday night. The chuck wagon which is brought all the way from Georgia by Smiley always provides the comforts and necessities of a kitchen just like home. A few staples like chili and burgers on Thursday and rib eye steaks on Saturday night are mainstays. Huge campfires thanks to Randy Whitman and our host of the Kampout, James 'Topgun' Dotson for the wood provided. We anticipate regular attendance numbers next year so put it on your calendar. A special shout out to the Oakville Butcher Block here in Saint Louis for the rib eye steaks, hamburgers, and 10 lbs of ground chuck that we order for two of our meals. They always provide us with a quality product for making great meals. Karen and Brady take great care of our group of Vietnam Vets, and we thank them for putting in extra hours to prepare our order on their day off. If you live near the St. Louis area, give them a try. They are the Oakville Butcher Block at 4311 Telegraph Rd in St. Louis, MO. Phone number is 314-939-1133. Larry Hempfling D2/8 1968-1969



Most of the attendees of KY Kampout 2023

Bob Hope

The landscape in Vietnam was at times beautiful. Lots of trees, mostly palm trees near the coast and on the Bong-Song plains. The mountains were spectacular: huge, tall, triple canopy in places. So, I ask, what is wrong with this picture? About November 1968 it hit me: no Christmas lights on the trees. For a lot of us the most exciting thing about the holiday season was the lights, the ornaments, the star on top of the tree. Once, an arty shell hit the top of a tree and lit it on fire.... oh well, not exactly a star, but a start!

For many service members there was hope - The Bob Hope Show, that is. Bob Hope started his overseas shows in 1948 with the Berlin Air Lift. In 1968 the Bob Hope USO Christmas show was for many a small touch of home. His sense of humor and his care and love for the Troops certainly showed through all the performances he gave. The 1968 show was at Cam Ranh Bay and Ann-Margret stole the show! As the rain came down in torrents the show went on. I keep picturing her in a chilly rain, even though I was not there. I was honored to get to see another great American, Billy Graham. So, Bob and Billy, thanks for the memories.

Me

As many of you may know, I am dedicated to my fellow Veterans. When I received my VA pension and could no longer work, I made my mind up to help all Vets from all eras. I am doing this to the best of my ability. I am getting ready to start cooking on weekends at my local AMVETS Post 45. Mostly bar food, burgers, wings, etc. I will be helping the Ladies Auxiliary send Troop boxes to deployed Troops overseas. My big goal this year is to contact as many Veterans as I can to make sure they get Christmas dinner. Please brothers and sisters, call a Vet, go see a Vet, let a lonely Vet know he is not alone.

Heck, call me! I would love to talk to anyone out there, except for between 1pm and 4pm... that's nap time.

Needing You to Contact Me Again

To the Trooper who called me about the helicopter that was in the last 8th Cav article of the *Saber*, please call me again. I was driving and cannot remember your phone number. Either call me at 270-978-1075 or email me at <airmobile68@gmail.com>. Thanks, Brother.

One Last Thing

Oh, I almost forgot my award! (Pictured here) Honor and Courage.

Top Gun's award

Note from Jennifer Dotson

I am adding this part to his article without James's knowledge, he was just going to include a picture of the plaque he received & he deserves more than a picture.

AMVETS Post 45 commander Kathi Duncan waited to award Glenn (which is what I call him) this plaque during the Kentucky Kampout along with a Commander's challenge coin. He was voted AMVET of the Year for 2023 by the members of Post 45 due to his dedication to not only Veterans but his community as well. It is the highest honor our Post has. He held several fundraiser dinners for different AMVETS projects, drove Veterans (sometimes 2+ hours away) to hospitals and doctors, promoted Americanism & Patriotism in schools through poster and essay contests and by handing out pocket-size U.S. Constitutions booklets, provided meals to needy families all year long, helped provide Christmas presents at our 2 closest VA nursing homes, helped take supplies to donation center for tornado victims, talked to countless Veterans about how to file for their VA benefits, assisted other officers and the Ladies Auxiliary with their programs and projects, the list goes on and on.

I am so proud of him and proud to be his wife! It would be wonderful if some of you would call or email to congratulate him too.



Kathi presenting Glenn with his AMVET of the Year award



In my inaugural column, I listed some things I hoped to accomplish. First, I noted that in Vietnam, there had been only one 9th Cavalry element, the 1st of the 9th, and that in the current division structure there were three: the 1st, 4th, and 6th of the 9th. The 4th and 6th were listed as Reconnaissance, Surveillance, and Target Acquisition (RSTA) Squadrons, and the 1st was a Combined Arms Battalion. None of those three units are organized, trained, and equipped the way the Vietnam-era 1st of the 9th had been, so I expressed the hope that Association members who were then serving under the 9th Cav colors, or who had previously deployed to the Middle East under those colors, would send me their stories. My wish was that I could share those stories in the column so that 9th Cav Veterans who carried those same colors in Vietnam could understand and appreciate the changes. Despite repeated requests throughout my five-year stint, I received more publishable tales from Troopers who had served in the 9th

The Jul/Aug 2023 issue of the *VHPA Aviator* reported that **David M. Bray** of Newton Falls, OH, was a VHPA member who died on 06/07/2023 at the age of 82. He is listed as having served in Vietnam as a WO1 in 1965-66 as a member of B Troop, 1-9 Cav, with call sign FIXER 17. No obituary could be located.

				
1990 Georgia	1991 Texas	1992 Montana	1993 Texas	1994 Florida
				
1995 Texas	1996 Wisconsin	1998 New York	1999 Texas	2001 Texas
				
2002 Colorado	2004 Wisconsin	2005 Texas	2006 Kentucky	2007 California
				
2008 Florida	2009 Texas	2010 Minnesota	2011 Texas	2012 Oregon
				
2013 Texas	2014 Illinois	2015 Texas	2016 Nevada	2017 Texas
				SOLD OUT: 1997 2000 2003
2018 W. Virginia	2019 Texas	2021 Texas	2022 Ohio	

SHIPPING IS FREE



1st CAVALRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION HISTORIAN

Dennis Webster
513 Louise St, Copperas Cove, TX 76522
254-220-2164
Dennis.Webster7@gmail.com



The 1st Cavalry Division was the first full division in Vietnam and the last full division to leave Vietnam. The First Team was the only major unit to execute operations in all four Corps Tactical Zones (CTZs), Cambodia, and Laos. The Division's time in Vietnam began in 1965 and ended on 26 March 1971, although the 3rd Brigade (Separate) remained for another fifteen months and departed Vietnam in June 1972. The First Team was the first division to be awarded a Presidential Unit Citation in Vietnam for the Pleiku Campaign for the period 19 October to 26 November 1965.

This article will focus on one day in 1967 and one company of the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), whose actions are recorded in Headquarters Department of the Army, General Order, No. 73, dated 27 November 1968.

Award of the Presidential Unit Citation (Army) (1st Oak Leaf Cluster)

"Company A, 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), distinguished itself by extraordinary heroism in action against a superior heavily armed enemy force in the village of Tan An, Binh Dinh Province, Republic of Vietnam, on 20 March 1967. Company A was given the mission to air assault into a landing zone in the Soui Ca Valley and then move north to set up a blocking position. Landing operations were completed, and the company began moving towards Tan An with the 1st and 2d Platoons leading, the Command Group and Mortar Platoon following, and the 3d Platoon echeloned to the left rear. After moving approximately 400 meters over relatively open, sandy terrain, the entire company came under heavy enemy fire from a well-concealed, well-positioned force, estimated to be two companies of North Vietnamese. The 1st Platoon was the most heavily engaged element, having entered an open graveyard area only meters from a treeline of palms and the village of Tan An, where the enemy was positioned. Several of the men became wounded early in the fight including the platoon leader and the platoon sergeant. The weapons squad leader took charge with help from the platoon medic. As the platoon fought to stop a flanking movement by the enemy, the company commander called in supporting artillery fire. Although the Command Post Group was pinned down in the open area, the company commander maintained his position and began maneuvering his platoons. One squad of the 3d Platoon moved to the right flank of the heavily engaged 2d Platoon in order to halt any enemy movements on that flank. The 2d Platoon quickly gained fire superiority and began pivoting into positions on the right. The remainder of the 3d Platoon were positioned forward to reinforce the 1st Platoon. At this time aerial artillery from gunships of the 2d Battalion, 20th Aerial Artillery, became available and was deployed on the enemy positions. The Mortar Platoon was ordered to establish rear security for the unit, and, soon after positioning itself, began placing accurate fire from its 81-mm mortar on the enemy. Meanwhile the enemy force, realizing that reinforcements were moving in, intensified its efforts on the 1st Platoon's left flank in a last-ditch effort to encircle the element. Several new men, experiencing their first combat action under fire, displayed courage and valor as they replaced others, who were wounded, and the enemy flanking movement was completely thwarted. The 3d Platoon successfully linked up with the 1st Platoon, and, with the added fire support and strength, the 1st Platoon extracted its wounded and shifted its positions to the east to establish a defensive posture with the remainder of the company. Close-in artillery support from Battery C, 1st Battalion, 77th Artillery, aided in the movement and the entire engagement. Although mortared during the night and harassed by sporadic sniper fire, the company did not regain contact and maintained its tight defensive perimeter until the following morning. A thorough search of the area revealed 50 well-built bunkers with overhead cover, of which 15 had cement casings. Equipment, supplies, and the size of the area gave evidence that a large enemy force had been opposing Company A. The manner in which Company A reacted, the number of instances of individual heroism, and the unit's ability to gain fire superiority and outmaneuver a numerically superior enemy force clearly indicates Company A, 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry, soundly defeated the enemy and turned what might have been a disastrous defeat into decisive victory. Company A's actions reflect great credit upon itself, the 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry, and the United States Army and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service."

The medic with the 1st Platoon that is mentioned in the citation was SP4 Charles C. Hagemester. President Lyndon Baines Johnson awarded SP5 Hagemester the Medal of Honor in a ceremony conducted in the Hall of Heroes at the Pentagon on 14 May 1969. Hagemester remained in the Army and became an officer. He retired from the Army in 1990 at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel and continued to work for the Army as a contractor, serving the Army for the next twenty-five years. LTC (Ret) Hagemester passed away on 19 May 2021 at the age of 74 in Leavenworth, Kansas.

His Medal of Honor citation says, "For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty. While conducting combat operations against a hostile force, Sp5c. Hagemester's platoon suddenly



came under heavy attack from three sides by an enemy force occupying well-concealed, fortified positions and supported by machine guns and mortars. Seeing two of his comrades seriously wounded in the initial action, Sp5c. Hagemester, unhesitatingly and with total disregard for his safety, raced through the deadly hail of enemy fire to provide them medical aid. Upon learning that the platoon leader and several other Soldiers had been wounded, Sp5c. Hagemester continued to brave the withering enemy fire and crawled forward to render lifesaving treatment and to offer words of encouragement. Attempting to evacuate the seriously wounded Soldiers, Sp5c. Hagemester was taken under fire at close range by an enemy sniper. Realizing that the lives of his fellow Soldiers depended on his actions, Sp5c. Hagemester seized a rifle from a fallen comrade, killed the sniper, three other enemy soldiers who were attempting to encircle his position, and silenced an enemy machine gun that covered the area with deadly fire. Unable to remove the wounded to a less exposed location and aware of the enemy efforts to isolate his unit, he dashed through the fusillade of fire to secure help from a nearby platoon. Returning with help, he placed men in positions to cover his advance as he moved to evacuate the wounded forward of his location. These efforts successfully completed, he then moved to the other flank and evacuated additional wounded men despite the fact that his every move drew fire from the enemy. Sp5c. Hagemester's repeated heroic and selfless actions at the risk of his life saved the lives of many of his comrades and inspired their actions in repelling the enemy assault. Sp5c. Hagemester's indomitable courage was in the highest traditions of the Armed Forces and reflect great credit upon himself." Headquarters Department of the Army, General Order No. 29, dated 24 June 1968.

There were three members of A Company that were killed in action and eighteen wounded on 20 March 1967. The three Troopers killed in action were 1LT Peter S. Larson, SP4 Bennie Paolantonio, and SP4 Stephen D. Pleasant.

We are the CAV, Courageous, Audacious, Victorious!



SP5 Charles C. Hagemester



LTC (Ret) Charles C. Hagemester

BOOK of INTEREST:

The Battle of Bong Son, Operation Masher/White Wing 1966 by Ken White, LRRP Ranger

The first full account of this significant battle, based on first-hand accounts and historical documents.

Operation Masher/White Wing targeted the regiments of the North Vietnamese Army Sao Vang Division operating in the Bong Son area in northeast Binh Dinh Province in central South Vietnam. The operation started on January 24, 1966, immediately after the Vietnamese New Year (Tet) and ended six weeks later. It was led by newly promoted Colonel Harold G. Moore, who as a lieutenant colonel commanded the 1st Battalion, 7th Cavalry in the battle of Landing Zone X-Ray in the Ia Drang Valley two months earlier.

The book *The Battle of Bong Son, Operation Masher/White Wing 1966* is a detailed, boots-on-the-ground account of the first large-scale search & destroy campaign against the Viet Cong and North Vietnamese in the Vietnam War.

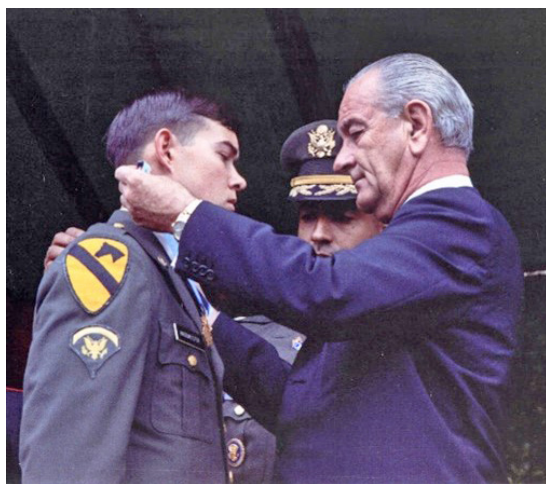
It is about ground Troops from the U.S. Army's 1st Cavalry Division, supported by Troop-carrying helicopters, helicopter gunships, and aerial artillery searching for the enemy troops in their jungle sanctuaries and attacking and destroying them with the application of maximum American firepower when found, resulting in enemy losses of more than 3,000 KIA at a cost of 245 Americans killed.

The book is being published by Case Mate Publishers and will be available at the latest early next year from Amazon and others.

THE BATTLE OF BONG SON

Operation Masher/White Wing 1966

Kenneth P. White



President Johnson awards the Medal of Honor to SP5 Charles C. Hagemester

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



In the last column I wrote about being contacted in 2018 by the late Richard Schroder, (MSGT, Ret, USA) RVN, 1969-1970. His contact was because of my then previous column

in the Jul/Aug 2018 *Saber*, which Richard responded to. He was reacting to a discussion I mentioned I had with '70-'71 MEDEVAC pilot Ron Huether who is the webmaster for the 15th Med Assn website and tries to post all of my *Saber* columns on that website. So, he is likely to read them as well. Ron says he is not a member of the 1st Cavalry Division Assn, for his own reasons. So, he doesn't get the *Saber*. Though, he apparently got into the habit of obtaining a copy of each column from the 1st Cav Assn website, to keep the 15th Med Assn members informed. That would be informed of what I write, thinking it is pertinent to the 15th Med Assn, and membership, many of whom are 1st Cav Assn members. I can safely say are all Veterans of the 1st Cavalry Division.

Even though Ron Huether is not a member of the 1st Cav Assn-for his own reasons-you have to ask him, why-and prefers the 15th Med Assn for his time and energy, my thoughts are; I am thankful that he did all that he did for the 1st Cav grunts in Vietnam, as a MEDEVAC pilot.

In one of my past columns, I wrote about Ron being inducted into the DUSTOFF Hall of Fame <<https://dustoff.org/hall-of-fame/>>. You can go to their website and read why all the pilots were inducted. DUSTOFF was the first Vietnam War U.S. Army Aeromedical Evacuation call sign, owned and used by the 44th Medical Brigade, which ran all the U.S Army hospitals in Vietnam, and had their own helicopter ambulances as mentioned. MEDEVAC was the call sign of the 1st Cavalry Division's Air Ambulance Platoon, in HHC 15th Medical Battalion. 1st Cav MEDEVAC helicopters used mounted M-60 machine guns, DUSTOFF helicopters did not. That was one notable difference; as well as MEDEVAC was exclusive to the 1st Cavalry Division, and units they worked with. I forever mention the out-of-print GPO book, which is a free downloadable pdf: *Dust Off - Army Aeromedical Evacuation in Vietnam*; Authors: Peter Dorland, James Nanney. Run a search on your favorite browser and it easily opens right up, free at <<https://history.army.mil/>> if you want to know the full story. It takes up less room on your hard drive than you think it would.

Nevertheless, others also thought Ron was a worthy pilot. I never flew with Ron. He came to MEDEVAC sometime around the Cambodian Incursion, which ended just before I DEROSed from my six-month extension, in July '70. I flew with many he flew with-and wouldn't fly with. I didn't know he could pick and choose, but he says he did. But our paths never crossed, to my knowledge.

I recently contacted MEDEVAC medic Robert "Tom" Campbell '69-'70, whom I knew during my six months in MEDEVAC. I saw photos of him on the 15th Med Assn website and it looks like he has a sewn on CMB. I asked him if he was an infantry medic, but he said no, he said he was in the 1st Cav, and the Air Ambulance Platoon preferred infantry experienced medics, but they couldn't always get what they wanted, were desperate, so made the exception with him-and some others I knew. Tom said he thought it was better than humping in the jungle, so took advantage.

Not everyone thought it would beat the bush. I always thought that it was, "Out of the fire, and into the frying pan." MEDEVAC medic Dale McGuff '69-'70 was a platoon medic in 2-5 Cav. In his book,

So That Others May Live, he said he thought it was, "Out of the frying pan, and into the fire." But I didn't get shot up as much as he described he did. I asked Tom Campbell if he ever flew with Ron Huether, and he said, yeah. He said Ron was a good pilot and had his stuff together.

Another MEDEVAC pilot, I did fly with a lot, then LT Henry Hank "Okie" Tuell, is also in the DUSTOFF Hall of Fame. I recently spoke to MEDEVAC pilot Greg Simpson, whom I flew with, and Henry Tuell, together. Greg mentioned wanting to go to a 1st Cav Assn Reunion but has not yet. Greg said he never, if ever, sees Henry Tuell at the 15th Med Assn Reunions, that he hangs out with DUSTOFF. If true, I find that unique. I flew hot, precision pickups with LT Tuell on MEDEVAC in Cambodia, and DUSTOFF helicopters were nowhere in sight.

With Ron Huether and Henry Tuell hanging out where they want, my thoughts are, to each his own. In the interest of freedom, my thinking is, whatever gets you off, knock yourself out.

Now that the background information is out of the way, I will get to what I intended. Ron, not being a member of the 1st Cav Assn cannot get archived copies of the *Saber*, only the recent one available to the public. He does take advantage of being the website editor. If he doesn't like what I've written, I've noticed he will leave things out, if not the whole column. I do my best effort.

But, one person I know, who appreciates the *Saber* columns on the 15th Med Assn site is, ME! I have every one of my *Saber* copies from day one; and copies of my own submissions; and complete access to archived copies on the 1st Cav Assn website; but it's easiest for me to glance at for reference, what Ron posts, if anything. Then, I go to the other sources.

What Ron communicated to me in an email, and I had mentioned in the 2018 Jul/Aug *Saber*, was that he had a bone to pick with me because I told the following story in the May/Jun 2018 *Saber*. This is an excerpt, with embellishments in brackets:

"...on 18 Jun 69 we (C 2-7 Cav) had combat assaulted into a large field (XT415801) which I have marked on the map (I own). That was four clicks from where they put LZ Becky (XT373810), just south of Bo Tuc-on then Route 246, which Route 244 ran perpendicular to with, LZ Jamie ten clicks south. We had received 120 mm incoming on the 18th when we landed, and a burst in the tree line wounded our then RTO Joel Smith. When I got to him his spleen was sticking out, so I had to put it back in as best I could. Our battalion surgeon was on the Command-and-Control helicopter with the battalion commander, so he jumped off to take over, and earned his Combat Medical Badge. The NVA also had anti-aircraft pits dug like reverse donuts using an ant hill in the center for their gun, just on the other side of the wood line (I saw only one when leaving that area). One of our machine gunners yelled (that) they were firing at the Cobras-but, not for long (the Cobras fired back). We didn't even wait on MEDEVAC and sent Joel out with the battalion surgeon on a slick ship, under good (his MD) care. MEDEVAC apparently picked him up at Jamie."

While I was communicating with Ron, in an email, he mentioned he had a bone to pick with me because I had said our 2-7 Cav battalion surgeon had earned his Combat Medical Badge when he jumped off the Charlie Charlie bird to take over assisting us with our wounded. Ron said he thought a CMB could only be earned by a Combat Medic assigned to an infantry unit for thirty days and under fire.

What Ron thought is incorrect. There is no timeframe mentioned in the CMB AR. It doesn't say anything like, you have to hump the bush with the grunts for thirty days. The CMB AR states: the qualified AMEDD 0-6 and below must be assigned or attached to the medical detachment of an Infantry (Recently amended to all combat arms units) TO& E, regiment, or below. They must accompany the unit members into battle and render medical care under fire. What I see, and read is, it could be just one time, like my battalion surgeon, I mentioned, performed.

The 2-7 Cavalry was like all the other dismounted infantry battalions in the 1st Cavalry Division in Vietnam. They all had four companies, and a fifth E recon/mortars company. I do not know if my 2-7 Cav Battalion Surgeon ever had to do that same type of action with the other 2-7 Cav companies. Just that one time coming to assist us-his battalion, rendering medical care, under fire, was being a combat medic, meeting the requirements stated in the CMB AR. I saw him on LZ Jamie in the aid station caring for wounded when Jamie took incoming fire. He was there with his Infantry TO&E battalion and cared for the artillery, and other wounded brought to him, under fire.

Ron went on to say in 2018, "I guess I'm blind, because I could swear there was a thirty-day time on it. I say this because we had an awards-crazy platoon leader in MEDEVAC that set up a few foxholes on the wire at Phuoc Vinh and had orders cut on the officers for thirty days saying we were attached to the infantry in the Perimeter Defense Squad. All so he could meet the requirements for the CMB."

I do not know if that is true. We'll have to take Ron's word for it. It was a good reason for making me get defensive about a genuine combat medic deserving the CMB.

I do not know how Ron can claim that thirty-day wording he mentions. I do not see anything like that in the AR. If someone sees anything like that, send me the paragraph, line number, etc. Everyone can read the AR themselves if they want proof.

The following link is a downloadable pdf of the complete AR 600-8-22 Personnel-General-Military Awards: <https://armypubs.army.mil/epubs/DR_pubs/DR_a/pdf/web/ARN18147_R600_8_22_admin2_FINAL.pdf>. You can search for it on your browser. The CMB AR is Chapter 8, page 108.

Ron also said to me back in 2018, "I know most of my DUSTOFF pilot friends wear the CMB but over the years I've never had one that could produce orders." I'm sure they could not, unless they were qualified as the AR states. What Ron told me in 2018 sounds like some kind of Catch-22 corruption scheme.

The intention of the column this time was to explain why Richard Schroder had initially contacted me. I found I needed to get a copy of the CMB AR and study it when I started seeing 15th Medical Battalion Commanders claiming on their obituaries that they earned the CMB. When, they were never in Infantry TO&E units, and so many genuine combat medics who were, suffered for it, with the men they served.

Always remembering our 1st Cav Troops on duty around the world; over and out.
FIRST TEAM! Garryowen,
Mike Bodnar C 2/7 Cav 1969
MEDEVAC 1-7/1970
SO THAT OTHERS MAY LIVE

Membership that's anything but basic.

Join USAA today
usaa.com/join
or call 800-531-8521



Use of the term "member" or "membership" refers to membership in USAA Membership Services and does not convey any legal or ownership rights in USAA. Restrictions apply and are subject to change. USAA means United Services Automobile Association and its affiliates. The Department of the Navy does not endorse any company, sponsor or their products or services. MCCS Sponsor. No Federal or DoD endorsement implied. Paid ad. No federal endorsement of advertiser is intended. Neither the Coast Guard nor any other part of the federal government officially endorses any company, sponsor, or their products or services. © 2023 USAA. 285330-0323

USAA.com/join

76th ANNUAL REUNION OF THE 1ST CAVALRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 19-23 June 2024

The Fort Knox Area Chapter invites you to join the rest of the First Team Family in Louisville, KY for the 76th Annual Reunion of the 1st Cavalry Division Association from 19-23 June 2024. All Life and Associate Members are welcome to attend this special event. Gold Star Families and Widows of our members are always welcome to attend.

Please register early to assist us in coordinating the best reunion possible. Some events have limited seating available due to the size of available rooms. All members of the Association must register and pay the \$40 Registration Fee except for our Active-Duty Troopers who pay \$20 to register. 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. *The registration fee will no longer be refundable regardless of when a member cancels.*

Online registration is open! The Reunion registration form will be included in the *Saber* until April '24. Those sending in registrations post-marked after 1 May 2024 must pay a late registration fee of \$50.

The Association will be providing our guests with transportation to the Louisville Slugger Museum and back to the Crowne Plaza Hotel on Friday 21 June 2024 (0930-1800) at a cost of \$20 per person. Additionally, a bus will be provided for members who wish to visit the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Elizabethtown, KY on Thursday 20 June (0930-1600), at \$40 per person. Bus tickets can be purchased when you initially register, either by mail-in or on-line, or at the Walk-in Registration area. There will be no bus passes needed for those attending the mixer or the Ladies Tea.

NOTE: Cancellations are non-refundable after the 1 May 2024 deadline.

HOTEL INFORMATION

We will be utilizing the Crowne Plaza Louisville Airport Expo Center for all our events. The Crowne Plaza has guaranteed a room rate of \$131 per night plus tax for rooms and there is no charge for parking. Make sure that you identify yourself as attending the 1st Cavalry Division Association Reunion. The hotel does provide a free shuttle service from the Louisville Airport and rental cars are available at the airport.

Crowne Plaza Louisville Airport (866) 888-0620 reference code: CR1
830 Phillips Ln
Louisville, KY 40209

Or use the provided link on the right-side menu of the Association website.

I do not foresee the hotel running out of rooms, however if the need arises, I have provided additional hotels for our members to consider and in walking distance to the Crowne Plaza.

Spring Hill Suites Louisville Airport (502) 361-9009
Tru by Hilton Louisville Airport (502) 792-8800
Hampton Inn Louisville Airport (502) 366-8100
Howard Johnson by Windham Louisville Airport (502) 363-9952
Courtyard by Marriott Louisville Airport (502) 368-5678

RV PARK INFORMATION

For our members traveling with an RV, I have provided you with several options:

Derby Park Campgrounds & RV Parking (502) 636-3532
2900 7th Street Rd
Louisville, KY 40216

Brooks Mobile & RV Park (502) 276-6090
205 Sarver Ln
Brooks, KY 40109

Louisville North Campground (812) 282-4474
900 Marriott Dr
Clarksville, IN 47129

REUNION EVENT OVERVIEW

You will notice several general event changes on the registration form. Instead of War Lunches we will be having a Legacy Breakfast. The Mixer has now been changed to the President's Reception. We did raise the registration costs, to include late registrations and Walk-in registrations. Beginning this year, we will no longer refund the registration fee at any point for a cancelation.

Transportation arrangements have been made for our members to visit the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Park on our bus trip to Elizabethtown, KY on Thursday 20 June (0930-1800). Our local Fort Knox Chapter helped raise money and supported the The Wall Project. The cost for this trip is \$40 per person.

Additionally, we will offer a bus trip to to visit the Downtown Louisville area on Friday 21 June (0930-1600). There is a slight cost required for this transportation (\$20 per person). Louisville is a city full of culture and compassion. For the "Foodie," Louisville is ranked among the top 10 best new food cities; if Bourbon gets your engine running try the world's only Urban Bourbon 'city-wide' experience; and for the kid in all of us, visit the Louisville Slugger Museum & Factory or the Muhammad Ali Center. These are just a few things to do. Hop on the 'LouLift,' free downtown transportation, and you can see everything else the downtown area has to offer.

This year's Ladies Tea will be at the Waterfront Botanical Gardens. The Waterfront Botanical Gardens was started by Botanica, an umbrella organization for the local gardening community started in 1993 to help enlighten, entertain, and educate the community about the botanical world.

The President's Reception/Mixer will again be at Churchill Downs. This time you can bet on real races. Thursday is Night Racing in Kentucky. There will be a light meal available for attendees, a cash bar, and camaraderie while you take in a race or two.

As usual, we will have all other planned events in the Crowne Plaza: Legacy

Breakfast, Unit Lunches, Purple Heart Breakfast, Association Banquet, Group Breakfasts, and Memorial Service. We will have meetings of the Chapter Presidents, 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 Foundation.

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. 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 Crowne Plaza for you to gather 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 Gift Shop will set up a store in the hotel to sell all kinds of Cav-tastic First Team merchandise including shirts, hats, Stetsons, pins, decals, and other items too numerous to mention.

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 Louisville in 2024!



Cut off date to pre-order your shirt is 15 MARCH 2024

76th Annual 1st Cav Div Assn Reunion T-shirts

Pre-order YOURS today!!

Adult Sizes Only

☐ S ☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL ☐ 2XL ☐ 3XL

Please indicate quantities in boxes.

\$23.95 each

+S/H= Total

Front Design



Description:
Red shirt with full-color imprint on the FRONT.

Shipping Chart:
1 Shirt @ \$10.50
2-8 Shirts @ \$17.50
9+ @ \$23.00

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

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

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

☐ Check enclosed ☐ Visa ☐ M/C ☐ Discover ☐ American Express

Card Number _____ CVD# _____ Exp Date MO/YR _____ Signature _____

Reunion T-shirts will NOT ship prior to 15 MAY 2024.

Please mail order form to:
Crossed Sabers Gift Shop
302 N. Main St.
Copperas Cove, TX 76522



76th ANNUAL 1st CAVALRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION REUNION, JUNE 19-23, 2024, in LOUISVILLE, KY
is open to all members of the 1st Cavalry Division Association

WEDNESDAY JUNE 19
0900-1800 Registration Desk Open
0900-1800 Gift Shop Open
0900-2400 Reunion Room Open

THURSDAY JUNE 20
0900-1800 Registration Desk Open
0900-1800 Gift Shop Open
0900-2400 Reunion Room Open
0930-1800 Trip to Elizabethtown, KY
1000-1100 Foundation Mtg
1100-1300 Board of Governor's Mtg
1330-1400 Chapter Presidents Mtg

FRIDAY JUNE 21
0730-0900 Legacy Breakfast
(in place of War Lunches)
0900-1600 Registration Desk Open
0900-1600 Gift Shop Open
0900-2400 Reunion Room Open
0930-1600 Bus Downtown
1200-1400 Ladies Tea
(Waterfront Botanical Gardens)
1430-1530 Veterans Benefits Briefing
1700-2000 President's Reception/Mixer

SATURDAY JUNE 22
0730-0845 Purple Heart Breakfast
0900-1100 General Membership Mtg
0900-2400 Reunion Room Open
0900-1500 Registration Desk Open
0900-1600 Gift Shop Open
1100-1300 Unit Luncheons
1745-1845 Cocktails (Cash Bar)
1900-2230 Association Banquet

SUNDAY JUNE 23
0700-0830 Group Breakfast
0700-0830 LRRP/Ranger Breakfast
0900-1000 Memorial Service (Long Roll Muster)

MAIL TO:

1st CAVALRY DIVISION ASSN REUNION, 302 N. MAIN, COPPERAS COVE, TX 76522-1703

The 76th Annual 1CDA Reunion is at Crowne Plaza Louisville Airport, 830 Phillips Lane 40209, Louisville, KY (866)888-0620, June 19-23, 2024.
Registration fee is required for Lifetime and Associate Member, not guests. Fee includes information packet with name tag(s), booklet and pin.
REFUNDS: Cancellations must be received by 5:00pm May 1, 2024, in our office (254-547-6537) for a refund. **Registration fee is non-refundable.
**Cancellations are non-refundable after the May 1, 2024 deadline.

Are you a member of 1CDA? Yes No
Is this your first reunion? Yes No

Name: _____
Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____
Phone #: _____
Email: _____
Nickname: _____
Unit (s) #1: _____
Year (s) #1: _____
Unit (s) #2: _____
Year (s) #2: _____

Guests/Spouse/Other: (For nametag purposes)
#1: _____
#2: _____
#3: _____
#4: _____
#5: _____
#6: _____

Method of Payment: (circle one)
Credit Card Check: # _____
CC #: _____
Exp Date: _____
CVV#: _____
Signature: _____

BUS PASSES: Prices are per person. ADA bus will be available.
• Bus to Elizabethtown, KY- Thurs, June 20 \$40 Qty: _____ \$ _____
• Bus to Downtown Louisville- Fri, June 21 \$20 Qty: _____ \$ _____

FRIDAY JUNE 21
Legacy Breakfast (in place of War Lunches) _____ \$ 40.00 \$ _____
Ladies Tea
Includes lunch at the Botanical Gardens _____ \$ 40.00 \$ _____
No bus pass needed
President's Reception/Mixer _____ \$ 45.00 \$ _____
Cash Bar, Buffet
No bus pass needed

SATURDAY JUNE 22
Purple Heart Breakfast _____ \$ 32.00 \$ _____
Unit Lunch (Circle your unit) _____ \$ 50.00 \$ _____
5C 7C 8C 9C 12C ENG
AVN ARTY HQ LRRP
Assoc Banquet (Circle your unit) _____ \$ 65.00 \$ _____
5C 7C 8C 9C 12C ENG
AVN ARTY HQ LRRP

SUNDAY JUNE 23
Group Breakfast _____ \$ 32.00 \$ _____
LRRP Breakfast _____ \$ 32.00 \$ _____

REGISTRATION FEE: 1 **\$ 40.00** \$ _____
(For member, not guests)
Active Duty w/ID _____ \$ 20.00 \$ _____
Reunion Donation _____ Donation \$ _____
Saber Newspaper Renewal (\$20 per year) **(\$20 per year)** \$ _____
REGISTRATION FEE AFTER MAY 15, 2024 \$ 50.00 \$ _____

GRAND TOTAL \$ _____

PLEASE NOTE: Prices are based off of hotel costs, with no taxes or gratuities included.

**CHAPTER NEWS
UPDATES**

We invite all of our Chapter Presidents, VPs 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, January 3, 2024.**
Please send to Memberships@1CDA.org

CONNECTICUT CHAPTER

The food table at our CT. Chapter, summer bar-beque. L-R: Glen Bentz, Jack Kranyak, Stuart Topliff, Rich Magner. Our next general membership meeting will be Saturday, January 13, 1:00 at the Manchester American Legion, Manchester Ct.
All members, guests, and prospective members are welcome. For further details contact President Keith Moyer.



civilian career as an American Airlines pilot and test engineer for Bell Helicopter. Members were also entertained by Bill Sestron board member for the NY Honor Flights Program. Bill explained the free Honor Flights program and invited all Veterans to apply for a flight to Washington D.C. to view the war memorials.
The chapter is deeply indebted to have received a generous donation from Joe Panzardi of VFW Post 4787 in honor of our former President, Bob Arbasetti who passed away August 6th.



Joe Panzardi

CROSSED SABERS CHAPTER

Calling All Fort Cavazos/ Central Texas First Team Troopers Past and Present!
If you joined the 1st Cavalry Division Association (1CDA) while assigned to Fort Cavazos (formerly Fort Hood), then you automatically became a member of the Crossed Sabers Chapter! If you are a 1CDA member, and you live in the greater Central Texas Area, you are a member of the Crossed Sabers Chapter.
The Chapter was well represented at the 1st Cav Birthday BBQ and parade in September. A big thanks to the members of the CSM A.C. Cotton VFW for providing the brisket. (CSM Cotton was a 1CD DCSM in the 80s, he is honorably remembered by the naming of the on-post Fort Cavazos VFW). The rain cleared for the BBQ the evening of the 14th and held off its' return until after the Horse Detachment Charge at the end of the parade the morning of the 15th. The sky opened up after the ceremony and provided a great chance for Troopers to relive many memorable days in the mud while wearing the patch... good times!
We had a Stable Call in-conjunction with a Copperas Cove Moose Lodge fundraiser on 14 Oct and rounded out the month with a Copperas Cove Chamber of Commerce Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the 1CDA Gift Shop on 25 Oct.
Our chapter participated in Veterans Day wreath prep and laying at the Veterans Cemetery. Wreath retrieval at the Cemetery will be on 13 Jan 2024 at 1000hrs (weather permitting).
The legacy continues, 1st Cavalry Division. Courageous, Audacious, Victorious! Great reasons to be an active member of the 1st Cavalry Division Association! Stay connected with your military service through the Crossed Sabers Chapter, for many it was the most formative years of our lives...
Reach out to myself, President Tony Cole, 254-394-2891 for more details.



Shaun Hutchinson

The next chapter meeting, originally scheduled for November 11, had to be postponed due to many prior commitments on Veterans Day by members. The next meeting will be scheduled for a Saturday in February 2024. Shaun Hutchinson, the Veterans Service Officer for Bergen County is scheduled to be our guest speaker. Shaun is a retired Master Sergeant from the US Army. He served over half of his 20-year career in the 75th Ranger Regiment where he held every position from rifleman to platoon sergeant. He also served a long stint with the 75th Ranger Regimental Reconnaissance Company. Shaun deployed to combat every year from 2001 to 2012 and was a part of initial invasions of both Afghanistan and Iraq. Shaun's team helps Veterans, surviving spouses, and their children maximize benefits through the VA. He also assists others in need of housing and jobs.
Our meetings are open to all service members regardless of branch, division, or unit assignment. We welcome spouses, relatives, friends and interested parties. There are no dues or charges to attend. Coffee and a buffet lunch will be served. We are a great group. Come check us out.
For questions or more information please contact Robin Bartlett, President at <rbartlett01@gmail.com>.

SHERIDAN'S CAVALRY CHAPTER

Members from our Chapter attended the Unaccompanied Veterans Ceremony at the Abraham Lincoln Military Cemetery on October 16th. Sixty-two Veterans were honored, having been buried from July through September. Dates for next year's ceremonies are: January 8 (Monday), April 9 (Tuesday), July 11 (Thursday), and October 11 (Friday) of 2024.
Our next Chapter event is our Christmas Party on December 2, 2023. Our upcoming 2024 meeting dates are March 9, May 11, Picnic August 10, October 12, Christmas Party December 7, 2024.
Meeting and events are usually held at the Roselle American Legion Post #1084, 344 East Maple Ave. Roselle, IL 60172.
Respectfully Submitted – Terry Hodous

**WILLIAM A. RICHARDSON
NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION**

The subject of our October meeting was "Remembering William A Richardson," for whom the chapter is named. His daughters, Sheron Hume and Carol Dandy, brought his favorite headgear, mementos of Bill and Eva Richardson and shared memories of their dad. Please read Bill's story in Trooper's Tale on page 3.



Sheron (left) & Carol (right)



Campaign hat 1940

On the right is his 1947 1CD patch. Written on the patch is "Bataan Mindanao Leyte Luzon"
Left is Bill's campaign hat with "Garryowen" crest, as shown in the bio. (photos by Gordon Tillery)



1947 1CD patch

FLORIDA'S FIRST COAST CHAPTER



We are honored to report that our chapter has made contributions to the Boy Scouts of America. Our member Johnnie Michael leads a local troop. We also contributed to the American Legion Auxiliary in support of breast cancer awareness, as our member Ray (Doc) Skipper is supportive of this cause.
Our past meetings, since last reported, have featured presentations by the Veterans Council of Duval County, a summary of the impact and purpose of battles as documented in the Bible, and a program description by the ROTC Department at the University of North Florida.

That's us, pictured below, making a presentation to American Legion Post 137 on San Juan Ave in Jacksonville FL. It hangs center stage. Come and see.
If you live between St. Augustine FL and St. Mary's GA and if these programs sound interesting to you, contact us to be put onto the meeting notification list.

NY/NJ CHAPTER

The NY/NJ Chapter held its last chapter meeting October 23rd. Our guest speaker was David Drummond who provided a fascinating account of his experience as a B52 pilot shot down in the final days of the war while participating in Operation Linebacker II. David gave a PowerPoint presentation and an in-depth discussion of his bail out and subsequent capture by the NVA. He was beaten, tortured, and spent time in the famed Hanoi Hilton and the "Zoo." He was returned to the US along with his entire crew in March 1973 and spent his



David Drummond

SEND US YOUR CHAPTER PHOTO!

Feel free to send us your Chapter Updates and a photo so it can appear in the next issue!
Tell us a little bit of what your Chapter is doing.

Send your submissions to:

Karleen at Memberships@1CDA.org or
Tina at Programs@1CDA.org

ARE YOU TIED INTO ONE OF OUR CHAPTERS?

We encourage you to link into your nearest chapter!
Reach out to the president & meet new Cav brothers/sisters!
Refer to the Chapter Index found on next page.

CHAPTER INDEX

**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 Elmer's Restaurant, 10001 NE Sandy Blvd, Portland, OR. No meeting in Dec.

CONNECTICUT
Pres: Keith Moyer
48 Boretz Rd.
Colchester, CT 06415-1009
(860) 885-4330
Email: kpmoyerco@hotmail.com
Facebook: CTCav
We meet quarterly. Email me for info. All new & prospective members welcome.

CROSSED SABERS
Pres: Tony Cole
(254) 394-2891
Email: Olesarge19d@outlook.com
Facebook: 1st Cavalry Division Association Crossed Saber Chapter
Gen membership mtgs Mar & Oct.
Stable Calls: 4th Thurs of eamos, 6pm, except Nov, Dec and the month of the Assn Reunion. Stable Calls at various locations in Cen TX area.

FLORIDA
VP: Gil 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'S FIRST COAST
Pres: Jesse Crimm
4445 Silverwood Ln
Jacksonville, FL 32207-6241
(904)534-8899
Email: thecrimms@gmail.com
Meets at noon on 3rd Tues of every mos. Locations alternate between westside & southside Jacksonville. Call 904-534-8899 to be notified & placed on mailing list.

**FLORIDA TROOP E
"BLACK HAT"**
Pres: Juan Kellogg
607 SE 47th St., Apt. 7
Cape Coral, FL 33904-5506
Email: juankellogg@embarqmail.com
Website: www.seahog.org/cav/index.html
Meets 4th Sat ea mos from Sept.-May 1:00 pm at Mission BBQ, 12984 S. Cleveland Ave, Fort Myers, FL 33907

FORT KNOX AREA
Pres: Thomas Ken O'Barr
12210 Valley Dr.
Louisville, KY 40026-9501
(502) 228-8032
Email: ko42@bellsouth.net
POC: Robert W. Griffin
64 Tabor Lane
Elizabethtown, KY 42701-6158
(270) 737-5908
Email: lyngriffxx@windstream.net
Facebook: 1st Cavalry Div Fort Knox Area Chapter
Meets 3rd Sat of mos at 11am at Camp Knox Masonic Lodge #919, 1158 N. Dixie Hwy, Radcliff, KY.

**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 1800 2nd Tues of ea mos, except Nov, Dec, and Jan,
Lititz VFW Post 1463, 14 N. Spruce St., Lititz, PA 17543

**JAMES J. MASON
WEST MICHIGAN**
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: Wayne Volk
3106 Nebraska Drive, Unit 2
Bismarck, ND 58503
(701) 226-9929 or (701) 527-1262
E-mail: lois.reinhardt@midco.net
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: Fred Douglas
2742 E. Main St, Lot 5
East Troy, WI 53120-1379
(262) 379-9930
Email: FDouglass@centurytel.net
POC: Michael Lorber
4819 Longwood Dr., Mt. Pleasant, WI 53403-9769
(262) 554-8310
We meet quarterly on 2nd Sat of Mar, Jun, Sept at 12pm at the Bunker in Waterford, WI. Election of officers are the 2nd Sat of Dec at 12pm at Meyers Restaurant in Greenfield, WI.



Send us YOUR Chapter photo,
So it can appear in the next issue!

**LOS ANGELES/
ORANGE COUNTY**
Pres: John Guillory
780 Mandevilla Way
Corona, CA 92879-8251
(951) 283-7458
Email: manhunter6869@yahoo.com
Vice Pres: John Burgner
228 South Hacienda St.
Anaheim, CA 92804-2569
(714) 535-0737
Email: jburgner@sbcglobal.net
Meets quarterly (Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct)
0900 on 3rd Sat of mos at American Legion Post 132, 143 S Lemon St., Orange, CA 92866

**LRPP/RANGER of the 1st Cav
Division during the Vietnam War**
Pres: Doug Matze
9623 Springhouse Dr.
Chesterfield, VA 23832-9304
(804) 790-1955
Email: Doug.Matze@yahoo.com
Website: www.lrrprangers.com
Full chapter meeting during Reunions.

NEW YORK/NEW JERSEY
Pres: Robin B. Bartlett
63 Burlington St.
Norwood, NJ 07648-1515
(201) 856-7530
Email: RBBartlett01@gmail.com
Facebook: New York New Jersey Cavalry
Instagram: NYNJcavalry
Meets quarterly at Elk Lodge 25 Cedar St, Ridgefield Park, NJ, 10am-1:30pm. Free coffee & buffet lunch. Send email to be added to mailing list for updates on upcoming meetings.

**NORTH CAROLINA
TARHEEL**
Pres: Johnny Parker
10915 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: Clayton Waldron
3415 SE ST Anns CT
Port Orchard, WA 98367
(360) 876-3959
Email: claytonwaldron@msn.com
POC: William Jackson
9703 Vantage Terrace CT SE
Olympia, WA 98513
(360) 539-8110
Email: williamal.jackson@comcast.net
Facebook: 1st Cavalry Division Association-Northwest Chapter
We currently meet on the first Sat of even months at Ft Lewis Golf Course Tacoma WA.

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
Facebook: Sheridan's Chapter 1st Cavalry Division
2024 meeting dates are March 9, May 11, Picnic August 10, October 12, Christmas Party December 7, 2024. All Meetings and events held at Roselle American Legion Post #1084, 344 East Maple Ave., Roselle, IL 60172.

**WALTER H. WESTMAN
NORTHLAND**
Pres: 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
We meet quarterly, locatons change each time to different areas of the state. Call for updated information.

**WILLIAM A. RICHARDSON
NATIONAL CAPITOL REGION**
Pres: Linda Jantzen
3913 Ridge Road
Annandale, VA 22003
(210) 849-9036
Email: signalinda88@gmail.com
Facebook: 1st Cavalry Division Nat'l Capitol Region
Meets 3rd Sat in Jan-May off Jun-Aug. Meets again Sept-Dec. Nov meeting held in conjunction with 1CDA Veterans Day gathering.

1st CAVALRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION - ALUMNI OF THE FIRST TEAM

CROSSED SABERS GIFT SHOP located at 1CDA HQ

302 N. Main St Copperas Cove, TX 76544

E-mail: 1stcavgiftshop@gmail.com
Online Catalog Visit: shop.1CDA.org

254-532-2075

Gift Shop Hours:
Mon - Fri 0900 - 1600

Buy all your Cav-Tastic souvenirs here!

Books, Challenge Coins, Clothing, Hats, Jewelry, License Plates, Medals, Military Brass, Patches, Pins, Stetson & Accessories, Ties, Unit Stickers & Much More!

Printed Catalogs Are Available for \$5.00!

Make your check payable to 1st Cavalry Division Association and mail to: 302 N. Main St., Copperas Cove, TX 76522-1703.

The Crossed Sabers Gift Shop is a Non-Profit Organization. Net income is distributed to the Association for the Scholarship Program and to the Soldier Travel Fund, which allows active duty Soldiers of the Division to attend away Reunions as guests of the Association.

We accept telephone orders with payment by MASTERCARD, VISA, DISCOVER or AMERICAN EXPRESS or you can order online at shop.1CDA.org using your credit card.

Crossed Sabers Gift Shop
20% OFF COUPON
Telephone Orders Only

Mention coupon code 122923 to receive your discount.
1 per person

Expires: December 29, 2023
Excludes Stetsons & Consignment items

GOT CAVALRY HISTORICAL QUESTIONS?
Did you know we have a 1CDA Historian?


Reach out to Dennis Webster with any questions, or information regarding 1st Cavalry Division history!

Dennis.Webster7@gmail.com or 254-220-2164

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

Why is this important to the Association?

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

**1st CAVALRY DIVISION
WALKING HISTORY TOUR**

If you’re visiting Fort Cavazos, be sure to visit the 1st Cavalry Division Headquarters (Bldg. 28000). They now have a free 1st Cavalry Division Walking History Tour. The tour is outdoors. It starts at the south entrance of Heritage Hall (1st Cav HQ) and walks around Cooper Field. Open to the public. If you want to watch from the comforts of your home, check out this link:
<<https://youtu.be/zE5npJiKpUo>>

You can also visit the Horse Cavalry Detachment for a barn tour, located behind the National Mounted Warfare Museum (projected to open sometime 2024). They also do their weekly Cav Demonstration on Thursdays, 10am at the stables. The Detachment and the Museum are not on post; therefore, no visitor’s pass is needed.

Stetsons are no longer listed on our website, however they are still available when you call the Gift Shop.

Stetson Hat Company has created a new online pricing policy for Stetsons. If we were to advertise & sell them on our website, we would have to list them at \$269.99.

Therefore, we have made the decision to NOT list the hats on our website and keep our price of \$199.99. If you have any questions or concerns, please give us a call at 254-532-2075.

**PRICE INCREASE
Effective 1 July 2023**

Due to the increased prices of paper, printing and postage, the price for the *Saber* newspaper will increase to \$20 per year (6 issues) or you have the option to purchase 5 years for \$75.

As of 1 January 2022
ALL BOUNCED CHECKS WILL INCUR A \$25 FEE.

The next *Saber* newspaper is the **January / February 2024** edition.
Deadline for submissions of your stories or photos is **Wednesday, January 3, 2024.**
Please email to Programs@1CDA.org

2024 CALENDAR STATUS

Exciting News!!

You should have received your 2024 Calendar! They were mailed out the end of October. If you have not received it yet, please reach out to us.

Consider Donating Today!
Calendar donations keep this program operational. Without your donations we are unable to continue this program.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
CONTINUED SUPPORT & GENEROSITY!**

DONATION CHECKS

When sending in multiple donations to either Association, Foundation and IaDrang, we ask if you could please do it by writing out separate checks to each entity.

It will make the banking process smoother since they are all separate bank accounts.

Many Thanks!

Check out these websites to read more about what the 1st Cavalry Division is doing!

<https://fortcavazosmediacenter.com/>
<https://www.army.mil/1stcav/>

**Be a Saber Writer
CARRY ON YOUR UNIT LEGACY!
Share YOUR Stories**

Email for details: programs@1CDA.org

USEFUL VETERAN ASSISTANCE INFO:

<<https://www.archives.gov/>> National Archives & Records Administration, Veteran service records

<<https://www.archives.gov/personnel-records-center>> Central repository of personnel-related records for both the military and civil services of the United States Government. 314-801-0800

<<https://www.veteranmedals.army.mil/>> U.S. Army Veteran Medals

<<https://nvf.org/>> National Veterans Foundation: crisis management, information and referral needs of all U.S. Veterans and their families. 310-642-0255
Vet-to-Vet toll-free helpline: 888-777-4443

<<https://nationalresourcedirectory.gov/>> Dept of Veteran Affairs, The National Resource Directory is a searchable database of resources vetted for Service members, Veterans, family members and caregivers. 800-342-9647

<<https://www.veteranscrisisline.net/>> Veterans Crisis Line 800-273-8255

<<https://www.dav.org/>> Disabled American Vets is a non-profit charity that provides a lifetime of support for Veterans of all generations and their families. 877-426-2838

SPECIFICALLY FOR TEXAS VETERANS

<www.TVC.texas.gov> Texas Veterans Commission advocates for all Texas Veterans, assisting with: VA Claims, Employment, Education, Entrepreneurship, and VA Healthcare Advocacy. 254-238-7124

<<https://www.texvet.org/>> Informative resource guide for Texas Veterans and family members. 512-341-4924

DIVISION DOINGS:

Riding High: The Birthday of the Cav story/photo by SGT Alex Romey

Troopers, Families, and Veterans celebrated the 102nd birthday of the 1st Cavalry Division with a week of competitions, camaraderie, and heritage observations. From across the "First Teams" seven brigades, Troopers enjoyed a week off of work to compete and build a sense of fellowship within their organizations.

The week began with a moment of silence as the Division assembled on Cooper Field to pay respects to those affected by the September 11th attacks in 2001. "First Team" commanding general, MG Kevin D. Admiral spoke to his organization about the importance of remembrance and the opportunity to build a solid relationship with the Troopers to their left and right.

"To all of you standing in formation today, those who can't be here, and those still deployed," said Admiral. "Thank you for your continuous sacrifice and service. You are part of a legacy we must strive to uphold."

Following the speech, CAV Week was kicked off with a competition between battalion command teams, as leaders faced off in various physical activities to determine the week's first victory. Troopers cheered their leaders on as they tackled a gauntlet of exercises, with the team of the 1-82 Field Artillery Regiment bringing home the first win of the week.

Troopers competed against each other in events such as football, soccer, dodgeball, and triathlon. Only one Battalion could bring home the Commander's Cup; every event counted towards the final score. 1LT Dan Horoho, an officer in the 3rd Engineer Battalion who took the victory in the Division 5k run and brought his unit crucial points, shared what CAV Week means to him.

"We get to pause to celebrate our storied history," said Horoho. "Every unit gets to display their pride in their respective organizations." It wasn't just traditional sports played during the week, as Troopers took to the range and faced off in a demonstration of firearm proficiency. This competition was won by marksmen from the 3rd Cavalry Regiment, "Brave Rifles."

"As an infantryman and as a Trooper, marksmanship is paramount to our profession; it's how we protect teammates and defeat our enemies," said 1LT Robert Traitz, a leader from the Regiments Steel Squadron. "I'm thrilled Fort Cavazos is bringing practical shooting sports to our Troopers and hope the program continues to expand."

On September 15th, the 102nd birthday of the Division, the "First Team" formed up on Cooper Field to run as a single formation. Accompanied by the sound of artillery, Troopers took to Legends Way Road for the Division Run. Following this, a cake-cutting ceremony was hosted in front of the Division, with each Brigade cutting their own cake with their cavalry sabers.

An award ceremony was held to close the week and acknowledge the 2nd Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment "Thunderhorse." The Troopers within that formation scored enough points throughout CAV Week to earn their unit the Commander's Cup.

The final day of CAV Week involved a Division-wide family day, a rock concert held by the 1st Cavalry Division Band, and a movie on the lawn, all held on Cooper Field.

The 1st Cavalry Division celebrates its history every year, remembering the days when it was a mounted formation, the years when it was an air assault Division, and its current day-era structure as a combined arms division.



and its behavior. "The most important thing they learn during this training is to understand your horse's behaviors," said Pope. "So, in any scenario where the horse becomes scared or uncomfortable, our Troopers will know how to handle it without losing control of the horse."

Additional techniques were also trained upon to optimize the use of the available time. "During the training, we pair our least experienced riders with our more experienced horses and then the opposite where we pair more experienced riders with our less experienced horses," said Minor.

As the training came to a close, the instructors were satisfied with the achieved outcomes. "The training was very good, there is some stuff I would like to bring back to my barn and implement as well," said Pope. "The way they do things here is a lot different from how my unit does it."

Training to uphold the traditions of the 1st Cavalry Division will always be the priority of the Horse Cavalry Detachment. However, it is important that others remember the dedication it takes to uphold those traditions.

"The training develops both the riders and horses. Riding is not as simple as just jumping on the horse and going somewhere, there's a lot to it, and most people don't understand that," said Minor.

Cavalry Reunion In Texas FORT CAVAZOS, TX- story by SGT Elliot Alagueuzian, 1st Cavalry Division



In a heartwarming reunion, the original Troopers of the Horse Platoon, 1st Cavalry Division, gathered in Mount Pleasant, Texas, October 21, 2023, to relive old memories, share stories and witness the timeless tradition of cavalry exercises performed by Troopers of the Horse Cavalry Detachment, 1st Cavalry Division. The event was a nostalgic journey back in time, celebrating the rich history and camaraderie of these brave Troopers.

"We are all brothers here," Dale Bradshaw, former SSG in the original Horse Platoon said. "As you get older you sit talk about the old days, and we feel it's very important to always remember the camaraderie in military and to keep up the legacy of the Horse Platoon."

The Horse Platoon was originally formed back in 1972 as a ceremonial unit that had to honor the history and heritage of the cavalymen. However, in the early days the platoon had to impress the chain of command to continue to grow and spread the culture of the cavalry. "It's very different than what we had to do, because we were just starting out. So, we had to do things to get their attention, so they like us and that's what we did." Mack Chandler, former platoon sergeant of the Horse Platoon.

The reunion kicked off with a warm welcome and a series of events that celebrated the Soldiers' service. Veterans reminisced about their time in the division and shared stories that spanned decades. For many, it was the first time they had seen each other since their active-duty days. There was a palpable sense of camaraderie and the rekindling of old friendships.

"This is one of the most unique jobs in the Army," CPT Michael C. Gates, company commander of the Horse Cavalry Detachment said. "To meet and perform in front of the Veterans who served in the same role nearly half a century ago is a special event for our Troopers."

A highlight of the reunion was the opportunity for the original Soldiers to watch the current members of the Horse Cavalry Detachment perform classic cavalry exercises. These exercises included demonstrations of horsemanship, precision drill routines, and blank-firing demonstrations using vintage weapons.

The reunion also featured barbeque, where Veterans shared their experiences and their pride in serving in the 1st Cavalry Division. Members of the Horse Cavalry Detachment spoke about the significance of keeping the cavalry tradition alive and how much they valued the wisdom and stories shared by the original Troopers.

"People are typically very excited to see us at the events," Gates said, "but that was probably the loudest cheering we've had for every pistol shot and saber swing that I've heard since I took command. They were so fun and energetic; I'm already looking forward to next year's event."

As the reunion concluded, there was a sense of gratitude and pride among all those in attendance. The original Soldiers of the Horse Platoon may have left the active service long ago, but their spirit and legacy live on in the new generation of cavalry Soldiers who continue to honor the traditions of the 1st Cavalry Division. This reunion in Mount Pleasant served as a poignant reminder that, in the world of the cavalry, the past and present are inextricably linked, and the bonds of service and camaraderie never fade.

1st "Air Cav" Takes to the Skies Over Texas Motor Speedway by SGT Elliot Alagueuzian

FORT WORTH, TX - The Lone Star State has always had a deep appreciation for both its rich military heritage and the thrilling world of motorsports. When these two worlds collide, it creates a spectacle that captures the hearts of Texans. One such



breathtaking moment occurred when Troopers of the 2nd Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment, 1st Air Cavalry Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division conducted a stunning flyover at the Texas Motor Speedway on September 23rd, 2023. This unforgettable event showcased the skill, precision, and unity of the brigade's

Continued to pg 22

First Team Horse Cavalry Detachment Conducts Training story/



photo by SPC David Dumas

FORT CAVAZOS, Texas - The 1st Cavalry Division Horse Cavalry Detachment conducted Horsemanship Intensive Training, Aug. 23, on their detachment grounds. The training provided desensitization and familiarization training for the horses and aided troopers in understanding the fundamentals of horseback riding.

"This training is the foundation for everything that we do. We can

talk and explain horsemanship any day, but this training is the time we set aside to really put it into practice," said Sgt. 1st Class Kyle Minor, assigned to the 1st Cavalry Division Horse Cavalry Detachment. "All the stuff we talk about, all the lessons, this training allows them to use it."

Given that the newer horses within the detachment are unaccustomed to the various sounds and activities that are utilized in their role, the training served the purpose of introducing them to these experiences. "Since some horses have never heard gunfire or have ever seen smoke, they will go through desensitization training," said Minor. "We train them to get used to the things that usually scare them."

With the help from the 3rd Infantry Regiment "Caisson" Platoon, the horse detachment was able to use their knowledge and expertise to assist in the training.

"We started off with the basics of flexing your horse, we then moved into barebacking, followed by practicing lunging," said Sgt. Gabriel Pope, military horseman assigned to Caisson Platoon, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 3rd Infantry Regiment. "This training for the riders is to practice the skills they already have and a little refresher in case they forgot something, as well as to enhance what they may not know yet."

During the training, numerous skills were retaught and perfected, with certain aspects of the training held with higher importance. "We can talk and explain horsemanship all day, but this training is the time we set aside to really put it into practice," said Minor. "So all the stuff we talk about, all the lessons, this training allows them to use it."

Within the horse detachment, the Troopers emphasize the importance of knowing your horse, as horseback riding success lies in a good understanding of your horse

ENGINEER News



Steve Richey
P.O. Box 250
Wildomar, CA 92595-0250
(714) 931-3123
D9Dozer@verizon.net

and I wouldn't recommend it. You know, not all barbecue is good, most is not.

Milton was with MAJ Hinze the day he was burned so badly, he was MEDIVAC'd and left the company for good. I have learned he also has passed out of this world. Milton had the best story to tell me. LTC Broumas was the commander of our battalion and Milton, we called him Hoch, short for Ho Chi Minh and yes, we did call him that. Milton had poured gas on an area the Major wanted to burn the weeds in between our perimeter wire and the tree line to the west of us. The tall weeds made great cover for sappers and ground attacks. Milton wrapped a rag around a weed, gave the weed to MAJ Hinze and lit it. When it poofed ablaze, the Major stepped back, tripped, and fell in the grass-soaked dry weeds, which ignited when he dropped his weed that was now flaming. He caught fire immediately. Hoch jumped on him, drug him out of the fire, then smothered his flaming clothes, by laying on him. Was a smart move. He then took the Major to our medical bunker and soon they MEDIVAC'd him to a better care facility.

Milton was afraid he would get court marshaled. That evening LTC Broumas met with him and others down where the fire had occurred. Milton told the LTC what had happened and LTC Broumas told Milton he was going to advance his rank from the PFC he was, to Spec 5 for being a quick-thinking Soldier and give him a medal. It never happened. Because he jumped over a grade in rank, payroll held his pay for three months. Thought there was a mistake. The medal he was supposed to get, he was never awarded. LTC Broumas died before he could award Milton the medal. Milton and I sat at the New Orleans Casino in Vegas, two old Soldiers, together again, as if we had never spent the years apart, we had, and after 50 years, I learned the truth of how MAJ Hinze got burned. If you get a chance to spend time with an old Army buddy, it can be great, like the time Milton and I spent, after being apart for 50 years.

The following is a story about Mike Van Gordon and his 104 Kodak camera. Monday, June 30th, 1969

We were given lumber to build beds. You could build your bed, make some poles to hang your mosquito netting on to cover you at night, put your artic sleeping bag on the bed for a mattress, and be comfortable.

Mike Van Gordon, who we called Van, our barber, enthusiastically jumped into building his bed. He had been missing his wife and feeling bad all week. He happily worked on his bed all day long, sawing boards, hammering the frame together, putting up the pieces of wood to hang his mosquito netting on, and then built bookshelves at each end of his bed. He was so proud of his bed, bragging to everyone about how he was going to have the best bed in the hooch.

That night, he had it finished. He set his fan on a shelf he had built for it, to keep cool at night, and then announced he was taking a shower before he got into his new custom-built bed. He was proud of his work.

He came back from the shower, and it was lights out. I slept across the aisle from him. He turned his fan on, his light out, and then stretched out in his new bed and I heard him say, "Too short. It is too flaming short!" He had built his bed about 6" too short and could not stretch out in it. Then I heard a hwrang! Then I heard the hwraaaang again. Then I heard it a third time and his light came on. Then he got out of that bed like an enraged animal. He had no safety guard on his fan, the blades were exposed, and in reaching for his light in the dark, he had just stuck his hand in the fan blades, three times. It had to hurt. He grabbed his fan and slammed it on the floor and began kicking it all over the area then kicked it back to his bed and his small Kodak 104-camera fell out of the bookshelf he had made, and instantly he was on it. He picked it up and slammed it on the floor, and it bounced into Doug Chase's bed, where Doug was just waking up.

Doug had no idea what was happening and had just opened his eyes as Van charged into his bed, to get the 104-camera. Van was not done punishing his 104-camera because his bed was too short. Doug's eyes opened wide and reached out to fend Van off, just as Van grabbed the 104, slammed it to the floor again, and began kicking it from one end of the hooch to the other, just making a hell of a racket, waking everyone up, shoving cots around, running amuck. He thrashed around on the other end of the hooch for a while and then I heard him making his way back our way, yelling, kicking, and swearing, kicking hell out of that 104-camera. When he got to the door at the foot of my bed, he reached down and picked up the 104 and threw it with all his might out the door. It was a worm burner low toss and the 104-camera smashed into pieces when it hit one of the dirt filled barrels we had around our hooch.

CPT Sheehey and SGT Hart just happened to be outside our hooch when Van exploded. They were waiting just on the other side of the barrels for the noise to stop, shots that might be fired, we all had guns, or the tirade to end, when Van threw the camera. I know the crash of it, hitting the barrels scared them. It would have me. With the 104 dispatched, Van walked over and sat down on his bed, then CPT Sheehey and SGT Hart came in. Oh Dear!



Mike Van Gordon (left), Milton Arimoto (right)

In the photo below, Mike Van Gordon is the HHC company barber on the left and Milton Arimoto on the right. I learned recently that Mike passed away. I had stopped to see him twice in Kansas City, where he lived. We went to Jack Stacks for barbecue,

They groused at Van for a while, took his rifle away, and told him to get in bed and stay there. They left, we turned the lights out, and the place got quiet again. Then in the dark, we heard Doug say, "Incoming from a 104," which was simply crazy funny, and the whole barracks howled with laughter. There were 16 of us, laying there in the dark, laughing so hard, we were gasping for air.

We refer to this night as the night of the "Incoming 104."

FORT CAVAZOS VFW, POST 12209

We Try to Be There for All of Them by Ismael Rodriguez Jr., VFW Magazine Photos by Willie Keller

AVFW Post in Texas showcases why its rapid membership success is a byproduct of the work its members do on an active-duty military base.

Long before becoming commander of the first VFW Post established on an active-duty U.S. military installation last year, Willie Keller had seen the possibilities with a credulous eye.

Joined by other founding members of Post 12209 on Fort Cavazos (formerly Fort Hood) near Killeen, Texas, Keller set out to serve as an example of how a VFW Post on an active military installation can help Troops and their families more effectively. "I wish I had that for me when I was coming up," said Keller, a 16-year Army Veteran who joined VFW in 1995. "It not only helps with recruitment, but it puts us in a position to shed light on stuff that is not getting lit up."

Since finding its home at Fort Cavazos' Building 18000 on Jan 7, 2022, Post 12209's membership has more than tripled its roster. The Post boosted its numbers from 48 in July 2022 to more than 153 members as of this August, according to Keller.

"And we haven't dropped the hammer on membership yet," said Keller, who served in Afghanistan and Iraq before being medically retired in 2009. "The people we have come to us about joining is because of what they see from us." Over the last year, Post 12209 has provided more than \$180,000 worth of assistance to service members and their families by tapping into VFW's well of programs and services. This includes the *Military Assistance Program*, which provides Posts with grants to help active-duty Troops, as well as *Unmet Needs* grants for military families with financial difficulties.

Unable to host fundraisers on base, Keller added that other sources come from his own members, private donors and the VFW Department of Texas Foundation. "There's no regulation on how to show empathy for these service members and their families, but we try to be there for all of them," said Keller, who also partakes in advocacy projects, which includes a new bill passed this year to increase the slots for childcare at Fort Cavazos. Keller acted on this after hearing from an active-duty single mother.

"We ask people to serve, but they can't because they need assistance to serve," Keller added. "We have been an outlet to help fix these problems by going and advocating for more legislative funding."

Another beacon has been VFW's *Adopt-a-Unit* program, which to date has allowed Post 12209 to adopt more than 29 military units comprising thousands of Troops at Fort Cavazos.

From cookouts to care packages to simply treating families to a free meal, Keller added that being on base to see the impact of the VFW makes it worth the countless hours he puts in every day.

"When you're in uniform, it's your job to care," Keller said. "But we don't get paid. This is something we do for them. They see this. The highlight for me is seeing them realize that someone really cares. It's a good feeling to even see generals on base stop to thank us for what we've done."

Though Keller and his Post members have accomplished much in record time, he admits they are far from complacent. The Post is committed on several fronts, which includes advocating for a more efficient way to use the military's Transition Assistance Program (TAP), as well as working closely with JROTC and ROTC programs around Texas.

"You can start your transition 12 months out, but mission dictates," Keller said. "Some have less time to transition. And for some who are institutionalized for 20-30 years, it is not that simple to transition when they used to be a voice of leadership before, and now they are just a number in the civilian world. One of our priority goals is to extract career service members out of their unit and put them on a transitional unit as soon as possible."

When Keller is not running around conducting business, he admits basking in the gratitude of service members on base who routinely call him and his Post members to talk and thank them for guidance and career advice. Armed with extensive knowledge of VFW's history, Keller dispenses praise for his organization whenever given the chance.

"It's valuable to know the history of VFW," Keller said. "I just let them know why they should join the organization that has been there for them, with them now, and will be with them in the future. A lot of them don't know some of the stuff service members have now in terms of benefits came from the VFW being in the trenches for them."

With membership being a byproduct of Post 12209's assistance and proximity to those in uniform today, Keller also has a lofty goal regarding this particular area. "We want to be the largest VFW Post in the world in 36 months," Keller said. "Like I mentioned before, we haven't dropped the hammer on membership yet. What made us increase: our membership has been the influence of our work alone."

<irodriguez@vfw.org>



Willie serving lunch to members of 115th BSB



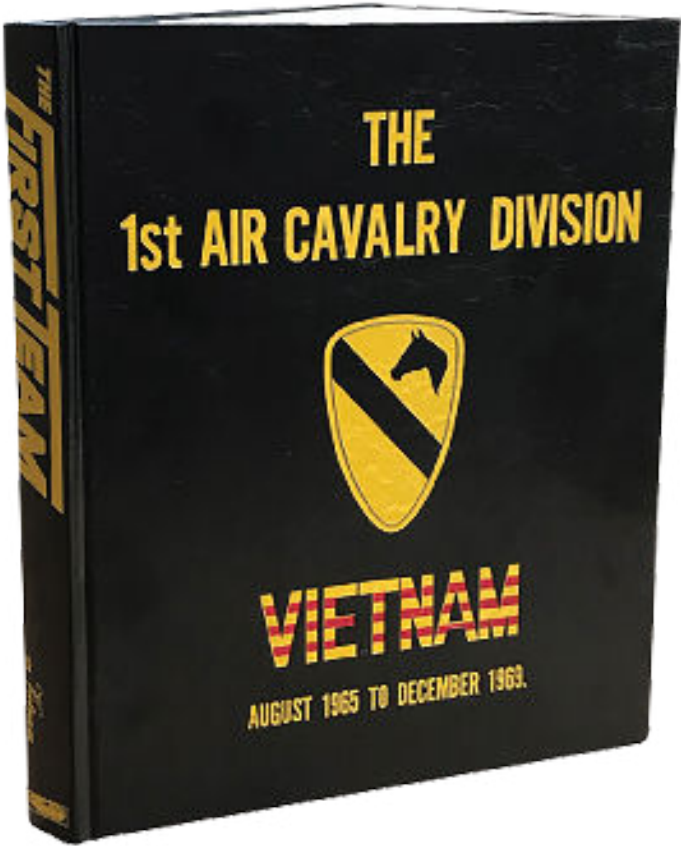
Post commander Willie Keller poses with JROTC cadets from Waco high school

THE 1ST AIR CAVALRY DIVISION: MEMOIRS OF THE FIRST TEAM IN VIETNAM-
SPECIAL REPRINT EDITION

In 1970, the Division published a full-color hardbound commemorative book to document the time spent by 1st Cavalry Skytroopers in Vietnam, from 1965-69. Many of our members received a copy of this special book nearly 50 years ago, but over time the books were lost, damaged or worn down from frequent use. This reprint is identical to the original printing that rolled off the presses in 1970, but brand new and in pristine condition!

The 1st Air Cavalry Division in Vietnam-Special Reprint is a 10x12-inch, oversized hardbound volume with 296 pages with hundreds of full-color photos, printed on heavy-weight glossy paper for superior photo reproduction, with sturdy Smyth-sewn binding for longevity, and bound in a classy black leatherette cover with full-color silk screening. Please mail us your completed order form located below. Only \$85 with FREE SHIPPING!

LIMITED QUANTITIES
AVAILABLE



MEMOIRS OF THE FIRST TEAM IN
VIETNAM-SPECIAL REPRINT EDITION

\$85

Amount Due: \$

Form of Payment:

☐ Cash ☐ Check Enclosed ☐ Credit Card
(Service Charges Apply)

Credit Card #

Exp Date: CVV on back:

Name on Card:

Signature:

Phone #:

Name:

Address:

Mail to: 1st Cavalry Division Association
302 N. Main St.
Copperas Cove, TX 76522

SHIPPING IS FREE

FIRST TEAM HISTORY BOOK

Our final shipment has arrived. Limited-edition, commemorative 1st Cavalry Division history book. This is the same history book we offered in 2019.

- Includes a detailed history of the 1st Cav Division from WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Bosnia, the Gulf War, and the War of Terror, including its founders, training, engagements, responsibilities today, and more.
- Historical overview of the 1st Cavalry Division Association.
- Richly illustrated with historic and modern photographs, charts and diagrams
- Personal biographies from 1st Cav Division Veterans, with “then and now” photos
- After Action Reports & Stories from 1st Cav Div Veterans, and more!

This quality publication is printed on number one grade, acid-free, double-coated glossy paper to ensure the highest caliber photo reproduction, and Smyth-sewn for longevity, meaning the pages are stitched together and bound to last. This Deluxe Hardbound Edition is bound in a classy, black leatherette cover for only \$55.00.



FIRST TEAM HISTORY BOOK

\$55

Amount Due: \$

Form of Payment:

☐ Cash ☐ Check Enclosed ☐ Credit Card
(Service Charges Apply)

Credit Card #

Exp Date: CVV on back:

Name on Card:

Signature:

Phone #:

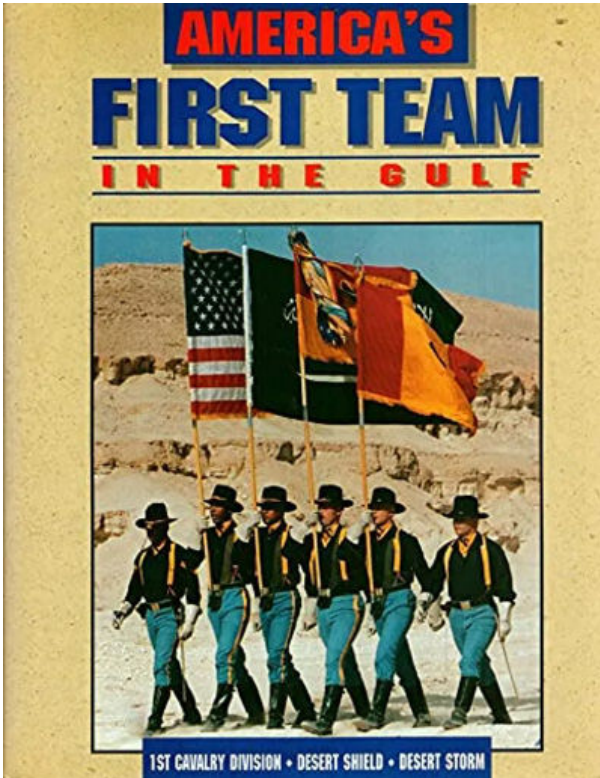
Name:

Address:

Mail to: 1st Cavalry Division Association
302 N. Main St.
Copperas Cove, TX 76522

SHIPPING IS FREE

All Proceeds go to the
DESERT STORM MEMORIAL
on Cooper Field, Ft Hood



**LIMITED
QUANTITIES**

America's First Team in the Gulf
Hard Cover Book, 176 pages
\$50

7th Cav Wall Hanging Tin
11.5" x 11.5", wrapped in plastic
\$20

**DONATIONS FOR THE
DESERT STORM MEMORIAL ARE BEING ACCEPTED**

Please make all checks payable to the 1CDA Foundation and specify it's for the Desert Storm Memorial.
All donations to the Foundation are tax exempt.

Mail to: 302 N. Main St, Copperas Cove, TX, 76522

DONATIONS TO THE DESERT STORM MEMORIAL

First Team in Gulf Book Qty: _____ Amount: _____

7th Cav Wall Hanging Tin Qty: _____ Amount: _____

Desert Storm Memorial Donation Amount: _____

Total Amount Due: \$ _____

Form of Payment:

☐ Cash ☐ Check Enclosed ☐ Credit Card (Service Charges Apply)

Credit Card # _____

Exp Date: _____ CVV on back: _____

Name on Card: _____

Signature: _____

Phone #: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Mail to: 1st Cavalry Division Association 302 N. Main St. Copperas Cove, TX 76522

Checks payable to 1CDA Foundation (specify for Desert Storm Memorial)

SHIPPING IS FREE

545th MP Co News

Lawrence Gardner Ketron

232 New Beason Well Rd
Kingsport, TN 37660
(423) 967-8226
LGKetron@earthlink.net



The 545th MP
Company of the
1st Cavalry Division
(AIRMOBILE)

It was a major miracle
for a totally unprepared

peace time army division to successfully be suddenly thrust into a combat situation on the other side of the world.

On 30 July 1965 orders were cut releasing the 545th MP from Third Army, FT Benning, Georgia to USARPAC (PACIFIC) upon embarkation. The following information is a summary taken from these orders. The service number of each Soldier is on the orders but has been omitted from the list. In those days, a Soldier was assigned a unique number upon induction. Each service number had a two-character prefix indicating the particular segment of the Army to which he belonged (RA – career and volunteer Regular Army, US – Army of the United States draftees, ER – Army Reserve, NG – National Guard, O – officer, W – warrant officer). No passport or visa required. Plague shots were to be administered. Orders also stated that destination is SECRET, ETA is CONFIDENTIAL. No public announcement or acknowledgement is authorized. Response to inquiries from news media or public will state that US does not comment on readiness data or movement status of military units for obvious security reasons. (As stated in the last issue, the news and pictures were plastered all over the Columbus newspaper.)

PERSONNEL CONSIDERED TO BE IN DEPLOYABLE STATUS:

OFFICERS:

Uhland, Herbert W.	L/COL	Lewis, James	2/Lt
Pope, William A.	Major	Rampmeier, William A.	2/Lt
Lewis, Paul Jr.	Captain	Schieb, Barry J.	2/Lt
Dunnington, Joseph C.	1/Lt	York, William J. Jr.	2/Lt

WARRANT OFFICER:

Devine, David CWOW2

NCO's:

Miller, Ralph R. 1SG Pinault, Edmond A. SFC

SSG's:

Beaudrot, Raymond L. Morris, Phillip E. Pike, John
Ross, Henry R. Stark, Raleigh Taylor, Claude Jr

SGT's:

Ahlberg, Lewis B. Callaway, Wayne Callier, Willie J.
Collard, Ernest R. Jr. Cox, Ronald G. Ehrentraut, Herman C.
Fonseca, Antonio J. Giles, Robert R. Harvey, Gilbert G.
Higgason, Harold H. Jr. Hinote, Lewis E. Hoffman, Kurt
Kelly, Clarence A. Kernen, Thomas Kolb, Richard C.
Lee, Jim E. Maher, Patrick F. Jr. Maltbie, Billy H.
Miller, Gwindle D. Rader, Wayne M. Sewell, Mack Jr
Smoulcey, Donald W. Woods, Robert J. Wuttke, Daniel B.
Fowler, James M. SP5 (CID) Murrah, Mack Cpl

SP4's (U denotes Army of the United States draftee)

Adams, William J. (U) Anderson, Earnest E. Beltran, Arthur R.
Betts, Bob R. Jr (U) Blanton, Harold D. Call, Robert L.
Clarke, John H. Creigh, Michael S. (U) Destremps, Francis E.
Dickey, Thurman L. James, Michael F. (U) Lazarus, Ronald A. (U)
Leffingwell, John F. Light, Claude E. Maloney, Robert E.
Mathis, Ronald L. McGough, David R. Mills, Dallas O.
Pierce, Richard A. (U) Price, William T. (U) Rafalko, John
Raisovich, Andy Jr. Robertson, Edgar (U) Semrow, Robert C.
Smyly, James M. (U) Johnny, Thompson (U) Wilson, William D.
Winder, Daniel M.

PFC's - Army of the United States unless denoted as R for Regular Army

Adcock, Charles E. Albright, Daniel G. Allen, Charles S.
Amati, Louis J. Jr. Arpino, Vincent A. Avaritt, Edward O. (R)
Beaulieu, Bruce E. Bernicchi, Arthur W. Blair, John K.
Blakeley, Howard B. Jr. Bridges, Billy B, Jr. Brown, Von M.
Bruce, Terry L. Burris, Carl W. Bynum, Hollis O.
Carley, Henry E. Coley, Glenn A. Collins, Harry J.
Cox, Calvin B. Crick, Larry W. Dalton, Paul E.
Dean, Robert L. Jr. Egan, Delmer E. Ellis, Joseph H.
Engleman, Ronald E. Crites, Barry J. (R) Estes, Kenneth W.
Ezzell, Jimmy D. Franklin, Richard (R) Garretson, Samuel T.
Glenn, James T. Goolsby, Charles Gregory, Roger D.
Haines, Charles R. Harrell, James R. Haybeck, Walter Jr
Hill, Ronald D. Hocker, George G. Hoppers, Lance L.
Howard, Martin C. Hudson, Charles R. Ives, Gerald R.
Jones, Merle F. Jordan, Donald E. Keller, William B.
Kessler, James F. Ketron, Lawrence G. Kingsmill, Verner C.
Koerbacher, Francis R. Krahm, Michael V. (R) Kratz, Jerald W.
Kratz, William F. Kuykendall, Tommy Lemon, Joseph M.
Lindeman, Karl B. Lowdermilk, William Lucas, Jerry M.
Maddox, Billy B. Malone, William D. Marcy, Verne L.
Mayer, Donald R. McDaniel, Dewey C. McNeal, Lowell
Miller, Alphonso H. (R) Miscovich, Charles Mlynarski, Raymond
Moore, Roy L. Murrey, Michael (R) Noland, Thomas L.
Otey, Kenneth M. Partridge, Albert (R) Pettis, Robert J.
Pierce, Richard (R) Pierce, Robert J. (R) Pruitt, Dale R.
Rasmussen, Edward D. Ray, Joe C. Read, Michael E.
Root, Daniel P. (R) Rush, William E. Jr Schubert, Andrew
Schwartz, Lyle A. Seals, Harris W. Slater, Richard W.
Slowik, Daniel J. Spring, James C. Stamey, Bobby B.
Starkey, Roy L. Starnes, Jimmy R. Stomper, Walter F.
Summers, Carlton A. Thomas, Wilmer Tobin, John J. Jr
Tykoski, James B. Valentine, Andrew W. Volk, Peter L.
Walker, Lamar B. Webb, Edward T. Williams, Louis E. Jr
Willis, Davis E. Wilson, Charles T. Woelke, Bruce W.
Wright, James L. (R)

PRIVATES:

Bills, Thomas N. (R) Christenson, Doran (R) Flowers, Cornelius
Large, George W. II (R) Mann, Ronnie C. Peru, Oscar O. (R)
Skalla, Harry A. (R) Turner, Tommy J.
Being on this list did not necessarily mean that the Trooper would deploy. There was a gentleman from Chicago in the third platoon (author's) who declared that we Southern men were dumb for going. He claimed that his father had enough influence to prevent his making the trip. He was right!

The late Billy Knight did not even make the list. When he was drafted, he had extremely bad teeth. The Army decided to pull them all and make dentures for him. The tooth pulling was accomplished, but his dentures were not ready in time for him to deploy. Cannot handle C-rations with just gums! He was later assigned to the main post MP's.

As was said in the previous article, a Soldier with less than ninety left in his enlistment was not deployable.

In 1965 a set of orders like this used several trees. There were 95 sets to be distributed to various Army organizations. Each individual E4 and above with 4 years of service received 30 sets. Each individual E4 and below with under 4 years of service received 10 sets.

AS TOLD BY CHARLES ADCOCK:

I was one of the men assigned TCP duty while the vehicles were being convoyed to Mobile. Working out of Mobile, we were provided with one of the old gasoline powered deuce-and-a-half with automatic transmission for transportation. My TCP was across the road from a local restaurant. We were provided C-rations for lunch. One day a little boy came across the road from the restaurant and asked me for some C-rations. I told him that I would trade some for a hamburger, fries, and a drink. He went back across the road and had his mother handle my request, so we traded. We were lodging and eating at Brookley Air Base. What luxury! They had waitresses to serve our meals.

THIS UNSCHEDULED RUSH TO DEPLOY CREATED A LOT OF PERSONAL PROBLEMS FOR THE SOLDIERS AND FAMILIES

AS TOLD BY PAT KESSLER, WIFE OF JIM KESSLER:

We got married between Jim's basic training and MP school and were living in a rental off base in Columbus. Army pay for a private being what it was at the time, we were living hand to mouth. We had no washer or dryer but did have an ironing board and hand scrub board. I washed Jim's uniforms in the bathtub using the scrub board, air dried, then starched and ironed them. We did not have the money for laundry mat services. Our transportation was an old high mileage 1960 Ford Falcon. (For the younger reader, the Falcon was Ford's 1960 entry into economy automobiles. Powered by an inline six of about 170 c.i, three speed on the column, unibody construction, 13-inch tires). We had no belongings to speak of. After the deployment, my sister and a friend came down from Michigan to help me move and make the long trip back to Michigan via US-25 through the curvy roads of Tennessee, Cumberland Gap, and Kentucky (very few interstates in those days). I was able to get a room from my aunt and uncle until Jim was discharged.

AS TOLD BY PAUL LEWIS:

Being an officer, my wife and I were living in base housing. Since we had only a couple of weeks notice before being deployed, it was left up to her to find a place to live during my deployment and make the move. Do not remember how long she was allowed to stay in base housing.

AS TOLD BY CHARLES (TED) WILSON:

My then wife and I were living off base in Columbus. She stayed until I deployed and then moved back to Tennessee. Like most of us privates, we had very few belongings and were renting furnished housing.

For most of us single privates, our biggest issue was getting our automobiles home. After our equipment and vehicles were loaded onto ships, we were told that per Army regulations, only half of us could have a leave to go home. The other half could just go home, but before we left, the late SFC Ed Pinault called us into formation and read to us the article of war that the maximum punishment for missing a Troop movement was death.

Your author opted to take his automobile home and then sell the Army 30 days leave upon discharge.

NEW MEMBERS
WELCOME to the 1CDA TEAM!

CSM BOYER, LEONARD TX 615ACB
MR. BRENIZER, JOSHUA PA 1455 ASSOC
SFC (RET) DE GURY, KENNETH J. LA C 2-12C
CPT FASAKIN, ADEKUNLE TX 1-282FABN
1SG FIELDS, DOUGLAS TX E 1-6-56ADAR
LTC FLYTHE, PAUL VA 1-312MI
CPL GANAWAY, ERIN TX 3-69
E-5 GUTIERREZ, BENNY CA D 1ACB
SP-4 HALL, CRAIG CT 3-8C
SGM HAWKINS, BRIAN TX 1-1CD
SSG HENDRICK, DYLAN TX F 2-82FA
CW3 JOHNSON, TILMON TX D 1-27MSB
SGT KLING, FRANK KY B 1-7C
SSG LAIDLAW, DOUGLAS M. TX C 3-16FA
1SG LINDELL, CLIFFORD W. TX 1-1CD
MSG MADDIX, JOVAN TX HHC 8BEB
1LT (CH) MATLACK, JONATHAN HI HHC 3-227
CPT MC KNIGHT, PAUL TX 1-1CD
SP-4 PETERSEN, ALAN IA B 1-8C
MS. PRALL, JANET VA 168 L-ASSOC
MAJ SABUROVA, TATIANA VA C 1ACB
SPC SANDBURG, ANDREW CO C 2-5C
SP-4 SHAMONSKY, JOSEPH PA HHC 1-13SIG
MR. TRUNER, JASON S. FL 1454 ASSOC
SGT WHITE, SHACONEY TX



AIR CAV NEWS LTC (RET) J. Shawn Perry
191 Scenic Bluff Drive
Guntersville, Alabama 35976
(254) 458-0428
Stetsonlife1cda@gmail.com



A pair of Hueys flew past my house the other day. Like many of you, my heart quickened at the “whop whop” of the rotor blades beating the cool fall air.

“Hueys?” I thought out loud. “Wow! What an amazing sight to see!”

I watched them, in perfect formation, fly across Guntersville Lake and Tennessee River. My eyes remained trained on those unmistakable, beautiful American helicopters.

“Who is still flying Hueys?” I asked my wife, herself a combat Veteran from OIF. My mind raced through the list of Alabama National Guard units I knew, but none with the UH-1 came to mind. I did a hasty search online, but the web was not much help to me that day.

For me, it does not matter to me who was flying them. I saw them and a long-resting part of my soul stirred and, in a moment, memories of my days on the controls of a helicopter came flashing through my mind like the blinking of an anti-collision light on a dark night.

I graduated from flight school in 1992. The Hueys we flew in Primary all had flown in Vietnam, and most of our instructor pilots were Vietnam Veterans. I remember my IP was Mike Neale. As a young 2nd Lieutenant who grew up as an Army brat listening to my father and his “Army buddies” swapping stories around the barbeque grill in the backyard, meeting Mike and the other Veteran IPs left me somewhat star struck. Mike and the other Vietnam Veteran IPs taught me much more than how to fly a helicopter; they taught me how to execute my mission while flying a helicopter. One lesson occurred while taxiing out of Lowe Army Airfield when Mike gestured toward another UH-1 about to leave its parking pad and asked me, “Do you know how you can tell that IP has never been in combat?” I looked but of course did not know what he was talking about. He explained, “He’s one of those civilian contractor IPs. Look at how high he is sitting up in the cockpit.” “I bet he can see pretty good” I chimed in, offering an insight from my lengthy flying experience. “Bah!” exclaimed Mike. “That’s a good way to die. Put your seat all the way down and all the way back and just get used to that sight picture. Learn to take off like that, fly like that, and land like that. Trust me, when the bullets are coming your direction, you want to be behind those armored plates!”

Ever since that day, even when I eventually transferred to Blackhawks, I put my seat all the way down and all the way back. I got used to the sight picture, and I experienced for myself that wisdom years later in Baghdad. Thank you, Mike!

I use the word “legendary” when I refer to our Army’s Vietnam pilots and crewmembers. Not taking away from those pioneers from previous wars, but for me personally, it was y’all who put together, developed, and executed the Air Mobile concept that inspired me to climb into a cockpit.

Much like those boys and young men who were inspired to become cowboys by reading the exploits of wild west heroes, I was inspired to fly helicopters by reading about the “adventures” of Bruce Crandall, Ed Freeman, Michael Novosel, and so many others from real life and in fiction books as I was growing up in the 70’s. I learned that being an Army Aviator meant flying into a hail of enemy fire to deliver ammunition and supplies to the infantry Soldiers; picking up the casualties while bullets were whizzing past and racing back for medical help;

DIVISION DOINGS

Continued from pg 17

aviation Troopers while paying tribute to the bravery of those who have served.

“It’s definitely very cool.” 1LT Elizabeth M. Haas former platoon leader of Bravo Company, 2-227 Air Cav said. “I grew up going to air shows, so being able to see our Air Cav aircraft flying around and to be a part of something like this makes it truly special.”

Organizing a flyover involves meticulous planning and coordination between the First Team and the Texas Motor Speedway. The Air Cav’s aviation units, equipped with UH-60 Black Hawk and CH-47 Chinook helicopters, undertook extensive preparations to ensure the flyover would be executed according to plan.

“There is always a lot of deliberate planning and rehearsals that go into a flyover,” CPT Zachary Blevins, company commander of Bravo Company, 2-227 Aviation Regiment said. “We need to make sure we are all on the same sheet of music, depending on how many aircraft are involved or if there are other organizations involved, but it’s all rewarding in the end.”

The helicopters, iconic symbols of the division’s mobility and versatility, were adorned with the brigade logo. The crewmembers, skilled aviators and dedicated Troopers, underwent rigorous training to synchronize their movements and ensure the safety of the operation.

“It is a process of learning how to crew a Chinook such as knowing the systems and knowing how this thing actually flies to get it up in the air. “SGT Devon Council, flight engineer for Bravo Company, 2-227 Air Cav said.

On the day of the flyover, the atmosphere at the Texas Motor Speedway was electric. Thousands of fans waited in anticipation for the main event.

As race car drivers positioned themselves next to their vehicles, the national anthem began, and the crowd’s attention shifted to the sky. In perfect formation, the UH-60 Black Hawks soared overhead led by the CH-47 Chinook.

The collaboration between the 1st Cavalry Division and the Texas Motor Speedway highlighted the unity and pride that Texas has for its military. It demonstrated that, beyond the thrill of racing, Texans hold their military traditions close to their hearts. The flyover at the Texas Motor Speedway celebrated the spirit of patriotism and the enduring bond between the people of Texas and their military. The deafening applause and cheers from the crowd echoed the deep respect and gratitude Texans hold for their military.

“It’s quiet because of the national anthem but then all of a sudden there’s just applause and cheer in the audience.” David Hart vice president of media relations at Texas Motor Speedway said. “They see it coming from far away and as the helicopters get closer the noise gets louder and louder.”

The 1st Cavalry Division’s flyover at the Texas Motor Speedway was not just a display of precision flying and military excellence; it was a powerful reminder of the deep respect and appreciation that Texas has for its military heritage. As the helicopters disappeared into the distance, the echoes of their powerful salute lingered in the hearts of those who witnessed this breathtaking display of patriotism.

and doing that over and over, day in and day out. Dodging mortar rounds and RPGs, clipping the branches off trees to get closer to the LZ/PZ, and providing tight, close air support to our brothers on the ground, and coming back to do it again day after day with an attitude of mission and purpose that pushed aside personal fear; I wanted to be a part of that. “Get the mission done!” rings in my ears. “Mission First, People Always!” holds to this day in my heart, thanks to those who set that standard for me with the way they fought the war in Vietnam.

In my small way, I carried on that powerful legacy. As a young OH-58A+ Scout Platoon leader at Camp Page, Korea, my platoon sergeant had been a Blues Platoon Troop in Vietnam. He and I set up training for our crewchiefs and pilots that instilled that “get it done” mentality we instinctively have as cavalry Troops. As a company commander, I drove that attitude home whether in regard to flight training, mission support, aircraft maintenance, and even those taskers that came out of battalion. I wanted my Soldiers and pilots to remember the sacrifices I expected them to make in support of our ground Troops, so had the first sergeant get pictures of unit helicopters in Vietnam from the museum and hang them around the hangar and our company offices. I wanted my Soldiers to see those images every day.

The 1st Cavalry Division demonstrated that same cavalry warrior mentality in Iraq and Afghanistan. Recently retired Chief of Staff of the Army, General McConville, was the 4th Brigade (Aviation) Commander during OIF II. An impactful leader even then, he led the brigade with the confidence, the swagger, and the expertise of one of the Division’s best officers. I remember him comparing the difference between how the 1st Cav provided close air support vs. other divisions. He proudly shared that in the 1st Cav, “...We are in so tight with the Troops in contact, that you’ll see 30mm brass from our Apaches falling on the hoods of the HMMWVs!”

In OIF 06-08, we equipped our Blackhawk crew chiefs with digital cameras with the mindset that every pair of eyes in the sky was a pair of scout eyes; and our crew chiefs became adept at finding and pinpointing enemy anti-aircraft and indirect fire weapons hidden in palm groves and other concealed areas. Our First Team Soldiers fought and led with the same grit, the same discipline, and the same mission focus as those who had inspired me so many years ago. I am so proud of this Division.

As I left the First Team and retired from active duty, it was natural for me to reflect on any small impact I may have had on the next generation of Soldiers. As I did so, I felt satisfied that I had created a culture that celebrated and adopted the standards for aviation mission execution that I had learned from our Vietnam pilots and crewmembers in each organization I had been assigned. Our attitude is contagious, and as I interact with the Soldiers in the Division’s Air Cavalry Brigade today, I see that attitude continues with this newest generation of Air Cav Troopers. The technology, weaponry, and tactics will continue to evolve, but the “Get the mission done!” and “Mission First, People Always!” attitude and culture will endure.

Thank you, Vietnam era pilots, crew chiefs, and all Troopers associated with flying helicopters. Thank you for inspiring me in a way that set a trajectory for my life, one that I am proud of, and one that I would choose to repeat all over again.

Help me tell your stories! Please email me photos or hyperlinks to what you would like to be shared. For our next issue, I am seeking Air Traffic Control stories and any memorable “hot mike” anecdotes that we all know happen!

Clear Right! Shawn

DONATION BREAKDOWN
for the
1st Cavalry Division Association

Each one of your donations to the Association has a significant importance and is beneficial to a specific area or program within this non-profit organization. Here is a breakdown:

ASSOCIATION

Supports ongoing annual programs such as the yearly historical calendar, Veterans Day, Reunions, Saber newspaper production (printing, paper, postage, labeling), as well as everyday operating costs.

IA DRANG SCHOLARSHIP

Financial support offered to the children & grandchildren of Troopers who served in the 1965 Battle of the Ia Drang Valley.

FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

(Supports three separate scholarships grants)

ACTIVE DUTY: Members actively serving in 1CD. Scholarship can be used by the Trooper or their spouse.

KIA: Troopers killed in action while assigned to 1CD. Scholarship can be used by children of the Trooper.

100% DISABLED: Members that were assigned to 1CD. Scholarship can be used by children of the Trooper.

YOUR DONATIONS FOR OUR SCHOLARSHIPS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.



HONOR ROLL



Thank you for the generous donations from our following Troopers:

SP-5 ADAMS, W. Howard \$25
SP-4 BERNDT, Raymond C. \$45
IMO Charles H. Berndt
IMO ALL Troopers
CW-3 BOEDING, Stephen \$100
MR. BOLLINGER, Brian G. \$300
PFC CASTELLANOS, Louis \$25
CPT FRICK, Robert S. \$25
SP-4 GIAQUINTO, Frank \$25
IMO Robert Rushing
SGT HAGER, Tom \$50
IMO Larry G. Carter RIP
October 16, 1943 - October 5, 2023
D Co, 1-8 Cav 1967-68
LTC HALE, Henry \$100
IMO My Dad, 1LT Fred, WWII, AAC
Mother Flora USAF WWII Cryptologist Codes
& Ciphers
Brother Donald, Vietnam TSGT B-52

CPT HALL, Sanci
SP-4 HOOKER, Wyne B.
IMO B. W. Hooker WWII 94th INF DIV
SGT LaPORTE II, James R.
E-4 LEE, Thomas F.
IMO Bob Arbasetti, Past President,
1st Cav Div Assn, NY-NJ Chapter R.I.P



As of November 1, 2023

\$50 MSG LUSK, Randall \$25
\$80 CPT McGOWAN, Robert \$5
IMO SFC Timothy O'Connor
\$40 E-2 MORGAN, Gordon \$30
\$100 SP-5 PAYNE, Charles \$30
MS. PARKER QUERSHI, Anne \$35
IMO My Father Clifford C. Parker
WWII, 1st BDE, HQ
SP-4 PARKS, Larry O. \$30
IMO MSG Franklin Lobdell
CSM(RET) PENCE, Larry \$50
IMO SP-4 Cletus Burgess B Co, 1-7Cav
1LT PEDEN, Marvin \$2500
SGT SILVER, Royal \$200
CW4 SOMMERS, Gerald \$100
SSG TAYLOR, Allen J. \$5
SSG VUOLO, Michael \$200
SGT WILLIAMS, Gerald L. \$25
MRS. ZOUZALIK, Jeanette \$100

Editor Note: Honor Roll privileges are given to members who make a D Trooper donation, donation to the Association, or scholarship donations to the IaDrang or the Foundation. Honor Roll privileges do not include calendar donations nor Saber renewals.

DUE TO THE INCREASED PRICE OF THE SABER TO \$20, D-TROOPER DONATION WILL NOW BE \$50 OR MORE.

IaDrang & Foundation are both a tax exempt 501(c)(3) non-profit organization in accordance with the IRS under section 501(c)(3), Charitable Organizations, Code Section 170.

WANT TO SEE YOUR NAME UNDER HONOR ROLL SECTION?

Honor Roll privileges are given to members who make a D Trooper donation, donation to the Association, or scholarship donations to the IaDrang or the Foundation.
THANK YOU! to our members who graciously donate to YOUR Association!
We appreciate your generosity, we could not do it without our members!

Reflections on the Significance of Veteran's Day

by MG John B. Richardson IV November 11, 2022

Veterans Day is a day of reflection and appreciation for the patriotism, service, and sacrifice of all who have served in the U.S. Military. We celebrate Veterans Day on the anniversary of the armistice that ended World War I. It was on the eleventh hour, of the eleventh day, of the eleventh month in 1918, the battlefield of Europe fell silent after more than four years of fighting. The day became known as Armistice Day and celebrated around the world by nations that participated in World War I as a day of remembrance for those who fought in that devastating war.

In 1954, the US Congress changed Armistice Day to Veterans Day to remember not only the Veterans of World War I, but to remember all Veterans who have served the Nation in military service.

While we take time to reflect and appreciate our Veterans every November 11th, we must also take this time to make sure they are never forgotten and remembered and supported the other 364 days of the year. Prospective Soldiers observe how we take care of our Veterans as they consider serving themselves. Our ability to have an all-volunteer Army of the future depends on our support of our Veterans today.

Approximately 75,000 Soldiers transition out of the Active Army annually and become Veterans. The U.S. now has the largest population of young Veterans since the Vietnam War. We owe it to these men and women to make sure they transition from their active-duty careers with the skills and experience to find meaningful employment outside the Army and demonstrate to their communities the value of serving in the Army.

As a nation, and as an Army, we must commit to taking care of Veterans. Seventy-seven years and two months ago, as World War II came to a close, the First Team led the Allied Occupational Army into Tokyo. In the decade following that great conflict, the GI Bill enabled 7.8 million WWII Veterans to participate in education and training programs. This is one example of how our Nation showed appreciation for those who served to defend it.

Today, the Army's Soldier for Life Program works in communities across the country to create opportunities for Veterans and Families and encourages Veterans to remain connected to their Army.

Once you earn the title Soldier, you are a Soldier for Life. The Army is committed to the success of our Soldiers and their Families from pre-enlistment to post-separation, and to supporting our Veterans by connecting them to opportunities for employment and education.

Today, we remember our Veterans, we thank them for their service, and pay tribute to their sacrifices. Our Nation's Veterans throughout our history kept us free, protected and defended our Constitution and our way of life.

Today we say Thank You.

Pictured is COL (RET) and Medal of Honor recipient, Bruce Crandall shakes hands with Troopers from 1st Cavalry Division during the 2022 Army versus Air Force game on Nov. 5 at Fort Worth, TX.



CROSSED SABERS
GIFT SHOP



254-532-2075
302 N. Main St.,
Copperas Cove, TX
1stCavGiftShop@gmail.com

NEW HOLIDAY HOURS!
MON - FRI: 9AM - 6PM
SAT: 10AM - 2PM

Shop for unique Cav-Tastic Christmas Gifts!
Challenge Coins, Clothing, Crafts, Flags,
Military Pins, Patches,
Rank, Stetsons, Cords & Carriers
& Much More!



Call & Speak with Michelle
or Hope to find what you are
looking for!
254-532-2075
Scan the QR code or
check out our website
shop.1CDA.org



Birthday Wishes
to our Troopers turning
90+ years young!

JOHN L. MOMEIER
turned 91 on 11/2/2023

RICHARD E. BARHAM
turned 92 on 11/3/2023

JAY C. COPLEY
turned 91 on 11/3/2023

JOSEPH E. SAYRE
turned 95 on 11/5/2023

GEORGE K. BOBBITT
turned 93 on 11/6/2023

BILLY J. TIPPINS
turned 90 on 11/8/2023

WILLIAM I. OSTEN
turned 92 on 11/13/2023

JAMES W. DINGEMAN
turned 98 on 11/23/2023

ROBERT R. TRYON
turned 92 on 11/26/2023

RICHARD W. WOOD
turned 93 on 11/28/2023

LLOYD GRABLE
turned 96 on 11/29/2023

DONALD FELDMAN
turned 94 on 12/3/2023

JAMES L. EMBREY
turned 93 on 12/5/2023

RAYMOND S. MORAGA
turned 93 on 12/5/2023

ROBERT G. HOLLAND
turned 92 on 12/8/2023

RAYMOS EDWARDS
turned 92 on 12/16/2023

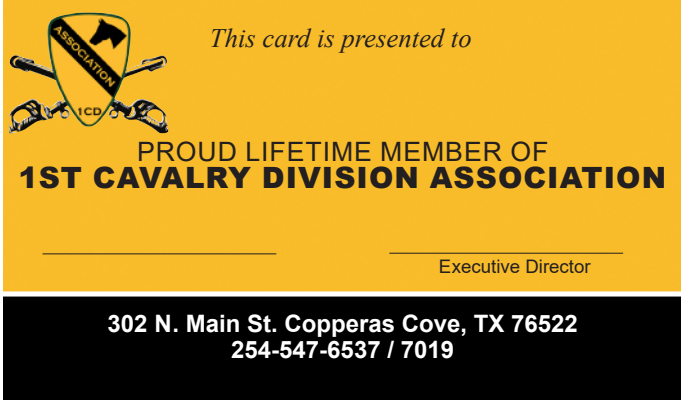
RICHARD VAGTS
turned 99 on 12/18/2023

WILLIAM F. MOUL
turned 92 on 12/22/2023

14th Annual
Veterans Day in Washington D.C.
2023



Replacement Membership Cards



We have revamped the Lifetime Membership cards! If you would like to order one, please fill out the order form below. Due to spacing issues, we are going to type in your name as it appears in our database. There is no space for your rank.

The new cards are NOT available for Associate Members, the new cards are only available for our Life Time Members. On the back of the card it says:

1st Cavalry Division Association is a non-political, non-profit 501(c)19 fraternity for Soldiers and Veterans currently serving or have served in 1st Cavalry Division.

The Association is a group of Soldiers and former Soldiers from Private to 4-star Generals who share a bond of service with the FIRST TEAM who are dedicated to supporting the Division and each other.

1CDA Membership Cards

Total Due: \$5.00 each

Cash: _____ Check: _____

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Phone #: _____

Address: _____

Mail to: 1st Cavalry Division Association
302 N. Main St. Copperas Cove, TX 76522