



Thunder Run

Vol. 23 – NO. 1

“Together Then – Together Again”

1st Quarter, 2008

The 11th Armored Cavalry’s Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia

The Search For The Yano, 528



LEFT: The Yano at Ft Irwin

BELOW: Chuck Rollins & the Yano, 528 at Yuma.



The Yano was not discovered by unnamed retired 11th ACR Vets at an unnamed private museum in New York.

By Chuck Rollins, (Air Cav Troop 1967 –1968), Crew Chief 528

After reading the article “The ‘Yano’ Comes Home” by Sherri Bratt in 3rd quarter 2007 Thunder Run and noting that it contained inaccurate information concerning the rediscovery of that aircraft, I contacted the Editor of *Thunder Run* and was encouraged to write this article containing accurate information about the relocation of the 528 which we now know as the Yano. Being an active part of the search and rediscovery of the 528, I am able to por-

tray a first hand, credible rendering of this saga.

Searching and Finding the Yano, 528.

After spending many hours, days and months on the internet I was given a source to possibly track and find out what became of my old Gun Ship 528. While talking with a good friend and webmaster for B Co/158th Avn., Dave Mussey, about my search he gave me the name of the Viet Nam Helicopter Historian, Gary Roush, of the Vietnam Helicopter Pilots’

Please turn to **YANO** on page 9

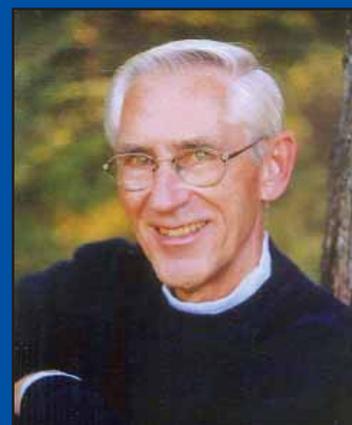
Full circle

By Ed W. (Bill) Rogers (Air Troop and HHT Regiment 66-67) “Boat Person”

Forty-plus some odd years ago I, and many of you, did something odd for an 18-19-20 something year-old. We read the obituaries. Stateside following my tour I can remember picking up my *Army Times* and turning to that section to see who of my friends died that week in Vietnam. Because our Regiment was such a small family, all too often someone was there.

Please turn to **CIRCLE** on page 3

In Memoriam



Charles L. (Chuck) Schmidt, Col USA Ret.
(b March 3, 1940 .d November 11, 2007)
I Troop, 3/11, 1967-1968 (Commander)
President 11ACVVC
Jan. 1, 2004 – Nov. 11, 2007

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Allen Hathaway,
President Pro Tem

From The Command Track

By Allen Hathaway, President Pro Tem



On November 11, 2007, we learned of the death of our dear friend and president of the 11th ACVVC, Chuck Schmidt.

In June 2007, Chuck was diagnosed with cancer. This was his second bout with cancer, having overcome this disease in 1996. The prognosis this time was that the cancer was not curable but controllable through chemotherapy. Chuck received one chemotherapy treatment in mid August, a few weeks prior to the Louisville reunion.

Despite the lingering side effects of the chemotherapy, Chuck attended the Louisville reunion in September. He was determined to perform all duties as president. Many were willing to step in at a moments notice to provide some relief but somehow he found the strength and inspiration to carry on his duties.

During the reunion Chuck gave an update on his health. He felt confident the cancer would be controlled. We were optimistic and encouraged by his decision to run for president and serve another two year term.

Shortly after the reunion Chuck developed a serious infection. He was being treated with antibiotics and his condition was improving when he suddenly took a turn for the worse. A further examination revealed another tumor. On November 11, 2007, he passed away peacefully at his home in Colorado Springs. His wife Bonnie, son Garrett and daughter Jill were at his side.

Chuck had many assignments during the 27 years he and his family served on active duty. As a cavalry officer he proudly served

As president pro-tem, I am pleased to report that the overall state of the 11th ACVVC is excellent. We continue to be successful in many areas; scholarships, reunions, treasury, membership, quartermaster, website and newsletter to name a few.

with the 10th Cavalry and 14th Armored Cavalry Regiment. As a captain in 1967-1968 he served as troop commander of I Troop, 3rd Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment in Vietnam. This was perhaps the most difficult and challenging assignment of his military career, yet it was this time that he cherished above all.

Chuck was a proud Blackhorse trooper. He was proud of the men he served with in I Troop and of the many Blackhorse troopers he met during his involvement with the 11th ACVVC. He was a great leader both in the Army and as president of this organization. He was also a great friend and we will miss him.

Chuck served two years as a board member and nearly four years as president. To honor Chuck's years of dedication to the 11th ACVVC and in particular his dedication to the constant improvement of the Scholarship Program, the Charles L. Schmidt Memorial Scholarship has been established. The scholarship will be awarded yearly to the top ranked applicant based on combined scores from all judges. The amount of the scholarship will be determined by the Board of Directors.

Chuck was to begin his third two-year term as president of the 11th ACVVC on January 1, 2008. With Chuck's passing, a vacancy was left in his position. Article VII, Section 4(a) of the 11th ACVVC by-laws

outlines a process for filling such a vacancy:

In the event of a vacancy in any office, or inability or refusal to serve, the office shall be filled pro tem by a majority vote of the remaining Officers.

On November 21, I was elected by the remaining board members to fill the position of president until the next general membership meeting on August 23, 2008, during the next reunion. This action resulted in a vacancy in the vice president position. On November 26, the board members elected Pete Walter to fill the vacant position of vice-president. Pete was elected as vice-president during the general membership meeting in September 2007. His two year term would have started January 1, 2008.

As president pro-tem, I am pleased to report that the overall state of the 11th ACVVC is excellent. We continue to be successful in many areas; scholarships, reunions, treasury, membership, quartermaster, website and newsletter to name a few.

The scholarship program is thriving with record levels of donations. In 2007 the combined fundraising activities from our calendar, raffle and silent auction allowed us to award scholarships of \$3,000 each to 32 of our children for a total of \$96,000.

The first leg of our 2008 Scholarship fundraising effort was mailed to all members in December. The 2008 11th ACVVC Calendar once again featured 12 new photos submitted by you. The calendar also contains significant historical events of your regiment in Vietnam.

Our Scholarship Fund is self sufficient. That is, all scholarship awards as well as all printing and mailing cost associated with the calendar are paid directly from the scholarship fund. The calendar is not part of membership dues. I once again appeal to your generosity as we ask for donations to support our Scholarship Program. Your continued support has enabled our Scholarship

Continued on page 10

Now Is The Time To Make Your Hotel Reservations

11th ACVVC Chicago Reunion August 21 – 24, 2008

**HYATT REGENCY O'HARE
9300 W. BRYN MAWR AVE.
ROSEMONT, ILLINOIS 60018**

Reservations Call (847) 696-1234
Room Rate is 109.00 SO/DO

Toll Free (800) 233-1234

Rates are good three days prior to and three days after event.

Please make hotel reservations early.

11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia (11ACVVC)



Thunder Run (©2000 11th ACVVC) is the official publication of The 11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia (11th ACVVC), P.O. Box 1948, Plainview, TX 79073-1948; a notforprofit organization. It is published four times a year by Finisterre Publishing Incorporated, 3 Black Skimmer Ct., Beaufort, SC 29907 (finisterre@islc.net) for members of the organization. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced in any way without the written consent of the 11th ACVVC.

Thunder Run covers present and future interests of the organization that includes membership and reunion information, various fund raising activities, and other items relative to the membership. Submissions are welcome and encouraged. All correspondence or inquiries should be made in writing to: Editor, "Thunder Run," James M. "Jim" Griffiths, 3784 Michigan Ave., Bridgman, MI 49106-9345 <Jgriff11@aol.com>

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CIRCLE from page 1

It's happening again. Reading *Thunder Run* brings it home. Too many like Dallas and Bill have left us, left me. Left me with things unsaid, things undone and promises to myself that will never be fulfilled.

Dallas, I was going to track you down, share with you the photos of our 3 day Vung Tau adventure, tell you what happened to our slick, someday, I just don't have the time right now, but someday, I promise.

Too many like Dallas and Bill have left us, left me. Left me with things unsaid,...

Bill, it's only been 15 or so years since we got together and I know we only live 100 miles apart but real soon we will hook up, I promise, yea, I promise.

Sounds kind of lame right now, doesn't it? So here's the deal. While there is life in my body, I'll be at our reunions. No excuses, no next year, no I'm too busy or too broke or too whatever....

It's something I owe, we owe, each other, and something I owe to Bill and Dallas and a whole lot of other guys. I'll see you all in Chicago in August ... I promise.

11th ACVVC Reunion XXIII, Rosemont, IL

Registration

Hey folks, did you know that as I write this there are 220 more days until our reunion in the Windy City? That's Chicago in case you didn't know.

It's never too early to register! It is so important to get your information in as soon as possible. I know you're saying, "What's the rush? I have lots of time". Well, the sooner you get your registration in the quicker I can get your packet put together and therefore, Barb, Raleigh and I are not having to pull all niters the couple of days prior to reunion to get everything done. When you have over 700 packets plus name tags to do (plus everything else that is required to pack, to get ready to go), it really can get hectic around here.

So as soon as you see the registration form either in *Thunder Run* or on the web site fill it out and get it in the mail or send it via the web site, to Ollie. When filling them out, remember to use those little name labels that you get in the mail all the time. They make it so much easier on Barb when she has to start typing up the name tags and such.

If you are a Next-of-Kin please be sure to indicate this somewhere on the registration form. Also please keep nicknames to a minimum. It is very difficult to fit your name, nickname, unit/years, and where you are from on the name tag. We try very hard to get everything you want on them but if Barb has to shorten something, then it's usually the nickname that is the first to go.

On the same note, just because you live in the vicinity of the reunion, please don't feel that you can just show up without pre-registering. It makes everything more difficult as you will be asked to pay an additional late registration fee, or you may not get to attend the banquet. Along the same lines, if you show up and I do not have your information or packet, you will be required to pay a late fee. This goes

even if you tell me you sent it in a week or two ago. Sometimes it takes over a week for it to get to me from Ollie. So I have to charge you the full price again, plus a late fee. Then if we find that Ollie did indeed receive it, we can send you a refund check for one of the times that you paid. So I guess what I'm saying is, watch carefully for the deadline for registering and give it plenty of time to get to Ollie in Virginia and then to me in Wisconsin. Also, remember that I leave for reunion the beginning of the week that the reunion falls in (this year that's August 19th). So as you can see we lose a full week of mail there.

By the time we get to the reunion,

Steve already has a count of how many people are being fed, food ordered, what unit you all are in, and where each unit is sitting. He has everyone seated with their unit, with very little lead way for walk-ins to sit with their unit. You are all aware how close it is each year and we have to take into account wheelchairs and safety and fire regulations so that is yet another reason for registering early.

Remember if you pre-register and then find out that you cannot attend, you can always cancel and request to have your fees refunded to you.

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Chicago Gets Ready To Welcome The 11th Cav

By Jim Kaszubowski, 2008 Reunion Co-Chairman, HHT 3-11 66-67

We are offering some great activities and tours for our 2008 reunion in Chicago. Plan on coming in a day early to take advantage of these great opportunities. If you haven't made your hotel reservations, DO IT NOW. Call the HYATT REGENCY O'HARE at 847-696-1234 or 1-800-233-1234.

On THURSDAY, August 21st, you can take in an afternoon ball game in historic Wrigley Field. We have a limited number of tickets for the Chicago Cubs and Cincinnati Reds. Approximate cost \$50 per person which includes a reserve seat, and bus transportation to and from the ball park.

Another great outing on THURSDAY, August 21st, will be a day of thoroughbred racing at Arlington Park Race Track. Bus, admission, reserve seat, program and a food voucher will be provided for approximately \$20 per person. One race that day will be named and run in honor of the 11th CAV. We will get some of our members in the winners circle with the winning horse

for a photo op. This will be a fantastic afternoon at one of the most beautiful and modern race tracks in the U.S.

On Friday, August 22, you have a choice of a guided motor coach tour of downtown Chicago or a day of shopping at Woodfield Mall, one of the five largest in the U.S. More information and a reservation form for these tours will be available in the next issue of *Thunder Run*.

The special plans for the bunker party on Friday night, August 22, will feature a TASTE OF CHICAGO, featuring some of the famous foods of Chicago. This will be followed by a live concert featuring Rick Saucedo and his band. Rick is one of the top Elvis impersonators in the country and puts on a fantastic show. You do not want to miss it.

With all there is to do in Chicago, you will want to plan some extra vacation time to see the sights, museums, aquarium, Sears Tower, Navy Pier, great dining spots and more.

Looking forward to seeing everyone in Chicago for the most exciting reunion ever!!!

REGISTRATION FORM



**11th ACVVC Reunion XXIII, Rosemont, IL
Thursday, 21 August thru Sunday, 24 August 2008**



PLEASE MAKE YOUR OWN HOTEL RESERVATIONS AT
Hyatt Regency O'Hare, 9300 W. Bryn Mawr Ave.
Rosemont, IL 60018
847-696-1234 800-233-1234

Registration fee is \$75.00 per person. This fee is required for attendance at any of the scheduled events including the Thursday and Friday night Bunker Parties and the Saturday Banquet dinner.

Please register early. **Deadline for registrations is August 1, 2008.** The registration fee will be an additional \$25.00 per person for registrations received after that date.

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

E-Mail Address _____ Telephone No: _____

Unit Assignment _____ Years in Country _____
(Example: B TRP, D CO) (Example: 1966-1967)

Attendees

\$ _____
\$ _____
\$ _____
\$ _____

Registration Fee Total \$ _____

Banquet Meal Selection (Choose one selection per attendee) Chicken _____ Beef _____ Veggie _____

Special Dietary Needs: Yes No (Please indicate needs) _____

Is this your first reunion? Yes No KIA Relative? Yes _____

WHEELCHAIR OR OTHER MOBILITY EQUIPMENT RENTAL INFORMATION

Please Contact: Mark Drug, Home Health, 800-253-6344 or 847-895-0011
They will deliver to and pick up from the hotel

Visa MasterCard Card No _____

Exp. Date _____

Signature (Required for credit card) _____

Make checks payable to 11th ACVVC. Please mail Registration Form along with payment to:

**11th ACVVC TREASURER
C/O OLLIE PICKRAL
571 DITCHLEY RD
KILMARNOCK, VA 22482**



Are You A Member?



This issue of *Thunder Run* is being mailed to over 16,000 Blackhorse troopers on our mailing list, including members, lapsed memberships and those who have not yet joined.

If you haven't yet become a member of the 11th ACVVC, or if your membership has expired, this is a good time to take a minute and become a member or renew your membership.

If you are not sure of your membership status in the 11th ACVVC, take a second and check the mailing label on the back page of this newsletter. Look for these words:

FREE COPY or EXPIRED

If the words "FREE COPY" are printed on the first line of the label, take this opportunity to join and become a member. If the words "EXPIRED" are printed, you should take a minute to renew your membership. Expired members will also have their membership number printed on the same line.

There may be some confusion about membership in this organization, the 11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia (11th ACVVC) and the Blackhorse Association (BHA). They are two separate organizations, each with their own charter, by-laws, officers and membership dues. Many of us are members of and support both organizations. Some of the people we have contacted for membership renewal have written back and furnished a copy their LIFE membership card only to discover it is not from the 11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia (11th ACVVC).

Membership Update

By Allen Hathaway, Membership Chairman

Membership Update - as of Dec 31, 2007

By Allen Hathaway, Membership Chairman

Active Membership Base (living, current dues paid members)

Annual Members - 539 (10 percent)

Life Members -5,402 (90 percent)

Total Active -5,941

KIA Relatives - 548

New members during the past four years:

2007 - 699

2006 - 711

2005 - 304

2004 - 156

Over 19,000 of the estimated 24,000 who served with the 11th ACR in Vietnam have been located or accounted for (80 percent).

Over 8,100 of the 19,000 have joined the 11th ACVVC since it was formed in 1986 (42 percent).

To join or renew your membership in the 11th ACVVC just fill out and mail the membership form printed in this newsletter. Make sure you give your full name, address, service number, unit(s) and dates in country (month/year). This will help us match you with others that served in the same unit. We also encourage you to sign the release line at the bottom of the form. This gives us permission to give your address and/or telephone number to other troopers who may be looking for you. Your name, address, etc are NOT sold or given out to vendors or anyone other than Blackhorse troopers.

Membership dues are only \$15 per year, or \$100 for a LIFE membership. We also offer an easy and convenient LIFE payment plan which divides the \$100 membership dues into four payments of \$25 each. We also accept Visa and MasterCard credit cards for all transactions.

Your membership dues provide you with this quarterly newsletter *Thunder Run*. The newsletter keeps you informed of your organization, its members, and the activities of the 11th Cavalry, both past and present. We pride ourselves on our continued commitment to bring the news to our members through this newsletter.

Thunder Run has been printed and mailed every three months for the past 22 years. This shows our reliability and commitment to our members.

A small portion of the dues is used to support these special projects:

- Support to locate other Blackhorse troopers (paper, envelopes, and postage. Labor is free!).

- Support for Memorial Day / Veterans Day activities. The organization places a wreath at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial to honor the 729 men of the regiment whose names are on the Wall.

When you become a member or renew your membership you will receive your new membership card. All members are assigned a membership number that appears on their membership card. LIFE members receive a plastic membership card with their name and membership number embossed. All new members will be listed in the "Welcome New Members" section of *Thunder Run*. Show your support and join today!

REVISED SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION AND GUIDE

Scholarship Chairman Frank Cambria and Co-Chairman Mike "Doc" Rafferty are pleased to present to the membership and their children the 2008 Revised Scholarship Application and Guide.

The January 2008 revisions streamline the Scholarship Application and updates the Scholarship Guide to include all program changes and procedures. You may download your copy at web page <http://www.11thcavnam.com/scholar.html>.

Blank Check

Laurence Butterfield (F Troop, 2/11, 1969-1970) composed the lyrics to this song that is performed by Joe Robinson. As of mid January the song is downloadable from the well known sites. For further information contact Laurence at blankcheckandmore@comcast.net.

When is the last time
That you thanked a veteran
Or thought about what it means
To be this man or woman
This check was payable to you
And to the country they love
They deserve the highest respect
Save God above
This used to be something
That this country used to understand
But since Korea and Viet Nam
Something has changed in this land

Chorus:

A veteran is a man or woman
Who at one point in their life
Wrote a blank check payable
Up to and including their life
This is meant as a heartfelt thanks
To all veterans who serve
Whether you be active duty, retired
National Guard or reserve

I pray that this country
Will do a turnaround
And honor all of those
Who stand our ground
May the uniforms once again
Be worn with pride
And all the political issues
Be cast aside

Chorus: (Repeat)

Now I'm not asking for
You to support the war
But that you honor the soldier
And what their check stands for
Who, but a veteran
Writes a blank check for anything
Especially when the amount
Risks absolutely everything

Chorus: (Repeat)

That's what a veteran is
And I wish to salute you
For all you have done
And that which you do

© 2007 Laurence Butterfield

Into the Jungle Woodline

By Clarence R. (Doc) Randall
A Troop , 1/11 (1969-70)

"The Ownership"

We turn fast into the jungle woodline, anticipating contact, and begin to count not seconds, but the decimals of seconds, waiting for the first shot, like watching a falling glass about to shatter to pieces, pieces we will have to pick up.

"The Courage"

We turn fast into the jungle woodline, riding a metal monster, a modern day, fire breathing dragon. I try to feel nothing but its power, hoping that will mask the fear and helplessness I think may be in my eyes, on my face.

"The Hope"

We turn fast into the jungle woodline. Firefights are over in minutes with the 11th Armored Cav. Knowing that doesn't help. Those of us who know, pray for the monsoon rains which are soon to come, not too many will die then, maybe no one.

"The Horror"

We turn fast into the jungle woodline, into the rubber plantations, thousands of trees, turning right, then curving left again, for miles. The sap of the rubber tree is milky white, a perfect match to the faces of the enemy dead.

"The Confusion"

We turn fast into the jungle woodline. We know we are about to step into it, big time. Angrily, I tell the LT, "I'm not dusting any of my people off today. I'm tired of it, Sir; y'hear me?" He looks at me like I'm crazy.

"The Consequences"

We turn fast into the jungle woodline. My ACAV hits an anti-tank mine so powerful it flips it upside down. I come out of it unscathed, but I know if I let go of this tree that I can't seem to let go of, it will all happen again.

We have the ownership, the courage, the hope, the horror, the confusion, and the consequences that are embedded in our hearts. Together then, Together again, we are ready to turn fast... into the jungle woodline.

MOVING?

We want you to get your copy of *Thunder Run* without a lot of trouble. Complete this form and mail it to: 11th ACVVC Membership Update, Allen Hathaway, 13194 Rettew Dr., Manassas, VA 20112.



Name: _____

Old Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

New Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone _____ Effective Date: _____



Jim Griffiths, Editor
Thunder Run

Editor's Corner

James M. "Jim" Griffiths

Since its inception and right up to the present the 11th ACVVC has been fortunate to have Presidents and

other officers that have been competent, innovative and visionary. The quality people who have led this organization are the major reason that it has evolved into a premier, top notch Vietnam Veterans' organization.

Charles L. "Chuck" Schmidt, our President that recently passed away, personified the utmost characteristics of the quality leadership and quality membership this organization has historically possessed.

As Editor of *Thunder Run*, I worked closely with Chuck and felt that it was his goal and vision to make every issue of TR an improvement over the previous issue. I can truly say that I am proud to have aided Chuck in the facilitation of his vision to make this newsletter a continuously improving, quality, class publication. *Thunder Run* and the organization are reflections of the class person that Chuck Schmidt truly was.

I have received many quality articles, including some that are feedback on previously published items, from members and will continue to get them published as space permits. Thank you for your patience if your article does not appear right away. I have them filed and will get them in as soon as possible.

I think that unique and first activities of the 11th ACR in Vietnam make for interesting reading. Doc Bahnsen has written a new book, which is now available in our Quartermaster Store, entitled *American Warrior*. There is a plethora of unique stories, situations, and individuals that many, if not most, of us can readily relate to in this highly readable book. One of the stories concerns the airlifting of ACAV's from Loc Ninh to Bo Duc which Doc believes to maybe have been the only "tactical insertion of an armored unit by air in the entire war." He also has material in the book that serves as complemen-

I can truly say that I am proud to have aided Chuck in the facilitation of his vision to make this newsletter a continuously improving, quality, class publication. Thunder Run and the organization are reflections of the class person that Chuck Schmidt truly was.

tary information to Swanson "Jerry" Hudson's article on our ARP's in the April 2008 issue of Vietnam Magazine. If you can elaborate on these operations it would be nice to hear from you through submission of your story about them to Thunder Run.

Our 1st Quarter issue contains the newly revised 11th ACVVC Scholarship Application and Guide. Read through this important information to determine if you have a scholarship eligible person and get rolling on the process that will assist you in financing the eligible person's future education. Thank you to Frank Cambria and Mike Rafferty for your efforts in completing these revised and updated materials

Steve Page and Jim Kaszubowski have contributed materials necessary for your registration, lodging, and other activities associated with Reunion XXIII in Chicago next August. Look those over, get registered, and get booked early at the hotel so you can plan on participating in what promises to be a great time at the Reunion.

As usual we have articles from our regular contributors plus some excellent

contributions from our members who have submitted personal stories etc. I am always amazed at the quality and level of interest generated by contributions of our members. You are a talented bunch of people with interesting things to share in addition to being a great all around group in many other ways.

On another note, be prepared as this March is the 40th anniversary of the My Lai massacre. I am sure the events will be rehashed in the media for all to see. We all need to remember and share with the less informed that My Lai does not define the integrity and honor of our service in Vietnam. My Lai was a terrible atrocity and a criminal aberration that does not represent the behavioral norm of our military in Vietnam. Research has shown that it was an isolated incident and that even the majority of the men in William Calley's platoon refused to participate in the illegal acts that occurred there. Most of us who served in Vietnam, like the majority of the men in that platoon, understood that we had a responsibility to refuse an illegal order and would have done so.

Enjoy your *Thunder Run*!

Show Your Pride



Ken Jankel (B Troop, 66-67) has a 2002 Harley Davidson trike showing his Blackhorse pride.

YANO from page 1

Association (VHPA). Gary Roush has compiled a database of most, if not all Helicopters flown during the Viet Nam years. The information contained here is nothing short of amazing. This database was the source that finally enabled me to track and ultimately find my UH-1, the 528. Ironically, it was right here, near where I worked, at Oro Grande Base Camp, New Mexico. I had often looked at these old helicopters but never dreamed mine had been among them. So, finally after tracking it in the database, I found that the 528 was located at Yuma Proving Ground, Arizona.

Saving The Yano, 528.

In January, 2000 I contacted Rick Douglas at Yuma Proving Ground in Arizona to verify that he, in fact, had possession of 528. After introductions by email I found Rick to be very interested and cooperative concerning my desire to visit and actually experience seeing this old war bird. He told me it had a destiny to wind up as a target for aerial gunnery in the near future but he would hold off on this Huey until I could get there. I continued to work with Rick at Yuma and Brian Howard at the War Planes Museum, New York to acquire 528 as a donation to that museum. Gary Roush had introduced me to Brian as the Curator at War Planes and the person I should work with directly.

I made my trip to Yuma on May 19, 2000 to actually make visual and physical contact with my old Gun Ship no matter

what condition it was in. Chuck Wullenjohn, Public Affairs Office, came out and conducted an interview and published an article, "Comrades in Arms" about my reunion with 528 in the Yuma Daily Sun. I also met Mike Thompson, Yuma Museum Director, who was also extremely helpful with this recovery. After my visit we continued to work the donation procedures until, finally, in November, 2000 528 arrived at War Planes Museum, New York. My visit to Yuma, reunion and article can be verified by contacting the Public Affairs Office at Yuma Proving Ground, Arizona. I also have copies of the article.

Transfer of the Yano from War Planes to Ft. Irwin

After the events of 9/11 in 2001 projects such as these were put on hold due to budget constraints in New York. I also had some personal issues that took me out of the loop for some time. So the events that took place in moving 528 to Ft. Irwin are not clear to me. But I was contacted by CW4 Rick Bebb by email referencing a request for parts for the Yano. This was sometime in early 2003 and the first time I knew it was now in Barstow at the Dagget Airport. Through Mr. Bebb I met Bill Heidner and he was working and assisting in restoring the Yano. I made a trip to Barstow and Fort Irwin in late April 2003 to meet Bill and Rick as well as see 528. I also met Neil Morrison at the Museum while I was there. The restoration project

seemed to slow due to some internal funding and personnel issues. Rick Bebb and Bill Heidner were transferred and so I again lost contact with the project.

On June 8, 2007 I received an email copy from Gary Roush. In this email he was explaining some of these events to Sherri Bratt and he gave her my email address. Sherri and I corresponded by email and I gave her information about 528 back in the day, Air Cav Troop, 11th ACR, RVN, 1967 – 1968. I had planned to meet her when I made my visit to Fort Irwin in July 2007. She was on leave, however, when I arrived and so Neil Morrison, Museum Director, met with me and gave me a personal and much appreciated tour of 528 and the 11th ACR Museum

As I have indicated 528, The Yano, was not discovered by unnamed retired 11th ACR Vets at an unnamed private museum in New York. It is unfortunate that I was unable to meet with Sherri Bratt as I would have been able to relate to her the true recovery story of this famous UH-1C Gun Ship. My reason for this article is to give the accurate story of recovery and credit to myself and to those who were instrumental in saving 528, the Yano. Those people are: Rick Douglas, Mike Thompson, Gary Roush, Brian Howard, Rick Bebb, Bill Heidner, and Neil Morrison.

The Yano is currently a work in progress, we are not done with her yet.

Show Your Pride



Jerry Saunders (HHT 3/11, 70-71) shows his 11th Cav pride on his 2004 Harley



Craig Thomson (F Troop, 68-69) shows great Blackhorse pride with his SUV

We expect another large turn-out for our reunion this year. As of this writing, nearly 40 percent of our total room block has already been reserved.

Program to be very successful year after year. While the calendar you received is unsolicited, we ask that you make the most generous tax-deductible donation that you can. An envelope is included for your convenience to mail your donations.

The 2007 reunion in Louisville, KY, was a huge success with over 1,600 attending and over 125 “first timers”. The highlight was the rededication of the 11th Cavalry Memorial at Fort Knox. (See the article “Circle of Honor and Memorial Bricks”)

Planning is well under way for the 2008 reunion in Chicago, IL, on September 21-24. The Hyatt Regency O’Hare is great location for this year’s reunion. Our Reunion Chairman, Steve Page (B Troop, ’66-67) and Jim Kaszubowski (HHT, 3/11, ’66-67) have been working hard to ensure this is another successful and memorable reunion.

The schedule for the reunion will be generally the same as previous reunions. The registration desk will open on Thursday where attendees can pick up their name tags, meal tickets and reunion packets. The golf tournament will be held that morning and the bunker will open in the afternoon. A Veterans Seminar will be held on Friday. A great “bunker party” is planned on Friday evening featuring a “Taste of Chicago” and special live entertainment. Our Annual Business Meeting is scheduled for Saturday morning, followed by our Memorial Service after lunch. We will top off the day’s activities with our Saturday evening banquet and program followed by dancing to a local DJ. Plan your departure following the Sunday morning Chapel Service. For those who would like to make this an extended vacation, the special reunion rate is available three days prior and three days after the reunion (September 18-26).

We expect another large turn-out for our reunion this year. As of this writing, nearly 40 percent of our total room block has already been reserved. Also, over 325 Blackhorse troopers live within 40 miles of the hotel. You can help make this another successful reunion by keeping a few things in mind: Mail your registration early and

avoid the late registration fee. Reserve your hotel room early. (You may cancel up to 24 hours prior to check-in.) Contact old friends early giving them plenty of time to make their plans to attend. Contact any board member if you need help finding an old friend. Come prepared to enjoy yourself!

We continue to be successful in several other areas. Our treasury is solvent. The investments made over the years guarantee the organization will be in a good financial position for many years to come. Our two main sources for operating income are membership dues and quartermaster sales. New members have continued to increase over the last four years. Our quartermaster store is doing great business in support of our members. Several new products were introduced recently. Photographs of products are now featured in *Thunder Run* and our website. Our website is one of the best among veterans organizations. The website offers a central place for current information on this organization and its members. Our newsletter *Thunder Run* is setting new standards with added color pages and expansion to 24 or 32 pages per issue. Our newsletter has been published and mailed every quarter for the past 22 years. It is our commitment to our members to continue to bring them news of their organization. We have a group of dedicated board members and volunteers who work daily to ensure the continued success of this organization. Finally, we have a membership base that is second to none. Your support throughout the years has helped this organization grow and succeed in every area.

In closing, we have learned that the 58th Engineer Company “Red Devils” deployed for a third combat tour as part of our Global War on Terror. Several of our members have sons and daughters serving in the military. I ask that you keep them in your thoughts and prayers. Reach out to all men and women in uniform who contribute daily to the security of our country, offer your hand, and thank them for their selfless service. ALLONS! – It’s good to be “Together Again”.

Going to Sea Part II

By Jim Abel (E Trp. 1966-1967)

I enjoyed the *Thunder Run* article “H Company goes to Sea” by Joseph Gibbs. It brought back some of my own memories about that trip, and thought that I would pass along some of my own experiences.

Like H Company, E Troop loaded onto an LST in Saigon in April 1967. After escorting many convoys between Blackhorse Base Camp and Long Binh, we were rather paranoid about where we might find Charlie. I expected to see him behind every bush. As we were sailing down the Saigon River, leaving the urban area of Saigon, the riverbank looked like an excellent place for Charlie to place an ambush. Looking around the deck of the ship, the only defensive armament that I noticed was the .45 on my hip. I went down to the hole of the ship, retrieved an M-60 from one of my vehicles, and set it up on the deck. Well, I guess many ships sailed up and down the river every day without incident, and I didn’t need that machine gun.

The LST was a US Navy ship crewed by foreign nationals. Ron Kelly, 1st platoon leader, and I have discussed this trip since then, and we disagree on the nationality of the crew. He remembers them as being Korean, and I remember them as being Japanese. Ron is probably correct. With the limited role that the US Navy played in this conflict, compared to Army, Air Force, and Marines, I don’t know why the Navy could not crew their own ship.

The ship only had mess facilities for the ship’s crew, so we had cold C-rations three times a day for the entire trip. After about that third day, cold C-rations tend to get a little old.

While out in the South China Sea, Captain Geoff Moakley, Echo Troop commander, devised an activity to relieve our boredom. He decided that we should test fire all of our machine guns. One at a time, each vehicle crew brought up the machine guns from their vehicle and test fired them into the ocean. This exercise intrigued the ship’s civilian crew. We made their day by allowing them to fire a few rounds.

After landing in Chu Lai, we unloaded

Continued on page 30



GUIDE TO THE 11TH ACVVC SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM



Updated January 21, 2008

11th Armored Cavalry Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia

Scholarship Chairman Frank R. Cambria; Scholarship Co-Chairman Michael "Doc" Rafferty

Scholarship applications for each school year beginning in September must be received by May 15 of the same calendar year.

The following information is provided to help our members and their children understand how our Scholarship Program works and how the program was developed.

THE 11ACVVC SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

The amount and number of Scholarship Awards may vary from year to year. In 2007, 32 Scholarships of \$3,000 each were awarded. 11ACVVC Scholarships are for *undergraduate studies* only. Scholarship Awards will be paid directly to the recipient's educational institution for expenses incurred up to the total amount of the award. Additional Scholarship Award information may be found at the 11ACVVC website: www.11thCavNam.com.

Effective for 2008, one recipient will be selected to receive a special Charles L. Schmidt Scholarship award in honor of former 11ACVVC President Chuck Schmidt for his leadership and his complete dedication and devotion to the Blackhorse Troopers of the Vietnam War. Chuck died in 2007 as a result Agent Orange related cancer shortly after being elected to his third term as President.

THE CRITERIA FOR APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

There is no age limit for eligibility. Those eligible to apply are:

- ◆ Children and stepchildren of current members of the 11ACVVC in good standing.
- ◆ Children whose legal guardian is a current member of the 11ACVVC in good standing.
- ◆ Children of 11th Armored Cavalry "Blackhorse" Troopers who were KIA or died as a result of the Troopers' service in Vietnam.
- ◆ Troopers themselves, if qualified, who are current members of the 11ACVVC in good standing.
- ◆ Grandchildren of members are **not** currently eligible. This criterion is being reviewed annually.

Applications may also be accepted from applicants whose fathers' membership has lapsed by requesting the father's reinstatement and paying one year's membership fee.

Applicants whose father is a Blackhorse veteran who served in Vietnam or Cambodia but is not a member the 11th ACVVC, may apply after their father joins the 11th ACVVC.

HOW TO APPLY

The applicant must fill out the Scholarship Application Form completely and attach Grades and Narrative. The Scholarship Co-Chairman must receive the completed Scholarship Application and grade transcripts of the applicant **no later than the deadline of May 15** of each year or any announced extension of that date.

The Scholarship Application Form is available on the association website at www.11thCavNam.com. An Application may also be requested by mail or email from the Scholarship Co-Chairman or Chairman.

JUDGING

Scholarship Applicants are judged in three categories:

I. Form completion, legibility and following instructions

II. Grades

III. Typed narrative response to questions in item #11 of the 11ACVVC Scholarship Application

The Scholarship Committee may offer a priority of Scholarships to Children of those Vietnam War Blackhorse Troopers Killed In Action (KIA) or Died of Wounds. These are the only criteria that could take precedence over judged items I through III above.

The Scholarship Chairman and Committee Members select the Judges. The main considerations for selection of Judges is that they must be impartial, educated, readily available, and have an excellent understanding of what it takes to succeed in College.

The judges are asked to rate each applicant awarded for Items I and II above. The remaining 15 points are allocated to the narrative response for Item III on a point system. The point total for a perfect score is 30. Up to 15 points may be above.

Judges' scores are totaled. Applicants are then listed in descending score order. The 11ACVVC Board of Directors will stipulate the number of Scholarship Recipients in advance. The judges will apply that number to the list of applicants in descending score order to determine who will be the Scholarship Award recipients. The recipient with the highest score would receive the special Charles L. Schmidt's Memorial Scholarship award. In the event of a tie for the highest point score, a designated representative or family member of deceased Colonel Charles L. Schmidt will select one recipient based on criteria of her/his choosing. Currently, the designated family member is Colonel Charles L. Schmidt's widow, Bonnie Schmidt. The amount of Charles L. Schmidt's Memorial Scholarship will be designated separately by the Board of Directors

All Selected Recipients of the 11ACVVC Scholarship will be notified in writing by the end of June. The Recipient's notification letter will include instructions to arrange for the Scholarship Funds to be sent to the Educational Institution the Recipient is attending.

HISTORY OF THE 11ACVVC SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The membership decided at the 1996 Reunion 11ACVVC Membership Meeting to form a Scholarship Committee to establish a Scholarship Program exclusively for 11th ACVVC members, children of our members, children of our KIAs, and children of our deceased members. The program has evolved and grown over the years. As of 2007, 219 scholarships totaling \$550,000 have been awarded by our membership to deserving students.

FUNDING. Primarily member donations and fund raising activities within the 11ACVVC membership fund the Scholarship Program. The annual fund raising activities include donations received for the Blackhorse Calendar, a Raffle, and a Silent Auction held each year at the annual reunion. The 11ACVVC Scholarship Program is intended to benefit all qualified people associated with 11ACVVC membership.

We will continue to award Scholarships as long as our membership supports the Program.

The Board of Directors voted in 2001 that a portion of the income generated from the Association's investment accounts may be used to help fund the Scholarship Program. During the 2001 Scholarship season, it was decided that the intent and spirit of the 11ACVVC Scholarship Program was to benefit the children of all members - and members themselves if qualified. After a long discussion, the consideration of financial need was removed from the criteria.

The Board of Directors voted in January 2006 that the 11th ACVVC Scholarship program would limit awards to undergraduate students only. **Graduate and Doctoral level students are not eligible.**

We thank the thousands of Troopers, their supportive families and loved ones, and all who have contributed so generously over the years to make this program a success. All of us together, contributing what we can, have helped make this program one for which we

can all be proud.

Address For Correspondence and Completed Applications with Attachments:

11th ACVVC Scholarship
ATTN: Mike "Doc" Rafferty, Co-Chairman
5504 N. Cypress Ave,
Kansas City, MO 64119

For QUESTIONS, please email DocRafferty36@sbcglobal.net. Email is Doc Rafferty's preferred method of contact because he teaches both day and evening classes. Telephone 816-453-6235.

ALLONS! BLACKHORSE!!

Frank

Frank R. Cambria, Scholarship Chairman
and Association Secretary

Captain.Frank@covad.net

REUNION ACTIVITIES

A limited number of tickets are available for these activities.



BASEBALL

Historic Wrigley Field

Chicago Cubs vs Cincinnati Reds

Thursday afternoon, August 21, 2008

Ticket price is approximately \$50 per person. Includes admission, reserved seat and transportation to and from Wrigley Field.



HORSE RACING

Arlington Park Race Track "Blackhorse Day"

Thursday, August 21, 2008

Ticket price is approximately \$20 per person. Includes admission, specified box seats, program, gift coupon for the food court and transportation to and from race track.

Please reserve ___ tickets for: Baseball Horse Racing

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Ticket reservations are "first come, first serve". Individuals will be contacted for final price prior to purchase.

Contact:

Jim Kaszubowski, 504 Belmont Parkway, Sleepy Hollow, IL 60118

Phone: (847)836-7501, E-Mail: jim_kas@prodigy.net

REUNION PROPOSALS 2010

The time to make reunion proposals is upon us again. The year to be voted on at the Chicago Reunion will be 2010. Region #1 is the area we will hold the Reunion.

Region #1

New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, Maine, Vermont, Virginia, New Hampshire, Maryland, Delaware, Washington DC, West Virginia, Connecticut, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania

Please remember that to host a reunion the hotel must be able to allow us to block at least 500 rooms on peak nights which are Thursday, Friday and Saturday. This same hotel must be able to provide a space for a banquet for at least 1200 all in one room.

I have already received proposals from Valley Forge Pennsylvania and Newport News Virginia.

You can have the CVB contact me for more information.

The necessary paperwork can be received from Steve Page. Please **have bids submitted by April 1, 2008**

Stephen Page

5400 Little River Neck Road

North Myrtle Beach, SC 29583

stephen.r.page@verizon.net

11th Armored Cavalry Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia



Scholarship Application

(revised 01/18/08)

[1] Applicant's Full Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

[2] Applicant's Social Security Number: _____ E-Mail Address: _____

Address: _____ Apartment/Unit # _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip: _____ Telephone No: _____

[3] Applicant's Qualifying Status: (Check Only One): Child of Deceased 11ACR Trooper who served in Vietnam or Cambodia
 Child of Current Member Trooper Who is a Current 11ACVVC Member

[4] Applicant's Sponsor 11th Cav Veteran: Name: _____ SSN: _____

[5] Sponsor's 11th Cav Unit in Vietnam: _____ Dates in Vietnam _____ 11ACVVC Membership #: _____

[6] Name and Address of College or Trade School That You Plan to Attend: (Undergraduate Studies Only)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Have You Made Application? Yes. No. Have You Been Accepted? Yes. No.

[7] Standard Test Score For Your State: ACT _____ SAT _____ Other _____ Specify: _____

[8] Estimated Expenses for the School Year: Tuition & Fees \$ _____; Room & Board \$ _____;

Books & Supplies \$ _____; Miscellaneous \$ _____; Total Exp. \$ _____

[9] Schools and Colleges Attended: (10th Grade to Present)

➔ [10] You must attach a copy of your grades from your **last two years of education** in High School or College.

➔ [11] On one typed sheet of paper with, at the top, **your Name & Email** and name of your 11ACVVC Sponsor **Father**:

1. State the Field of Study That You Plan to Enter and Why.

2. Tell Us Why You Would Be a Worthy Recipient of the 11ACVVC Scholarship.

Note: Concentrate on **why you** should be awarded an 11ACVVC Scholarship. Focus on **your** qualifications and not your father's military. If applicable, also describe your participation in veterans' affairs or events, if any.

I, the undersigned, give my permission for a copy of my High School / College Transcript to be submitted with this Scholarship Application. I understand that the selection process may involve a committee composed of individuals that are in the community at large.

Signature of Applicant Printed Name Date

Signature of Sponsor Veteran or Guardian Printed Name Date

[13] Please Mail Your Completed Application with attachments for [10] and [11] above to the Scholarship Committee Co-Chairman:

Michael "Doc" Rafferty
11ACVVC Scholarship Co-Chairman
5504 N. Cypress Ave.
Kansas City, MO 64119
Email DocRafferty36@sbcglobal.net; Telephone 816-453-6235

FOR QUESTIONS: Email is Doc Rafferty's preferred method of communication as he teaches both day & night classes.

**Scholarship applications for each school year beginning in September
must be received by May 15 of the same calendar year.**

Frank R. Cambia, Scholarship Chairman
Michael "Doc" Rafferty, Co-Chairman

11TH ACVVC DONATIONS

Donations to various 11th ACVVC activities since the 4th Quarter issue of *Thunder Run*

Donor Levels: Platinum Level \$500+ Gold Level \$100-\$499 Silver Level \$50-\$99 Bronze Level \$1-\$49

Trooper Assistance Fund

Platinum Level

John Casterman

General Account

Gold Level

Anonymous Donor
John Dorsey
Amy Kabcenell

Honor of Chuck Schmidt

William Hummers
Walter Slomieski

Silver Level

Jerry Blasdel

Bronze Level

John Bolen
Otis Bradley
Alvin Brison
C. E. Dunkle
Thomas Dunn
Shirley Jones
Robert Lambert
Thomas Parkins
John Vanbrocklin
Montgomery Watson

Memorial Restoration

Gold Level

Mary Hammerschmidt

Honor of Chuck Schmidt

John & Betty Dejong
Scott & Janet Harrison
Peter Walter

Silver Level

A. J. Hardy

Honor of Chuck Schmidt

Paul Baerman
Frieda & Ralph Boespflug
Brad & Susan Brummond
Thomas Gilchrist
William & Clare Greenlee
Deanne Keith
Robert & Gloria Schmalenberger
Lavonne Schmidt
William Wray

Bronze Level

Paul Anderson
Kevin Devolve

Honor of Chuck Schmidt

Evelyn & Harold Back
Edith Barth
Geraldynn Bergam
Perry & Annette Boespflug
Charles Brummel
Clarence & Paulette Farber
Sylvia Feller
D. W. Gilkin
Kent & Windi Glass
Eleanor Hoff
Sue & Harry Menke
Anita Messer
Jerry Mitchell
Phillis, Teresa & Joan Odermann
Marie Sichler
Ken/Sheila Steckler
Danielle & Bob Tuttle
Leon & June Unrein
Phillis Walker
Irene Wehri
Bob & Carol Wheeler
Michael & Nancy Whetstone
Marilyn Wily

Scholarship

Platinum Level

William Bachman
David Coover
Sam Czys
Paul Garber
Doug Huddle

Gold Level

James Aarestad
William Austin
John Bahnsen
S. Barner
Alfred Bowen
Ronald Brown
Edward Buening
Thomas Carr
Richard Castagna
Thomas Courtney
Phillip Crosby
Peter Dalton
James Decker
Steve Dennis
Alfred Dirska

David Drake
F. E. Egan
George Fancher
Michael Fea
Rich Fischer
Robert Fisher
Frederick Franks
Craig Frazier
Robert Gilbert
Richard Gilpin
Rosario Gorospe
Raymond Graham
Frank Graham
James Griffiths
Paul Grosh
Francis Hinnegan
Gus Holman
Theodore Hudon
Wayne Hukill
Roger Janke
Donald Johnson
Gary Johnson
Norman Jones
Dennis Kelly
Johnathan Kerrick
W. S. Kraxberger
George Landt
Gene Lanoux
Claude Lindsey
James McCoy
Stephen McGavran
John McGuire
Robert Mekoski
Paul Monacelli
W. F. Montgomery
Edward Murray
Jack Nielsen
David Pace
Joel Parker
Joanne Patton
James Pennington
Craig Perrin
Fred Pimental
Henry Price
Joseph Rehyansky
Gerald Schurtz
Alexander Scott
Safety RX Services
Michael Simpson
Byron Skinner
Glenn Snodgrass
Garland Stewart
Martyn Sugihara
Barry Sutherland
M. Page Teer
Edward Turner
Stephen Vasey

Felix Villasenior
Gary Wagers
Donald Whitney
Gerald Williamson
Thomas Williamson
Fredrick Wolfe

Silver Level

David Allen
Chuck Argento
James Bellotty
James Belver
Verlon Bishop
Alvin Boles
Steven Borhmer
David Bowman
Timothy Brooks
Robert Brown
Ronald Brundage
Wesley Burk
Larry Burwick
Gary Callaway
Frank Christeson
Stephen Clement
L. W. Clodfelter
Garry Coey
Richard Coffman
L. E. Coffy
Craig Company
James Cooke
James Cottle
G. William Cramer
Roger Cross
Jim Darson
Henry Davis
Robert De Long
Edward Donnelly
Lee Duke
C. E. Dunkle
Hugh Edwards
John Effinger
Andrew Eggleton
Ernest Enloe
Steven Evans
Hershel Flanagan
James Fleshood
James Foreman
R. G. Foster
Frank Fulop
James Gelsomin
Dennis Gourm
Dennis Green
Donald Hancock
E. B. Hardin
J. P. Haynes
Erie Hedgcoth
Douglas Hernandez

Joseph Hessburg
George Holt
Frederick Holtzman
Sid Hughes
Betty Jackson
Raymer Kent
Thomas Koch
Jerome Kotwica
Richard Koziol
C. M. Kuchenbuch
Paul Lariviere
Wayne LeBail
Richard Long
Frank Lozon
Harold Mann
Troy Marshall
Stephen Martin
Stanley Martz
William McDermott
David McDonald
John McEnery
Joseph McKibbin
David McMillion
Cleveland Mitchell
Anthony Mortillaro
Dale Newcomb
Alfred Noetzel
David Ostrum
Michael Peters
Eladio Quinones
Kenneth Ray
Donald Reed
F. D. Renda
Donald Roark
Edward Rogers
Myron Rosendahl
Benjamin Rowe
Glenn Ryburn
Vincent Sanchez
Frank Sasaki
Brenner Sayers
C. E. Scholz
William Schrode
William Selch
Peter Semmelmeier
Larry Sharpe
Alexander Shogan
Arthur Smit
Jim Smith
Ronald Strain
W. M. Stromberg
Edmund Suberla
Thomas Templar
Don Timmons
James Tomchick
Christopher Tragakis
William Troxell

James Turner
Stanley Vander Vegte
Ralph Ware
Michael Watkins
Greg Wolff
James Yunker

Bronze Level

Ward Abbett
Chuck Abbey
Steve Abney
Roy Adams
James Alexander
Raymond Allen
William Alsobrook
Johnny Amador
Artie Andersen
Harold Anderson
Phillip Anderson
George Anderson
Frederic Angelina
Larry Arft
Linda Armstrong-Dulaney
Charles Arnold
Edward Atkeson
John Atkinson
Kenneth Ault
Raymond Auringer
Otis Bailey
Benjamin Bailey
Jerry Baker
John Ballantyne
Timothy Bankson
William Barba
Larry Barnes
Douglas Barnes
Robert Barnett
William Baronti
Donald Barrett
Deborah Barrows
Ken Bartell
Michael Bartlett
Harold Basler
J.A. Bathurst
Stephen Bauer
Gary Baxter
John Beas
J.L. Beckman
James Bell
Mary Bell
William Bellamy
Joachim Benitez
Groucho Benkenhaupt
Carl Bennett
Albert Bennett
Richard Bennett
Joseph Berenda
Richie Bernard
Gustaf Bernt
William Biehl
Eugene Billips
Gerald Billone

James Binns
Harlan Biotnott
Peter Blake
James Bland
James Bland
James Blankenship
James Blawat
Myron Bledsoe
John Blied
Michael Blöse
Randy Bodo
Joseph Bohr
Ted Bolton
Arnold Boman
Robert Bomba
Charles Bonfanti
John Borrer
Leon Boughner
Joseph Bowers
Johnny Bowlby
Barney Brauker
Bill Brawn
Richard Brewington
Warren Bricker
Grey Brill
Charles Brooks
Danny Brown
Robert Brown
Danny Brown
Richard Bruglia
Richard Brundage
Donald Brunelle
Joseph Bullington
William Bullock
Peter Bunce
Van Burch
M.J. Burch
Joseph Burke
John Burns
James Burns
Joseph Burton
Roger Butler
Donald Callahan
Richard Canuel
G. & J. Carabetta
Otis Carey
Ronnie Cargile
James Carnal
Christa Carothers
Raymond Carpender
Jess Carpenter
Herbert Carpenter
James Carter
Frank Caruso
Anonymous Cash
Joseph Cassell
Samuel Cassen
Danny Caswell
Dennis Cederquist
Phillip Cenicola
William Charbeneau
Randal Chase

Frederick Chattin
Warren Childress
Burt Christensen
Arnold Christensen
Gus Christian
Dennis Christman
Dennis Ciborowski
Charles Clapper
Glenn Clark
Stephen Cobb
Thomas Colameco
Richard Colman
Darrel Colson
Joe Commons
Bob Compton
Frank Coney
Danny Connelly
Jerry Conner
Benton Conner
Richard Corbett
Prudencio Cordero
John Corey
Jimmy Cornett
John Costa
A.C. Cotton
Earnest Cotton
Gary Cox
James Crabtree
John Cramer
William Cranford
Dennis Creal
Michael Cricco
Robert Croft
Michael Cross
Thomas Crowley
Robert Crowley
Richard Cruz
Bernard Cullinan
Charles Cumiskey
John Cunningham
Daniel Czerepuszko
Ronald Darnell
Herbert Daub
Allen Davenport
Larry Davidson
Thomas Davis
Milton Davis
George Davis
Randall Davis
Donald Davison
Curtis Day
Laurence Deets
Francis Degaray
Michael Deglman
John Deist
Patrick Dempsey
Arthur Derepkowski
David Derk
Frank Desanctis
T.J. Desiderio
Donald Detwiler
Lawrence Deventer

Paul Devin
Leray Dewit
James Dickinson
Michael Dietrich
John Dietz
Michael Dinardo
Orris Disney
James Dittmer
John Dobraniacki
Charles Dolen
Thomas Doll
Manuel Dominguez
John Donahue
Anonymous Donor
Anonymous Donor
Richard Douglas
Timothy Doyle
Sammy Dublin
Stephen Dubravac
Blair Duplantis
Merritt Durr
John Effinger
R.C. Eichelberger
Roger Eitel
Frank Ekert
David Ekholm
Richard Elligan
Glenn Elsing
William Emerson
Ron Emerson
Stanley England
Walter Ergish
Vaughn Esper
Denver Evans
Steven Evans
Robert Evener
Charles Ezell
Robert Fairchild
Albert Fariello
Roy Farley
Marcus Farrant
James Farrell
William Fedorinchik
Lynn Femrite
Ron Ferguson
Frank Fernandez
Richard Field
Arthur Finnerin
E.G. Fish
Carlos Fisher
Bill Fitzgerald
Thomas Flaherty
Earl Fleming
Gary Floyd
Michael Forbes
Kenneth Fordyce
Michael Forti
Willard Fossand
Willard Fossand
Gary Foster
Randy Foster

Glynn Francis
Roy Francis
D.F. Frank
Henry Franken
Martin Franklin
Jerry Franklin
Dennis Freeman
Harold Fremd
Robert Fremde
R.H. French
John Frens
Richard Freyn
Dennis Fricke
Leo Frizzell
C.H. Fulghum
Edwin & Anthony Gajkowski
Irving Gall
Robert Galloway
Jimmy Gamble
John Garabedian
Kenneth Garren
Robert Garrott
David Geasland
Luther Gee
Gary Gehrig
Joseph Gehring
Terry Gerhardt
Richard Gharing
Lonnie Gibbs
Raymond Giesige
William Gietzen
Charles Gill
William Gillette
Vincent Giorgio
Paul Gissible
Ernest Gizzi
Ross Glatzer
Herbert Gleditsch
James Godshall
David Godwin
Phillip Gonzalez
David Gordon
Dalton Gordon
Stephen Govan
Harvey Gracz
John Gray
Cornelius Gray
Zane Gray
Ronald Green
Michael Greenawalt
Paul Griep
William Griffin
J.F. Grimme
John Grogg
Gerald Guenthardt
J. Guarena
Dennis Gunn
Frank Guzowski
Charles Hack
William Hadfield
Robert Hagood

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Vietnam Veterans Share Memories

(Reprinted With Permission from the Wilson Daily Times @ 2008)

Lance Hembree (L) and James Ruffin (R) (Photo Courtesy of the *Wilson Daily Times*)

Wanda Kirk Hinnant was just 2 years old when her father, James J. Ruffin was killed in Vietnam. She grew up hearing stories about her young father, but she wasn't old enough to remember anything about him. Forty years later, she's thankful to be learning another side of her dad, and she's thankful she gets to look at him in pictures every day.

A few months ago, Larry Burwick of Cleveland, Texas, made contact with Wanda and her uncle, Charles Ruffin. Charles is James' younger brother. Larry wanted to share some stories and photos of James.

Larry and James served together in the 2nd Platoon, I troop, 3rd Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment in Vietnam in 1966 and 1967. The two soldiers traveled to Vietnam on the same ship, did platoon training together and were both assigned to be drivers.

Although they weren't on the same vehicle, they did spend time together and got to know one another. Larry and the entire regiment suffered a huge loss when James was killed March 19, 1967.

Years after the war, Larry starting making an effort to locate guys in I troop. Several were reunited, and they often thought about James and wondered about his family. Larry knew James had a small child and knew a little about his family. He knew he was from Wilson.

Larry called Ruffins listed in the phone book but never had any success. He'd wait a year or two and then try again. When he got connected to the Internet, things got easier, Larry said. He decided to make a real effort to locate the Ruffin family.

He searched Wilson, North Carolina, and got contact information for funeral homes, cemeteries and the newspaper. He called the *Daily Times* first and was directed to Edwards Funeral Home, the funeral home that we thought probably served the

"He was my dad's partner," Wanda said. "He told me some things about my dad that I did not know. It was so exciting to hear things about him. Hembree was with him until the end." ...Wanda Kirk Hinnant

Ruffin family when James was killed. Larry called and spoke to Sandra J. Barnes at the funeral home.

"He said 'I was wondering if you could help me,' and I knew exactly who he was talking about," Sandra said. "I remembered they stayed on Pender Street, so I told him, 'Yes, that I knew the family.'" Sandra was a student at Darden High School at the time James was killed. You don't forget events like that, she said.

Sandra contacted Charles, and he and Larry got in touch with each other. "It felt pretty good because I had not heard anything in so many years," Charles said. The last memory he had of his brother was the military notice that he had been killed.

Larry shared two snapshots he had, one of James and one of the ship that took them to Vietnam. He also had very kind words to share about James. "We were there. We had a job to do. We did dirty jobs, beating jungles. He always maintained his vehicle. He was jovial. He was a hard worker, never complained, easy to get along with. He always had a smile on his face. He was a top-notch man and a good soldier." Those words mean a lot to Wanda." I'm still excit-

ed about all of it," she said.

Larry also contacted the group he is a member of, the 11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia, to see if any of those guys had any pictures or stories to share with Charles and Wanda. They got more pictures, and one man, Lance Hembree, called Wanda and told her all sorts of stories about her father. Hembree served on the same vehicle as James.

"He was my dad's partner," Wanda said. "He told me some things about my dad that I did not know. It was so exciting to hear things about him. Hembree was with him until the end."

"It made me feel special that (Larry) was looking for us all these years," Wanda said. "That was very special."

Larry told Charles and Wanda all about the 11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia, invited them to be honorary members and added them to the group's mailing list. Both have indicated they would like to attend a reunion soon.

Kudos to Lance Hembree and Larry Burwick (I Trp 66-67) for taking the initiative to locate James J. Ruffin's daughter and brother. — Editor

Show Your Pride



Ross Glatzer (919th Engineers, 69-70) shows photo of his 1970 4-4-2 which his wife and him bought when he was in Nam. The car proudly has an 11th ACR license plate holder and an 11th ACR sticker on the window



From the 62nd Colonel of the Regiment

Mark E. Calvert



Veterans of the Blackhorse Regiment, Happy New Year to all Blackhorse Troopers! As we enter 2008 I ask that you keep in your thoughts and prayers the Blackhorse Troopers deployed in Iraq, Afghanistan and Africa. The Regiment currently has the 58th Combat Engineer Company deployed to Northern Iraq and many individual augmentees deployed to support operations in Afghanistan and Africa. 2007 was not without loss and on behalf all of the Troopers, I would like to express my deepest sympathy on the loss of a distinguished Blackhorse Trooper – COL (R) Chuck Schmidt, and another revered member of the Blackhorse Family Mrs. Letty Starry, wife of GEN (R) Donn Starry our 41st Colonel.

In preparation for the holiday season, Blackhorse Troopers took part in several activities that allowed them to join in fellowship with each other before departing on leave. First, 300 Troopers – “The Blackhorse 300” - conducted a very fast paced 10 mile force march which ended at the Barstow Veterans Home where we shared lunch and visited with the home’s veterans and staff. Additionally, the Regiment was honored to host LTC (R) Harold Fritz here at Fort Irwin as we renamed our Athletic Field as Fritz Field. During the dedication ceremony, LTC (R) Fritz added the Operation Iraqi Freedom

Streamer to the Regimental Colors. While visiting, LTC (R) Fritz also presented a superb lecture to young leaders of the Regiment on combat leadership.

The Regiment closed out 2007 with a Military Ball which featured the 49th Colonel of our Regiment, John Sherman Crow, as our guest speaker. Over 1200 Blackhorse Troopers and Family members were in attendance for the occasion. At the Ball we presented for the first time three awards in honor of the Regiment’s Medal of Honor recipients. The Wickham award was presented to the Regiment’s outstanding junior enlisted Soldier, SGT Andrew J. Pitman of C Troop. The Yano award, to the Regiment’s most outstanding senior NCO, 1SG Jay A. Porter, First Sergeant for Supply and Transportation Troop. The Fritz Award was presented to the Regiment’s most outstanding company grade officer, CPT Chris Mugavero – Commander of G Troop.

Over the next 6 months the Regiment will continue our support of training Brigade Combat Teams for deployment to Iraq and Afghanistan. We will also continue to execute our own training to sustain our combat skills. In April, the full Regiment will train for two weeks with our Reserve Component formations, 1-221 CAV and 1-144 FA, where we will culminate

their Annual Training Period with a combined arms live fire training event here at the NTC. The Regiment will also provide our Infantrymen the opportunity to earn the Expert Infantry Badge, and in February we will take a day to celebrate the 107th Birthday of the Regiment.

And finally, it is my pleasure to welcome CSM Fred Morris to the Regiment. CSM Morris joins the Regiment from 1-89 CAV, 2BCT, 10th Mountain Division where he served as the Command Sergeant Major, including a 15 month deployment to Iraq. He rejoins the Regiment after 19 years where he was formerly a member of E Troop, 2nd Squadron. He brings back with him a wealth of knowledge and experience as he assumes responsibility as the 17th Command Sergeant Major of the Regiment. I look forward to working with CSM Morris in the coming months, and I welcome his wife Pamela Morris into the Blackhorse Family.

It is my honor, as ever, to be a part of this Regiment, its values, its history and its achievements. Thank you for your continuous support, dedication, and the precedent you set for the standard of Troopers who proudly wear the patch of the Blackhorse.

BLACKHORSE-ALLONS!!!

Show Your Pride



Robert “Top” Phillips (HHT and B Troop, 1970) shows his Blackhorse pride with his wheel chair accessed Van. Top is 84 and a WWII Veteran.



John Orr (D Co., 66-67) shows 11th Cav pride with his camping trailer



Jerry L. Self (33rd Chem Det, 69-70) shows pride with Blackhorse emblazoned on his airplane



A Great Way To Go

As I write, I've just returned to Texas from the memorial services for Chuck Schmidt in Colorado Springs. Chuck was our great and beloved president and leader. As president he was elected, again, this past September at our twenty-second annual reunion. As leader, he was our own, a true leader among men. He was elected by an enthusiastic and unanimous vote, as it appeared to me. Chuck was determined to make it through another term. He didn't make it this time. He won the first bout but Agent Orange cancer won this one. It was his time to go. And go he did - in grand style as befitting the finest of cavalry, in the saddle with his boots on and his family and troopers at his side.

Until now I hadn't fully realized in how grand a style Chuck was leaving this life and entering eternal life with his Lord and his forebears. As I listened to many testimonials about Chuck, I came to realize what sort of man I had known and shared with. More will be said by the words of others who were there, by others who knew him, from tributes in our Thunder Run, and by sharing at our reunions. I'll say that, except for leaving this life too soon, I'm confident that Chuck went out in exactly the way he wanted. Who could ask for more?

According to those who shared on his behalf, Chuck was what greatness is made of: as husband, dad, grandpa, neighbor, Army leader in combat and in peace, in his neighborhood, in his church, playmate with his grandkids, mentor and role model for teen-agers, and more than can be put into words or that I would even know. One mark of his greatness is learned from his grown kids. His daughter talks about how she had grown to know her dad so much deeper and in ways she hadn't known when she came to our reunion and experienced how remarkable Chuck was around his Blackhorse brothers. The same thoughts and insights came from the hearts of others of his family and close civilian friends.

Chuck had a beautiful home on high ground at the western edge of the

Chuck, you went too soon, but you went well. We'll miss you, brother, but we will not forget you. You'll be around until the last man turns out the lights.

Colorado plains that looked toward his beloved Air Force Academy. The home he provided was shelter and sanctuary for his family as well as for himself. But, more: their home was a sanctuary and a lighthouse for his neighbors, his vets, and others I have no way of knowing about. From those invited into his home I know that he and his dear wife, Bonnie, opened their doors to many, of which I was one. At his memorial service testimonials were profuse in attesting to what I'm saying.

One of Chuck's virtues that stood out I mentioned at his memorial service. Chuck was proof that, with our 11th Armored Cavalry Veterans of Viet Nam and Cambodia, the ground is truly level. Our founders were junior or mid-grade enlisted men. Our first two presidents were enlisted men (I think sergeants). I don't know if they were drafted or volunteered, but I know that they weren't career. On the other hand, Chuck was a retired full colonel with a career of 27 years active duty. But you wouldn't have known it. My observation, right or wrong, was that many of our members didn't even know Chuck was a colonel for a long time. It just didn't matter. As I said, the ground is level in our organization. Now we count as members former junior grade enlisted men all the way up to retired four star generals. Each is appropriately respected. Here the respect works both ways. The fact is, it's usually not easy to know who was what back in the old days. Here we are brothers - that's it. Officer and enlisted days are gone. No more orders are given. Brotherhood is here to stay. Chuck proved the point. Chuck was great and loved because of who he was - not because of what he had been. It was what he wanted. It was what we all wanted. It's a grand part of his legacy.

Chuck's life was full to overflowing. Chuck saw to it that God had priority in his life. He didn't just attend his church there in Monument, Colorado, he was

fully a part of it. He took leadership roles. He took "followership" roles too. He was a true servant as well as a true leader - he knew they went together. He loved and was loved. He loved the Lord. He worshipped Jesus his Christ. The testimonials of his fellow church members as well as his priest were clear as to how committed Chuck was to his church and his Lord. As chaplain for our organization, I know how deeply Chuck lived his faith. I'm sure you know too. Chuck lived his faith openly without being forceful or obnoxious about it. Anyone could see clearly that Chuck was what he said. His words and his acts were on the same track. He led from the front, in his faith and character as in his relationships and positions.

One of Chuck's last acts of leadership reflected one of his passions and visions. That was the restoration of our 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment monument at Fort Knox, Kentucky. The re-dedication of the monument and all the events of that wonderful week end were a focus of his leadership and a profound statement of what his life was all about. The reunion, its events, its brotherhood, and its families were truly an "apex" and powerful symbol of what we're all about. So many worked so hard and contributed so much to the event that the reunion in Fort Knox became a real tribute to Chuck Schmidt and our purpose as an organization. Chuck would not, in any way, be willing to "hog" all the credit. With him we all recognize that so many gave so much to make the re-dedication of our monument and the week-end such a success. Now we pay tribute to Chuck, our leader and inspiration for that wonderful event.

It's fitting that I quote from the Scriptures that were read at Chuck's memorial service. They were selected by his family. They honor him and demonstrate what his family had to say on his behalf as a genuine Christian man. The

Continued ➤



Welcome Aboard!

New Members of the 11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia (11th ACVVC) since our last issue of *Thunder Run*.

NAME	DATES	NAME	DATES	NAME	DATES	NAME	DATES
HHT REGIMENT		A TROOP, 1/11		Vanbrocklin, John D 70-70		HOW BTRY, 2/11	
Hummers, William S	67-68	Banning, Bill W	66-67	Vonderhorst, Edward W	70-71	Parkhurst, Michael A	71-72
Hurst, Edward L	67-67	B TROOP, 1/11		F TROOP, 2/11		HHT, 3/11	
Reeves, Clinton L	70-70	Ferguson, Doyle I Jr	70-70	Barnes, Odell	67-68	Burke, Timothy T	70-70
Schofield, David M	70-70	Lee, Boston G	69-69	Bokankowitz, Richard E	67-68	Byrd, James R	69-69
Scott, Donald L	68-69	Mayberry, Loyd E	66-67	Carpenter, Raymond J	68-69	Cuellar, Vincent J	70-70
AIR CAVALRY TROOP		Todd, Nollie G	69-70	Dukes, David J	67-68	Gaddy, David L	69-69
Rumsey, William L	71-71	C Troop, 1/11		Dunkle, Clarence E	67-68	Hall, Rick D	67-68
Scott, Donald L	68-69	Pfeifer, John J	70-70	Fountain, Richard T	67-68	Hammond, Walter E	68-69
37TH MEDICAL CO		Rzadkiewicz, John J	70-70	French, Richard	71-72	Lanier, Melvin R	68-68
Burke, Timothy T	70-70	D COMPANY, 1/11		Johnston, Dennis A	70-70	Maxson, Thomas R	68-68
Dorsey, John H Jr	70-71	Blazaitis, John A	69-70	Kemp, Gary E	67-68	Meunier, James A	70-70
124th CS MAINT DET		Carlson, Larry A	68-69	Kuehner, James T	67-68	I TROOP, 3/11	
Guaderrama, Jose L	70-70	Furr, Jerry A	67-68	Magee, Howard B	71-72	Birge, Lewis J	68-68
Logan, Jerry D	70-70	HOW BTRY, 1/11		Marek, Denis L	67-68	Brackett, Ronald D	70-71
398th TRANS DET		Garcia, Robert A	69-69	Middaugh, Paul L	69-69	Doebly, Robert P	68-69
Scalfani, Michael L	71-71	Joslin, Joe P Jr	68-69	Miller, Gary L	67-68	Herren, Freddie J C	66-67
Steinmetz, John H	71-72	Simpson, Charles A	70-70	Monk, Ronald E	71-72	Middaugh, Paul L	69-69
Zubarik, James A	70-72	Smith, Thomas V	66-67	Ontiveros, John	67-68	O'Donohue, James P	66-67
409th RR DET		HHT, 2/11		Sutherland, Dan B	67-68	K TROOP, 3/11	
Doxtator, Everett L	68-69	Cathey, Larkin C Jr	71-72	Valdez, Frank	66-67	Bolen, John W	70-70
Garten, James L	69-70	Finis, Michael J	71-72	Walker, Ronnie D	67-68	M COMPANY, 3/11	
541st MI DET		Huegel, David D	69-69	Weaver, Warren M	67-68	Corder, John W	68-69
Ludwicki, Raymond J	70-71	Hicks, Donald J	70-70	G TROOP, 2/11		HOW BTRY, 3/11	
919th ENGINEER CO		Sutherland, Dan B	68-69	Cunningham, Terry	71-71	Bolen, John W	70-70
Gootee, Marvin B	69-70	E TROOP, 2/11		Huegel, David D	69-69	Watson, Montgomery D	68-68
HHT, 1/11		Bennett, Ronald L	71-72	Lauterbach, George C	68-68		
Scott, Gary A	68-69	Nichols, Jimmie L	67-68	Rademacker, Ben	66-67		
				Sine, Raymond H	69-69		
				Torres, Jose	68-68		

CHAPLAIN from page 18

words are from Romans 8:31b-35: "If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all — how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died — more than that, who was raised to life — is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?" Verses 38-39 finish the passage: "For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons,

neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

So I say, "What a Great Way to Go!" Chuck, you went too soon, but you went well. We'll miss you, brother, but we will not forget you. You'll be around until the last man turns out the lights.

Allons, our brother and our leader. Allons!

Chaplain Larry Haworth
176 Rainbow Drive, #7627
Livingston, TX 77399
LEHaworth@aol.com

Newsletter Deadlines

The following are the due dates to submit articles for *Thunder Run*

First Quarter.....Jan 15

Second Quarter.....Mar 25

Third QuarterJun 25

Fourth QuarterOct 1

All submissions for publication must be sent to: Jim Griffiths, Editor, 3784 Michigan Ave., Bridgman, MI 49106. Email: JGriff11@aol.com.

Membership is Our Strength

**It's not the price
you pay to belong,
It's the price you paid to
become eligible to join**

Meet Our 2007 Scholarship Winners

This issue contains brief statements from 7 of our 2007 scholarship winners



Allyson Drozd, Daughter of Andrew Drozd – HHT Regt – (69-70)

Thank you so much for awarding me with this generous scholarship. It is an honor to be recognized by the 11th ACVVC of which my father is a part. The award will be of much help in my pursuit of higher education and I greatly appreciate it.



Angela Prattas, Daughter of James Prattas – Air Cav Trp – (69-70)

“Thank you very much”



Allan Eggleton, Son of Andrew Eggleton – HHT 2/11 – (67-68)

Thank you for selecting me to be a 2007 11ACWC Scholarship winner. I almost couldn't believe that I won this scholarship. I am extremely grateful to all the members who made this scholarship possible. This \$3,000.00 award will be a big help for me in my second year at the University of California Irvine as college expenses are constantly increasing. Thanks again for choosing me to receive this prestigious award.



Allison Solid, Daughter of David Solid Jr. – 398 Trans – (69-70)

I would like to express my gratitude in receiving this scholarship. It will greatly help me in my last year of school! Thank you!



Bethany Newman, Daughter of Roger Newman – HHT 2/11 – (69-70)

I would like to make it clear that my education is a very centrifugal aspect of my life. Your generous contribution is not only monetary as it will ultimately bring me closer to achieving my goals. I am double majoring in International Studies and Political Science to hopefully ensure a future in making perceptive decisions for our Nation and World. Thank you again for making this possible,



Michelle Wehner, Daughter of Charles Wehner – G Trp 2/11 – (69-70)

Dear members of the 11th ACVVC, I would like to express my gratitude to all of you for awarding me one of your scholarships. It is an honor to receive such recognition from a distinguished group of men, a group that I hope to make proud in my upcoming years in army ROTC.

My father has always been proud to be a member of the Blackhorse, and to have served with such a great group of men. My sister and I have attended some of the reunions and have met many of the men he served with. Now, they are a part of my extended family that I adore. Again, thank you for the recognition.



Michael Northrop, Son of Ronny Northrop – HHT Regt – (69-70)

I would like to thank you greatly for the 11ACVVC Scholarship. It will help me tremendously to further my education and eventually reach my goals.

Show Your Pride



James H. Miller (A Troop, 66-67) shows Blackhorse pride on his 1929 Model A Ford

A Guide to the 11th ACVVC Scholarship Program and a Scholarship Application may be found on our website at: www.11thCavNam.com

11th ARMORED CAVALRY MEMORIAL RESTORATION DONATIONS

The 11th ACVVC gratefully acknowledges the generosity of the following individuals who have purchased granite bricks in support of the 11th Armored Cavalry Memorial restoration. The list includes orders received between June 28, 2007 and January 4, 2008. Previous donors' lists appeared in 2nd and 3rd quarter 2007 Thunder Run. Numbers in parentheses indicate more than one brick. This brings the total number of bricks purchased to 551.

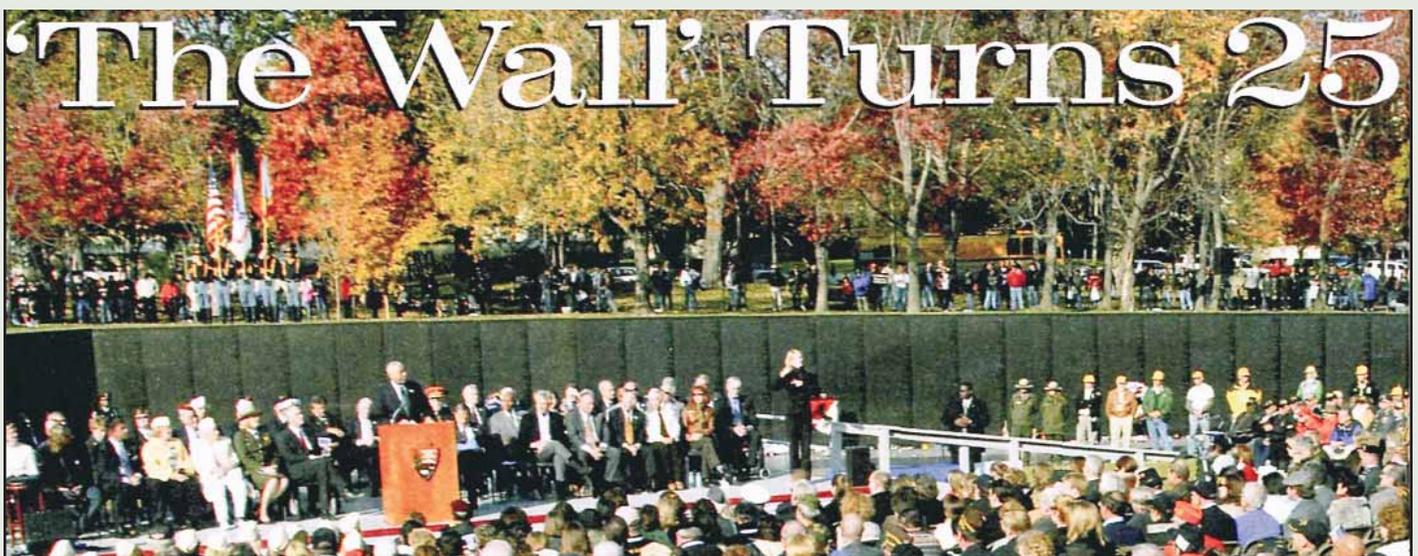
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Luis A. Vasquez
Ronald L. Vetere
Pat Vigus
Steven W. Vince
Stewart W. Wallace
Peter L. Walter
Frederick W. Way
Gerald C. Werner
David A. White
Joseph R. Willey
Gary E. Williams
Phillip W. Williams
Raymond L. Wright
James M. Yunker
Larry P. Zeller



Our Blackhorse Wreath stands prominently by the Wall (center) at the 25th Anniversary of the Wall Celebration (Photo by Scott Boatright / Courtesy VFW Magazine)

DONORS from page 15

William Hall	Jack Hurley	Cornelius Kunst	Reginald Martin	William Morrow
John Hall	James Hussey	Paul Kwiecinski	David Martinez	Stephen Moushegian
Benjamin Harmon	Henry Inman	Frederick Kyle	Nick Martinez	Jack Moyer
Grady Hassell	W.F. Iseman	Walter Lakari	Joh Masley	Joseph Muchesko
Donald Hastings	Warren Jackson	Rickey Langley	Glen Massingale	Alan Murphy
Perry Hatfield	Wayne Jacobitz	Ronald Lanphier	Fred Matney	Don Murphy
Allen Hathaway	Daniel Jaime	Albert LaPoint	Milton Matthews	L.K. Murphy
Jean Hathaway	Eddie Jaimies	Susan Larmer	Jan Mayer	John Musial
Stanley Hauser	Ken Jankel	Robert Larocque	Jeffrey Mayer	Anthony Musico
James Hawes	David Jarrell	Kenneth Larsen	Curtis Mays	John Mutter
Robert Hawley	James Jarrett	Ralph Larson	Jerry McBryde	Michael Nechanicky
Larry Haworth	David Jarrett	Ken Larson	Leonard McCarthy	Edward Nelson
Alfred Hayes	Duane Javoroski	Raymond Larson	John McCarthy	Terry Nelson
Douglas Haywood	William Jeans	William Laspina	Jerry McCarty	Jack Nelson
Joseph Headrick	James Jenkins	Kenneth Lee	James McCormick	Leslie Newman
Clint Heath	Dale Jensen	Robert Lee	Harold McCready	Allan Nicholas
Philip Heatherberry	Robert Jensen	Charles Leighton	Walter McDonald	Janice Nichols
Steven Helgeson	Richard Jeranek	Myron Lemperle	Thaniel McFee	Harold Nicklas
Thomas Helm	Candace Joel	John Lescisko	Bernard McGowan	Robert Norris
Jock Hendricks	Steve Johnson	Gerald Lessard	John McGrail	Willie Nunley
Freddy Henry	Eugene Johnson	Roger L'etoile	James McIntosh	Chuck Nute
Richard Henson	James Johnson	Paul Letourneau	Clarence McKillip	Norman Nuzzi
Donald Herbert	Robert Johnson	Bill Lewellen	Glenn McLendon	James O'Brien
Matthew Herlihy	Robert Johnston	Billy Lewis	Cary McMasters	Patrick Olechny
Walter Herlinsky	Lee Wayne Jones	Larry Lewis	Thomas McNeal	Richard Onofrey
Al Hernandez	Paul Jones	Thomas Licon	Joseph McSwiggan	Terry Opp
Roberto Herrera	Stephen Jones	David Like	Benjie Meek	Robert Oracz
Robert Heuston	Michael Jordan	Nicholas Lile	Eugene Meltsch	Clifton Osborne
David HI CE Services	John Jordan	Craig Lindell	Eugene Meltsch	Alden Owens
L.R. Hicks	Thomas Juskiewicz	John Lindsay	Douglas Menefee	Will Owens
John Hien	James Kaehler	Ronald Lindsey	Wilbert Menix	D.L. Pace
Andrew Hilden	Randall Kaiser	John Linggen	William Merkle	Angel Pagan
John Hill	Danny Kays	Roy Lingle	Blaine Merrill	C.R. Parker
Larry Hillmane	Lincoln Keanini	Eldred Little	Keith Meyer	Carl Pascual
Donald Hines	Richard Kearnes	Donald Livingston	Donald Middleton	Thomas Patton
Leonardo Hinojosa	Thomas Kelley	R.H. Long	Gene Miller	John Peckham
Ronald Hjort	Thomas Kelly	John Long	Larry Miller	Donald Pemberton
Joseph Hladky	Ronald Kelly	Larry Longworth	George Miller	Lloyd Pendola
Paul Hofflander	Robert Kemper	Richard Looft	John Millsap	Charles Pennington
George Hoffmaster	Larry Kester	Francis Lopes	Earl Minor	William Pfluger
Ludwig Hoge	Thomas Kieffer	Jeffrey Lopez	Lloyd Mitchell	Daniel Phillippi
Joseph Holliday	Lynn Kile	Guy Love	Jerry Mitchell	Robert Phillips
Marcell Homer	Dennis King	James Lynch	J.C. Mladic	Charles Phillips
Berk Hooten	William King	Howard Lytle	Daniel Moeller	Michael Pisciotta
Donald Horn	Joseph Kipper	John MacDonald	Joseph Moliero	Christopher Pitt
Kibbey Horne	Thomas Kirchoff	Kurt Mackley	Wayne Mollhoff	Murray Pledger
John Horner	Timothy Kleingartner	William Madej	Steven Molstad	Nicholas Posak
Michael Horvatic	Lewis Klinn	Per Madsen	John Monaghan	John Poundstone
Charles Houthoofd	William Knowlton	Howard Magee	Fred Montgomery	Marvin Powell
Carl Howard	Norman Koch	Raymond Majewski	Harry Moody	Donald Price
Danny Hoyle	Anthony Koch	John Malan	Larry Moore	Albert Priest
John Hrom	Herbert Koester	J. Maloy	Austin Moore	Charley Pritchett
Nicholas Hryadil	Michael Komisin	Johnny Mann	James Moore	George Purifoy
Ronald Huggins	Fred Kontzelmann	James Manning	Jerry Morelock	Richard Quick
Randall Hughes	Kenneth Koppenal	Jackie Maples	Dennis Morgan	John Quinlivan
Edward Hulik	George Krcelich	Wiley Marks	Damion Moring	Richard Quinn
John Humbert	Gregory Krinock	Charles Marlatt	James Morrill	Paul Radzwillas
John Humbertson	David Krzyzan	Dave Marmet	Duane Morris	Michael Rafferty
John Hunt	William Kubena	Stephen Marsden	Jack Morrison	William Ralston
Robert Hunt	James Kuehner	Gary Marth	Charles Morrison	Grable Ramirez
			Charles Morrow	

Samuel Ramnytz
James Ramsey
Diego Randazzo
John Raney
Ronald Raper
Jesse Raspberry
Kim Raseman
Jack Rawlings
Lannie Ray
Maurie Reardon
Ronald Reed
Richard Reed
Edward Reeves
James Reeves
Blake Reichgeld
Richard Rejon
Paul Renschen
Nick Reschetnjak
Danny Rice
Lawrence Richardson
Randy Richmond
Larry Righter
Johnny Riley
Robert Rippon
Donald Ritchison
Jim Ritter
Joe Roberts
John Roberts
Raymond Rodarte
Emil Roethlisberger
Sammie Rogers
Charles Rollins
Irving Roman
Daniel Romero
Luther Rood
Peter Rosenkrands
Steven Roth
Larry Rothmeyer
Jay Rumsey
Robert Rush
Richard Russell
Michael Russell
Ronald Russell
Charles Russian
Henry Rybacki
T.A. Sabol
Robert Samples
Robert Sandlin
Donald Sartor
David Saxby
Glen Schaaf
Michael Schaefer
William Schamberger
Donni Schaunoland
Gerald Scherz
Thomas Schmersahl
David Schneider
Robert Schnieter
Elred Schrader
Ronald Schroeder
Derek Schruers
Louis Schubrych

Ronald Scotka
Charles Scott
Gary Self
Arthur Sevelius
H. Shafer
Raymond Shakow
Michael Share
Richard Sharp
Terry Sharpe
John Shelburne
Dennis Sheldon
R.L. Shelley
Mike Shepler
Gary Sherman
George Shookla
William Siders
Edmund Sieminski
Robert Sinclair
Vincent Sinervo
Joey Skidmore
Michael Skinner
Walter Slominski
Kermit Slone
William Slusser
Doyle Smith
Thomas Smith
Darrell Snyder
Nicholas Soehnlén
Nick Soehnlén
Eldridge Sonnier
Gary Southerland
Thomas Spahr
David Spaulding
Harold St. Clair
Edmund Stafford
Charles Stamey
David Stark
Paul Stensgaard
Sammy Stephenson
Jerry Sterner
Jerry Stertzbach
Terry Stivers
H.G. Stogner
Martin Storer
Ron Struble
Gregory Stumbo
Raymond Sturtz
Bill Suhre
Raymond Suminski
Carl Summers
Gordon Sutton
Harold Sutton
James Swanson
Bruce Sweningson
Lauren Tandberg
Melvin Tanney
Raymond Tarr
J.Y. Tate
James Taylor
William Taylor
K. & D. Tebbe
Paul Tebo

Slofko Terlecky
Hardy Terry
Gary Terry
Darold Thoemke
Arthur Thomas
Allen Thomas
David Thompson
John Thompson
Jay Thompson
Earl Thompson
Richard Thomson
Jerry Thurman
David Tiedeman
Ernest Tietz
Michael Tighe
Edward Tinney
Larry Toole
Jose Torres
Lawrence Totaro
Danny Towe
Frank Townsend
Andrew Trabanco
Douglas Traylor
Harry Trentman
Reynaldo Trevino
James Trier
Ivan Trifon
Eddie Trosper
James Trusley
Steve Tyre
Francis Uebelher
Anthony Valdez
Dennis Van Alstine
Kirk Vanderbogart
Luis Vargas
Frank Varljen
Travis Vaughan
B. Holt Vaughn
Jose Vela
Larry Velders
John Venhoff
Emilio Villarreal
Edward Vonderhorst
Jeffrey Voss
Hugh Waggoner
Larry Wagner
Paul Wagner
Lawrence Walker
Ronnie Walker
Ken Walker
Joseph Wallech
Harry Wallen
W.A. Waller
James Walling
Peter Walter
George Ward
James Warlick
Larry Waters
Bruce Watson
David Watters
George Watts
Steven Waugh

Gary Webb
Linda Welch
Paul Welch
William Weller
John Wells
James Weltzien
Frank Werker
James Werner
Wayne West
Bobby West
Victor Westerberg
Joseph Wetmore
Michael Weynand
Roger White
James White
Willie Whitfield
Charles Whorton
David Wieland
John Wilcox
Ernesto Williams
Robert Williams
Thomas Wills
Dennis Wilson
Mike Wilson

Shayne Wing
Douglas Wing
Marvin Witt
Okey Wolfe
William Wolfenden
Ken Wollschlaeger
Roddy Woodson
Jerry Woolverton
Mike Works
Richard Worley
Kenneth Worthey
Michael Wresch
David Wright
Raymond Wright
Stephen Wright
Albert Ybanez
Tim Yeider
Harold Yirsa
Michael Young
Jeri Young
Paul Young
James Zaun
Darrell Zipp

REGISTRATION from page 4

This year we will again have different colored name tags so that you will know who is on the Board of Directors or reunion staff. A display of the different colored name tags will be at the registration area. This worked so well last year that we have decided to continue with it. It does make more work for us but it is worth it when you know who to ask if you have any questions or problems. ANYONE (even Barb) with a BOD colored name tag should be able to help you.

Remember that everyone needs to wear their name tag at all times. Your pre-registered name tag (versus walk-in name tag) shows that you have paid your registration and you can drink and eat what is put out at the bunker. It also shows that you pre-registered and therefore have a reserved seat at the dinner banquet.

If you would like to help at the registration table let us know and we will get you to work. We would like to get as many people trained at registration as we can because you never know when we won't be able to make one of the reunions (God forbid).

Well guys, I guess that's about it for this time. So stay warm, have a wonderful New Year and most importantly **GET THOSE REGISTRATIONS IN EARLY!!!**

Allons,

Bob (two dogs) Moreno
G Troop (68-69)
Board Registration Director

Circle of Honor and Memorial Bricks

By Allen Hathaway

After four years of research, planning and preparation, the 11th Cavalry Memorial at Fort Knox, KY, was rededicated during a ceremony on September 8, 2007.

The centerpiece of the memorial area is the Vietnam Memorial, originally dedicated 40 years ago in 1967. During the months preceding the rededication, minor repairs were made to the memorial. The four bronze plaques listing the names of our 729 KIA's were replaced. Three new memorials (obelisks) were also added to honor the 11th Cavalry Troopers who served in other wars and campaigns beginning with the Philippine Insurrection in 1902-1904, through the latest deployment in support of Operation Iraqi

Freedom III in 2005-2006.

The memorial project was funded in part by the sale of granite bricks. The "Circle of Honor", the area surrounding the monument, consists of approximately 1,100 granite bricks that can be inscribed with any appropriate message. The bricks add a very special and personal touch to the memorial. Many chose to have their name, unit and years of served with the regiment inscribed on their brick. Some of the messages are very touching: "BROTHER & UNCLE-WE REMEMBER", "BROTHERS 4-EVER", "I NEVER FORGET", "SOLDIER HUSBAND DAD GRANDPA U R MISSED" and "ALL GAVE SOME-SOME GAVE ALL" are just a few of the personal messages on the bricks.

Brick Order Form

Instructions: Print your message in the boxes below exactly as you want your brick to appear. Be sure to leave a blank box between words. Each line accommodates 15 characters, including blank boxes and punctuation (commas, periods, hyphens). If ordering more than one brick, photocopy this form or use a separate sheet of paper.

LINE 1:														
LINE 2:														
LINE 3:														
(Use Lines 4 and 5 for 8" x 8" x 2" bricks only)														
LINE 4:														
LINE 5:														

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

- 4" x 8" x 2" Brick - \$100 enclosed
- 4" x 8" x 2" Brick - \$25 enclosed with 3 additional payments of \$25 in 3, 6 and 9 months (\$25 x 4 = \$100). Bricks will be inscribed when the full amount is paid.
- 8" x 8" x 2" Brick - \$175 enclosed
- 8" x 8" x 2" Brick - \$85 enclosed with 3 additional payments of \$30 in 3, 6, and 9 months (\$85 + 3 x \$30 = \$175). Bricks will be inscribed when amount paid in full..

Visa Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

Mastercard Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature (Required for Credit Card transactions): _____

Please make checks/money orders payable to: 11th ACVVC. Mail this form with your check, money order, or credit card (no cash) to: **11th ACVVC Treasurer, C/O Ollie Pickral, 571 Ditchley Rd, Kilmarnock, VA 22482.**

Over 450 bricks were inscribed and placed in the “circle” prior to the rededication. Another 115 brick orders have been received since the reunion. This last group of 115 will be inscribed and placed in the circle in May 2008.

We are making this final offer to purchase a brick to be inscribed and placed in the Circle of Honor. The bricks are a lasting tribute to your service to this great country, our great regiment and to the men whose names are listed on our monument. If you have put off ordering your brick, take a moment today to place your order to ensure your brick is included in the final group. Deadline for submitting your order is **April 15, 2008**. Thanks for your support of this worthwhile project.



ABOVE: Completed monument with “Circle of Honor”

LEFT & BELOW: Inscribed bricks



This is a special way for you to join your fallen comrades in spirit. Since your name will never appear on the monument, this allows an avenue for you to honor your Brothers and include your presence with theirs.



Journey to Fiddler's Green

We are sorry to report the following Troopers have taken the journey to Fiddler's Green. Our heartfelt sympathy and sincere condolences to their families and friends. We honor their service to our country and to our regiment by listing their names here..

Robert B. Ausseresses, K Troop, 3/11 (1966-1967), passed away on March 9, 2007. He was a member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Santa Rosa, CA. He was laid to rest in Pleasant Hills Memorial Park, Sebastopol, CA. Robert was a veteran of Korea and Vietnam.

Jerry D. Anthony, HHT, 3/11 (1970), passed away on September 23, 2007. He was a Life Member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Stuttgart, AR.

Donald E. Danieli, M Company, 3/11 (1970-1971, 2nd platoon), passed away on November 2, 2005. He was a member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Grass Valley, CA.

Gordon K. Foster, HHT, 2/11 (1969-1970), passed away on July 14, 2007. He was a Life Member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Locust Grove, OK.

Gayle D. Gafford, K Troop, 3/11 (1968-1969), passed away on October 22, 2007. He was a Life Member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Little Elm, TX.

Martin D. "Tiger" Howell, HHT, 1/11 (1966-1967, squadron commander), passed away on November 17, 2007. He was a Life Member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Alexandria, VA.

Carl W. Hurley, C Troop, 1/11 (1968-1969), passed away on September 20, 2007. He was a Life Member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Homosassa, FL.

Terry L. Knapp, K Troop, 3/11 (1967-1968), passed away on November 15, 2007. He was a Life Member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Saint Louis, MI.

James A. Luedeke, HHT, 3/11 (1970-1971), passed away on September 17, 2007. He was a Life Member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Annandale, VA. He was laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery.

Kenneth C. Malick, HHT, 1/11 (1968), passed away on September 28, 2007. He was a Life Member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Council Bluffs, IA.

Melvin C. Rhodes, HHT Regt (1969-1970), passed away on December 26, 2007. He was a Life Member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Starkville, MS.

Eris R. Roman, L Troop, 3/11 (1966-1967, 3rd platoon), passed away on November 30, 2007. He was a Life Member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Bayamon, PR.

Charles L. Schmidt, I Troop, 3/11 (1967-1968, troop commander), passed away on November 11, 2007. He was a Life Member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Colorado Springs, CO. He was laid to rest in Richardton, ND.

H. L. Simmons, M Company, 3/11 (1966-1967), passed away on December 5, 2007. He was a Life Member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in McCune, KS.

Thomas R. Swindler, B Troop, 1/11 (1966-1967, 2nd platoon), passed away on October 10, 2007. He was a Life Member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Culpeper, VA. He was laid to rest in Culpeper National Cemetery, Culpeper, VA. Tom was a veteran of Korea and Vietnam.

Jimmie W. Transue, 1st Sergeant, F Troop, 2/11 (1969, 1st sergeant), passed away on September 11, 2007. He was a Life Member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Tampa, FL. He was laid to rest in Florida National Cemetery, Bushnell, FL. Jimmie was a veteran of Korea and Vietnam.

Raymond J. Valencia, G Troop, 2/11 (1971, 1st platoon), passed away on September 29, 2007. He was a member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Tulare, CA.

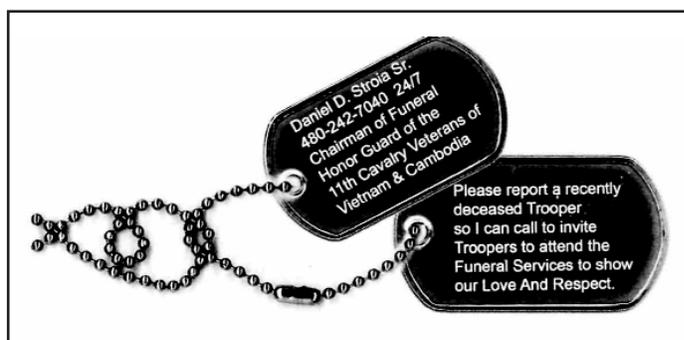
Obide Weatherspoon Sr, M Company, 3/11 (1966-1967, 2nd platoon), passed away on May 7, 2003. He was a member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Junction City, KS. He was laid to rest in Leavenworth National Cemetery, Leavenworth, KS.

Raymond E. Wendell, 409th RRD (1970), passed away on April 14, 2007. He was a member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Portland, OR.

Charles H. West Jr, L Troop, 3/11 (1968), passed away on September 24, 2007. He was a Life Member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in New Albany, IN.

Glenn T. Williams, B Troop, 1/11 (1967-1968), passed away on October 10, 2007. He was a Life Member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Greenville, MI.

Marion W. Wooten, E Troop, 2/11 (1967-1968), passed away on November 19, 2007. He was a Life Member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Lexington, SC.



Show Your Pride



John Shelburne (K Troop, 68-69) shows his K Troop and Bronze Star Pride

So that his brethren shall know...

Please report the death of any member of The 11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia to Allen Hathaway, 13194 Rettew Dr., Manassas, VA 20112; Phone: (703) 791-6610; Email: 11thcav1966@comcast.net; for listing in "Journey to Fiddler's Green."



The presents have been unwrapped, toys tried out, batteries have been replaced, we've eaten until we can no longer move and perhaps even the tree has been taken down and the decorations put away for another year. Now it's time to think about what the New Year will bring. I've decided against making any new year's resolutions this year, as I always seem to break them anyway.

As I write this our next reunion is only seven months away. Seven months and we will be seeing some of our dearest friends. Friends we only get to see once a year but who are in our hearts and on our minds all year. Time to get those hotel and reunion reservations made.

Chicago will definitely be different for Bob, Raleigh and me this year. It's only about a five hour drive from where we live. So we won't be continuing on with a vacation afterward. Instead we will save that time for later in the year when we will be making our annual trip to Walt Disney World.

We definitely had a white Christmas here in Wisconsin this year. In fact we have about 17 inches of that cold wet white stuff on the ground and roadways. While it's beautiful to look at, I sure wish it would only fall on the ground and trees and not on the roads, and walkways. Poor Bob had to shovel the driveway (and it's really long and on a hill) four times just to be able to get out to take me to work. Man, I can hardly wait for spring with warmer days, cool nights, no jackets and NO freezing our noses off. Ahhhhhh. Just keeping thinking spring Barb – spring!

Winter is always a slow time for us at the hotel. Some nights we have as little as 5 rooms occupied and other nights we will have 30. You just never know.

It (winter I mean) also brings hockey tournaments here in Wisconsin. People here are as passionate and as loyal about hockey as they are about the Green Bay Packers. Now don't get me wrong, I like football and the Packers, and I mildly like watching hockey on TV (hey – I played field hockey in high school, a million years ago does that count?) but I just don't understand what all the excitement is about it. I mean all they are doing is hitting a poor little round, flat, hard ball thingy with a stick. I mean what did that

...the blankets arrived. We now have 50 of them, so order yours today. ...I can not promise there will be any available at the reunion this year.

ball thingy ever do to them?

It also makes for some very noisy times here at the hotel. Why do these kids feel they have to practice in our hallways? Don't they get enough practice at home? And do you really believe their parents let them play hockey in the house? Boy! I try to schedule myself off as much as possible when we have a lot of teams here. Drive me nuts and we all know I'm nuts enough without them.

On a sad note, Bob and I made the trip to Colorado Springs in November for the funeral of our beloved president Chuck Schmidt. We arrived a few days early so we had the time to spend with and help out Bonnie. We had some wonderful time together just sitting at the kitchen table and talking. She is one remarkable woman. I can only hope that if I am ever in that position, that I can be as composed and calm as she was.

The funeral itself was one of the most beautiful I have ever seen. To see so many Blackhorse people in attendance was very touching. Thank you to all of you who took the time away from your busy lives to attend. I know Bonnie and the family appreciated it and was touched by your outpouring of love.

Incoming...

Information provided by and for our Troopers

From Gene Johnson and Ken Jankel....You are cordially invited to attend the 2008 Blackhorse Reunion (not 11th ACVVC) at Las Vegas, Nevada from 15-18 May, 2008 hosted by the Blackhorse Association. Appropriate forms can be obtained at www.blackhorse.org. The site will be the Southpoint Hotel & Casino, 9777 Las Vegas Blvd. South Las Vegas, NV. Call 866 791-7626 or visit their website www.southpointcasino.com for reservations. Use the groupcode "Blackhorse Reunion 2008"

From Adrian Vaaler...."The 5th Annual Eugene Blackhorse Picnic will be held the Saturday after Labor Day, September 6, 2008. Please contact Adrian Vaaler, P. 541-344-2113 or Email: adrianvaaler@gmail.com for further information. My address is: 2610 Baker Blvd., Eugene, OR 97403. The picnic is held from noon to five. Bring your memorabilia from your Blackhorse service."

From Richard Stobbs (HHT, 1/11, 1969).... who is serving as Chairman, Gold Star Family Committee, in the state of Ohio. The committee has successfully lobbied for the passage of Ohio Senate Bill 25 authorizing the Gold Star Family license plates for that state. The Bill has been signed into law. The plates are a moving memorial to our fallen warriors. Richard would like to expand this effort to the other 35 states that do not yet have a Gold Star Family license plate. If you would like to help in your state, please contact Richard Stobbs at: rdstobbs@yahoo.com

I received notice this morning, 27 December, that the next order of blankets has been shipped. So they should be here any day. If you did not get one at the reunion and are now wanting one please send me your order for it. The cost of them is: \$30 each and \$8 for shipping and handling. Any checks or money orders should be made out to: 11th ACVVC Blackhorse Women and sent to 24284 Endeavor Ave. Tomah, WI 54660

Okay, so today (the 28th) the blankets arrived. We now have 50 of them, so order yours today. We had tried to get them in time for Christmas but the company was just so busy that we couldn't do it. Sorry! Also, I can not promise there will be any available at the reunion this year. So hurry and get yours before they are gone, gone, gone.

It's snowing AGAIN! Will it ever stop? Will spring ever get here again? Well I guess that's it until I see you all in Chicago. (That is unless I get consumed by a giant snowball).

HAPPY NEW YEAR

*Barb
11th ACVVC Women's director
puppytoes@charter.net*

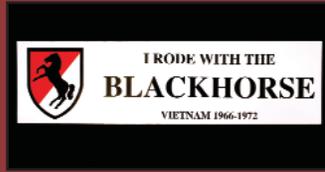
The 11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia QM Store



#1 Coffee Mug \$10.00



#2 Key Ring \$3.00



#3 Bumper Sticker \$2.00



#4 Window Sticker \$2.00



#5 Blackhorse Watch w/Leather Band \$35.00



#6 Blackhorse Watch w/Metal Band \$35.00



#7 Blackhorse Patch Colored \$4.00



#8 Blackhorse Patch Subdued \$4.00



#9 Coin, 11th ACVVC \$10.00



#10 Belt Buckle, brass \$25.50



#12 Lighter, Zippo \$15.00



#13 License Plate, Blackhorse \$5.00



#14 License Plate Frame, Black w/white letters \$7.50



#11 Flag, Indoor/Outdoor \$50.00



#15 Attache Case \$30.00



#16 Tote Bag, Embroidered \$20.00



#17 Blackhorse Pin \$4.00



#18 11th ACR Regimental Crest \$4.00



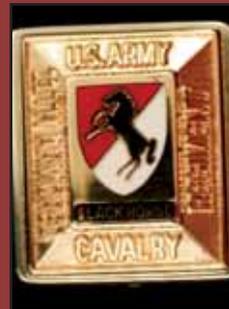
#20 Vietnam Blackhorse Pin, Wreath \$5.00



#21 Blackhorse Women's Pendant \$140.00



#22 Gear Bag, Red \$35.00



#23 Men's Ring, Gold & Silver \$225.00



#19 Blackhorse Cavalry Pin \$5.00



#24 Men's Ring, Gold & Silver w/Diamonds \$280.00



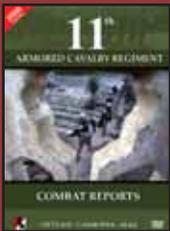
#25 Lapel Pin, Support Troops \$3.00



#26 Magnetic Blackhorse \$5.00



#27 Magnetic Ribbon \$4.00



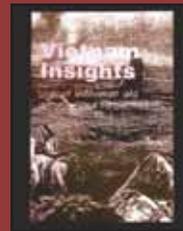
#28 Video (DVD) Combat Reports \$30.00



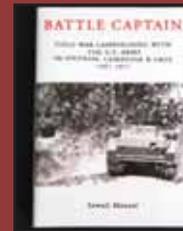
#29 Video Combo #1 \$50.00



#30 Video Combo #2 \$40.00



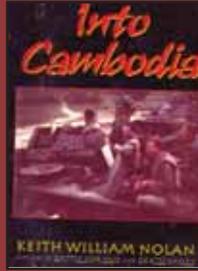
#31 Book: Vietnam Insights \$10.00



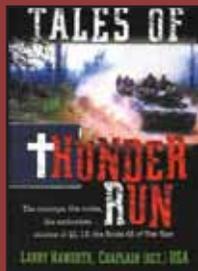
#32 Book: Battle Captain \$20.00



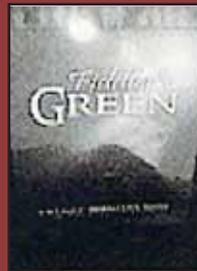
#33 Book: Vietnam Tracks \$26.95



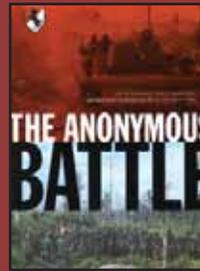
#34 Book: Into Cambodia \$23.00



#35 Book: Tales of Thunder Run \$11.00



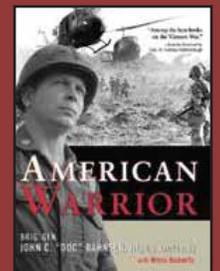
#36 Book: Fiddlers Green \$16.00



#37 Book: The Anonymous Battle \$16.00



#38 Book: The Blackhorse Reg't in Vietnam \$25.00



#39 Book, "American Warrior" by 'Doc' Bahnsen—\$20.00



#40a Old Blackhorse Hat \$10.00



#40b New Blackhorse Hat \$10.00



#41a/b T-Shirt, black/ash \$16.00



#42a/b Golf Shirt, w/BH Insignia & VN Ribbon, red/white \$30.00



#48 Guidon (all Troops, etc.) \$30.00



#44a/b Sweatshirt, ash/black \$25.00



#46 Blackhorse Jacket, 100% Nylon \$75.00



#43 Golf Shirts, gray/bark, Crossed Sabers (mens, womens) \$30.00



#45 Denim Shirt, w/BH & VN Ribbon \$30.00



#47 Windbreaker, white w/BH Insignia & VN Ribbon, \$35.00

SEA from page 10

our vehicles and moved to relieve a Marine unit at an FOB in the area. The Marines had a hot meal for us, our first since leaving Blackhorse base camp about a week earlier. The Marines had a well-fortified camp, with dug in fighting positions around the perimeter. A destroyed Marine amphibious tracked vehicle was just outside the perimeter, giving evidence of earlier activity in the area. Before our mission was complete, some of our vehicles would also be destroyed. We began to defend the area by sending out daily patrols. The VC snipers in the area were a bit more active around Chu Lai compared to the area where we had been operating. I attributed that to the fact that these snipers had not yet experienced the heavy volume of firepower that our ACAV's unleashed when fired upon.

I was only with Echo Troop for about two more weeks after landing at Chu Lai. While out on a dismounted patrol, I happened to be too close to one of Charlie's booby trapped grenades when it went off, and was air evacuated to Camp Zama in Japan, the end of the war for me.

WANTED

ACCOUNTS OF INCIDENTS EXPERIENCED IN THE "FISH-HOOK" AREA OF THE VIETNAM/CAMBODIA BORDER.

The Fishhook area is the northern border of War Zone C, north of Road 246 which runs generally east to west between An Loc on the East to Katum on the West, and west of QL13 between An Loc and Loc Ninh. I am writing a book of Blackhorse's battles and operations near the Cambodian Border in the Fishhook area.

The Fishhook is near where COSVN was thought to be located across the border between Snoul and Memot Cambodia. I wish to include many of your 100% true first hand accounts, especially those which may be documented by Purple Hearts or medals of Valor, and official operation reports.

Although this is my personal project, all submissions will also be forwarded to the 11ACVVC Historian. Please email your information and story to Captain.Frank@covad.net.

Thank you. Frank R. Cambria.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NL1Q 08

11th ARMORED CAVALRY'S VETERANS OF VIETNAM AND CAMBODIA

Membership is open to all troopers who served with or were attached to the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment while in the countries of Vietnam or Cambodia from August 1966 thru March 1972. Membership is also open to the wives, parents and children of our Troopers killed in action.

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

UNIT _____ DATES: FROM _____ TO _____
(Troop,Sqdn) (Mo/Yr) (Mo/Yr)

SER NO RANK (during tour) _____ SSN NO _____

OTHER INFORMATION _____

TYPE MEMBERSHIP: NEW RENEWAL MEMBERSHIP NUMBER _____

ANNUAL (\$15) LIFE (\$100)

LIFE Plan (\$25 enclosed, plus 3 payments of \$25 in 3, 6 and 9 months)

IN ADDITION, PLEASE ACCEPT MY TAX DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTION FOR \$ _____

I authorize the release of my address/phone number to other Troopers who served with the 11th ACR
(Sign) _____

Visa Mastercard Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

Please make checks/money orders payable to: **11th ACV VC**. Mail this form with your check or money order (no cash) to: **11th ACVVC Membership, Ollie Pickral, 571 Ditchley Rd., Kilmarnock, VA 22482.**



Quartermaster

ORDER FORM • 1st QTR 2008

11TH ARMORED CAVALRY'S VETERANS OF VIETNAM AND CAMBODIA

Item No.	Product Description	Code	\$ Amt	Size	Qty	\$ Total
1.	Coffee Mug, white Acrylic 11oz w/full color Blackhorse insignia	C	10.00			
2.	Key ring, 1.5" Acrylic square w/full color Blackhorse insignia	A	3.00			
3.	Bumper Sticker "I Rode With The Blackhorse w/full color BH insignia	A	2.00			
4.	Window Sticker, full color BH insignia and Vietnam service ribbon	A	2.00			
5.	Watch, BH insignia on face, leather band (indicate choice) <input type="checkbox"/> Man's <input type="checkbox"/> Woman's	B	35.00			
6.	Watch, BH insignia on face, metal band (indicate choice) <input type="checkbox"/> Man's <input type="checkbox"/> Woman's	B	35.00			
7.	Blackhorse Shoulder Patch, Colored	B	4.00			
8.	Blackhorse Shoulder Patch, Subdued	B	4.00			
9.	Coin, 11th ACVVC, BH insignia, crossed abers, together then, together again	B	10.00			
10.	Belt Buckle, solid brass w/crossed sabers & BH insignia	B	25.50			
11.	Flag, indoor/outdoor 3'x5' with color insignia	B	50.00			
12.	Lighter, "Zippo" style brushed chrome w/full color BH insignia	B	15.00			
13.	License Plate, metal red & white background with crossed sabers & 11	B	5.00			
14.	License Plate Frame, metal, black w/Blackhorse 11th US Cavalry in white	C	7.50			
15.	Attache Case w/shoulder strap 11.5" x 15.5" w/dir emb. BH insignia & VN rib	C	30.00			
16.	Tote Bag, red & black, 14x11x6 w/full color BH insignia and VN rib	B	20.00			
17.	Blackhorse Pin	A	4.00			
18.	11th ACR Regimental Crest	A	4.00			
19.	Blackhorse Cavalry Pin, brass, 11 over crossed sabers	A	5.00			
20.	Vietnam Blackhorse Pin w/wreath	A	5.00			
21.	Blackhorse Women's Pendant w/chain, 10k gold w/full BH insignia	B	140.00			
22.	Gear Bag, red with color BH insignia (11x11x21)	C	35.00			
23.	Men's Ring, gold & silver w/full color BH insignia on face (specify size)	A	225.00			
24.	Men's ring, gold, silver, & diamonds	A	280.00			
25.	Lapel Pin: "Support Our Troops"	A	3.00			
26.	Magnetic "Blackhorse"	A	5.00			
27.	Magnetic "Support Our Troops" Ribbon	A	4.00			
28.	Video: "Combat Reports" (DVD Only)	C	30.00			
29.	Video combo #1: "Combat Reports" & Blackhorse Video (DVD only)	C	50.00			
30.	Video combo #2: "Combat Reports" (DVD & Blackhorse Video (VHS)	C	40.00			
31.	Book, "Vietnam Insights" by James Griffiths	C	10.00			
32.	Book, "Battle Captain" by Sewall Menzel	C	20.00			
33.	Book, "Vietnam Tracks"	C	26.95			
34.	Book, "Into Cambodia" by Kieth Nolan	C	23.00			
35.	Book, "Tales of Thunder Run" by Larry Haworth, Chaplain	C	11.00			
36.	Book, "Fiddlers Green" by Jack Stoddard	C	16.00			
37.	Book, "The Anonymous Battle" by John Poindexter	C	16.00			
38.	History Book, "Blackhorse Regiment in Vietnam"	C	25.00			
39.	Book, American Warrior" by "Doc" Bahnsen	C	20.00			
40.	Hat, Black Poplin adjustable w/full color direct embroidery Blackhorse insignia. <input type="checkbox"/> a (old) <input type="checkbox"/> b (new)	B	10.00			
41.	Blackhorse T-shirt, 100% cotton, preshrunk, full color BH insignia. Specify color: <input type="checkbox"/> Ash <input type="checkbox"/> Black	B	16.00			
42.	Golf Shirt, w/BH insignia and VN Ribbon: Specify color: <input type="checkbox"/> Red <input type="checkbox"/> White	B	30.00			
43.	Golf Shirt, crossed sabers, Specify: <input type="checkbox"/> Mens <input type="checkbox"/> Womens <input type="checkbox"/> Bark <input type="checkbox"/> Gray	B	30.00			
44.	Blackhorse Sweatshirt, 50% cotton, 50% acrylic w/full color BH insignia. Specify color: <input type="checkbox"/> Ash <input type="checkbox"/> Black	B	25.00			
45.	Denim Shirt, <input type="checkbox"/> Mens <input type="checkbox"/> Womens	B	30.00			
46.	Blackhorse Jacket, 100% Nylon, snap front, quilted lining w/full color BH insignia, (6" back), crossed sabers (front right) and Allons insignia (front left)	B	75.00			
47.	Windbreaker, white w/snap front, crossed sabers w/11BH patch logo, VN Ribbon, Vietnam 66-72 on left breast. Sizes: Small thru 3X available	B	35.00			
48.	Guidon (order by Troop)	B	30.00			

Subtotal _____
Shipping and Handling _____
Total _____

Note: unless otherwise noted, all clothing items are available in size medium through size 3XL
Specify size and color preference of item requested.

Shipping Costs: A items = \$3.00; B items = \$5.00; C items = \$8.95 (max shipping is \$8.95 per order)

Visa Mastercard Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Check if address change

Please include the largest of chosen items S/H costs with your order. Maximum per order form charge is \$8.95. Checks or Money Orders should be made payable to **11th ACVVC**. Allow six weeks for processing and delivery. **ALL PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE**. Previous price lists are invalid. Mail order to: **11th ACVVC Quartermaster, c/o Jerry Beamon, 15926 Cedar Bay Dr., Bullard, TX 75757.**



From the Quartermaster...

Jerry Beamon

Hello to All our Blackhorse Brothers.

Jan and I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

As you may know by now we lost a great leader with the passing of our beloved President Chuck Schmidt. To his wife Bonnie and family we send our prayers and grieve with their loss. Chuck was a man who will be missed, rest assured. I personally have missed him these past few months.

Chuck gave his approval to the update on the Q.M. Store in 4th Quarter Thunder Run featuring the photos. He would have said "WOW" Guys this looks good. Well done.

I also want to add to our list of people who have worked so hard in getting so much done in a short time our Editor Jim Griffiths and our Web site managers Otis Carey and Pete Echon. Their hard work has, I believe, put forth a work of art so all can see what we have in our Q.M. Store. Thanks Guys !!

On that note we say we are sorry for any packages that did not get delivered in time for Christmas. YOU worked Jan and me

hard this year. Our sales were more this year than last year, a great deal more. Again Jan and I are asking for volunteers to help us out in Chicago, as our helpers in Louisville found out how much we needed them. Their help made things run much more smoothly. We can always use your help no matter how much or little time you can spare. If you want to volunteer you can E-mail us at jerrylbea@aol.com.

Please check your TR for the price changes we have made. Postage has to change due to the rate hike we had. We are asking for your help to check this before you send us your orders. \$3.00 for A items, \$5.00 for B items, and \$ 8.95 for C items. Also don't forget to put down your sizes in clothing items. Many have been overlooked this recently. Prices on the 4th Quarter Order Form were valid only through 12/30/07 so make sure you use the prices on the 1st quarter 2008 order form for purchases.

Looking forward to seeing everyone in CHICAGO in AUG '08.

ALLONS,
Jerry

QUARTERMASTER CLEARANCE & NEW ITEMS

Clearance items sales include **past reunion golf shirts** while they last. Louisville XL and 2XL only for \$15.00

NEW ITEMS



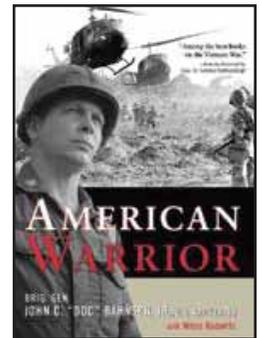
#43 Golf Shirts, gray/bark, Crossed Sabers (mens, womens) \$30.00



#45 Denim Shirt, w/BH & VN Ribbon \$30.00



#48 Guidon (all Troops, etc.) \$30.00



#39 Book, "American Warrior" by 'Doc' Bahnsen-\$20.00



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