



Thunder Run

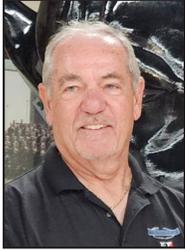
Vol 40-No. 1

“Together Then - Together Again”

1st Edition, 2026

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

President’s Message **Frank Church**



As we enter the last decade of our lives the names on the list of passings among our fellow Troopers has been growing longer and more frequent. It seems that not a week goes by that a name is not added to that list. Many are names that are unfamiliar other than they are Blackhorse Troopers. Some are names that are well known from attending reunions and related functions, those are faces and names that we recognize instantly because of the friendships we have developed over the years. A few of the names are ones that we know very well, we served side by side in combat and those hit the hardest, we have lost a lifelong friend that we have known longer than anyone outside of family. We knew each other in a way that even family does not know.

Our reunions have made it possible to meet every year and relive those days in Vietnam, both good and bad. We laugh, cry, and strengthen our bond as brothers of battle making new friends that we would have not personally known if we had not attended these reunions.

The statistics of reunion attendance for the last few years show that there are more guests than Troopers. These guests are made up of wives, children, grandchildren, and friends. The families are there to accompany the Troopers, who are beginning to have a difficult time making the trip alone. The friends are there to honor the service of their friend to see and share the pride in the time spent with the 11th Armored Cavalry in Vietnam. We have spouses and children of deceased Troopers who continue to attend as part of our Blackhorse family. We welcome and love them as much as the Troopers we have lost, they add to their memory.

One notable statistic is the number of 1st timers we still get. They all ask themselves the same thing “why did it take so long to attend a reunion?” It is uplifting to see the smiles whenever they talk about their experiences. They sometimes meet an old buddy they served with long ago. It is impossible not to join in their tears of joy and hugs of a newly revived friendship.

Our reunions are very therapeutic, if you are reading this and have never attended a reunion or you have not been for a while or are not sure if you will attend the next one, please reconsider and plan to attend. All of us are reaching that time in our lives that we may not have another opportunity. An opportunity to relive one of the most impactful events of our lives. An event that changed us and the path that our lives took. Some of the changes were very difficult and some are tales of overcoming those struggles. Sharing a beer with old buddies or a new friend that listens and understands makes the difficult parts a little less challenging. I can guarantee that you will spend more time laughing than crying and have fewer thoughts about the bad times when you get home. You may find a smile on your face when you think back on the good time you had.

“We were, we are, we will always be, proud Blackhorse Troopers “

- Frank



2026

State of the Reunion 41st Annual Reunion, Orlando, Fla.

The reunion site for 2026 will be at the Rosen Centre Hotel, Orlando Florida, **Monday, August 31-September 6, 2026.** The hotel is located at 9840 International Drive, Orlando, Florida, 32819. There are 3 Rosen hotels in Orlando so be sure you are making reservations for the right one. **Hotel room reservations must be made by August 10, 2026.**

Hotel reservations can be made by phone: 407-996-9842, use code **11thACVVC.**

Online: <http://www.rosencentre.com>
Room rate is \$135+ tax

Reunion registration is \$140 check-\$144 for credit card per person.

Scooter rentals at Scooter King, 407-504-7769

All registrations must be received by August 12, 2026. Registrations made after this date will be returned. Registration refunds will be made in full if received by the Treasurer no later than August 24, 2026.

All planning has been done or in progress. There is much to do in Orlando so make it a family affair. More info to follow as we near the reunion dates.

Website Update

Our website is getting a fresh look. For a preview of the new website, take a few minutes to access www.11thcavnam.com then follow the instructions to view the new website. All the major areas are still available: reunions, scholarship, quartermaster, bulletin boards, members area, women’s news, history and much more.



www.11thCavNam.com





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 956, Colleyville, TX 76034; a notforprofit organization. It is published three times a year by Master Printing + Mailing, 95 Pelret Industrial Pkwy, Berea, OH 44017, MasterPrintingGroup.com 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. Correspondence and inquiries concerning Thunder Run should be made in writing to: Editor, "Thunder Run," Peter L. Walter, 8 Tallowood Dr., Westampton, NJ 08060-3721.

President	Frank T. Church , (G Troop, '69-'70) 2917 N. Vista Way Payson, AZ 85541 <fchurch4@aol.com> (386) 365-0487	Chaplain	Blandin W. "Bill" Karabinos , (HHT 2/11, '71-'72) 7312 Little Creek Road Toano, VA 23168 <blandinkarabinos@gmail.com> (757) 566-8885
Vice President Membership KIA Issues/ Website Mgr & Operation Embrace	Allen Hathaway , (HHT Regiment, '66-'67) 13194 Rettew Dr. Manassas, VA 20112 <11thcav1966@comcast.net> (703) 791-6610	Facebook Manager	Robert Kickenweitz (HHT Reg't, '66-'67) 155 Hickory Tavern Rd Gillette, NJ 07933 <bobk11acr@comcast.net> (908) 803-3455
Secretary & Silent Auction Co-Chm.	Gregory R. Mason , (HHT 3/11, '68-'69) 4636 W Knights Griffin Road Plant City, FL 33565 <gregrmason311@gmail.com> (813) 220-9027	Women's Group Coordinator	Sheryl Myers 19155 Royal Troon Drive Monument, CO 80132 <sheryl.e.myers@gmail.com> (571) 721-9189
Treasurer	Ollie W. Pickral , (K Troop 3/11, '68-'69) 571 Ditchley Road Kilmarnock, VA 22482 <11cavalry@verizon.net> (804) 435-3658	Veterans' Information	Chuck Bosko (F Trp, 2/11, '69-'70) 1230 Robin Hood Lane La Grange Park, IL 60526 <chuckbosko@att.net> (708) 205-3541
Director - Scholarship Chm. & Silent Auction Co-Chm.	Mike "Doc" Rafferty , (G Trp, 2/11, '69-'70) 5837 Habanero Dr. Las Cruces, NM 88012 <platoonmedic36@gmail.com> (575) 915-2921	Historian	Don Snedeker 38888 Sandpiper Circle Frankfort, DE 19945 <blackhorse7478@gmail.com> (571) 215-9610
Director - Reunion Registration	Robert "Bob" Moreno , (G Trp, 2/11, '68-'69) 24284 Endeavor Ave Tomah, WI 54660 <gtroopbob@gmail.com> (608) 372-5892	Tax Auditor/ Finance Committee	Dennis Freeman (HHT, 2/11, '70-'71) Novato, CA
Director - Funeral Honor Guard Thunder Run & Calendar Editor	Peter L. "Pete" Walter, (How Bat, 3/11, 1970) 8 Tallowood Drive Westampton, NJ 08060 basepiece70@verizon.net 609-261-5629		
Quartermaster	Barbara Brown P.O. Box 475 Wellington, CO 80549 <barb@finishlineawards.com> (866) 510-4550		

Three positions will be up for election this year during the General Membership Meeting to be held Saturday morning, September 5th, during the 2026 Reunion. The three positions are President, Secretary and one Director.

The President and Secretary will serve two-year terms beginning January 1, 2027, and ending December 31, 2028. The Director will serve a three-year term beginning January 1, 2027, and ending December 31, 2029.

All candidates must be Life Members of the 11th ACVVC. Candidates will have an equal opportunity to state their qualifications at the General Membership Meeting. The elected candidates should be able to attend the annual reunion and participate in Board Meetings during their elected term that are generally held by conference call.

The elected candidates must be able to communicate by e-mail with the other Board members and be able to help the Board make decisions on a variety of organizational matters. Each candidate must be highly organized and be able to commit time and energy to a specific project or committee as directed by the President. Excellent skills in using Microsoft Word and Excel are required in order to prepare reports and other documents required of all positions.

The position of President requires considerable time and superb organizational skills. The President needs to frequently multi-task in his responsibility to oversee all projects, programs, and activities of the organization.

Candidates for Secretary should be able to intently follow and record organized minutes, summarize reports, actions, and decisions from official meetings, and maintain records of the 11th ACVVC and its numerous projects. He should have strong language and writing skills and know basic Robert's Rules of Order. Information management skills on a computer are required.

The Directors are expected to commit themselves to a specific area of interest within the 11th ACVVC or as directed by the President.

Nominations for these positions should be submitted in writing to the Secretary or submitted from the floor at the General Membership meeting. Please consider participating on the Board of Directors serving the 11th ACVVC.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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)

RANK (during tour) _____ EMAIL _____

OTHER INFORMATION _____

TYPE MEMBERSHIP: NEW RENEWAL MEMBERSHIP NUMBER _____
 LIFE (\$50)

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 ACVVC**. Mail this form with your check or money order (no cash) to: **11th ACVVC Membership, Ollie Pickral, 571 Ditchley Rd., Kilmarnock, VA 22482.**

Welcome to 2026!

It is hard to believe that 2026 is already upon us. With the start of the new year, we have the exciting opportunity to begin preparations for our upcoming reunion in Orlando, Florida. I hope everyone enjoyed a joyful and healthy holiday season, and I wish you continued happiness throughout the coming year.

Reflections on the Tulsa Reunion

The Tulsa reunion remains a truly memorable event. I sincerely hope everyone who attended found it just as enjoyable as I did. Your thoughtfulness in reaching out to see if I needed anything meant a great deal to me, and I appreciate it deeply. To our first-time attendees, I trust that you found the environment welcoming and that you felt at ease during your time with us. I look forward to seeing you at future reunions and encourage you to continue being a part of our Blackhorse family.

Welcoming First-Time Attendees

During our reunions, please look for individuals wearing a “first timer” name tag and take a moment to thank them for joining us. For Blackhorse troopers, be sure to welcome them home. The upcoming event in Orlando is particularly suited for first-time attendees, as it features a wide array of activities for both you and your guests to enjoy.

Planning Your Visit to Disney World

If you are considering a trip to Disney World during your visit to Orlando, I recommend consulting AAA for information. AAA offers excellent prices on day tickets for all the parks, and I am confident you will find their offerings worthwhile. By visiting AAA early and purchasing one- or two-day passes, you can make payments throughout the year, allowing you to spread out the expense and make your visit more manageable.

Reunion Registration Information

You may register for the reunion either by completing the online form or by mailing your filled-out registration to Treasurer Ollie Pickral. You can find printable registration forms on the website, and there’s also a copy provided in this issue of Thunder Run. If you wish to avoid damaging your copy of Thunder Run, you may make a copy of the form. Please ensure you submit the entire form without trimming any part of the page. It’s best to send in your registration form as soon as you can, rather than waiting until the last minute. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me.

Silent Auction Contributions

Throughout the year, I am always on the lookout for items to donate to the silent auction. We are continuously in need of auction items, so if you find something suitable, please pick it up—and remember where you put it, since I have occasionally forgotten mine at home. All profits from the silent auction go directly to the scholarship fund. The more we raise, the more scholarships we can provide to our students.

Contributions to Thunder Run

We are always seeking articles to include in Thunder Run. I am sure each of us has a memory of something we saw or did while in the army. Your submission does not need to be lengthy, and we will proofread it before it appears in Thunder Run. If you wish to submit your articles, please send them to Pete Walter. His contact information can be found on page two of this issue of Thunder Run.

I will save anything else for next time. Make sure to send your registration by mail and book your hotel as soon as you can. If you have any questions, please call me—leave a message if I am not home. Stay safe.

ALLONS

ROBERT “BOB” MORENO
G Troop 2/11, Dec 1968–Dec 1969



11TH ACR WISCONSIN BREAKFAST GROUP

On Oct 16th the 11th ACVVC Wisconsin Troopers held their fall morning breakfast with 26 people in attendance- Our guest speaker was Luke Sprague from the Wis Dept of Veterans Affairs- Luke spoke of his trying to get all Wisconsin Veterans to sit for a interview of what they did before entering the service, what they did during the service and what they did after the service with a few side questions in between. He videos interviews and enters it into the Wisconsin Museum of Veterans for people to watch and listen.

We had two new Troopers attend, one drove down from the Minneapolis, Minnesota (John Westphal) area and another drove in from the Waukesha, Wis (Jim Zubarik) area- thank you for attending - We also had an 11th Cav Trooper that was in the Cav after they came back from Vietnam- (William Robbins)

Our next Coffee Hour is 7:00 am, May 22, 2026 at Paul's Neighborhood Bar, 2401 Parmenter St, Middleton, WI 53562, and our guest speaker will start about 9:00am.

Anyone in the Eastern Iowa, Northern Michigan or Northern Illinois area is welcome to attend - wives and family and friends are also welcome. It is a pretty lively group - talking about our time in the Nam! The wives enjoy it also. Again, wives are encouraged to attend along with any family or friends.

Big thanks to Michelle and Sarah (at Paul's) for their excellent food service and keeping everyone's coffee cup full and a BIG THANK YOU! to the Staff at Paul's Neighborhood Bar!

Lee Nelson, HHT 1/11 ACR. 68-69
Blackhorse Base Camp
leecnelson1926@gmail.com





11th ACVVC SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM UPDATE



by Mike "Doc" Rafferty, Scholarship Committee Chairman
E mail address: platoonmedic36@gmail.com

We are now accepting applications for 11th ACVVC scholarships. Children and grandchildren of current life members, deceased life members, and troopers who were KIA in Vietnam or Cambodia are eligible to apply. More information about applicant eligibility requirements can be found online at www.11thcavnam.com. If you have additional questions or are not comfortable using a computer, please do not hesitate to contact me at the e mail address listed above or give me a call. Cell phone: 575-915-2921

You will find the latest application in this issue of Thunder Run. Please have the applicant send the completed application and required grade transcripts to me at the following address:

Mike "Doc" Rafferty
11th ACVVC
PO Box 13188
Las Cruces, NM 88013

The deadline for applications this year is May 15th, 2026. I look forward to receiving applications from your children and grandchildren.



The 11th ACVVC scholarship program recently received a check for \$1000 from our Blackhorse Women's Group. This money comes from the sale of lanyards and poppies at the reunion by our Blackhorse ladies. I want to personally thank our 11th ACVVC women's group for their hard work for our organization and especially for our scholarship program.

Sincerely,
Mike "Doc" Rafferty, Scholarship Committee Chairman

11th ACVVC Raffle to Benefit Scholarship Program in 2026

By: Mike "Doc" Rafferty - Scholarship Committee Chairman

The proceeds from this year's raffle will go towards providing scholarships for our children and grandchildren. From 1996 through 2025, the 11th ACVVC's Scholarship Program has awarded 833 scholarships totaling \$2,619,500 to children and grandchildren of our members! This year we will award more scholarships to deserving applicants (number of scholarships yet to be decided). This is an incredible accomplishment, due solely to the generosity of our membership.

You can help fund the scholarship program by participating in the 2026 raffle. The drawing will be held on Saturday, September 5th, during the 41st annual reunion in Orlando, Florida. You need not be present to win. The suggested ticket price is \$1.00 per ticket and is not tax deductible. The prize pool consists of:

FIVE \$500 PRIZES

Raffle tickets will be mailed to all 11th ACVVC members in May of this year. If you have not already done so, please consider purchasing tickets to help fund this important program. If you do not wish to participate in the raffle you are still welcome to send me a donation for the 11th ACVVC scholarship program.



NOTICE! NEW DEADLINES FOR SUBMISSIONS TO THUNDER RUN!

At our 39th annual reunion in Omaha, Nebraska, the motion was made and passed to:
"Reduce the number of issues to three per year."

New Deadlines- Due dates to submit articles for Thunder Run

1st ThirdFebruary 1

2nd ThirdJune 1

3rd ThirdOctober 1

All submissions for publication must be sent to: Peter L. Walter, 8 Tallowood Drive, Westampton, NJ 08060-3721; or email to: basepiece70@verizon.net.



**11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam & Cambodia
Scholarship Application (effective January 1, 2026)**



Please review Scholarship Guide at www.11thcavnam.com/scholar.html
Application Deadline May 15th, 2026

**IMPORTANT: A PERSON WHO HAS BEEN AWARDED AN 11TH ACVVC SCHOLARSHIP IS NOT ELIGIBLE TO APPLY AGAIN.
Students working on advanced degrees (master's, doctoral) are not eligible to apply.**

Applicant's full name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Applicant's social security number: _____ E mail address: _____

Street address: _____ Apt./Unit # _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip Code _____ Phone #: _____

Applicant's Status: ___ Child ___ Grandchild of a current life member of the 11th ACVVC.
 ___ Child ___ Grandchild of a deceased life member of the 11th ACVVC.
 ___ Child ___ Grandchild of an 11th ACR veteran who was killed in action in Vietnam or
 Cambodia.

Your Sponsor (11th Cav Veteran): Full name: _____ E mail: _____

Sponsor's 11th Cav unit in Vietnam: _____ Dates in Vietnam _____

Name and Address of College or Trade School you plan to attend: What is your major? _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

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

Schools and Colleges Attended (10th Grade to Present)

Name	City, State	Dates (From/To)

**You must attach a copy of your grade transcripts from your last 2 yrs. of High School or College.
Requirements: at least a 3.5 unweighted Grade Point Average for applicants pursuing a 4 yr. degree. At least a 3.0 unweighted Grade Point Average for trade or vocational school applicants.**

Briefly tell us about your extra-curricular and volunteer activities and include your name and email address on a separate sheet of paper.

I, the undersigned, verify the answers given above are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I give my permission for a copy of my high school/college grade transcripts to be submitted with this application.

Signature of Applicant _____ Printed Name _____ Date _____

Signature of Sponsor Veteran or Guardian _____ Printed Name _____ Date _____

Please send your completed application and grade transcripts to:
Mike "Doc" Rafferty, 11th ACVVC Scholarship Chairman, PO Box 13188, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88013
Email: platoonmedic36@gmail.com

FEELINGS OF PATRIOTISM *Chaplain Bill*

It seems like my life has been lived in the shroud of a miracle. My life, my family, my career, my military service, my love for history; loyalty to my schools, the Blackhorse community and my country, all miraculous. Each of those avenues “well ridden” motivates me more days than not because I believe they all have been a path freely and joyfully traveled as I journeyed through one-third of the history of our country.

In celebration of those miracles and to continue on my thread of exploring new adventures, I often travel to historic places. I honor tradition, I celebrate not just my life, but the lives of those who created that tradition, who defined my patriotism. I am also big “on purple mountain majesties” traveling to scenic wonders, straining my neck to gaze at Mount Rushmore, Stone Mountain, the Capitol Dome, the Washington Monument; or looking down into the Grand Canyon, Luray Caverns, and especially the path that leads to the vortex of the Vietnam Memorial Wall. But I’d love America even if it were only a hole in the ground. I have watched many lowered into a hole in the ground when I visited cemeteries for, they too are beautiful in my, then, saddened eyes and reflect the miracles that built and preserve our nation. In cemeteries I’ll stop at random headstones and, like an old man who still dreams dreams - and salute some of those friends or veterans who created my miracle. At Arlington or Andersonville, or in church yard cemeteries I reflect on a mental vision of a hero: a patriot, even a comrade -in-arms who represents that miracle that prompted our nation. And I rejoice when I see rows and rows, even acres of flags or wreaths saluting our forebearers.

Each year at our reunions (those of the 11th Armored Cavalry’s Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia), we take time to visit a grave or two or more of some or at least one of our comrades who was killed in action and buried in his home soil, even though he died in a land faraway. We are not unique in this, brother veterans have been doing it for generations, as well as building monuments to their fallen comrades. We do have a program called **Operation Embrace** that keeps us informed as to where our brothers rest eternally and strives to honor their memory, their contribution, their participation in our miracle. **Operation Embrace** has evolved over the years and serves all our Blackhorse family with respect with programs like the Funeral Honor Guard, our reunions annual Memorial Service and the Worship Service that follows the next morning. It also inspires us to visit state Vietnam veteran memorials, the graves of our KIA’s and by extension, to visit Civil War battlefields, national historic sites and ever cherish flags that once flew over the Capitol or were stretched across coffins as we laid our brothers to rest.

We cherish those moments, those flags, those symbols because we are a people that experienced something epic together. We are veterans still deeply involved with our Blackhorse family; the

camaraderie, loyalty to our Legendary Blackhorse Regiment and the history we have shared means everything to us. I find those sentiments in so many obituaries I read, reflecting the loyalty, brotherhood and close connections to the men we served with and now call family. As part of our **Operation Embrace**, we write letters of condolence to the surviving spouse or children of our recently passed brothers. We post a memorial on their obituary’s Tribute Wall. We embrace them, we don’t want to forget them.

We were given this miracle of our nation, this brilliant, beautiful thing, the new arrangement – a political invention based on the profound assumption that we are all equal, that where you start from doesn’t dictate when you wind up. Those headstones, those monuments we visit, those graves we clean or leave tokens at reflect our desire to keep the dream alive down through the generations: from father to sons, mother to daughters, inspired by their sacrifice in spite of the heartache. We hold high their motives, though we don’t know nor can we ever see a motive. We respect their valor, their pledge to protect and defend the Constitution, their love for America.

So, I’m asking you too, our readers, our veterans, our family members to join in **Operation Embrace**. Join us at our reunions. Our President Emeritus, Allen Hathaway has set the standard traveling the country and visiting graves of our honored dead for many years; not only at our gatherings, but on his own he continues to salute and esteem Blackhorse veterans. A few years ago, in Birmingham we began to join Allen in his search for the graves of our KIA’s and of cleaning and replacing the stones. Since then, we have made it a regular feature at our reunions. We had a good representation in Omaha and in Tulsa. Our representation in Tulsa would have at least doubled, except for poor coordination and planning.

In Orlando, we will schedule a visit on Friday afternoon of the reunion week. The time and the location of the gathering point will be included on the schedule. It is a volunteer activity, and you may have to give up some of your Friday activities to attend, and we will have to share rides with those willing to drive. But you will be personally rewarded with the satisfaction that you have honored your brothers, you have saluted the heroes of the Legendary Blackhorse Regiment, and you will smile internally knowing you shared the love.

President Frank Church and our Board of Directors fully endorse this part of Operation Embrace and will place it on the schedule and set aside designated gathering place at the reunion hotel. No registration forms required, look for the gathering location at the reunion, and if you wish, talk with Allen Hathaway or Chaplain Bill Karabinos for more information at the reunion.

“Fire Mission!” *by Bryant Nelson*

This article describes how a fire mission was accomplished during our time in Vietnam. You will discover that a fire mission conducted then differs greatly compared to how a fire mission delivers projectiles on target today.



M-109 Howitzer Firing

In March 1969 through April 1970, I was assigned to the First Squadron Fire Direction Center in various Fire Support Bases in Vietnam. The FDC was a command track that housed a large chart with a Range Projection Protractor to measure distance from the FSB to the target; a bank of radios tuned to various frequencies that nestled above a small fold-down table where a log book rested. Our team included enlisted human “computers” and a Fire Direction Officer who were available 24 hours a day to work up calculations to send to the six howitzers in our battery.

Our Squadron commander, Major John “Doc” Bahnsen issued the command from his Light Observation Helicopter with the words, “Fire Mission.” We immediately announced Fire Mission via landline to the guns to allow crews to have time to assemble.

Major Bahnsen or a Forward Observer would indicate where they wanted rounds placed and we plotted that point on our chart at the FDC. Bahnsen would transmit the type of projectile (high explosive or white phosphorus, for example). He would also tell us the fuse type (impact, timed or radar—the latter fuses used for aerial bursts).

The scribe who entered this information in the logbook would also use a type of slide rule to calculate the type of powder charge needed: green bag for closer targets and white bag for more distant targets. It was, of course, important to let the gun crew know how much to elevate the tube and what direction to point it. Once calculations were completed, the Fire Direction Officer reviewed the data and approved it.

The next step was for the FDC to radio base camp to obtain air and ground clearances before giving the command to “Fire!”

That done, the Commander/FO would radio us to “Fire” and he would “Add” or “Drop” a certain amount of meters in order to bracket closer to the target.

If one round was sufficient the FO will either request a “repeat” or may issue a “battery 6”. The latter placed thirty-six rounds on a target.

Our objective in FDC was to work up data accurately and swiftly - we understood that troopers in the field were urgently waiting for artillery to help them out.

Now you may be asking, “Why didn’t you use an electronic computer to do your calculating?” Well, the Army didn’t have laptop computers in those days. However, the rear area did send out a massive computer (about 6”x18”x 20”) that required a special table to place it on. It also came with two gas-powered generators (a crew member was responsible for servicing the generator.)

Our FDC team decided to have some fun. We decided to run a test comparing the speed of the electronic computer to our human “computers” with slide rules. These were mock-up trials — not real fire missions. Our hand calculations with slide rules beat the clunky computer hands down! We loaded the computer and generators into our trailer to be returned next time we were in Base Camp.



FDC Track

(To be continued...)

2026 Silent Auction

By Greg Mason And Mike Rafferty

The 2025 Silent Auction raised \$6,955 for the **11th ACVVC Scholarship Fund** with 152 items donated and available for bid. The donated items included many hand-crafted items and one of a kind items with a Blackhorse theme. We are not allowed to have alcoholic beverages or firearms in the auction as many state laws prohibit it. We look forward to another successful auction.

The auction process will be as follows:

1. Items are needed for the Silent Auction to be conducted during our 41st Annual Reunion in Orlando, Florida. Items peculiar to the 11th Cavalry are always favorites, and any item of value is welcome, Cavalry related or not.
2. We will have a collection site set-up in the registration area to collect donated items brought to the reunion beginning on **Thursday from 1pm to 5pm, and Friday from 9am to Noon.**
3. You can ship items to **Joseph Gehring, 2665 Day Lily Run, The Villages, FL 32162 after April 1,** to collect, hold and bring the items to the reunion for display. If you plan to ship items, please use the convenient Silent Auction Donor Form printed in this issue. If you bring the items to the reunion, also complete the donation form and include it with the item.
4. The auction will be from **2pm to 4pm on Friday Afternoon** with the bidding ending precisely at 4pm. Those in wheelchairs or motorized chairs may be allowed in at 1:45 to allow them a little time to view the items before the crowds enter if our space in the rooms is tight.
5. Winning bidders must be present, pick up their items and pay for them between 4pm and 4:30pm after the bidding is closed.
6. If the item is not picked up, the item will be awarded to the next highest bid at 4:30pm or auctioned off at 4:45pm Friday afternoon. The bid form will have a place for you to leave a cell phone number in case we need to call you to let you know to pick up your item.
7. We will be able to accept cash, checks, Visa or MasterCard for payment.

We do need volunteers to work at the collection site and on the night of the auction. We are setting up the collection site schedule in 2-hour shifts and if you would like to volunteer, please contact me at gregmason311@gmail.com or 813-220-9027. I will respond to your email as I receive them.

Our reason for requiring items to be picked up and paid for the evening of the auction is because of the difficulties we have had in prior years getting all the items delivered and paid for. We appreciate your understanding.

We look forward to seeing you in Orlando and thanks in advance to all the donors!



11th ACVVC Silent Auction

Donated Items Information Form

Please provide the following information with your donated item. If you wish to donate anonymously, please check the box below.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Description of Item donated: _____

Name of Donor: _____

Address of Donor: _____

Phone number of Donor: _____

Value of Item Donated \$ _____ I wish to remain Anonymous (Check here) ____

Mail Silent Auction Items After April 1 to:

**11th ACVVC
C/O Joseph Gehring
2665 Day Lily Run
The Villages, FL 32162**

The Cloth *James V. Potter*

I folded the letter that let me know my friend had died. Shock and disbelief gave way to numbing of the senses, then the realization that all things end. But not Ralph. He was not just a friend; he was closer than a brother. Ralph was gone. Tears wanted to flood, but straining for self-control, I kept them in check.

I stood there while endless visions and sounds crashed through my head. Flashes of light, sounds of men shouting, the smell of fuel burning, and long conversations, all blurred together, but each one a whisper of an actual event. I opened my closet door where I keep my old army trunk. There, in the back, dented and slightly warped, it held a few mementos I had collected during my time of service. Fifty years had passed, but every day, something reminds me of that time all over again. Do we ever forget? There my trunk lay, hidden under old shoes and things no longer used. I scraped them off and pulled the trunk from its resting place. I sat down beside it and slowly opened the lid as if expecting something horrible to suddenly jump out. The smell of old drifted in the air.

The things inside were as I left them, neatly arranged as if ready for an inspection. My dog tags and gold lieutenant bars were next to the three cartridges Ralph gave me when we last parted. He always complained that I was leading the platoon from the front, that as platoon leader, I needed to stay back. He said that if I did it again, he would send the first bullet to my front as a warning, the second bullet behind me, and the third was going up my...well, you know. I chuckled, remembering that day. He cared about me.

Off to the side, I found what brought me to this trunk. A neatly folded piece of camouflaged cloth. It was the helmet cover issued on my first day in Vietnam. I lifted it from its resting place, feeling the thick, rough texture. Back then, when it was new, it sported many colors of green, brown, and black that were supposed to make us inconspicuous while in the jungle. It's faded now, with only hints of the pattern it once had. I remembered laughing as I fitted it to my helmet that day and securing it with the elastic band. How is this going to make me camouflaged when I'm driving around in a fifty-ton tank? That was the day I took out my pen and wrote the date, August 20, 1965. I was 22 years old.

I unfolded the cloth and saw my life written all over. Hardly any space was left untouched. There, I found the date I had written on my first day. Odd how my pen lettering did not seem to fade as the rest of the helmet cover did. On the back of the cover, there was a broad swirl of hard red mud. I ran my fingers over the mud that was so common in that country. I remembered when I got that mud.

Our first night in base camp was exciting, yet we were all a little nervous. By nightfall, aerial flares dropped from aircraft began lighting the distant skies. Little did we know, but we would soon learn, this was a common sight. We were so inexperienced that at that time, we thought a major battle was going on somewhere. Late that night, I crawled into my cot, being careful to tuck the mosquito netting in so I wouldn't be harassed by the huge bugs flying around. Uneasy, I finally fell asleep. It was 2 AM when the loudest explosion I had ever heard rocked our tent. The second series of explosions hit with concussion waves pounding my chest. I dove for the floor but immediately got tangled in my carefully tucked mosquito netting. Flailing my arms, I finally managed to untangle myself and break free. I grabbed my helmet and M-16 rifle and ran through the side of the tent into a sandbagged foxhole that was close by. It would have been a very comical sight to a casual observer. There I was in my underwear, peering over the edge of the foxhole, holding a rifle...without any ammunition. I told myself to make a note- to keep ammunition next to my rifle just for this type of emergency. Why did my head hurt? My helmet had flown off my head and lay in the mud next to me. That is how I got the mud tattoo. The next day, after spending the rest of the night in the foxhole, I found out the explosions came from a firing artillery battery a hundred yards away. They shoot harassing fire at various times through the night. No, there was no schedule; it was just part of base camp life. But do they have to fire over

our tent? Make another note- no tucking mosquito net.

Located on another part of my helmet cover, I found a star. Like many of the pictures I drew, this one proves my lack of artistic abilities, but it was and is a beautiful star, nonetheless. I loved Jennie from the first day I saw her in high school. She was quiet and shy, but while on the cheerleading squad, she would dance and strut, causing my heart to flutter. When I saw her in the hall, I would walk the other way, hoping she would not notice me. I was as bungling and uncoordinated as I could possibly be at the thought of even talking to her. Then one day, before the Prom dance, I got a letter, a card really. It was from Jennie. It said, "I'll wait for you for four hours and twenty-two minutes. If you don't ask me to the Prom, I am going to go with Chester Brown." I was shocked beyond words. How did she know that I even existed, let alone liked her? After that, I hardly left her side. We dated the rest of high school and college. We became engaged, but there was the dark cloud of Vietnam that kept us from getting married. She cried when I left, but we wrote to each other every day. I missed her so much. One day, I received one of her letters. The daily monsoon rain had just rumbled through base camp, bringing with it hot, steamy air. It is always hot in Vietnam. I opened my newest treasure and began to read with excitement. "My Darling Jim", it said. "I have news you may not like. I have found another. We have been dating for some time now, and he fills my heart with love. By the time you receive this letter, we will be married..." I sat there crushed by the news. My chest tightened, and I could hardly breathe. That night, I sat on top of a bunker looking up into the night sky. Clouds prevented any stars or moonlight from being seen. Jennie is so far away that she would not see the same stars in any case. I took off my helmet and in the dark, I drew her a star, one that I imagined was there, then quietly prayed this star would look over her the remaining days of her life. Silently, I cried so that the men would not hear me. I never mentioned her again.

The smiley face, the circle with the little smile, was just becoming popular. I drew mine there on my helmet cover. When we first arrived in Vietnam, we were not fully manned with our authorized troopers. I think I was the only Platoon in the entire Regiment that did not have a Platoon Sergeant. As a result, I not only had the responsibilities of a Platoon Leader, but also, I had the duties of Platoon Sergeant. There was always something to do, a schedule to meet, or a job needing attention. The worst problem was that experience was missing. The backbone of the Army is the experience and leadership of Sergeants. Platoon Sergeants have tons of it, and I had none. The other platoon Officers had Sergeants who took care of thousands of problems that I ended up having to solve from scratch. The other Platoon Sergeants in our troop smiled in superiority over this start-up lieutenant who seemed not to know anything. Although not having a Sergeant was a significant hindrance, there was a silver lining. After a while, I learned how to run a platoon. I knew how to make duty rosters, post guards, compile reports and keep a check on men and equipment. Not long after being in the country, I saw our Captain walking toward me with another trooper carrying a large duffel bag. I could tell the trooper was new in country because he was not wearing jungle-issued fatigues, and his uniform was still starched and pressed. Also, I saw gold Sergeant stripes, lots of them. He was a little small in stature and almost skinny, but he had a hard-edged look that meant business and is not to be trifled with. I knew before my Captain introduced him that this was my new Platoon Sergeant, Ralph. That night, I drew a smiley face on my helmet that represented Ralph. I did not know how much he would come to mean to me. After that, my life changed drastically. Ralph was my adviser, my enforcer, my encyclopedia, and my mentor. He taught me how to be an officer, how to be a leader, how to gain respect and give it. He was a philosopher, comedian, and mother. He never complained, he was the perfect Sergeant that everyone wished they had. When we completed our tour and parted our ways, he gave me the three cartridges and told me their purpose. I held them in my hand, knowing he would have used them if it came to that. I gave him a big bear hug and hoped he knew that I loved him and all the things he had done.

I took one more long, last look at my smiley face, then folded the cloth and placed it back in the trunk, closing the lid. Thank you, Ralph, for everything.

Blackhorse Hoofbeats

Echoes from the Regiment's Service in Vietnam 1966-1972

Don Snedeker, 11th ACVVC Historian

IF YOU AIN'T FLEXIBLE, YOU AIN'T CAV

A cavalry raid! And not just any cavalry raid – a two-squadron-sized raid over 100 miles deep into enemy territory to interdict the flow of enemy supplies. And not just a historical exercise. A cavalry raid right now – the second half of April 1968 – and right here – in the III Corps Tactical Zone north from Blackhorse Base Camp to the Cambodian border.

Higher headquarters (II Field Force) had spotted lots of movement into Phuoc Long Province and along the Song Be River. The intelligence analysts believed that the area was being used as a main supply route for Viet Cong (VC) and North Vietnamese Army (NVA) forces recovering from Tet (in February) and preparing for future operations. What better unit to go see what was happening on the ground – and to interdict whatever was there – than a modern cavalry regiment. And, as fate would have it, the only cavalry regiment in Vietnam was available and in the right place to accomplish the mission. The Blackhorse!

With visions of horse soldiers striking deep into the enemy, the regimental staff set to the task of planning Operation Clifton Corral, a cavalry raid 115 miles into the logistical heart of the NVA's Military Region 10. Here was the main avenue for supplies to the forces threatening Saigon and the surrounding area. The objective was to interdict the so-called Song Be Road – not a road in the true sense of the word, but a series of interconnected trails concealed under bamboo and thick jungle in the area east of the Song Be River that had become Charlie's favorite corridor for bringing supplies southward out of Cambodia.

The plan was straightforward; 1st Squadron (Bengal) would lead the cavalry raid, departing from Blackhorse Base Camp at 0200 hours (literally zero-dark thirty) on April 15th (Tax Day back in The World), followed by Regimental Headquarters and Headquarters Troop (HHT) and 3rd Squadron (Bandit), with Air Cav Troop (Thunderhorse) providing two heavy fire teams as air cover the entire length of the route of advance. The 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry (Vanguards) from the 1st (US) Infantry Division was to be heli-lifted once 1/11 Troopers had secured landing zones (LZs) in the objective area.

The cavalry raid was to be conducted roughly parallel to the Song Be River. Those foolish enough to believe their maps saw a highway – euphemistically called Regional Highway 1A – in the middle of this axis of advance. In reality, however, the cavalry raid was conducted through dense jungle, bamboo thickets, and – at best – unimproved roads that had not been used in over a decade. These 'roads' were cratered in many places, with most bridges of questionable strength or simply destroyed. And all this had to be traversed in temperatures in the mid- to high-90s.

The 1st Platoon, 919th Engineer Company accompanied Bengal Squadron at the point of the cavalry raid, with the 2nd Platoon (in direct support to 3/11) joining them near the head of the column prior to departure. Soon after departing Phuoc Vinh, 1st Squadron's lead scouts found the route of advance obstructed by a destroyed concrete bridge, causing a call over the radio: "Red Devils up!"

The 1st platoon used a D7-E bulldozer to construct a bypass. Twenty-three hours after crossing the start point (SP), three Armored Vehicle Launched Bridge (AVLB) crossings and one more expedient crossing site later, the column reached its objective near the Special Forces camp at Bunard. With help from the engineers, the First of the Blackhorse marched an additional 20 clicks to secure the LZs for the 18th Infantry Grunts. Along the way, the Red Devils prepared 14 more crossing sites, primarily using the dozer blades on their M-48A3 tank dozer and AVLBs.

After securing defensive positions, the Regiment conducted recon in

force operations throughout the suspected enemy rear area, finding and destroying numerous base camps, supply caches, and 155 bicycles used for transporting supplies along the jungle trails. Most of the bikes appeared brand new, and some were even configured to mount AK-47 rifles.

Kilo Troop's 1st Platoon was part of the force that found the bikes. Some recall the surprised VC who tried to out-pedal an ACAV when the bikes were discovered; the VC lost. The word came down to destroy these simple but effective enemy supply carriers. Getting them out of the jungle, miles from civilization and to the South Vietnamese government (which undoubtedly could have found a use for them) would have been a logistical nightmare; destroying them was much easier. Platoon medic Joe Wetmore remembers that day. "We wound up riding the bicycles out of the complex to a trail where a tank was waiting to smash them. We had to ride them quite a ways and about halfway out I realized there could still be NVA around waiting to ambush us. I took my pistol and held it in one hand while steering with the other. I must have been quite a sight. What was I going to do in an ambush—ride with one hand and shoot with the other?" Boys will be boys.

The 919th destroyed over 300 enemy fortifications in a week. Blackhorse scouts and engineers conducted extensive recon of the enemy supply routes, discovering the main road (two feet wider than an ACAV) that had overhead bamboo cover and was capable of handling wheeled and tracked vehicles. There were plenty of signs showing heavy recent use – mostly from bicycles and foot traffic.

But then the situation dramatically changed. Once again, Blackhorse Troopers had to demonstrate their mission flexibility.

A Viet Cong Colonel had defected, but not just any VC. Colonel Tran Van Dac, a political officer in VC Sub-Region 1 north of Saigon, Chieu Hoi'd to the South Vietnamese on 19 April. With him, he brought first-hand knowledge of the pending attack on the Saigon area, and he wasn't shy about sharing what he knew. He revealed that the so-called Mini- or Second Tet was scheduled to kick off with an attack on the Bien Hoa-Saigon area as early as 27 April. Based on this information, as well as captured documents and other captured VC and NVA soldiers, higher headquarters concluded in mid-April: "A second offensive, similar to the TET offensive, but probably more concentrated on Saigon-Tan Son Nhut and Bien Hoa-Long Binh ... is probable early in the ensuing quarter [early May]."

As a result, less than two weeks after starting out on Operation Clifton Corral, the Regiment was ordered to return to the area north and east of Bien Hoa. The new operation was christened Operation Allons. Let's Go!

Two obstacles stood in the way of Blackhorse Troopers violently executing the new orders to turn back south and head for Long Binh and Bien Hoa. The first was obvious – the 300-meter-wide Dong Nai River. There were no bridges anywhere in the zone allocated to the 11th Cav, so crossing would mean needing help. Getting that help was when the second obstacle became apparent.

The same message that directed the Regiment to break off Clifton Corral and head towards Bien Hoa and Long Binh also told the commander of the 20th Engineer Brigade to "provide rafting support to the 11th ACR" no later than the 25th. But Blackhorse 6 didn't like the sound of rafting his 200 vehicles across the Dong Nai.

Long story short. One month earlier, 2nd Squadron (Battle) had conducted a river crossing operation of the same river using rafts. It had been difficult and taken a long time – almost two full days. Time was something that higher headquarters had made two clear was not to

be wasted. So, the Regimental Commander, Colonel Charles Gorder (Blackhorse 6), requested a bridge. The engineers reluctantly approved the request.

That's when the real fun started.

Colonel Gorder found what he thought was a good crossing site. It had ample hard ground to stage engineer equipment and armored vehicles on both sides of the river. Getting to the ingress site (north bank) involved a six kilometers cross-country march, but that was child's play relative to where they had just been. Blackhorse 6 walked the prospective site and thought that the 20-foot-high river banks would hold up as long as the monsoon rains didn't arrive early (they did, but caused only a slight delay). The only real issue was the width of the river at this location. Whether the 38th Colonel needed to have his eyeballs recalibrated, or he recognized that less was more, he estimated the distance at "only 500 feet".

It wasn't until mid-way through the second day of the actual bridging operation that the engineers realized that Gorder's 500-foot estimate was incorrect. On the first day, two engineers used triangulation to arrive at a distance of between 650 and 675 feet. However, the Engineer Company Commander realized that even these estimates were way off. He had a line taken across the river. The answer came back: 920 feet. Lieutenant Doswell Pierce, an Engineer Platoon Leader who helped build the bridge, recalled four-plus decades later: "When all the bridge at hand [was] in the water it was still 200 feet to the other shore ... I believe the 20th Engineer Bde. [Brigade] Commander was standing on the end of the bridge trying to explain to the General why it was [still] 200 feet to the other shore." He also recalls that "the commander of A Company who reconned the bridge was called 'Captain Short Bridge' after that."

The Engineers already had 80 percent of the bridging available in III Corps Tactical Zone, and the amount he needed to complete the project would empty the motor pool of the remaining 20 percent. Nonetheless, his request for the additional bridging was fulfilled, and the floating bridge was completed – despite a monsoon shower that turned the approaches into mud holes – by 1600 hours on 24 April, just 72 hours after receiving the mission and 55 hours after the engineer advanced party arrived on the banks of the Dong Nai River.

The lead element of 1st Squadron reached the area late on 22 April. D Company tanks broke a trail through the jungle to the river crossing site on 23 April. Temperatures ranged from a high during the day of 98 degrees to a low of 74 degrees at night, with 95% humidity.

The first Blackhorse vehicle crossed the Dong Nai courtesy of the 168th Engineer Battalion (Combat), the 100th and 573rd Float Bridge Companies, and the 557th Light Equipment Company at 0650 hours on 25 April. To keep inside the weight and safety restrictions, ACAVs crossed at 50-foot intervals, while tanks required 150 feet spacing and ground guides. Several deadlined vehicles were towed across with caution, while the heavy AVLBs crossed one at a time. Drivers maintained a strict 5 miles per hour speed, lest they end up in the river. Some of the Blackhorse Troopers were heard to thank the engineers as they crossed the bridge.

By 1140 hours, 161 armored vehicles had crossed the Dong Nai River. Alpha Company from the 1/18 Infantry guarded the northern bank, while G Troop, 2/11 (cross-attached with a platoon of Hotel Company tanks) and two 1/18 Infantry companies protected the southern bank as the bridge was deconstructed and loaded back onto the trucks. As the engineer officer-in-charge said: "The actual crossing went so smooth it was almost anti-climatic."

Because of the bridge, the lead elements of the Blackhorse Regiment arrived to secure the Long Binh-Bien Hoa complex before dark on April 25th. Most importantly, they arrived as a cohesive unit, not in dribbles and drabs (as might have been the case if rafts had been used to cross the river). This gave the squadron and troop commanders plenty of time

to coordinate with the local U.S. and South Vietnamese commanders to strengthen the defenses in anticipation of the renewed enemy assault expected in early May. Much of this time advantage would have been squandered if the 38th Colonel had not persuaded the engineers to build a bridge rather than attempting to float hundreds of vehicles across the Dong Nai.

To get to the river crossing site from Bunard required launching 14 AVLBs and preparing two fording sites. The jungle was thick and the trail network was primitive. On many occasions, the elephant grass was over ten feet tall, taller than the armored vehicles as they moved southwards toward the river. Every bend in the road offered the wily enemy another ambush opportunity. The plentiful trees (useful to create obstacles) and limited space for maneuver could have easily delayed the Regiment's progress toward the crossing site. But once again, the 5th (VC) Division was a day late and a Dong short.

One of the engineers recalls consulting with the leader of the 1/18th Infantry Grunts securing the north bank. He expressed some concern that the enemy might choose to attack while the armored vehicles were crossing. The infantry lieutenant wasn't concerned. An attack wouldn't come, he reasoned, until the Blackhorse armored vehicles were far away from the bridge site.

He was right.

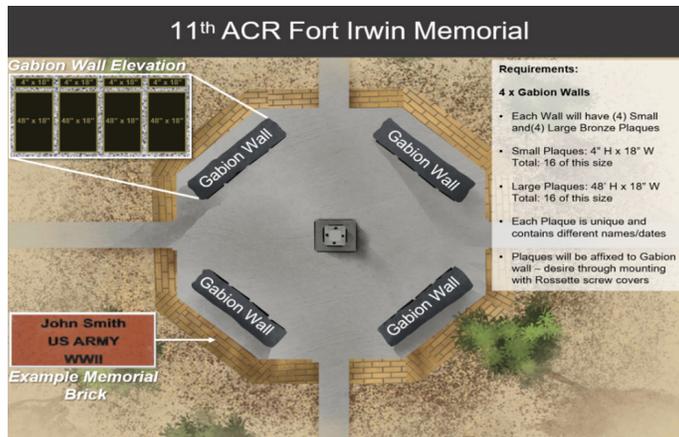
Elements of the 274th (VC) Regiment attacked the southern side of the river crossing site just around midnight on the 25th – after all of the Blackhorse vehicles had crossed and after the engineers had started to tear down the bridge. Over a hundred rounds of 82mm mortar landed in and around the double-strand concertina perimeter guarded by Blackhorse Troopers and Vanguard Grunts. About 50 rocket-propelled grenades (RPGs) were launched at the vehicles on and inside the perimeter. Two Troopers were killed (SP4 George Bennett, H Company, 2/11, 26 October 1967 – 26 April 1968 () and SP4 Steven Heffner, G Troop, 2/11, 25 August 1967 – 26 April 1968 ()) during the two-hour contact and almost 30 GIs – mostly engineers – were wounded. A large number of engineering vehicles and bridging equipment was destroyed or damaged. But two full squadrons of the Regiment were well on their way to the rescue of Bien Hoa and Long Binh.

There were many acts of bravery witnessed by the defenders on the banks of the Dong Nai that night, but most people remember Rayburn Bell walking around inside the perimeter with nothing on but his jungle boots, helmet, and M-14 rifle. Platoon Sergeant (PSG) Bell, assigned to the 100th Float Bridge Company, had just gotten horizontal on his cot when the first mortar rounds hit. In his haste to get into a bunker, he left his clothes behind. After the initial salvo of incoming mortars, PSG Bell retrieved his boots and helmet but could not find his jungle fatigues in the dark. Discretion did not stand in the way of valor of this 15-year Army veteran as he rallied his engineers to reinforce the perimeter at several critical points.

The following day, the grunts of 1/18 Infantry, accompanied by Golf Troop ACAVs, patrolled along the riverbank and uncovered some freshly dug bunkers. To their surprise, they also found traces of where a large enemy force (estimated at battalion size) had crossed the Dong Nai headed south. Was the attack on the bridging site just a diversion to cover up the enemy's own river crossing? If so, it was a costly one, far more costly than what could probably have been achieved with just a mortar attack.

Operation Allons was the longest floating bridge constructed by U.S. Army engineers during the Vietnam War. It was also one more example of just how flexible Blackhorse Troopers were – and are. Changing areas of operations and missions is all in a day's work. fire fight for that long a period of time you begin to wonder, we're doing great now but can we keep this up? ... We just put out as much firepower as we could and we were able to keep them from getting inside."

Fort Irwin Memorial Project - Remember the Fallen, Celebrate the Regiment



We are excited to announce that the collaborative efforts of the 11th Armored Cavalry Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia (11th ACVVC) and the Blackhorse Association (BHA) to create a permanent monument at Fort Irwin are under way! At the request of the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment (11th ACR) leadership, this monument stands as a testament to the storied legacy of the Regiment and honors the sacrifices of all who have served.

Since its stationing at Fort Irwin in 1994, the 11th ACR has been at the forefront of training U.S. forces, portraying an evolving and realistic adversary at the National Training Center. Their contributions extend beyond these crucial exercises, with numerous overseas deployments, including a training team sent to Afghanistan and a full deployment to Iraq in 2005. The adaptability and unwavering commitment of the Regiment continue to inspire us all.



We cannot complete this project without your support - each donation, brick sale, volunteer hour etc... plays a vital role in ensuring that the sacrifices made by all members of the Regiment are recognized and remembered in the current home of the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment. We encourage you to join us in this noble cause, as we honor the history and spirit of the Blackhorse Regiment. Together, we can make a significant impact.

ALLONS!



For more information on contributing to this project please scan the QR Code and visit our brick sales and direct donations page or Email the project Manager at: bh.memorial.pm@gmail.com

Thank you for standing with us to honor our heroes—your generosity strengthens our mission and unites us in remembrance – ALLONS!

SCAN ME!

VSO Stuff Chuck Bosko, F Troop, 69-70

A couple of items this month: Who can assist you submit a claim with the Veterans Administration and information about that fire at the National Personnel Records Center in 1973.

First - That fire. Many veterans have approached me through the years requesting information because of NPRC letters indicating that their records were destroyed. An overview about that fire will be published in the next issue of Thunder Run.

Second. When a veteran intends to submit a claim for disability or veterans' pension with the Veterans Administration, I always recommend the vet seek the assistance of a Veteran Service Officer or, depending on experience, a Post Service Officer or similar person. Assistance can be provided by an attorney IF the attorney is accredited by the Veterans Administration or Veteran Service Officers associated with a Veterans Organization (American Legion, VFW, DAV, AMVETS, etc.). VSOs must pass VA examinations and complete annual reviews pertaining to medical privacy acts, personal privacy information and security laws, etc. A Post Service Officer does not necessarily need to pass VA examinations but must adhere to a veterans' organization's rules. When a Post Service Officer, or similar person, is or has been a Veteran Service Officer, as I have been, the members of a veteran organization will be well served as I have served as a VSO with the American Legion and the Illinois Department of Veteran Affairs for a combined period of fifteen years. Why is this important? Glad you inquired!

According to VA law - there can be NO charges(fees) to a veteran when an initial claim is submitted. However, if the claim is denied by the VA and the veteran intends to appeal that denial, it is then that fees can be charged. Now, some attorneys will submit a claim for a client as a courtesy for possible future legal services such as wills and trust papers. Still if the attorney then assists the veteran with the appeal, fees of up to 20% of any back pay will be paid to the attorney. Further, depending on how the fees are arranged, up to 33% of the backpay can be charged. True, some law firms specialize in VA law and do have referral services with health providers who "may" provide medical opinions to support a claim contention. For many veteran claims that have been denied and the veteran needs to argue a case before the Court of Veteran Appeals, then the services of an attorney may be required.

Keep in mind, 11th ACVVC members only need to contact me regarding any concerns or questions about disability or pension claims. Also keep in mind - I may not answer telephone calls or reply to emails immediately, but I will respond when I can. Just leave a name, a phone number and mention you are a member of the 11th ACVVC.

Chuck 708-205-3541

Purpose: Support the construction of the Blackhorse Regiment Memorial Monument at Ft. Irwin, CA

Each brick will be engraved with your personalized message, consisting of three lines with a maximum of 18 characters per line.

Orders can be made: Online at Link: <https://web.charityengine.net/Default.aspx?tsid=34549>



Or by Scanning the QR Code



By mail, using the form below

Order Form

Customer Information:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP Code: _____

Email: _____

Phone Number: () _____ - _____

Memorial Brick Details: Brick cost: \$100 ea.

Please provide your engraving details below. Each brick can accommodate a maximum of 3 lines with up to 18 characters on each line. Please write legibly in block style text, one character per block to ensure lines are easily read. (NO MORE THAN 18 CHARACTERS PER LINE)

Make Checks Payable to: Blackhorse Association

Mail completed forms & check to: BHA c/o Bob Hatcher, 33 Alderwood Way, Lancaster, PA 17601

Payment Information:	
Method of Payment: CC [] CHECK []	
Name on Card: _____	
Card Number: _____	Exp: ____/____
CVV: _____	
Billing Address: _____	
City: _____	State: _____ Zip: _____
Signature: _____	Date: _____

Brick Engraving Section (18 Characters per Line)

Line 1: [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

Line 2: [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

Line 3: [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

If you have questions please contact: bh.memorial.pm@gmail.com

Thank you for your support!



**11th ACVVC
41st Reunion Schedule
Orlando Florida
September 1-6, 2026**

Tuesday, Sept. 1- 3:00 PM

**Rooms available for set up
No Reunion Functions**

Storage -Salon 19

Wednesday, Sept 2

10:00 am - 5:00 pm
2:00 pm - 6:00 pm
2:00 pm - 12:00 am
5:00 pm - 8:00 pm
1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Quartermaster Store open
Registration
Bunker
BOD meeting
Silent Auction Items Accepted

Salon 15/16
Salon 22
Excutive Ballroom
Suite
Salon 22

Thursday, Sept. 3

9:00 am - 5:00 pm
2:00 pm - 6:00 pm
2:00 pm - 12:00 am
1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Quartermaster Store Open
Registration
Bunker Open
Silent Auction items accepted

Salon 15/16
Salon 22
Excutive Ballroom
Salon 22

Friday, Sept. 4

9:00 am - 5:00 pm
10:00am-12:00am
1:00 pm - 1:30pm
9:00 am - 12:00 am
2:00 pm - 9:00 pm
2:00 pm - 12:00 am
2:00 pm- 4:00 pm
4:00 pm - 4:30 pm
4:35: pm

Quartermaster Store Open
Veterans Seminar
Operation Embrace KIA Grave Visitation
Silent Auction Items Accepted
Registration Open
Bunker Open
Silent Auction Sell Off
Silent Auction Pay/Pick Up
Resale of items not pickedup

Salon 22
Signature 1
TBA
Salon15/16
Salon 15/16
Executive Ballroom
Salon 17/18
Salon 17/18
Salon 17/18

Saturday, Sept. 5

9:00 am - 12:00 pm
9:30am-12:00pm
9:00 am -1:30 pm
1:30 pm- 3:00pm
3:00pm -5:00pm
1:30 pm - 3:00 pm
5:45-6:45
6:00
7:00pm 10:pm
10:00pm-1:00pm

Annual Membership Meeting
Blackhorse Women's Group
Quartermaster Open
Memorial Service
Quartermaster Open
Registration Open for Late Arrivals
Cocktail Hour (Cash Bar)
Banquet room Doors Open
Banquet, Presentations and Salute
Dancing (DJ)

Executive I Ballroom
Signature 1
Salon 22
Executive 1 Ballroom
Salon 22
Salon 15/16
Executive Ballroom Foyer

Executive Ballroom
Executive Ballroom Foyer

Sunday, Sept. 6

10:00 am - 11:00 am
All Day

Worship Service
Farewells and Safe Travels

Signature 1
No space Required

REGISTRATION FORM



41st Annual 11th ACVVC Reunion

August 31, 2026-September 6, 2026

Rosen Center Hotel, 9840 International Dr. Orlando FL. 32819

Reservations by phone: 407-996-9842- use code

11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia

On-line- <http://www.rosencenter.com>

Scooter Rental- Scooter King, 407-504-7769



Registration fee is **\$140 check / \$144 credit card** per person. This fee is required for attendance at the Wednesday, Thursday and Friday night Bunker Parties and Saturday evening banquet dinner.

All registrations must be received by August 12, 2026. All hotel reservations must be made by August 10, 2026. Any registration received after this date will be returned. Registration refunds will be paid in full to our members if cancellation is received by the Treasurer no later than August 24, 2026.

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION

(print clearly or use mailing label)

Name _____ Telephone No: _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

E-Mail Address _____

Unit Assignment _____ Dates in Country _____

(Example: B TRP, D CO - List only one unit. This is your banquet seating.)

(Example: 1966-1967)

KIA Relative? Yes, Name of KIA: _____

Next of Kin? Yes, Name of NOK: _____

Relationship to KIA: _____ Unit: _____

ATTENDEES, INCLUDING YOURSELF (please print)

_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
Total Registration Fee	\$ _____

Banquet Meal Selection (Indicate number for each selection) Chicken ___ Beef ___ Veggie ___

Is this your first reunion? Yes No Wheelchair or special needs banquet seating? Yes

Credit Card Information: Security Code/CVC# _____ Exp. Date _____

Card No; _____

Zip Code (Required) _____ Signature (Required) _____

Make checks payable to 11th ACVVC. Please mail registration form along with payment to:

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

If You Build It, They Will Come

By Paul Sharp

HHC, 31st Engineer Battalion (Combat), US Army, Vietnam

Our battalion of the 31st Engineers was attached to the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment at Blackhorse base camp in 1968, during the Vietnam War. Base camp was about 6 miles from Xuan Loc village, which was about 30 miles east of Saigon. During our first few weeks we were busy with our regular duties as well as trying to improve our living quarters (Army tents stretched over wooden frames) which was referred to as “the hooch”. Our hooch provided a home away from home for me and my buddies James D. (“JD”) Gillis, Douglas Leo Neely, Sam J. Van Riper and Joseph P. (“Joe”) Shahum.

After duty hours we typically spent time cleaning gear and weapons, writing letters to loved ones back home and reading letters after mail call. We spent time just talking with our buddies about the day’s challenges as well as what the next day might bring, and we routinely drank a few or more beers. In base camp time passed slowly and we constantly sought various ways to avoid the boredom. We had some fun playing poker, talking, laughing and reliving the events of the day.

One evening before dark I noticed a couple soldiers outside, playing catch. I walked over to them and mentioned to them how smart they were to bring their gloves and a ball. They told me they got the gloves and ball from the supply section. The next day I went to supply to see what kind of equipment they had. I was surprised to find gloves, balls, catcher equipment, bases ... even a home plate! They had everything you needed to play a softball game.

The next morning I excitedly mentioned what I’d found to Lt Leo Farias, the company commander and suggested that we capitalize on the find by building a softball field for the troops – it would give us something to do in the evening, help keep us in shape, great for morale and would be fun and a distraction from the war.

Lt Farias was immediately supportive but wondered where we would find an area that could be used for the ball field. Having already checked out several potential areas, I showed him the best one I’d found and explained how it could be done. He agreed that it would be good for the morale of the men and arranged for me to present the proposal to Colonel Patterson, the Battalion Commander.

Farias jumped right on it and a short time later he told me to report to Headquarters to talk to the commander. Colonel Patterson listened intently until I was finished and then responded, “That sounds good to me, but where can we find space for a field?” I gave him my thoughts, and he asked me to show him the exact area. I pointed out the area and a few trees which we’d have to take down and showed him how we could lay

out the field. He asked me if I could get enough men to volunteer their time to accomplish the task and I assured him that I could. He said “OK; approved! You are in charge of getting it done ASAP” and that he would arrange to have a grader at our disposal the next morning at 0700 hours to remove the trees. He finished our conversation with, “I’m looking forward to playing some softball myself, Sharp; as I’m sure the men will.” With an emphatic “Yes sir; thank you, sir!” I was quickly out of his office headed to pass the good news to the rest of the guys.

A number of men from Headquarters Company promptly volunteered to help build the ball field and work began immediately. We worked on the field as time permitted, and all had fun doing it. It was only a few days later that we had finished the field, complete with a chain link back stop, wooden benches and lime to mark the foul lines. What great excitement we all shared working on this together!

Our first game began with 2 teams: Officers versus enlisted men! The game was marked by varying levels of athleticism and lots of good sportsmanship. We urged our team on and razzed our opponents, laughing and kidding all the while. That first game on our new ball field provided us a venue and sport just like we’d find if we were back home, even though we were very far from home.

That was just the beginning of our ball games. As the word spread, other teams comprised of 31st Engineer Battalion soldiers were formed and the great fun continued, long after I left my buddies to go back home. We all said it didn’t matter who won and I suppose that was true. At the end of the game both teams left the field with heads held high, still discussing the high and low points of their efforts that day.

I will always remember that softball field and the times we played ball in that very tough place during that very hard time. You learn a lot about a person during an athletic endeavor and our efforts on that field taught me much about those with whom I served, regardless of their rank or years of service. The undertaking provided substantial exercise in which all the men could take part – on an equal basis. It increased morale, built esprit and provided a positive focus for what would follow a tough day operating heavy combat engineer equipment in the hot southeast-Asian sun.

Those games on that ball field brought us all closer together. I will always remember my comrades and buddies, young as we were; but also, those we did not know so well, but lived and served with us in Vietnam – the great officers, NCO’s and men we were with every day. We laughed with each other, and we cried for all those who were wounded and those who died. Although far from home, we cared for all who served with us at Blackhorse base camp no matter what rank, color, or religion.

We were a Band of Brothers, eternally bonded with those who served our country in the past, those who serve now and those who will serve America in the future.



Membership is Our Strength
**It’s not the price you pay to belong, it’s the price you
paid to become eligible to join**



William Hofmann
T. Hollingsworth
G. Hooten
Dennis Hoponick
Charles Huff
Robert Hunt
Russell Jones
Tom Juskiewicz
Ron Kelly
Robert Kennedy
Richard Kern
James Kuehner
James Lagone
Arthur Lawson
James Lawson
William Leeson
Joanne Maker
Gene Martinelli
James McVicker
Ron Merryman
Randolph Michaud
Richard Miller
Lynn Montgomery
Doug Moriarity
William Morrissey
Dane Nash
John Oliver
Fred Parrington
George Paul Jr.
W. Proctor
William Ralston
Marla Reynolds
IMO "Jerry" Goodner
Randy Richmond
Myron Rosendahl
Carey Ross II
Don Scheffler
Derek Schruers
Lane Schultz
Robert Slusarski
Robert Spangler
William Stevenson
Slofko Terlecky
Chris Todal
Bruce Ward
Kenneth Wood
John Yates
Richard Zimmaro

Calendar Fund

PLATINUM LEVEL

Frank Church
Jim Cobb
Dennis Creal
Larry Dart
Steve Dennis
Thomas Helm
Richard Justesen
Paul Kelliher
Larry Kester
George King
Larry Swartz
Peter Wallace
Ralph Ware
Thomas Whitson
Eddie Wood

GOLD LEVEL

Kevin Andersen
William Anderson
Daniel Atchison
William Bachman
Robert Baker
William Barnes
Sharon Barnes
William Barrows
William Baughman
James Belver

Joachim Benitez
John Berry
IMO Wallace Malone
Manuel Birch
William Black
James Bland
James Blawat
Carlton Bledsoe
Steven Borri
George Bostick
Mary Ellen Bourdeau
IMO Michael R. Bourdeau
J.S. Bowen
Robert Bradford
Bill Brawn
Joel Brewer
Warren Bricker
Timothy Brooks
Carl Brown
John Burns
Douglas Campbell
Richard Canuel
Guy Caporiccio
Wavely Cartwright
Frank Caruso
Victor Caso
Salvatore Cassano
Walter Casten
Dennis Cederquist
Warren Childress
Clifford Clanton
Jerry Cornelius
Ralph Cox
Alan Cox
Richard Crabbs
David Craugh
Robert Croft
Gary Crowder
John Culek
Gary Culver
Lester Culver
Alan Curry
K Lee Curtis
Thomas Dadal
Greg Davis
Matthew Davis
Robert De Long
Joseph Decker
Timothy Dedyne
Arthur Dowding
Larry Dumdei
IMO Charles Dumdei
Timothy Dunphy
J.S. Earl
Andrew Eggleton
Ken Ellingson
Ron Emerson
James Eriser
Steven Evans
George Fancher
Michael Fea
William Fedorinchik
Edward Fegenbush
Jose Fierro
John Filbert
John Finnerty
Kenneth Fisher
Walter Flick
James Foreman
Clifford Frayne
Leo Frizzell
Robert Funk
Kenneth Garren
Robert Garrott
Robert George
Harry Gibson
Howard Gilbert
Robert Gilbert
Charles Gill

John Glauner
Ronnie Glawson
Douglas Gloege
David Gordon
Ralph Gordon
Kenneth Grayson
Paul Greany
Floyd Green
James Griffiths
John Grogg
Farl Grundy
G.L. Gunderman
Charles Hack
Marvin Halls
James Hanna
E.B. Hardin
Michael Harvey
Robert Hawley
Joseph Headrick
Dale Heidemman
John Herb
L.R. Hicks
Andrew Hilden
Donald Hines
John Hodges
John Hoefler
Lawrence Hoover
William Houchins
Nicholas Hryadil
Dennis Hudnall
John Humbertson
Richard Hund
Glendon Ingram
Cousin iTT
Ken Jankel
Richard Jeranek
Jeffrey Jeter
Michael Kathman
Daniel Kaufman
Ernie Kauppi
Doris Keator
Patrick Kelliher
Richard Kenyon
William Kerrins
Thomas Kirchoff
Wayne Kirkpatrick
Daniel Klecker
Lewis Klinn
Ronald Klopfer
J Rudolph Kohler
Gregory Krinock
Michael Lakner
Bruce Lamere
Michael Law
Norman Lenger
Craig Lindell
Stephen Lombardo
Jesse Long
Michael Looney
Jeffrey Lopez
Terry Love
Edward Lumppp
Ross Lyle
Michael Macheta
Tom Mackenzie
William Manincor
Sheldon Manthei
Robert Marotta
Troy Marshall
Mary Martinez
Jon Masley
Michael Mason
T S Massey
John McCarthy
James McCoy
James McEliece
James McGill
John McGrail
Stewart McGregor

Glenn McLendon
Ralph Mesa
William Meyer
Michael Meyrick
Miller Miller
IMO Louis Gene Miller
Steve Miller
John Miller
Charles Minakowski
Donald Miner
Ralph Mohler
Wayne Mollhoff
W.F. Montgomery
Donald Morin
Richard Morris
Matthew Morrissey
Joseph Muchesko
Harry Mussche
Robert Myers
Lee Nelson
Gary Newman
Harold Nicklas
George Norris
Mark Oakman
Gary Ostrander
John Ottenbreit
Judy Padgett
Buss Patch
Horace Payne
Walter Peacock
J Richmond Pearson
Bert Pehr
Donald Pemberton
Craig Perrin
James Pettit
Edward Phillip
Leo Pierce
J.C. Pool
Alexander Powell
Henry Price
Lee Pryor
John Pudelek
Eladio Quinones
Michael Rafferty
Samuel Ramnytz
William Rankin
Theador Rauh
Robert Rawson
Sheila Rees
E. Reid
Jon Reilly
Elwin Rexinger
Danny Rice
Dennis Richards
George Richeson
Howard Rinne
Arlise Robinson
John Rogan
Silvio Romero
Myron Rosendahl
Raymond Ross
Ronald Rubas
Michael Ruoff
W. Arthur Russell
Henry Rybacki
Glenn Ryburn
Dan Saine
Billy Joe Sams
Vincent Sanchez
Arthur Sanderson
Donald Sartor
Brenner Sayers
Adrian Schaefer
Thomas Schmitt
Francis Schoettle
C E Scholz
Jack Schubert
James Schunck
Alexander Scott

Charles Scott
William Selch
Marvin Sellars
Mark Selvidge
Philip Seyller
Larry Sharpe
Barry Shumaker
Ronald Sieja
Michael Simmons
Michael Skinner
Robert T. Smith
Nick Soehnlén
Francis Solis
Jerry Sowell
Edmund Stafford
Paul Stensgaard
Terry Stivers
Richard Stobbs
Lynn Stoyanoff
Ronnie Strickler
Robert Suever
Donald Sullivan
David Taylor
Donald Timmons
Jerry Tomaszewski
Arturo Torres
Haig Tufankjian
Richard Vail
Mark Van Atta
Bill Van Burger
Kirk Vanderbogart
Raymond Vicario
Donald Volta
Joseph Wallech
William Waller
Peter Walter
Scott Wardrope
Charles Watkins
Charles Whitmore
John Whitten
Eric Wickstrom
David Will
John Williams
Janelle Willis
Steve Wilson
Joseph Witek
Okey Wolfe
Fredrick Wolfe
G.A. Wright
Kenneth Yocum
David York
Daniel Zuckerman

SILVER LEVEL

Thomas Daly
Timothy Ford
Robert Garrott
Thomas Godfrey
Michael Shepler
Jim Young

BRONZE LEVEL

Patrick Carroll
Arnold Christensen
Albert El
Richard Henson
Gary Kovash
Gerald Leonard
Concepcion Ortiz
Ronald Raper
Robert Sinclair
Linda Spear
Floyd Spino
David Van Horn
Reginald White
William Hipps
Arthur Aguilar
William Alsobrook
Jerry Andrews

Patrick Arble	David Gauld	Michael Reynolds	Stacy Baker	Joe Creel
Larry Arft	Joseph Gehring	Harry Rich	Walter Bakle	Debra Crisp
Chuck Argento	Samuel Gochenour	David Richmond	John Balas	Michael Crist
James Argo	Philip Gonzalez	John Roppolo	Patricia Banks	Jack Crook
Elaine Austin	Denis Graffum	IMO Guy Ingram	Robert Baratta	Michael Cross
Julius Austin	John Gray	Fred Rosel	Michael Barber	John Crouthamel
LukeWagg Bachan	Charles Greek	Carey Ross	Richard Barnhart	Thomas Crowley
David Bachler	Dennis Green	James Ryan	John Barrington	Charles Cunningham
Marvin Baker	Ronald Halama	Brenner Sayers	Elwood Barrows	Harian Damron
Preston Barnes	Jeffrey Hanson	Nelson Schiller	Harold Basler	Bill Daniels
William Baronti	Dwane Hein	Tracey Schoonmaker	Robert Bassett	Herbert Daub
Donald Barrett	Kenneth Heithoff	Charles Schtt	Stephen Bauer	Larry Davidson
C. Frederick Beard	Paul Herman	Lane Schultz	Rick Baum	Eugene Davis
John Beck	Larry Herrington	Larry Scott	Reggie Bechard	Kenneth Delp
John Benson	Herbert Hertel	Gary Self	Ernest Behm	Mark Derge
Joseph Berenda	David Hice	James Shaw	Edward Belionas	Gerald DeSoto
Clarence Blackman	Larry Holloway	Vincent Sinervo	William Bellamy	Leray DeWit
John Blaisdell	Theodore Hudon	Russell C. Smith	Harold Belville	Joe Diaz
Ted Bolton	Edward Hulik	Horace Smith	Ronald Bennett	Paul Dickinson
Christopher Bostelman	Ruben Jones	Dale Smith	Theodore Bergstrom	James Dickinson
Edward Brickman	Paul Joseph	Albert Souza	David Berry	John Dierksen
Grey Brill	Roger Justison	Wilson Sproehnle	Roger Berry	Michael Dinardo
Ronald Brundage	Blandin Karabinos	Eustacchio Staffieri	Timothy Berry	Lorenzo Dixon
Douglas Bryant	Richard Kern	H.G. Stogner	James Bishop	Robert Donaghe
Edward Bryla	Anthony Koch	James Swanson	Wayne Bockman	Everett Doxtator
Donald Burns	Jerome Kotwica	Robert Swonke	George Bodenus	Donald Drew
Lonnie Burris	George Krcelich	Raymond Szymanski	Thomas Bohlin	Frederick Droski
Charles Burris	Richard Krebs	Thomas Templer	Robert Bomba	James Dunlop
John Canevet	Norman Kulpa	Harrison Thrasher	Charles Bonfanti	William Dunn
James Carnal	William Lancaster	Harrison Thrasher	Teddy Boobyer	Blair Duplantis
Joseph Carosella	Melvin Lanier	Mark Titschinger	Dennis Bostwick	Donald Dye
Hoye Carr	Eugene Lee	Glenn Tonks	Virgil Boswell	Bruce Eaton
Arlie Carrier	John Leonti	Larry Toole	Robert Boutieller	Montie Edwards
Roderick Castle	Mark Levasseur	Paul Torrrres	Bob Bowen	Earl Edwards
Larry Cavinder	David Like	Andrew Trabanco	David Bowen	John Egan
Bradley Celani	John Lingen	Louis Tripp	Thomas Bowling	Rodney Einck
Larry Chavez	Michael Lynch	Courtney Turner	Roger Boyce	Roger Eitel
David Christman	Larry Lynch	Jessie Tyre	Janet Branham	Frank Ekert
John Cirjak	Gary MacGregor	P. Richard Upton	Robert Brennick	Cheryl Ekholm
Douglas Clack	James Madelle	William Van Ert	Edward Brooks	Keith Elliott
Gary Coates	John Magnarelli	Jerry Van Matre	Grail Brookshire	Glenn Elsing
Darrel Colson	Raymond Majewski	John Venhoff	Joseph Brophy	James Engelbrecht
Joe Commons	Bernard Malnarick	Rannie Vickers	Gary Brown	Larry Erickson
Frank Coney	Antony Manfredi	Edmund Virusky	Larry Bryan	Vaughn Esper
David Connolly	Kathy Marquez	Robert Wagg	Edward Bryden	Roger Estep
Richard Conway	Evelyn Missey	Ronnie Walker	Michael Buehre	David Evans
John Corey	Jerry Mitchell	Thomas Walkner	David Busch	Denver Evans
John Cozby	Bob Monprode	Carroll Walton	Roger Butler	Douglas Farfel
William Cramer	Lynn Montgomery	Miller Wampler	John Byers	Marcus Farrant
Charlie Cressman	A.R. Moody	Michael Watkins	Timothy Byland	J. Farrell
Michael Cricco	Clifton Morris	David Watters	Lloyd Byrne	Thomas Farrell
David Cusman	Charles Morrow	Mark Webb	Paul Bystrak	Charles Feick
Allen Davenport	John Mulrath	Henry Weege	Donald Callahan	Doyle Ferguson
George B. Davis	Thomas Murphy	Harry Welmon	Kenneth Caporale	Merrill Finley
Matthew Denaro	John Nagel	George West	Jess Carpenter	Pasquale Fiorillo
Stephen Derby	Andrew Neighbors	Reginald White	Samuel Cassen	Mel Firschau
John Dimeo	Arsen Norsian	Scott Wisdom	John Cebalo	Gary Floyd
Kenneth Dodson	Richard Notek	Stephanie Woodson	Eddie Chaney	Patrick Flynn
Billy Duke	Patrick Olechny	Dennis Worley	William Charbeneau	John Foggin
Thomas Duncan	Raymond Olivarez	Stephen Wright	Ronald Charette	David Fordonski
Kim Durham	Richard Orridge	Harold Yirsa	Gus Christian	Kenneth Fordyce
Rodney Dyer	Joel Parker	Bronze Level	Dennis Ciborowski	David Foster
Steven Ehrets	John Parks	William Agosti	William Cleveland	Bobby Fox
Dennis Elbert	Andrea Payne	Daniel Ahrens	Stephen Cobb	William Frantz
Billy England	IMO William E. Payne	Malcolm Alestra	Michael Collins	Robert Freme
Carmine Esposito	John Peckham	James Alsobrook	Richard Colman	Richard Freyn
Richard Farris	Donald Petrusko	Harvey Amen	Ronald Colson	Dennis Fricke
C.L. Feaster	Frank Phillips	Harold Anderson	Bob Compton	Harold Fritz
John Fiscor	Clifton Plisch	Allen Andreasen	Daniel Conte	Gary Fry
William Fitzgerald	Charles Polinsky	Frederic Angeline	Gregory Cook	Bruce Fuller
Darrell Fixx	Robert Prohaska	Anonomous	Griffin Cook	Edward Gaczek
James Flaig	Larry Puckett	William Apholz	Jackie Cooper	Ted Gamet
Paul Foley	George Purifoy	Gary Appleton	Nasario Arellano	Aurelio Garcia
Ed Fortman	James Qualteri	Nasario Arellano	Earl Armbruster	Dean Garrett
Dennis Freeman	Paul Radzwillas	Earl Armbruster	Terry Armentrout	Robert Garrettson
John Frens	Kim Raseman	Terry Armentrout	Bruce Bach	Albert Gelder
Arlan Fust	Frank Renda	Bruce Bach	Dean Bacon	Lonnie Gibbs
James Gaines	Marla Reynolds	Dean Bacon	David Bailey	John Gildein
		David Bailey		

Larry Gilliam
 Paul Gissible
 Ernest Gizzi
 Herbert Gleditsch
 James Godshall
 David Godwin
 Robert Goff
 Robert Golden
 Walter Gorby
 Ronnie Gordon
 Nancy Gossett
 John Grabenhorst
 Anthony Graziano
 George Greene
 Vincent Gresh
 William Griffin
 Thomas Grohal
 Duane Grover
 John Grunloh
 John Gumpf
 Frank Guzowski
 Ted Gwinn
 John Haberer
 John Hafer
 Robert Hagood
 Norman Hainley
 Rick Hall
 Michael Halterman
 Gary Hamilton
 Kip Hammond
 Owen Hans
 Harold Hansford
 Gregory Harnick
 John Harris
 Donald Hastings
 Stanley Hauser
 Edward J. Hayes
 Clint Heath
 Donald Hebert
 Lloyd Heine
 Alan Helene
 Steven Helgeson
 Robert Helm
 Ronald Henley
 Richard Henson
 Matthew Herlihy
 Al Hernandez
 Doug Hernandez
 Ross Higden
 Joseph Hladky
 Thoodore Hnatusko
 Ewald Hoelker
 Neil Hoem
 Nancy Hofflander
 William Hofmann
 Dennis Hogan
 Robert Holden
 Thomas Holland
 Glenn Hollar
 Joseph Holliday
 Sam Holt
 Myron Honian
 Berke Hooton
 Michael Horvatic
 Paul Howard
 Glen Howser
 Danny Hoyle
 Ronald Huggins
 Randall Hughes
 Robert Hunt
 Bob Hurt
 Vicki Ilardi
 Kenneth Ingle
 John Ivey
 Daniel Jackson
 Warren Jackson
 Tine Jacques
 Duane Javoroski
 Robert Jensen
 Candace Joel
 Russell Jones
 Edward A. Jones
 Michael Jordan
 John Journeay
 Thomas Juskiewicz
 Roger Karels
 Dennis Kehoe
 Robert Kelley
 Ronald Kelly
 Tommy Kerns
 Ralph Kidd
 Dennis King
 Kenneth King
 Timothy Knoche
 Fred Kontzelmann
 James Kowalski
 Lynn Krebs
 Rubin Kremling
 Albert Kruger
 Robert Kruse
 James Kuehner
 Richard Kuhr
 Wilma Kujawa
 Robert Kunkel
 Harry Kurihara
 Walter Lakari
 James Lancaster
 Earl Lane
 Louis Laneve
 David Lang
 Kenneth Larson
 Larry Lauck
 James Lawless
 Thomas Lawlor
 George Lawrence
 James Lawson
 Kenneth Lee
 William Leeson
 Myron Lemperte
 John Lescisko
 Gerard Lessard
 Robert Lessnau
 James Lewis
 Thomas Licon
 Ronald Lipscomb
 Eldred Little
 Donald Livingston
 R.H. Long
 John Longhouser
 Orrin Loudon
 Guy Love
 Atanacio Loya
 Craig Luke
 Larry Lyster
 John Mac Donald
 Howard Magee
 James Main
 John Maiuri
 Walker Malone
 Dave Marmet
 Gabriel Marquez
 Romeo Martin
 Anthony Masiella
 Glen Massengale
 Anthony Mathews
 James Matre
 James Matthews
 Milton Matthews
 Jan Mayer
 Christine Mc Collum
 Jerry McBryde
 Harry McDole
 Thaniel McFee
 Thomas McGarrity
 Thomas McGarry
 Thomas McKenney
 Clarence McKillip
 Michael Miller
 Emma Melo
 Willie Melton
 Eugene Meltsch
 David Mendoza
 Douglas Menefee
 Larry Mettler
 Randolph Michaud
 George Miller
 Joseph Mitchell
 Lawrence Mix
 Steven Molstad
 Jerry Morelock
 Dennis Morgan
 Damion Moring
 Charles Morrison
 Willie Morrison
 Charles Moscarelli
 Michael Mulcahey
 John Musial
 Jack Nelson
 Joseph Nemetz
 Ronny Newlin
 Jimmy Nimesgern
 Vincent O'Connell
 William Ohlen
 William Ornellis
 Joseph Orozco
 Joe Orzo
 Joyce Owsinski
 Angel Pagan
 Donald Page
 James Palmer
 Tim Parker
 David Paschke
 Paul Passanisi
 John Patterson
 Paul Patterson
 Clifford Payne
 Thomas Pelliccio
 Larry Pendergrass
 John Pendlosky
 Lloyd Pendola
 Michael Pepe
 William Petersen
 David Phillips
 Joseph Piccirilli
 Bonnie Jane Pintaric
 Christopher Pitt
 Richard Plagge
 Cecily Pope
 John Prescott
 Willie Proctor
 Jocelyn Proctor
 Roy Puccio
 Cletus Putchaven
 Daniel Quinn
 Norman Raborn
 William Ralston
 Grable Ramirez
 Jesse Rasberry
 Kenneth Ray
 Jackson Reed
 James Reeves
 Ronald Rego
 Blake Reichgeld
 Mark Relyea
 Jerry Retzlaff
 Robert Rhyner
 Richard Ribota
 Curtis Rich
 Margaret Richard
 Roy Rigney
 Larry Roberts
 Joe Roberts
 Elwood Robinson
 Gary Robinson
 Jim Rogers
 Randy Rogers
 Irving Roman
 Ralph Ronne
 Sherrie Rosevear
 Larry Rothmeyer
 John Ruffner
 Patrick Rundle
 William Ruocco
 Richard Russell
 Richard Sack
 Alan Salerno
 Murray Sallenbach
 Joseph Santos
 Monico Sarabia
 Frederic Sargent
 Gary Sawwell
 Charles Scarborough
 Michael Schaefer
 William Schamberger
 Donni Schaanaman
 Gerald Scherz
 William Schleppegrell
 Larry Schmoll
 David Schneider
 Robert Schneiter
 Harold Schorr
 Elmer Schuman
 Richard Schwier
 Robert Scrogham
 Patrick Seeger
 Carol Severeid
 Richard Sevigny
 David Seymour
 Raymond Shakow
 Garry Sherman
 Dale Shimer
 Philip Shire
 Charles Sigrist
 Charles Simpson
 Raymond Sindelar
 Gerald Siner
 Claud Sisco
 Robert Six
 Joey Skidme
 Steven Skurat
 Kermit Slone
 Robert Slusarski
 Paul Smiley
 Dennis Smiser
 James A Smith
 Dennis S. Smith
 Art A. Smith
 Paul Smith
 Nicholas Soehnlen
 Harry Sowers
 Jamie Sowinski
 Eric Spanier
 Eugene Specht
 Gary Spencer
 James Sprueil
 Charles Stalmah
 Charles Stamey
 Paul Stoddard
 Jack Stoddard
 Stephen Stringer
 Larry Stromness
 Ed Suberia
 Carl Summers
 George Swanson
 Bruce Sweningson
 Joseph Switek
 Lauren Tandberg
 Raymond Tarr
 William Templin
 Hardy Terry
 Paul Thayer
 Michael Thompson
 David E. Thompson
 King Thompson
 Richard Thomson
 William Thoroughgood
 David Tiedeman
 Michael Tighe
 Jaime Torres
 Michael Torsok
 Lawrence Totaro
 Donald Tranas
 Gary Traw
 Douglas Traylor
 Raymond Trottier
 Ronald Turnbull
 Thomas Valenti
 Leon Van Holsbeke
 David Van Horn
 Travis Vaughan
 Mike Veenendall
 Richard Velle
 Vince Vitullo
 Larry Wagner
 Henry Walker
 David Walker
 John Wallace
 Ron Walton
 Jim Ward
 Bruce Ward
 George Watts
 Gary Webb
 Charles Wehner
 James Weltzien
 Darrel Wentz
 Frank Werker
 James Werner
 Edward Wertz
 James Westerman
 John Westphal
 Mary Weynand
 Robert White
 Willie Whitfield
 Jerrell Whitten
 Ronald Wierema
 Ernesto Williams
 Dana Williams
 Terry J. Williams
 Nicholas Williams
 John Wilson
 Shayne Wing
 Marvin Witt
 Theodore Wolas
 Stanley Woolley
 Kenneth Worthey
 Michael Wresch
 Ralph Wright
 Earl Wright
 Rodney Yancey
 Tim Yeider
 Athanasius Yeotis
 Thomas Yochum
 Kenneth Yoder
 Paul Young
 Bronislaw Zamojda
 James Zaun
 Larry Zeller
 Steven Zellmer
 Robert Zepf
 Robert Zillner
 Richard Zimmaro
 Winn Zimmerman



2026 is and will be a year replete with anniversary celebrations.

Of course, the 250th Anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, the birthday of the nation, will be the paramount celebration on the 4th of July. Celebrations of that birthday will be ongoing and nationwide, and I'm sure you all have either planned on attending some of the events or at least purchased a trinket or shirt announcing the excitement of the nation.

On the 2nd of February, troopers of the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment were to lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier commemorating the birthday of the Regiment. The 11th Cavalry was born (or commissioned) 125 years ago in 1901, and our troopers and veterans of the Blackhorse Regiment have been gathering there for at least the last ten years to honor and pay homage to our fallen brothers. Proudly the 11th Cav veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia, as well as our brother Blackhorse troopers, who served in Germany during the Cold War and some who severed in the Gulf wars have faithfully gathered there in some of the most fridged climates to commemorate the proud heritage of the regiment. However, due to the extreme cold and the frozen thick blanket of snow, Arlington Cemetery was closed and the wreath laying was canceled. This year's celebration would have been even more expansive as it coincided with a special gathering of members of the Blackhorse Association. It's hard to imagine, but true, that our regiment has been around for half as long as our nation, and has left its marked presence permanently on the pages of our national history.

Set down the champagne bottles for a moment and consider this: in September we will also celebrate the 60th anniversary of the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment's arriving in Vietnam. On the 6th of September, 1966, the USNS Sultan arrived at Vung Tau, followed the next day by the arrival of USNS Upshur on the 7th and by the end of the week, on the 11th of September, the USNS Barrett delivered the last of "The Boat People" to that distant and hostile shore. Sixty years, since the 11th arrived in Vietnam in force, which incidentally will coincide with the closing day of our 41st reunion in Orlando.

Significant dates – all of the above. Now, in our celebratory excitement, in a era of prosperity and relaxation; grateful for the boundless sacrifices of the many warriors who won and kept our freedom, hopefully desirous of ever honoring their memories and celebrating their triumphs, we need to stand and salute those who strove to embody that undefinable spirit of America in our daily lives.

General Donn Starry, the 41st Colonel of our Regiment, during his address to a graduating class at West Point in trying to define that "spirit," reflected upon the character of the men he served with and commanded in Vietnam. He told the cadets that he served with men of character who were "capable of leading other men to victory in battle." He told them in searching for the definition of the "American spirit" you have to begin looking for that "essential character that shines through; through our individual and collective mediocrity and human frailties often enough and strong enough to make it worth noting, and worth seeking after ... the ingredients of this character – the larger legacy left us by these men ... they include discipline, loyalty, integrity and comradeship."

Still, we find it hard to define that spirit; the spirit of America that those veterans of our war like experience personified. Each list we draw up, is suspect or lacking some virtue, some quality, we are unable to define. Even in a Ken Burns tele-production of the many characters that have graced our history for the past 60 years, the past 125 years, the past 250 years, we can't settle on a definition. That spirit of America that General Starry tried to explain to the cadet graduating class, that spirit of America that Bret Baier talks about in his book about Teddy Roosevelt, that spirit of America that Ken Burns tries to capture on the TV screen, that spirit of America that you carried with you to Vietnam and now, practice in your daily lives; cannot fully explain what is embedded in you and your fellow veterans. You are and were always characters. Over there, and now here at home, your growth in character have embellished the definition of the American Spirit.

As chaplain of the 11th ACVVC, over ten years now, and for a field chaplain a year in Vietnam, I have gotten to know firsthand of the character of the men I served with in the field and in the more relaxed environment back here at home. I saw those characteristics and felt them firsthand in the mud -- in the jungle; riding on the back of a track, dismounted at an NDP, transported by helicopter or jeep from one Troop to another; bunking at firebases or sharing rations (yes, and beer) behind an RPG screen. Here at home and especially at our reunions, at the gatherings at The Wall on the National Mall, at the Tomb or walking the rows of headstones in Arlington Cemetery, and walking the streets in our communities in the United States, I am still honored to walk with my regimental fraternity of characters. But even in faraway places, like Krakow, Poland, or Quebec, Canada, I have heard the shout echoing down the streets, as one of our troopers, recognizing my hat or 11th Cav emblazoned jacket shout "Blackhorse" or "Allons." You make me smile, you men of character that I meet or talk to almost every day.

And also, nearly every day, I read about and recognize that loyalty, comradeship, attention to duty, pride and self-reliance that embodies the spirit of America when I search for an obituary of one of our brothers who has recently fallen. Now, 60 years later here at home, I marvel as I read of their lifetime of daily attention to their fellowman, their families their duties, their country – few quit serving once they came home.

Though I still can't define that spirit of America, I will never be able to write well about it; I don't have a long enough pencil. But in you, the veterans of the 11th Armored Cavalry that I meet almost daily, in the obituaries that list the fantastic accomplishments and faithful community service of our brothers moving on to Fiddlers Green, in the young lads (and lassies) at Fort Irwin who will, and are willing to defend us in battle and continue wearing their spurs and Stetsons, I can see (though I can't define) that polychromatic brilliance of the American Spirit ... and I thank our God for the privilege of being born in America.

Chaplain Bill



Fiddler's Green

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

Over 500 U.S. newspapers are checked daily for the keywords "11th Cavalry" or "11th Armored Cavalry". Information is then posted on our website to allow us to post notices.

Please check the "Funeral Honor Guard, Please check daily" at www.11thcavnam.com

Name	Unit / Dates	Fiddler's Green	Home Town
Adams, Raymond C.	HHT Regt, 67-68	August 8, 2023	Boulder Creek, CA
Amen, Harvey J.	A Troop 1/11, 69-69	November 7, 2025	Naples, FL
Anderson, James M.	B Troop 1/11, 66-66	November 6, 2025	La Rue, OH
Armstrong, William E.	A Troop 1/11, 67-68	October 9, 2021	Michigan City, IN
Bair, Gary L.	M Company 3/11, 67-68	April 18, 2023	Point Marion, PA
Bakley, Stanley C.	398th Transportation Det, 70-70	July 17, 2021	Rensselaer, IN
Barber, Gus W.	I Troop 3/11, 68-69	August 31, 2023	Soddy Daisy, TN
Bashaw, Kenneth W.	506th Supply & Services Co, 67-68	November 30, 2021	New Baltimore, MI
Bathe, Bill	C Troop 1/11, 69-70	July 1, 2025	Waianae, HI
Baxter, Randolph	HHT 1/11, 69-70	July 31, 2023	Akron, OH
Behrend, Steven W.	Howitzer Btry 3/11, 68-69 & I Troop 3/11, 68	March 23, 2023	Neenah, WI
Bentley, William L.	L Troop 3/11, 69-70	June 8, 2023	Townsend, MT
Blue, David L.	HHT 2/11, 70-71	February 12, 2022	Alexandria, IN
Bolton, Paul J.	HHT 1/11, 68-69 & HHT Regt, 69	September 23, 2022	Miami, FL
Borum, William S.	M Company 3/11, 67-68	March 31, 2023	New Baltimore, MI
Boyd, Gordon L.	I Troop 3/11, 70-71 & HHT Regt 70-71	May 7, 2023	Bristol, TN
Brown, Michael G.	C Troop 1/11, 68-69	January 26, 2025	Richmond, VA
Burk, Wesley C.	Air Cavalry Troop, 69-71	December 10, 2025	Hayden Lake, ID
Burns, Ralph W.	HHT 3/11, 68-69	July 5, 2021	Salem, NE
Butcher, Phillip A.	G Troop 2/11, 71-72 & HHT 2/11 71-72	October 26, 2025	Red Bank, NJ
Byrnes JR, Robert C.	HHT 3/11, 68-69	November 8, 2025	Alexandria, VA
Cavanagh, Michael J.	HHT Regt, 67-69	September 15, 2025	Amesbury, MA
Chambliss, Harry T.	F Troop 2/11, 68-69	December 11, 2023	Bolingbroke, GA
Chappell, Ronald E.	HHT 2/11, 70-71	December 21, 2025	Hertford, NC
Charles, Gale A.	C Troop 1/11, 67-68 & HHT 1/11, 67-68	April 16, 2022	Richland, WA
Chavis, Larry R.	541st Military Intelligence Det, 69-69	November 19, 2022	Lumberton, NC
Childers, John H.	F Troop 2/11, 71-71	October 6, 2022	Cloquet, MN
Chimera, Russell A.	398th Transportation Det, 68-69	January 29, 2021	Rochester, NY
Cornelius, Calvin V.	B Troop 1/11, 66-68	July 24, 2021	Cameron, NC
Cottle, Richard W.	F Troop 2/11, 68-69	February 15, 2023	Pickford, MI
Covert, Donald R.	I Troop 3/11, 70-70	August 10, 2021	Glendale, AZ
Cranford, Thomas	L Troop 3/11, 68-69 & HHT 3/11, 68-69	April 6, 2022	Pleasant View, TN
Crittlinger, Clifford A.	Howitzer Btry 1/11, 67-68	August 23, 2022	Colorado Springs, CO
De Simone, Alan W.	HHT Regt, 68-69	April 16, 2023	North Lauderdale, FL
Deets, Laurence A.	HHT 1/11, 66-67	February 22, 2022	Miami, FL
Delikat, Delwin W.	K Troop 3/11, 69-70	December 14, 2023	Franklin, WI
Dobbins, William F.	Howitzer Btry 2/11, 71-72	March 3, 2022	Powder Springs, GA
Dobbs, John K.	D Company 1/11, 68-68	December 20, 2022	Wind Ridge, PA
Duran, Juan L.	C Troop 1/11, 67-68	June 24, 2023	San Antonio, TX
Ellis, Johnnie R.	D Company 1/11, 67-68	December 27, 2023	New York, NY
Emerson, William K.	I Troop 3/11, 69-70	December 11, 2025	Minneapolis, MN
Engelman, Richard B.	K Troop 3/11, 68-69	January 22, 2026	Sweet Valley, PA
Evans, James E.	L Troop 3/11, 69-70	October 17, 2022	Tad, WV
Eveland, Dennis L.	506th Supply & Services Co, 66-67	March 28, 2025	Vine Grove, KY
Felton JR, Robert J.	B Troop 1/11, 68-68 & HHT Regt 68	November 14, 2025	Simpsonville, SC
Finkbiner, Glenn G.	HHT Regt, 68-69	December 12, 2021	Montgomery, TX
Fisette, Wayne A.	HHT 1/11, 69-69 & D Company 1/11 69	November 27, 2023	Auburndale, FL
Forrester, Larry K.	HHT 3/11, 69-70	November 17, 2025	Roodhouse, IL
Fugate, Joe E.	K Troop 3/11, 69-69 & HHT 3/11, 69	April 22, 2022	Greenbrier, TN
Fuller, David L.	B Troop 1/11, 70-71	October 18, 2021	Westfield, NY
Furman, Richard F.	G Troop 2/11, 71-72	October 30, 2025	New London, WI
Garcia, Alexander	541st Military Intelligence Det, 68-69	January 5, 2022	Muleshoe, TX
Gatewood, Henry A.	919th Engineer Co, 69-70	November 6, 2025	Parsons, KS

Name	Unit / Dates	Fiddler's Green	Home Town
Geasland, David L.	C Troop 1/11, 68-68	July 15, 2021	Cisco, TX
Gilbert, William L.	F Troop 2/11, 67-68	May 6, 2022	Noble, OK
Goodner, Quintin J.	Howitzer Btry 3/11, 67-68	January 8, 2026	Beverly Hills, FL
Haines SR, William H.	E Troop 2/11, 66-67	December 1, 2021	Florissant, MO
Haley, Jackie L.	37th Medical Co, 69-69 & HHT 3/11, 68-69	January 8, 2023	Amarillo, TX
Hampton, James C.	F Troop 2/11, 69-69	November 11, 2025	Lometa, TX
Hargrove, Stanley T.	E Troop 2/11, 68-69	August 24, 2021	Paducah, KY
Harris, Bennie E.	HHT Regt, 69-70	September 11, 2022	Hillsville, VA
Harris, William K.	HHT 3/11, 69-70 & HHT Regt, 69	July 23, 2023	Warrenton, VA
Harris, William T.	541st Military Intelligence Det, 67-68	March 6, 2021	Williamsburg, VA
Harter, Joseph D.	409th Radio Research Det, 68-69	June 11, 2025	Orange Park, FL
Hawroniak Sr, Stephen M.	M Company 3/11, 68-70	April 27, 2023	Garfield, NJ
Henson, Billy D.	A Troop 1/11, 67-67 & HHT Regt 67-68	October 31, 2023	Farmington, MO
Hersha, Robert J.	HHT 2/11, 70-71	August 2, 2021	Mishawaka, IN
Highman, Daryl R.	HHT 3/11, 67-68	December 21, 2023	Senecaville, OH
Hildebrand, Bruce E.	541st Military Intelligence Det, 69-70	September 15, 2023	Dayton, OH
Hilferty, Joseph B.	27th Engineer Bn, 66-67	January 28, 2021	Philadelphia, PA
Hopper, Danny D.	Howitzer Btry 1/11, 68-69	October 26, 2023	Eclectic, AL
Hughes, Guy R.	HHT Regt, 67-68	October 3, 2022	Russellville, AL
Hyland, Jerry L.	H Company 2/11, 69-70	November 26, 2023	Findlay, IL
Jacoba SR, Dennis R.	HHT Regt, 66-67	November 29, 2025	Lincoln, NE
Kayler, Edward	B Troop 1/11, 70-71	February 7, 2022	Springboro, OH
Kekel, Jerome E.	F Troop 2/11, 69-70	October 8, 2023	Frankfort, MI
Kopp, Lawrence F.	541st Military Intelligence Det, 67-68	February 24, 2023	Canal Fulton, OH
Kweder, Keith K.	Howitzer Btry 1/11, 68-69	June 15, 2022	Lake Worth, FL
Kwecinski, Paul W.	HHT 1/11, 70-71	August 18, 2021	Stanley, NY
Labrecque, Simon J.	919th Engineer Co, 68-68	2023	Yuma, AZ
Lafranchi, Melvin L.	C Troop 1/11, 69-70	September 4, 2021	Petaluma, CA
Liggins, Alfred J.	HHT 2/11, 70-71	August 6, 2023	Trumbull, CT
Liverett, Thomas E.	A Troop 1/11, 67-67	May 3, 2023	Canton, OH
Mang, Michael R.	17th Public Information Det, 69-70	August 7, 2023	Canton, OH
Mathias, Terry D.	K Troop 3/11, 69-70	September 19, 2021	Marion, IN
Mauck, Gary P.	HHT Regt, 68-69	November 20, 2021	Austin, TX
Mcfarlane, William A.	G Troop 2/11, 68-69	November 29, 2023	Ypsilanti, MI
Mcgee, Tommy G.	C Troop 1/11, 66-67	August 22, 2023	Madera, CA
Mezera, David C.	G Troop 2/11, 67-68	July 23, 2021	Brookpark, OH
Michaels, Paul S.	398th Transportation Det, 70-71	May 2, 2023	De Pere, WI
Mollenkopf, James E.	L Troop 3/11, 68-69	November 16, 2025	North Lima, OH
Moore JR, Earl F	Air Cavalry Troop, 68-69	December 3, 2025	Manhattan, KS
Moore, Linden F.	B Troop 1/11, 69-70	July 18, 2023	Mullin, TX
Morse, Alan K.	HHT 3/11, 68-68	January 15, 2023	Lewis Center, OH
Mousch, Earl F.	K Troop 3/11, 68-70 & HHT Regt 68-70	August 24, 2023	Meriden, CT
Mueller III, Ernest C.	G Troop 2/11, 69-70 & HHT 2/11, 71	October 31, 2021	Lake Jackson, TX
Munoz, Jose J.	A Troop 1/11, 69-70 & I Troop 3/11, 69	September 28, 2022	Santa Ana, CA
Mustain, Olen W.	Howitzer Btry 2/11, 71-72	January 1, 2023	Salida, CO
Nichelson, David R.	F Troop 2/11, 67-68	September 11, 2023	Turlock, CA
O'farrell, Michael S.	M Company 3/11, 66-67	July 18, 2022	Cantonment, FL
Owen, Arthur C.	HHT 2/11, 69-70 & H Company 2/11, 69	February 28, 2023	Welch, MN
Owen, Ronald E.	HHT 2/11, 69-70	February 28, 2023	Suquamish, WA
Owens, Alden E.	HHT 2/11, 67-68	September 25, 2025	Honey Brook, PA
Padovano, Joseph	A Troop 1/11, 67-68	August 15, 2021	Union City, NJ
Pawlaski JR, Stanley M.	HHT 3/11, 66-67	October 11, 2025	Mount Prospect, IL
Pender, Johnny B.	G Troop 2/11, 66-67	September 1, 2023	Franklinton, NC
Pennington, James F.	K Troop 3/11, 66-67	October 26, 2022	Sanford, FL
Peterson, Charles S.	B Troop 1/11, 70-71	May 26, 2023	Shenandoah, IA
Porter, Howard E.	K Troop 3/11, 68-68	October 11, 2025	Interlaken, NY
Posak, Nicholas	I Troop 3/11, 69-69	October 14, 2025	Saint Clair, MI
Pritchard, Dennis L.	L Troop 3/11, 70-71	July 21, 2025	Springville, NY
Quinlivan, John F.	HHT Regt, 67-68 & HHT 3/11, 68	September 16, 2021	Fountain, CO
Randazzo, Diego J.	HHT 3/11, 68-69	October 21, 2025	Belleair Beach, FL
Rayfield, Wendell P.	398th Transport Det, 69-70 & HHT Regt, 69-70	January 4, 2022	Weogufka, AL
Renkema, Marvin W.	HHT 3/11, 66-67	July 21, 2021	West Olive, MI
Resty, Walter	H Company 2/11, 67-68	March 15, 2023	Monroe, NY
Ries, Jack	B Troop 1/11, 66-67	July 25, 2021	Grasonville, MD

Name	Unit / Dates	Fiddler's Green	Home Town
Robertson, Larry P.	919th Engineer Co, 71-72	September 23, 2022	Wharton, TX
Robertson, Randall	G Troop 2/11, 71-72	August 9, 2021	Houston, TX
Rossiter, Woodrow T.	HHT 2/11, 69-70	March 5, 2021	Woodbury, NJ
Roy, Morris K.	M Company 3/11, 69-71	November 24, 2021	Russell Springs, KY
Sabolewski, Bennie D.	919th Engineer Co, 69-70	July 11, 2023	Clifton, NJ
Sakimura, Ronald K.	HHT 2/11, 69-69	September 9, 2021	Honolulu, HI
Sanders JR, Harold J.	L Troop 3/11, 70-71	December 21, 2022	Columbia, SC
Sannes, Lyle C.	HHT 1/11, 69-70	October 6, 2025	Arcadia, MI
Sawyer, James W.	M Company 3/11, 70-70 & I Troop 3/11, 70	August 23, 2022	Middleton, ID
Schenk, Ralph R.	Howitzer Btry 1/11, 68-69	December 3, 2023	Hastings, PA
Schipma, James S.	M Company 3/11, 69-70	August 17, 2025	Aurora, IL
Schurtz, Gerald P.	HHT Regt, 67-67 & HHT 1/11, 67-68	November 11, 2023	Las Cruces, NM
Sentipol, Steven G.	I Troop 3/11, 67-68	November 20, 2021	Somerville, NJ
Sherman, Porter C.	HHT 3/11, 68-69	July 28, 2022	South Haven, MI
Shireman, Dennis H.	HHT 3/11, 69-70	January 31, 2022	Marietta, PA
Sinclair, Robert B.	L Troop 3/11, 67-68 & HHT 3/11 67-68	February 6, 2025	Ft Oglethorpe, GA
Slater JR, Joseph F.	M Company 3/11, 66-67	December 22, 2023	Harleysville, PA
Snell JR, Isaac B.	Howitzer Btry 3/11, 69-70	August 17, 2023	Ozark, AL
Snyder, John L.	F Troop 2/11, 70-71	November 26, 2021	Sanford, MI
Stagliano SR, David J.	HHT 2/11, 67-68	September 20, 2021	West Norriton, PA
Stastny, Thomas F.	L Troop 3/11, 67-68	July 16, 2022	Kissimmee, FL
Stephenson, Ronald A.	HHT 2/11, 70-71	October 27, 2021	Evansville, IN
Stewart, Randal A.	409th Radio Research Det, 70-71	January 21, 2022	Pueblo, CO
Stock JR, Cletus J.	M Company 3/11, 69-70 & K Troop 3/11, 69-70	October 12, 2022	Lexington, SC
Stringer, Sherman	Air Cavalry Troop, 70-71	January 26, 2023	North Las Vegas, NV
Suckow, Dennis K.	F Troop 2/11, 68-69	July 21, 2022	Oconomowoc, WI
Sullivan, Michael L.	Howitzer Btry 2/11, 70-71	December 27, 2025	King Of Prussia, PA
Sutherland, Barry L.	I Troop 3/11, 68-69	December 11, 2025	Brinkhaven, OH
Swiatlowski, Thomas J.	Howitzer Btry 3/11, 68-69	June 3, 2023	Gilbertville, MA
Taglianetti, Philip C.	I Troop 3/11, 67-68	January 5, 2022	Edison, NJ
Tarity, Richard C.	C Troop 1/11, 70-70	January 16, 2022	Levittown, PA
Telenko, George J.	HHT Regt, 69-70 & HHT 1/11, 70	June 16, 2022	Dallas, TX
Telesco, Samuel F.	Air Cavalry Troop, 69-70	November 27, 2023	Lake View, NY
Thompson, James M.	B Troop 1/11, 66-67	December 15, 2025	Warren, OH
Thornburg, Lynn T.	F Troop 2/11, 67-68 & Air Cavalry Troop, 67	January 12, 2026	Hot Springs, AR
Thurstin JR, Gerald F.	G Troop 2/11, 68-69	April 7, 2023	Saint Paul, MN
Tilton, Edward G.	13th Artillery, 66-67	February 19, 2023	Sierra Vista, AZ
Torno, Charles M.	G Troop 2/11, 70-71	July 8, 2022	Lebanon, ME
Trahan, Vernon C.	HHT 2/11, 71-72	December 15, 2023	Kempner, TX
Trentman, Harry J.	Howitzer Btry 1/11, 69-70	August 24, 2022	Lake Tapps, WA
Trevino, Natividad A.	H Company 2/11, 68-69	June 2, 2022	Houston, TX
Tyson, Phillip C.	9th Signal Det, 68-68	June 8, 2021	Canton, GA
Uecker, John R.	C Troop 1/11, 66-67	March 19, 2022	Conover, WI
Voss, Alvin F.	K Troop 3/11, 69-70	October 22, 2023	Fairchild, WI
Walke, Michael E.	17th Public Information Det, 67-68	August 12, 2023	Waconia, MN
Walker, Glen L.	HHT 2/11, 70-71	April 11, 2023	Hammond, LA
Wallen, Harry R.	A Troop 1/11, 68-68, & D Company 1/11, 68-69	October 11, 2021	Farmington, MO
Ward JR, Charles T.	L Troop 3/11, 70-71	July 29, 2023	Berlin, MD
West, Bobby R.	B Troop 1/11, 69-69	July 24, 2023	Medon, TN
Wheeler, Richard C.	M Company 3/11, 66-67	November 25, 2024	Trinity, TX
Williams, Harry F.	L Troop 3/11, 69-70 & HHT 3/11, 68-69	November 23, 2025	Nederland, TX
Williams JR, Jessie M.	F Troop 2/11, 67-68	July 6, 2022	Nicholasville, KY
Williams, Michael P.	HHT Regt, 66-67	November 18, 2021	Kalamazoo, MI
Williamson, Gerald R.	D Company 1/11, 68-69	January 10, 2026	The Villages, FL
Wilson, Stephen G.	E Troop 2/11, 68-68	February 24, 2023	Shelton, CT
Wood, Fred C.	E Troop 2/11, 68-69	October 9, 2022	Crestview, FL
Wood, Loren D.	I Troop 3/11, 66-67	November 13, 2023	Louisville, KY
Woodman, Charles S.	D Company 1/11, 67-68	September 2, 2023	Springville, CA
Woods, Robert E.	K Troop 3/11, 66-67	September 3, 2021	Halethorpe, MD
Wooton, Roger D.	919th Engineer Co, 69-70	November 11, 2022	Hazard, KY
Wortmann, James A.	D Company 1/11, 66-67	December 18, 2025	Wentzville, MO
Zeman, Erwin G.	919th Engineer Co, 68-69	March 9, 2023	Michigan City, IN



Blackhorse Women's Group News

Sheryl Myers, Women's Group 1st Edition 2026

Dear Ladies of the Blackhorse,

We certainly have been thinking of all of you, as this winter has not been kind to so many of our members.

We are looking forward to spending time with you all in Orlando, FL.

The Blackhorse Women's Group will not be offering a "tour" at the reunion this year, but we will, hopefully, have an entertaining Women's Group meeting on Saturday morning of reunion week. Please plan on joining us.

If you would like to volunteer in supporting any of the following BWG's projects in 2025, please contact Marguerite, or myself:

Cherry's Prayer Shawl Project

**Knitting or crocheting prayer shawls for spouses (or Troopers), whose spouse has passed.*

** Donating to the postage fund to mail the shawls.*

Our Fundraising Table at the Reunion

** Proceeds from the sale of site-specific Lanyards are donated to the 11th ACVVC Scholarship Fund.*

** Volunteers help in 2 hour shifts on Wednesday, Thursday & Friday of reunion week.*

Remembering our KIA's

** If you have the opportunity to honor a KIA 11th ACR Trooper in your state or during your travels, please send a picture of his memorial marker to Allen Hathaway or myself. We will see that it is added to the "Remembering 11th ACR KIA's Scrapbook", which is posted on the Blackhorse Women's Group website at: 11thcavnam.com.*

Thank You for all the support you have offered in the past. See you in Orlando!!

Sheryl Myers -sheryl.e.myers@gmail.com or 571-721-9189

Marguerite Austin - mardale@charter.net or 320-212-1068

A Daughter's Note to Her Dad on Veterans Day

Like too many Americans, I let Friday pass. I let it pass in a frenzy of Friday activities; I paid my bills, I did some shopping online for early Christmas gifts, I ran to the pharmacy, and I planned dinner for my family. And I forgot that Friday was Veterans Day.

And it felt so important to me that I come here this morning – where I knew the most important veteran in my life would be – and remember.

Some people get lost in the sea of holidays on the calendar for Veterans and men of war – we celebrate Memorial Day, D-Day, Patriot's Day, and even the Fourth of July is, through the celebration of our country, a remembrance of soldiers who made the American dream possible. But I think Veterans Day particularly is a remembrance not of our freedom, but of the cost that freedom paid by the men who have fought for this country. I can remember from the time I was young hearing sweet tales of my father's days in the military – the men who used to call him “water on the rocks” Simmers, friendly teasing about his very strong and honorable ideals; about the dog that wandered into their camp and became a sort of mascot, though I can't remember his name; seeing pictures of my dad through the years in his floppy army hat, a relic that has somehow survived the decades. I am so glad for the stories that he shares, the things that he can say out loud, that let me piece together his past. But today we remember what Veterans can't say, what they can't bear to pass on to their children – the images of war, losing a comrade in battle, a face to face with the enemy, and – in the case of my father and so many other veterans of the Vietnam War – coming home to a country that had forgotten how much these men deserved to be honored.

That is why I am here this morning – so that my father and grandfather will know that I am not part of a nation that forgot them on Veterans Day.

I propose that every day be Veterans Day. Every week we walk down the street and don't see a tank or a man in military fatigues with a machine gun, every day that we freely choose to either praise or criticize the leader of our nation without fear of retribution, every day that we pray to God, and gather to worship peacefully – each of these days, in some way, belongs to our Veterans. So, let's at least not let today pass without offering the gratitude these men richly deserve.

I love you, Dad!

Val

(Editor's note: The note above was written by Valerie Martin, the daughter of Rosemary and Vincent Simmers. Rosemary explained that it was written before Vince passed away June 6, 2022. Val's grandfather was William Earl Simmers who was in the Army Air Corps in World War II. I had the pleasure of meeting Vince and Rosemary at previous reunions and enjoyed their company. Both Rosemary and Valerie attended the 2023 reunion in Grand Rapids, Michigan.)

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



#1 Allons Patch -
3" x 2" inches
\$5.00



#2 11th Armored Cavalry Patch
3" x 2" \$5.00



#10 Small Blackhorse Magnet
\$6.00

#26 Large Blackhorse Magnet
7 X 8 1/2" \$12.00



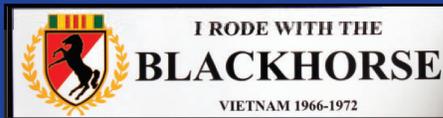
#28 Blackhorse Logo
Sticker 2" X 2.5" with
adhesive on back" \$2.00



#55 4" Vietnam
Cambodia Patch
\$5.00



#35 Allons
Decal \$3.00



#3 Bumper Sticker \$3.00



#19 Blackhorse Cavalry Pin \$6.50



#4 Window
Sticker \$3.00



#18 11th ACR
Regimental Crest
\$7.00



#32 Coffee Mug
\$10.00



#17 Blackhorse Pin
\$5.00



#20 Vietnam
Blackhorse Pin,
Wreath \$5.00



#7 Blackhorse Patch
Colored \$5.00



#54 Flag Pin
\$6.50



#44 Vietnam Veteran
Cavalry Pin \$5.00

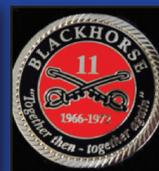
45. Blackhorse
Bone Lock Back
Folding Knife \$28.00



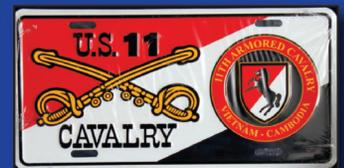
#11 Flag, Indoor/Outdoor \$60.00



#25 Blackhorse Coin \$15.00



#22 Shotgun
shot glass
\$4.00



#13 License Plate, Blackhorse \$9.00

#46 Blackhorse
Saber \$89.00



#8 Metal Crest on
Leather Key Tag
\$8.00

#52 BLACKHORSE
4" US Tracker Folder
Knife



#29 Travel Mug
\$20.00



#14 License Plate Frame,
Black w/white letters \$5.00



#56 Leatherette
Koozie
(Black or Red)
\$7.00



#12 Vinage Blackhorse Coin
\$10.00



#15 Leatherette
Coaster 4" Rawhide
Coaster \$4.00

The Quartermaster Store is now on line at: 11thcavnam.com



#38 Poplin Hat \$18.00



#48 Bucket Boonie Hat \$18.00



#6 Knit Cap \$18.00



#43 Outdoor Wide Brim Hat \$25.00



#23 Grey Vietnam Outdoor Cap \$18.00



#58 Distressed Military Cap \$18.50



#9 Trucker Cap Black and Charcoal \$18.00



#31 Blackhorse Pigment Print Camouflage Cap \$18.00



#16 Blackhorse Pigment Print Distressed Cap \$18.00



#47 11th Cavalry Cap \$18.50



#30 Blackhorse ACR Cap \$18.00

#9 Trucker Cap Mesh Back, Black and Charcoal \$18.00



#34 Full Zip Sweat Shirt \$30.00



#49 Dry Zone Grid Polo \$30.00



#27 Eddie Bauer Polo \$32.00

#51 Lightweight Wind Jacket \$94.00



#33 Heavy Blend hooded sweatshirt \$28.00



#21 Port Authority Soft Shell Jacket \$52.00



#24 Blackhorse Fleece Vest \$29.00



#36 Black Cotton T-Shirt S-M-L-XL- \$20.00 2XL- \$22.00 3XL- \$23.00



#33 Heavy Blend hooded sweatshirt \$28.00



#50 Ladies Jersey Knit Cardigan \$40.00



#37 Gray Cotton T-Shirt S-M-L-XL- \$20.00 2XL- \$22.00 3XL- \$23.00



#51 Lightweight Wind Jacket \$34.00



#39-#40 T-shirt, Light Gray and Green Gildan ultra cotton with full color insignia \$20.00



#5 Hoodie Sweat Shirt \$30.00



#41 & 42 Dark Denim Shirt Available in Long and Short Sleeve





Quartermaster

ORDER FORM | 1st Edition 2026

ARMORED CAVALRY'S VETERANS OF VIETNAM AND CAMBODIA

Item No.	Product Description	\$ Amt	Size	Qty	\$ Total
1.	Allons Patch	5.00			
2.	11th Armored Cavalry Patch	5.00			
3.	Bumper Sticker "I Rode With the Blackhorse" w/ full color BH insignia	3.00			
4.	Window Sticker, full color BH insignia and Vietnam service ribbon	3.00			
5.	Full Zip Hooded Sweatshirt	30.00			
6.	Knit Cap - Black and Grey	18.00			
7.	Full Color Shoulder Patch	5.00			
8.	Metal Crest on Leather Key Tag	8.00			
9.	Trucker Cap Mesh Back, Black and Charcoal.....	18.00			
10.	Small Blackhorse Magnet	6.00			
11.	Flag, indoor/outdoor 3'x5' with color insignia	60.00			
12.	Vintage Blackhorse Coin 1966-1972.....	10.00			
13.	License Plate, metal red & white background with crossed sabers & 11.....	9.00			
14.	License Plate Frame, metal, black w/Blackhorse 11th US Cavalry in white	5.00			
15.	Leatherette Coaster - 4".....	4.00			
16.	Blackhorse Pigment Print Distressed Cap.....	18.00			
17.	Blackhorse Pin.....	5.00			
18.	Allons Unit Crest	7.00			
19.	Blackhorse Regimental Pin - 11 over cross sabers.....	6.50			
20.	Vietnam Blackhorse Pin - With Vietnam Wreath	5.00			
21.	Port Authority Soft Shell Jacket	52.00			
22.	Shotgun Shot Glass	4.00			
23.	Grey Vietnam Outdoor Cap.....	18.00			
24.	Blackhorse Fleece Vest.....	29.00			
25.	Blackhorse Coin	15.00			
26.	Large Blackhorse Magnet (7" x 8.5")	12.00			
27.	Eddie Bauer Polo	32.00			
28.	Blackhorse Logo Sticker - 2" X 2.5" with adhesive on back	2.00			
29.	Travel Mug	20.00			
30.	Blackhorse ACR Cap.....	18.00			
31.	Blackhorse Pigment Print Camouflage Cap.....	18.00			
32.	Coffee Mug	10.00			
33.	Heavy Blend Hooded Sweatshirt	28.00			
34.	Full Zip Sweatshirt	30.00			
35.	Allons Decal	3.00			
36.	Black Cotton T-shirt.....	S-XL- 20.00 2XL- 22.00 3XL- 23.00			
37.	Grey Cotton T-shirt.....	S-XL- 20.00 2XL- 22.00 3XL- 23.00			
38.	Hat, Poplin adjustable.....	18.00			
39.	Blackhorse T-shirt, 100% cotton, preshrunk, full color BH insignia. GREEN.....	20.00			
40.	Blackhorse T-shirt, 100% cotton, preshrunk, full color BH insignia. GRAY.....	20.00			
41.	Dark denim shirt - men's short sleeve.....	35.00			
42.	Dark denim shirt- men's long sleeve.....	35.00			
43.	Outdoor Wide Brim Hat <input type="checkbox"/> S/M <input type="checkbox"/> L/XL.....	25.00			
44.	Vietnam Veteran Cavalry Pin.....	5.00			
45.	Blackhorse Bone Lock Back Folding Knife	28.00			
46.	Blackhorse Saber.....	89.00			
47.	11th Calvary Cap	18.50			
48.	Bucket Boonie Hat (S/M or L/XL)	18.00			
49.	Dry Zone Grid Polo	30.00			
50.	Ladies Jersey Knit Cardigan	40.00			
51.	Lightweight Wind Jacket	34.00			
52.	BLACKHORSE 4" US Tracker Folder Knife.....	22.00			
54.	Flag pin.....	6.50			
55.	4" Vietnam Cambodia Patch.....	5.00			
56.	Leatherette Koozie (Black or Red).....	7.00			
58.	Distressed Military Cap.....	18.50			

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

Shipping and Handling
Total

Shipping Costs: (Includes multiple items)

- A) \$3.00 — \$5.00 = \$3.00 C) \$10.00 — \$35.00 = \$15.00 Gear Bag Only = \$25.00
- B) \$6.00 — \$10.00 = \$9.00 D) \$36.00 and up = \$20.00 Gear Bags with other items = \$28.00

Visa Mastercard Card # _____ Exp. Date _____ CVC Code _____

Signature _____

* If paying by check, please write your drivers license number on the check.

*Name _____ Phone _____

*Address _____ Email _____

*City/State/Zip _____

Check if address change

Please include the largest of chosen items S/H costs with your order. Checks or Money Orders should be made payable to **Finish Line Awards**.
ALL PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE. Previous price lists are invalid. Mail order to: **11th ACVVC QM, c/o Finish Line Awards, P.O. Box 475, Wellington, CO 80549**

* Required info to process your order



11ACVVC
13194 Rettew Dr.
Manassas, VA 20112-7800

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 Cleveland, OH
 Permit No.1056

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Letter From A GI

I am a GI serving in the Vietnam war, and I am very upset about the way people are acting back home. We are all over here to do a job that none of us like to do. We are over here, some by choice, some by fate. And I believe I can speak for most men over here when I say we do belong here. Not one of us wants to have to fight these Reds on our own soil. If we don't stop them over here and prove to them we are not just going to stand by and watch as they take over the world they will try to take the world.

I believe that we have spent too much time, money, and most of all American lives to quit this war until we have won. If the Army could fight aggressively and

push over the DMZ, we could win this war in short order. Until we are allowed to fight this war that way, we will continue to lose men without really winning. It will turn into another Korea. We would like to escalate the war to either win or bring the Reds to the conference tables on our terms.

We need the support of the people back home. With more moral support we could believe that the people at home wanted this war won as badly as we want to win it. All these protesters want to live in a free country where they can do as they wish.

SP-4 WILLIAM M. DURHAM,
 11th Armored Cav. Regt.,
 APO, San Francisco.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Message	1	11th ACVVC Donations	19-22
Elections.....	3	Chaplain's Corner	23
Scholarship News	6	Fiddler's Green	24-26
2026 Silent Auction	10	Blackhorse Women's News	27
Blackhorse Hoofbeats	12-13	QM Store	29-30
VSO Information	14	QM Order Form	31
2026 Reunion Schedule	16		



Posted www.11thcavnam.com Obituaries

