



# Thunder Run

Vol. 31 – NO. 3

“Together Then – Together Again”

3rd Quarter, 2016

## The 11th Armored Cavalry’s Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia Memorial Day 2016

### Standing Tall

*Blandin W. Karabinos  
2/11th ACR, Vietnam (71-72)*

For thirty years Blackhorse troopers have stood at The Wall.

Not every day or every month, but know they have been there at least twice each year. Many, multiple times. They have come in tour groups and with family members or alone, and twice a year they have gathered with their fellow veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia.

I have been there, like so many others, every year since it was built. I sat with my seven-year-old son and wife, three rows deep in 1984 when President Reagan dedicated the statue of the Three Grunts. He said then: *“this monument reflects as a mirror reflects, so that when you find the name you’re searching for you find in it your own reflection. And as you touch it, from certain angles, you’re touching too, the reflection of the Washington Monument or the chair in which great Abe Lincoln sits ... it is good that we do it in the reflected glow of the enduring symbols of our Republic.”*

**As of now there are over 58,270 names etched on those black marble panels ... more will be added, even though the war ended near 50 years ago.**

I have seen it the morning sun and in the fading gloom; I’ve made the first footprints in the fresh snow and got soaked in drenching rains. I walked there under cherry blossoms or dodged golden leaves falling in torrents. Makes “no-never-mind” – my focus has always been to see and touch the names.



Troopers honoring Troopers

At the Vietnam Veterans Memorial for our annual Memorial Day wreath laying, the weather was perfect and the rain held off.

It is estimated that 29 Blackhorse troopers, including 3 active duty who served in Iraq with the 11th ACR were in attendance. There were an equal number of family members and friends as well. A total of well over 60 people in all. We remembered the 21 fallen troopers from OIF. This year marks 50 years since the 11th ACR was deployed to Vietnam.

Chaplain Bill Karabinos printed a brochure that paid tribute to the first Blackhorse casualty, John R. Pierce, and the 19 who were lost in 1966.

Thanks again to Don Snedeker for the work on the beautiful wreath. Blackhorse troopers have been gathering every Veterans Day and Memorial Day since 1986 to pay tribute to the 730 fallen comrades. I know each of you were with us in spirit. Go to <https://www.facebook.com/11thacrvv> for more. ALLONS!

### San Antonio Ready or Not

*Steve Page,  
Director and Reunion Chair*

In just a few short weeks we will descend on San Antonio, TX for our 31st Annual Reunion. Who would have thought that back in 1986 in Arlington Texas with 175 in attendance our reunions would evolve into what we have today? Ollie Pickral had a great vision and brought those Troopers together. The First Reunion had the lowest attendance which

was still a great turnout. Our highest attended reunion with 2000 in attendance was in Louisville KY 1996. After 30 years which was Columbus GA our average attendance is about 1100. Over the past thirty years our registration fee has never been priced over \$95.00 and the average room rate is about \$84.00. All in all, we produce a first class event at a minimal expense to the members.

Please turn to **REUNION** on page 2

Please turn to **THE WALL** on page 4





Allen Hathaway  
President

# From The Command Track

By Allen Hathaway, President



This issue of *Thunder Run* will arrive just a few weeks before the 31st annual reunion in San Antonio, Texas, on August 24-28. This is our second reunion in San Antonio, the first being in 1992. As of this writing (June 24) we are quickly approaching 1,100 people who have registered for the reunion. We expect more by the August 1 registration deadline.

The Grand Hyatt is the main reunion hotel. Located on the world famous River Walk, this area of San Antonio offers many sightseeing opportunities, an abundance of restaurants and ample shopping.

The historic Alamo is located just a few blocks from the Grand Hyatt. Just one block from the Alamo is the Menger Hotel. This was a favorite watering hole for the 11th Cavalry when they were stationed in San Antonio in 1911-1912. Stop in and toast the Blackhorse troopers of yesterday.

We'll be marking the 2016 reunion with three important milestones:

- The 11th Cavalry was stationed at Fort Sam Houston in 1911-1912
- 50 years since the 11th Armored Cavalry arrived in Vietnam in September 1966
- To salute the many medics, doctors and nurses who served in Vietnam with the 11th ACR. All medical personnel trained at Fort Sam Houston. We are encouraging each of the over 350 medics on our mailing list to attend the 2016 reunion.

August 2016 will mark 50 years since the regiment deployed to South Vietnam. It's hard to believe it's been a half century since 3,500 Blackhorse boarded three troop ships and made the journey thus starting the beginning of another chapter in the history of this great regiment. The Blackhorse regiment was the largest separate armored unit in Vietnam. Little did we know, at the time, the regiment would spend 5 ½ years in Vietnam. During that time the

This is our second reunion in San Antonio, the first being in 1992. As of this writing (June 24) we are quickly approaching 1,100 people who have registered for the reunion. We expect more by the August 1 registration deadline.

troopers of the regiment performed magnificently.

Please review the reunion schedule printed in this issue. Veterans, family and friends are encouraged to attend the Veterans Seminar on Friday morning. Medics will be interested in one of two trips to the US Army Medical Museum, also scheduled for Friday.

Greg Mason is heading up the silent auction again this year. Donations of items or "in-kind" services for the auction are always appreciated. Items with an 11th Cavalry theme are always in demand, but any item of value and good taste is welcome. You can bring items with you to the reunion, or you can mail them. Please see the separate article in this issue for the mailing address and donation form. If you plan to mail items, please ensure they are mailed so they arrive prior to August 24.

Tickets for our 24th annual raffle were mailed in June. Mike "Doc" Rafferty is once again heading up this activity. We encourage you to return your ticket stubs to Mike as soon as possible. Tickets are \$1.00 each with the chance to win any one of 15 prizes.

The total prize pool again this year is \$2,500.

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome COL Joseph D. Clark as the 67th Colonel of the Blackhorse Regiment. COL Clark assumed command of the regiment from COL Kevin Jacobi in a change of command ceremony held on June 28, 2016, at Fort Irwin, CA. COL Clark is very familiar with the 11th ACR having served with the regiment at Fort Irwin in 2006-2008.

We would like to thank COL Jacobi for his excellent leadership of the Blackhorse Regiment during the past two years and for the support he and the entire regiment have given to all Blackhorse veterans. We extend our very best wishes to both on their new assignments.

Finally, as always, I ask that you keep our service men and women in your thoughts and prayers. Reach out to those who wear the uniform and contribute daily to the security of our country, offer your hand, and thank them for their selfless service. ALLONS! – It's good to be "Together Again".

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## REUNION from page 1

Reunion planning is a multiyear process. Shortly after you select the 2018 reunion site we will start contract negotiations and securing adequate meeting space. Planning for Orlando FL, September 6-10, 2017 has been in the works since last year and will now go into high gear. Hotel reservation information and the booking code for The Rosen Center will be made available and posted to The Web Site and

Facebook and also in *Thunder Run* as soon as we receive that information. We have secured a room rate of \$99.00 (S/D) per night. There is reunion related work to do every day. It is much more involved than just calling the hotel and telling them we will be there with 1300 guests. We do have the best attended reunions of many Veterans and Active Duty Organizations that are much larger in size.



## 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 four times a year by Finisterre Publishing Incorporated, 3 Black Skimmer Ct., Beaufort, SC 29907 (finisterre@islc.net) for members of the organization. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced in any way without the written consent of the 11th ACVVC.

Thunder Run covers present and future interests of the organization that includes membership and reunion information, various fund raising activities, and other items relative to the membership. Submissions are welcome and encouraged. Correspondence and inquiries concerning *Thunder Run* should be made in writing to: Editor, "Thunder Run," C.E. "Bill" Gregory, Jr., 421 Fallen Leaf Dr., Soddy Daisy, TN 37379-3577.

|                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                       |                                                                                                                                |
|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>President</b>                                    | Allen Hathaway, (HHT Regiment, 66-67)                                                                                                                                | <b>Editor</b>                                         | C.E. 'Bill' Gregory, Jr. (H Co., 2/11, 69-70, HHT, 2/11, 70)                                                                   |
| <b>Membership Chair</b>                             | 13194 Rettew Drive<br>Manassas, VA 20112<br>(703) 791-6610 <11thcav1966@comcast.net>                                                                                 |                                                       | 421 Fallen Leaf Dr.<br>Soddy Daisy, TN 37379-3577<br><Battle46A@epbf.com>                                                      |
| <b>Vice President &amp; Chair Operation Embrace</b> | Peter L. Walter, (How, 3/11, 70)<br>8 Tallowood Dr.<br>Westampton, NJ 08060-3721<br>(609) 261-5629 <basepiece70@verizon.net>                                         | <b>Information Technology/<br/>Ecommerce</b>          | Otis Carey (F Troop, 2/11, 71-72)<br>PO Box 628<br>Leitchfield, KY 42755<br>(270) 828-2512 <Sales@kysales.net>                 |
| <b>Secretary</b>                                    | Gregory R. Mason (HHT 3/11, 68 – 69)<br>4636 W Knights Griffin Road<br>Plant City, FL 33565<br>(813) 754-2980 <gregmason@aol.com>                                    | <b>Assistant Information<br/>Technology/Ecommerce</b> | Paul Gruber (G Troop, 2/11, '68)<br>11047 Tung Grove Rd.<br>Tallahassee, FL 32317<br>(850) 878-8425 <pgruber@polaris.net>      |
| <b>Director &amp; Scholarship Chairman</b>          | Mike "Doc" Rafferty (G Troop, 2/11, 1969-1970)<br>5837 Habanero Dr.<br>Las Cruces, NM 88012<br>(575) 915-2921 <PlatoonMedic36@gmail.com>                             | <b>Website Manager<br/>&amp; Facebook Site</b>        | Robert Kickenweitz (HHT Reg't, 66-67)<br>155 Hickory Tavern Rd<br>Gillette, NJ 07933<br>(908) 803-3455 <bobk11acr@comcast.net> |
| <b>Treasurer</b>                                    | Ollie W. Pickral, (K Troop 3/11, 68-69)<br>571 Ditchley Road<br>Kilmarnock, VA 22482<br>(804) 435-3658 <11cavalry@verizon.net>                                       | <b>Veterans' Information</b>                          | Jack Morrison (A Troop, 1/11, 1967-1969)<br>542 Main St.<br>Rockport, IN 47635<br><slumlord@psci.net>                          |
| <b>Director</b>                                     | Robert "Bob" Moreno (G Troop 2/11, 68-69)<br>24284 Endeavor Ave.<br>Tomah, WI 54660<br>((608) 387-3346 <gtroopbob@gmail.com>                                         | <b>Historian</b>                                      | Don Snedeker<br>2221 Tulip Dr<br>Falls Church, VA 22046<br>(703) 533-1905 (W)<br><Blackhorse4@verizon.net>                     |
| <b>Director &amp; Reunion Committee Chairman</b>    | Stephen R. Page (B Troop, 1/11, 66-67)<br>4201 Ravenwood Dr.<br>Little River, SC 29566<br>(843) 249-5278 <page116667@gmail.com>                                      | <b>Public Affairs</b>                                 | Eric Newton (K Troop 3/11, '68-'69)<br>1037 Bluff Creek Point<br>Strawn, TX 76475<br><armor11ACR@aol.com>>                     |
| <b>Chaplain</b>                                     | Lawrence E. Haworth, (HHT 2/11, 69-70)<br>10000 Rhineland Dr., Unit 209<br>San Antonio, TX 78239-3139<br>(661) 860-0093 (cell) (210) 646-3835<br><lehaworth@aol.com> | <b>Funeral Honor Guard</b>                            | Peter L. Walter (How, 3/11, 70)<br>8 Tallowood Dr.<br>Westampton, NJ 08060-3721<br>(609) 261-5629 <basepiece70@verizon.net>    |
| <b>Auditor</b>                                      | William "Bill" Suhre (I Troop, 3/11 '68)<br>217 83rd Ave<br>Greeley, CO 80634<br>(970) 330-7900 <thesurreys@aol.com>                                                 | <b>Women's<br/>Co-Coordinator</b>                     | Kathy Tandberg<br>112 4th Ave. NW<br>Beulah, ND 58523<br>(701) 873-2970 <kathyz.tandberg@yahoo.com                             |
| <b>Quartermaster</b>                                | Jerry L. Beamon, (K Troop, 3/11, 1969-1970)<br>15926 Cedar Bay Dr<br>Bullard, TX 75757<br><JerryLBea@aol.com>                                                        |                                                       |                                                                                                                                |

## THE WALL from page 1

As of now there are over 58,270 names etched on those black marble panels ... more will be added, even though the war ended near 50 years ago. Bodies are yet to be found other men will yet die of wounds incurred in Southeast Asia. The numbers will go up, never down.

The names are arranged in the order they have been taken from us, and for those who died on the same day, in alphabetical order. On panel (11E) you can find names of the first Blackhorse troopers to die in Vietnam, and on line 64, the name of our first casualty, John Robert Pierce.

One panel (1W), beginning on line 15, has 23 names etched in alpha order. They are the men who died in the downing of one helicopter on May 10, 1972; men I served with, ate with, laughed with ... and prayed with. I cry at that panel, as do I at several others. Former Blackhorse trooper, Mike Aguilar was one of them.

For most Americans, and thousands of foreign visitors who traverse the slate path to that crease in The Wall, they may only see the numbers the Vietnam War created. For those of us who survived the war, and to the families of those who did not, we see the faces, we feel the pain, we hold sacred the memories of these honored dead. We are, until we pass away, haunted by these numbers, because they were our friends, fathers, brothers, husbands, wives, sons and daughters. Those names on that Wall reflect our history, the love those veterans had for our country; our pride and patriotism, our sacrifice, our values, our liberty ... the best in us.

But the pressure mounts, and we have to leave, we are almost compelled to walk away. We leave thinking what a waste, was this necessary? We might even remember a saying: "there are no noble wars, just noble warriors."

Tourists and infrequent visitors to the National Mall, may try to see all the monuments in one day. The Korean War Memorial is close by, and down the length of the reflecting ponds is the plaza dedicated to the veterans of World War II, where the only names engraved are of the battles fought in the Atlantic and Pacific theaters ... battles that created too many names to be etched.

To finish up a Memorial Day in Washington, you should pass the Lincoln Memorial and stop in to read his words spoken on a memorial day at Gettysburg in 1863, particularly "... from these honored dead we take increased devotion to the cause which they gave the last full measure of devotion." From there, go to Arlington Cemetery (the walk is not for the faint of heart) and a thoughtful stroll to any of the many memorials, or walk a line of military headstones on those hollowed grounds.

You may not have thought much about being a proud American when your day started, but I'll grant you, you will be one as you head home. But before you do take one backward glance at the rows of marble headstones arranged in perfect military order and ...

***If you are able, save for them a place inside of you and save one backward glance when you are leaving for the places they can no longer go.***

***Be not ashamed to say you loved them though you may or may not have always.***

***Take what they have taught you with their dying and keep it with your own.***

***And in that time when men decide and feel safe to call war insane, take one moment to embrace those gentle heroes you left behind.***

*— Major Michael Davis O'Donnell, USAF  
MIA 1 Jan 1970, listed as KIA 7 Feb. 1978*

# My Trip to Vietnam

By: Raymond M. Tear  
*C Troop, 1967*

My orders called for me to report to Oakland Army Base on 28AUG67, NLT 1200.

I was living in Michigan at the time, but one of my grandfathers lived in Oakland. So I flew from Michigan to Oakland on the 27th, arriving early afternoon. He took me out for some brief sightseeing and then a really good steak dinner. (Last good meal for a condemned man?)

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**Looking at my freshly pressed uniform he asked me, "Why did you get busted", since he could see the outline of buck Sargent stripes behind my SP-4 patches.**

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Before "lights out" I re-ironed a clean set of khakis so they'd be ready for the next day. For those who remember, khakis were a comfortable, summer uniform, but they were way too prone to wrinkling for easy upkeep.

My grandfather had been in the Coast Guard between the wars, and reenlisted on December 8, 1941. Due to damaged hearing he was medically retired by the CG before WWII ended. I add that to point out that he was savvy to military ways and jargon. Looking at my freshly pressed uniform he asked me, "Why did you get busted", since he could see the outline of buck Sargent stripes behind my SP-4 patches. In fact, I had not been busted, but upon leaving my former duty station, where I was part of the training cadre, I reverted to SP-4 from the acting rank of Sargent.

I only spent one night at Oakland Army Base; getting paperwork squared away the afternoon before, and attending some sort of orientation, as I recall, before boarding an Army bus for Travis AFB the next day for a night take-off.

### Newsletter Deadlines

Due dates to submit articles for *Thunder Run*

|                   |        |
|-------------------|--------|
| 1st Quarter ..... | Jan 15 |
| 2nd Quarter ..... | Mar 25 |
| 3rd Quarter ..... | Jun 25 |
| 4th Quarter ..... | Oct 1  |

All submissions for publication must be sent to: C.E. "Bill" Gregory, Editor, 421 Fallen Leaf Drive, Soddy Daisy, TN 37379-3577. E-mail: [Battle46A@epbf.com](mailto:Battle46A@epbf.com)

We flew on a Braniff charter, another airline long since out of business. The stewardesses wore varying costumes in bright colors and patterns that they changed during the flight. The one that I remember was a kind of full-body leotard with a paisley print. The outfit included a kind of round pillbox hat with an attached scarf of the same material that tied under the chin to keep the hat in place at a jaunty angle. A young woman needed to have, shall we say, "a trim figure" to get away with wearing that get up. The stews were very attentive, even to us enlisted pukers. We landed in Hawaii during daylight and were herded into a terminal space where the end was blocked by one of those expanding gates that reached from floor to ceiling with very narrow spaces between the bars. There was some sort of courtyard or atrium, again escape-proof, with some plants and a pond full of goldfish. We have a very brief stay there.

Leaving Hawaii, we went to Clark AFB in the Philippines. When we got off at Clark, the humidity was about 110% with a gray sky and misting rain. We weren't there long before it was back onto the gaudily painted Braniff aircraft. Next stop RVN. As we were coming in to, I think, Long Binh, I had a window seat and could see the ground as the aircraft maneuvered through broken clouds. During one banking turn, with my side towards the ground, I could see tiny troops assaulting a tree line with the infantry and miniature M-113s keeping abreast and filling the space between the assaulting line and the trees with tracers. What a welcome!

Once on the ground, as they had done at each stop since leaving CONUS, the stews sprayed insecticide into the overhead luggage racks. Then it was off the plane and into another sauna like the Philippines for a bus ride to the replacement depot. This time the bus had wire screens over the windows since we were to travel over streets filled with civilian traffic. Two days later I was at Blackhorse after an interesting ride on a Caribou.



## SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM UPDATE

by Mike "Doc" Rafferty, Director and Scholarship Chairman



Mike "Doc" Rafferty  
Scholarship Committee Chairman

I received a total of 15 scholarship applications by the May 15th deadline this year. That is four fewer applications than were submitted in 2015. All of the applicants are children of our members. 12 applicants are female and 3 are male. The youngest applicant is 18 years of age and the oldest is 42 years old. Seven of these students fall into the "traditional" college age bracket (18-24 years of age). This is the first year we have had fewer than 50% of the applicants in the "traditional" college age bracket.

The applications came from all across the country ranging from California to Connecticut. The students are majoring in a variety of disciplines including: Medicine, Education, Nursing, Sociology, Science and English. The average Grade Point Average of the applicants is 3.48.

The 11th ACVVC Board of Directors is pleased to be able to award scholarships to all of these deserving applicants this year. Their names and photos will appear in upcoming issues of *Thunder Run*. Allons.

## Army Medical Department Museum Tour Update

By Mike "Doc" Rafferty, Director

The sign-ups for the two tours of the AMEDD Museum are going very well. As of the writing of this article (June 17th), the afternoon tour is completely full. There are about 25 seats left on the morning tour but I expect those will be filled by the time you read this article.

The AMEDD Museum is located on Ft. Sam Houston. Dedicated to preserving the history of the Army Medical Department from the Revolutionary War to the present, the main building has many interesting and informative exhibits.

Outside, visitors will find a restored hospital train; ambulances and medevac helicopters.

Two buses provided by the Regent Coach Line will be picking us up at the main reunion hotel, Grand Hyatt San Antonio, at 10:00 am and 1:00 pm on Friday, August 26th. Museum staff will give us a brief orientation program before we tour the facility.

If you are signed up for the tour and have any questions, don't hesitate to call me or send an e mail. I can be reached at [Platoonmedic36@gmail.com](mailto:Platoonmedic36@gmail.com) or by phone at: 575-915-2921.

## MOVING?

We want you to get your copy of *Thunder Run* without a lot of trouble. Complete this form and mail it to: 11th ACVVC Membership Update, Allen Hathaway, 13194 Rettew Dr., Manassas, VA 20112. Email [11thcav1966@Comcast.net](mailto:11thcav1966@Comcast.net)



Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Old Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 New Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Effective Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_



Bill Gregory, Editor  
*Thunder Run*

It is close enough to the 31st Reunion, that I have started to check the weather in San Antonio every few days. By the time you get this issue of *Thunder Run*, it will be down to weeks and days before we will be there! It is really late to make travel plans, but still possible if you are determined and move really fast! I know that in the real world, that if you have not already made plans, at this late date, you likely will not. Just know it is still possible. For those who have made plans, it is time to double check everything. One thing that is still open (until August 11) is registration for the Ladies luncheon! Now it sounds like fun for the ladies, and if you are a lady going on this trip, give signing up for it a close look.

A lot of things are going on in our extended Blackhorse family. Some good news, Chaplain Larry Haworth is back in duty status and will join us this year – he has written a new article about colors for this issue. I know we all will be glad to have him back with us this year. The

**We have elections this year, both in the nation, and in the 11th ACVVC, as we will elect our President, Secretary, and one Director this year. Look for details in the election article.**

active Regiment at Fort Irwin has just welcomed the 67th Colonel of the regiment on the 28th of June, and we all wish Colonel Joseph D. Clark much success. We have elections this year, both in the nation, and in the 11th ACVVC, as we will elect our President, Secretary, and one Director this year. Look for details in the election article. Look closely at the Quartermaster Catalog and order form, there have been a few changes, new items and price changes you may need to know about.

I know that you do not want to miss Part III of Don Snedeker's trilogy on Animals. We also have some interesting articles by Blandon Karabinos, Mark

Montalban, George Ruggles, and Raymond Tear in this issue. Some are entertaining, and some are moving, and some are just for fun. We always welcome your articles, if you have something to share with us, send it in and we will try to publish it. Our editorial guidelines were last published in the December 2013 issue which you can find on line at <http://www.11thcavnam.com/>. Just click on "History" then "Electronic Copies of *Thunder Run*"

I really hope to see you at the reunion, do take care, and may His blessings be upon you.

## 2016 11th ACVVC Election

**Three positions will be up for election this year during the General Membership Meeting held Saturday morning, August 27th, during the 2016 Reunion. The three positions are President, Secretary and one Director.**

*By Greg Mason  
Secretary, 11th ACVVC*

The President and Secretary will serve two-year terms. The Director will serve a three-year term. All terms will begin January 1, 2017.

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 must be able to attend the annual reunion and two Board Meetings each year of their elected term.

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.

# Welcome to the 67th Colonel of the Regiment!



**COL Joseph D. Clark**

On 28 June 2016 Colonel Joseph D. Clark signed on to the net as Blackhorse 6; becoming the 67th Colonel of the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment. Colonel Clark began his military

career as an infantryman in the Michigan National Guard and was commissioned an Armor officer upon graduation as a Distinguished Military Graduate from Ferris State University in Grand Rapids Michigan. Thus he began a career that has led him to command as he said in his welcome message the “Best Damn Regiment”.

Colonel Clark comes to the regiment after holding an impressive list of com-

mand and staff assignments some of which have been in the 11th ACR as 2nd Squadron S3, Regimental S3 and Regimental XO. His most recent assignment was as the Armor Lt. Col. Career Manager in Human Resources Command at FT Knox, KY.

We at the 11th ACVVC join in welcoming Colonel Clark back to the regiment with confidence that he will continue the high standards and fine traditions of

his 66 predecessors, while leading our regiment. We look forward to working with him as he leads the regiment forward. Welcome back Sir, we stand ready to support you and the Regiment in any way we can! ALLONS!

his 66 predecessors, while leading our regiment. We look forward to working with him as he leads the regiment forward. Welcome back Sir, we stand ready to support you and the Regiment in any way we can! ALLONS!



## 31st Annual 11th ACVVC Reunion

San Antonio, Texas ♦ ♦ August 24-28, 2016



### Hotel Information

#### Grand Hyatt San Antonio

600 East Market Street

San Antonio, Texas 78205

August 24-28, 2016

Hyatt Reservations: 1-888-421-1442

To get the special reunion rate you must mention the “11th Armored Cavalry’s Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia”

Rates: Single thru Quadruple: \$119.00

Self parking: \$13.50 per day

Reservations must be made by AUGUST 1, 2016

#### Additional Hotels

#### Residence Inn San Antonio Downtown/Alamo Plaza

425 Bonham Street

San Antonio, TX 78205

Reservations: 1-800-331-3131

Rates: \$129.00 + 16.75% tax

Self parking: \$24.00 per day

Reservations must be made by AUGUST 1, 2016

You must mention “11th Armored Cavalry Veterans” to get this rate.

The hotel is located approximately 4 blocks from the Grand Hyatt.

#### Hilton Palacio Del Rio

200 South Alamo Street

San Antonio, TX 78205

Hilton Reservations: 1-800-445-8667

Rates: \$120 single, \$130 double, \$140 triple, \$150 quadruple

To get the special reunion rate you must use the “ACV” group reservation code.

#### Visit San Antonio

<http://visitsanantonio.com/>

#### Nearby Points Of Interest:

- River Walk (Paseo Del Rio)—Adjacent
- HemisFair Park—1 block
- IMAX Theater—1 block
- Shops at La Villita Arts Village—1 block
- River Center Mall—1 block
- The Alamo—3 blocks
- Market Square (El Mercado)—1/2 mile
- San Antonio Zoo—4 miles
- Fiesta Texas—15 miles
- Sea World®—15 miles

# K Troop Photo



## Are you in this picture?

This is a group photo of K Troop we received from MSG (Ret.) William E. Ralls. Who served in K Troop, 3/11 in 1969. This picture was taken at Fire Base Black Horse Vietnam in 1969. It is of the tankers of K Troop 11th ACR and our "Mett" team. Our Mett team trained I, K and L Troop at Black Horse on the use & operation of the M551 Sheridan Recon tank. The Army called it the "M551 Sheridan AR/AAV - Armored Reconnaissance/Airborne Assault Vehicle."

The team then went to Fire Base Zeon (Di An) where we trained

E, F, G Troop of the 11th ACR. I often wonder what happened to the men we trained. I thought you would like this photo. Feel free to share it. MSG Rawls sat in the front row with the clip board in his lap. It's a great picture of K Troop. Does anyone remember this photo? Sheraton training? Can anyone recognize themselves or others?

*(Editor's note: This photo is also posted on our web page [11thcavnam.com](http://11thcavnam.com) and you may be able to see the picture better there.)*

## Find an Old Friend

All Troopers, please go to "Find an Old Friend" on our web site [www.11thcavnam.com](http://www.11thcavnam.com). Click the letter which corresponds with the first letter of your last name. Now go down the list to find your name, now click the e-mail box. Is this your current e-mail address? If not please send your current e-mail address to Bob Kickenweitz at [bobk11acr@comcast.net](mailto:bobk11acr@comcast.net). Remember if your e-mail address is incorrect, how are your buddies going to find you? Don't forget our Facebook site at [www.FaceBook.com/11thACVVC](http://www.FaceBook.com/11thACVVC).

Allons,  
Bob Kickenweitz



# 31st Annual 11th ACVVC Reunion



San Antonio, Texas ♦ ♦ August 24-28, 2016

## Schedule of Events

### Wednesday, August 24

|                    |                                   |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm  | Registration Open                 |
| 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm  | Quartermaster Store Open          |
| 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm  | Silent Auction donations accepted |
| 2:00 pm - 12:00 am | Bunker Open                       |

### Thursday, August 25

|                    |                                                                               |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 6:00 am -          | 25th Annual Marty Ognibene Memorial Golf Tournament (optional fee per golfer) |
| 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm  | Registration Open                                                             |
| 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm  | Quartermaster Store Open                                                      |
| 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm  | Silent Auction donations accepted                                             |
| 2:00 pm - 12:00 am | Bunker Open                                                                   |

### Friday, August 26

|                    |                                                       |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| 10:00 am - Noon    | Veterans Seminar (opened to all attendees)            |
| 10:00 am - 1:00 pm | Medical Museum Tour (Group 1, must be re-registered)  |
| 12:30 pm           | Women's Luncheon (must be pre-registered)             |
| 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm  | Medical Museum Tour (Group 2, must be pre-registered) |

|                   |                                   |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm | Silent Auction donations accepted |
| 2:00 pm - 9:00 pm | Registration Open                 |
| 2:00 pm - 9:00 pm | Quartermaster Store Open          |
| 2:00 pm -12:00 am | Bunker Open                       |
| 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm | Silent Auction                    |

### Saturday, August 27

|                     |                                                         |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| 8:30 am             | Raffle Drawing                                          |
| 9:00 am - 12:00 pm  | Annual Membership Meeting                               |
| 9:00 am - 12:00 pm  | Women's Group Meeting                                   |
| 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm   | Memorial Service                                        |
| 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm   | Registration Open for Late Arrivals                     |
| 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm   | Quartermaster Store                                     |
| 5:45 pm - 6:45 pm   | Cocktail Hour                                           |
| 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm  | Banquet, Program, Presentations and "Blackhorse Salute" |
| 10:00 pm - 12:00 am | Dancing                                                 |

### Sunday, August 28

|                     |                                            |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| 10:00 am - 11:00 am | Chapel Worship Service (Nondenominational) |
| All Day             | Farewells and Departures                   |

## Registration

By: Bob Moreno,  
Director and Registration Chair

It's almost here! The greatest military reunion ever! Will you be there?

Registrations are quickly coming in. As of today we have roughly 1000 folks registered. This number of course includes not only the troopers but family members, guests and of course our Next of Kin and Star members.

First of all, I would like to thank all of you for being so complete in filling out the registration forms this year. I have had to make very few phone calls this year to ask how things are spelled or when you were with us in Nam. Of course those of you who used the return address labels have a huge thank you coming from Barb. It is so much easier to read and not make so many silly mistakes when you use them.

You will notice a variety of colors with the name tags this year. We are trying something new. Everyone who pre-registers will be wearing a white name tag. Our Next of Kin and Star guests will have on a blue colored name tag. The Board of Directors will be wearing an orange tag and all First Timers will have a yellow name tag. So if

you see someone wearing a yellow name tag, take the time to welcome them home.

Remember we are all one big family at our reunions. We will attempt to have a display board somewhere near the registration table to remind you of this as well as a reminder in your folder.

Now, let's talk about the banquet and where to sit. Because we must pre-order the meals it is important for you to be sure you order what you want to eat. If you order chicken and then change your mind and want beef, know that we cannot do this, perhaps you can find someone who would be willing to change with you but we at the registration table cannot do it. If you do not indicate on your registration form what you want and I cannot get hold of you, then we will be ordering a beef meal for you. For those of you have indicated special dietary needs, we will make every attempt to get these but no promises. Also make sure to let your waiter know, when they come to pick up your meal ticket, that you have a special needs meal.

Tables - Everyone needs a seat at the banquet. Therefore, it is EXTREMELY important that you sit with your unit. This is the one

that is listed on your name tag, so, if you are in H company this means that you do not sit with C troop. Members of the Board of Directors will be keeping an eye on this. Please don't make us tell you to move. This is only fair as everyone wants to sit with their buddies.

Remember, by the time you get to the reunion Steve will have already received a count of the number of people coming, figured out how many tables and chairs are needed, where each unit is sitting and ordered the meals. And that is a lot of work. All this and he has to abide by the state Fire and Safety laws when figuring all this.

Remember, if you are a walk in for the reunion, there will not be a meal available but you will be able to sit with your unit (or at least try to) AFTER the meal is over and we are preparing for the program.

Well folks, this is the last article before I see you in San Antonio. So let's get all those registrations in NOW. After the 7th of August you will be charged a late fee.

Remember to keep smiling. It makes people wonder what you're up to!  
ALLONS

REGISTRATION FORM



31st Annual 11th ACVVC Reunion  
San Antonio, Texas



August 24-28, 2016

Registration Deadline: Monday, August 1, 2016

Grand Hyatt San Antonio, 600 E Market St, San Antonio, TX 78205

Hyatt Reservations: 1-888-421-1442

Registration fee is \$80.00 per person. This fee is required for attendance at the Wednesday, Thursday and Friday night Bunker Parties and Saturday evening banquet dinner.

Registration deadline: Monday, August 1, 2016. The registration fee will be an additional \$35.00 per person for registrations post marked after Monday, August 1, 2016.

ALL RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN MONDAY, AUGUST 7, 2016.

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION

(print clearly or use mailing label)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone No: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

KIA Relative?  Yes Name of KIA: \_\_\_\_\_

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 seating?  Yes  No

Visa  MasterCard

Card No. \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (Required for credit card) \_\_\_\_\_

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

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



## Just A Few More Colors

This discussion is a follow-up to “COLORS” and “GREEN” which we discussed previously. I hope you thought about and enjoyed them. If you haven't yet, that's OK, because our talks are free standing. That means you can read, or not read, each one without reading the others. You can also read them in any order you want. As you may have noticed, I write, you read, then you have an opinion. If you want to, you can email me and correct, add, or just chew the fat about our subject. Anyway, we've discussed the colors of some things in Viet Nam that we remembered in one way or another. I expect that in those days you didn't give much thought about the color of almost anything. For instance, you certainly must remember red ants whether or not their color itself meant much. But now, when we discuss red ants, red means a lot because thinking about those ants color helps bring back a fun, maybe even feisty, memory of Viet Nam. Thinking of other colors does the same. For example:

**Tan.** Thinking of red ants reminds me of the day I was riding with a platoon of ACAVs. My preferred seat was the drivers hatch cover. Our track was half way back in the column busting some jungle and had to stop. Wouldn't you know it, our track stopped right on an ant hill. What I remember so well was the hundreds of ants that came crawling out of their nest and dropping on us from the bamboo that grew out of the ant hill. That hill was big, tall, hard packed, dried mud and it was tan in color. There we sat, stuck because we were in column on the trail with nowhere to go. The best we could do was to take our aerosol cans of insecticide and spray ourselves all over to kill the ants. Ever since then, I take every opportunity to avoid stopping on tan hard packed mud ant hills.

**Khaki.** That was the color of the light weight, short sleeve uniform that you probably wore traveling to Viet Nam. When you got there, you took the khakis off and stashed them in a Conex container to get moldy. You never saw them again until it was time for R&R or time to meet your Freedom Bird! For those of y'all who did

have such a great event, I congratulate you and know you were blessed to learn the wonder of experiencing the wonder of Khaki. For the many who did not have that experience, I am truly sorry.

**Purple, Green, Yellow, & Red** came in smoke grenades. They were useful and were often fun. They came in the four colors I named (maybe one or two more which I forgot). You know what they were for. Officially they were to designate places such as helicopter landing places. Someone like a scout squad would find where VC/NVA were located in the bush and go find a clearing where helicopters could insert (land) troops. The scouts would pop smoke and toss out the grenade to show the helicopters where to discharge the troops, like I said. You remember how it worked. (Remind each other.) As an aside, I'll remind you of an unofficial way some of y'all used colored smoke grenades with this little scenario: A troop unscrews the top from a grenade, took out some color powder, and screwed the top back on. Then he took some tobacco out of a cigarette and replaced it with the powder, like purple or yellow, into the cigarette. Then he put the tobacco back in and gave it to an unsuspecting person, usually Vietnamese, to smoke. Everybody, including Papa-San, thought it was funny when the fire hit the powder.

**Red.** We discussed red some time back, reds like red Honda 50s, red dirt, and red ants. There were also other red things that meant a lot in Viet Nam. Being red made these items very conspicuous which was good because they were so important. Take Dustoff, for example. You were there so you know that Dustoff was what we called the medevac (medical evacuation) helicopters. Sometimes it was crucial for someone to get to a hospital or an aid station post-haste, like immediately! Battle casualties and other serious incidents fit this category. When someone yelled “Dustoff!” it was serious. When we heard the whop whop (or whap whap) of the Huey Dustoff, we knew help was on the way. The red cross painted on the chopper was a beautiful shade of red.

**Brass.** What color is brass? Golden? Nope. Sorta yellowish? Don't think so. I

guess brass is just brass. That's good enough for me. OK with you? You know what brass looks like so we'll go from there. When you think of the color of brass what do you think of? If you were in the bush a lot you think of brass shell casings, very large for artillery ammo, medium for M-79 grenade launcher shells, varying degrees of small for rifles or hand guns. Right? Lots of memories attached here. One would be those souvenir ash trays made with the M-79 grenade shell in the middle held by a string of machine gun shell casings held together after they were used for more nefarious things.

**Yellow.** Flares burned at night to illuminate whatever you wanted to light up at night for your purpose at the time, mostly to shoot at whoever was already shooting at you. For those who didn't have the exciting experience of being in the bush and getting attacked at 0200 in the morning, this may seem to be a rather insignificant color to mention. However, if you were in the bush in the circumstances mentioned, then those flares counted a whole lot. I admit the color didn't matter, but it happened to be yellow. They made yellowish light out of darkness. Yesss for yellow!!

**Green.** We've talked before about green, such as green tracers. I don't want to finish before we talk a little about the biggest green, jungle green, the bush. Green was everywhere, rice paddies, bamboo, trees, plantations, elephant grass. But it was in the jungle where most of us learned what green was all about. From jungle busting, mounted patrols on ACAVs or tanks on jungle trails, and doing escort duty of convoys or engineer bulldozers clearing fields of fire, green was all around us. We're out of time to ponder, but remember that a lot of positive experiences happened there. Let green remind you with pleasure.

**Rainbow.** In winding up our conversation today, I want to discuss special colors that would show the beauty of creation, of colors in many ways, from the faded and ordinary to the spectacular and wonder of nature. What I realized is that the rainbow is one of God's most spectacular forms of

color in the nature He created. I'm told that the rainbow is formed of all colors in their natural state. It's a marvelous expression of God's relationship through His love for humanity which includes us. I'll close by quoting from the Holy Bible: "God said, .... I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth. Whenever I bring clouds over

the earth and the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will remember my covenant between me and you and all living creatures of every kind.... So God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant I have established between me and all life on the earth." Genesis 9:12a, 13-15a, 17.

God bless you. God loves you. So do I.

## 2016 Silent Auction

By: Greg Mason,  
Secretary, 11th ACVVC

The 2015 Silent Auction raised \$7,735 for the 11th ACVVC Scholarship Fund with 170 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 look forward to another successful auction.

Last year we are made a few changes to improve the experience and process. We plan again to have the auction in a separate room. We also plan to make it easier to get into the room so we do not have the long lines we had in 2015.

The auction process continues to be as follows:

**1:** Items are needed for the Silent Auction to be conducted during our 31th Annual Reunion in San Antonio, Texas. Items peculiar to the 11th Cavalry are always favorites, and any item or service of value is welcome, Cav 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 Wednesday from 2pm to 6pm, Thursday from 2pm to 6pm, and Friday from 2pm to 5pm.

**3:** You can ship items to Ed Brown, 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 7pm to 9pm on Friday night with the bidding ending precisely at 9pm.

**5:** Winning bidders must be present and pick up their items and pay for them between 9pm and 9:30pm after the bidding is complete.

**6:** If the item is not picked up, the item will be awarded to the next highest bidder at 9:30 or auctioned off at 9:45pm Friday evening. 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 the collection site and 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 [gregmason@aol.com](mailto:gregmason@aol.com) or 813-754-2980. I will respond to your email as I receive them. If you do not get a response, it is probably because AOL has a habit of putting stuff in their "junk" folder so feel free to follow-up with a phone call.

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 San Antonio 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 # of Donor: \_\_\_\_\_ Value of Item Donated \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to remain anonymous (check box)

**Mail silent auction items to: 11th ACVVC, C/O Ed Brown Jr., 1235 Creek Ranch, San Antonio, TX 78253-4899**

# My Dad, Me, and the Field Artillery

By George W. Ruggles,  
How Battery, 3/11, 66-67

**M**y late father was a veterinarian, a graduate of what is now Colorado State University. He went to school during the Depression, held a number of jobs to pay for tuition, and was required to take ROTC as part of the program. He loved to talk about his college days, and nearly always mentioned that he flunked out of the military class because he “couldn’t figure out how to get the shell over the hill.” They were probably working with 75mm pack Howitzers at the time. Apparently the last straw was when the instructor, a Captain named Starry, commanded “right face” and Dad said, “Captain, this is my right face.”

I never understood what he meant about getting the shell over the hill. He didn’t try to explain it, either. He went on to be a very respected veterinarian in Portland, OR, with a small animal practice for more than thirty years.

Anyhow, I was commissioned an artillery officer after graduating from college in 1965, just in time for the Vietnam War. Earlier, the Department of the Army had decided that my West Point class would go direct to the units, not attending the basic officer courses like at Ft. Sill for artillery. This was fine for newly-minted 2LT’s that went to Army units with division artillery personnel that could help with training, but I joined the 11th ACR which had three artillery batteries independent of each other. So, I learned from the field manuals but mainly the NCO’s, who were well aware they had a very green Battery XO and it would be in their best interests to teach me all they could. The problem was that certain little nuances probably taught in Artillery School didn’t get covered, as will become apparent later in this story.

We trained in Virginia all summer and finished up with an Army Training Test to prove our proficiency. Part of the ATT was what’s called a Hip Shoot, where the battery is on the move, a fire



A Field Artillery at work

**Artillery pieces are designed such that the target can be hit with at least two different “charge” settings, meaning the number of powder bags loaded behind the shell.**

mission is called in, and the XO has to pick an area to set up the battery, lay the guns, (get them all pointed in the same direction), and the fire direction personnel must calculate firing data on the fly. All of this has to be done within a certain time period to pass the test. The Chief of Firing Battery, SFC Bopst, (who taught me most of what I knew at the time), was responsible for making sure the cannon tubes were elevated sufficiently for the shells to clear any obstacles. There was a tree line in front of the battery, and he recognized that the firing data meant the high explosive rounds would hit the forest on the way out.

Now, I don’t know who thought of it, maybe it was the fire direction folks, or the Chief, I really don’t remember, and

no one else will either, so I will claim credit for what happened next. Artillery pieces are designed such that the target can be hit with at least two different “charge” settings, meaning the number of powder bags loaded behind the shell. So in this case, I changed the firing data to one less powder bag so the guns would elevate their tubes to hit the same target and would now clear the trees. Voila!! It worked! We hit the target, passed the ATT, and were declared ready for deployment.

And so, thirty years too late, here was the answer to the problem that had frustrated my Dad, how to get the shell over the hill. Wish he were still around to hear the story. He would have loved it.



# Blackhorse Women's News

By Kathy Tandberg, Women's Group Co-coordinator

## Still time to register for Women's Luncheon Deadline extended to August 11

By: Kathy Tandberg,

Women's Group Co-coordinator

Good news ladies! The deadline to sign-up for the Blackhorse Women's Group San Antonio Fiesta Luncheon has been extended to August 11! If you forgot to send yours in, you can still guarantee your seat at the table by getting it in the mail as soon as possible. Details below.

### Women's Group Luncheon

As requested at last year's reunion, we have a fun luncheon planned for you – a San Antonio Style Fiesta Luncheon from 12:15 - 2:15 p.m., Friday, August 26 at the Rio Rio Cantina. Price of Luncheon is \$25 per person, including taxes and tip. The venue has worked with us on a menu that will please any palate. Because a couple of women have said they didn't sign up because they don't eat this type of food, the venue has graciously added a fourth choice – Chicken Fingers.

This gives four options for lunch:

Appetizers for all - Served at the Tables  
Tortilla Chips and Salsa

Plated Entrée, Please choose from one of four choices

**#1. Chicken Fajitas al Carbon:** Grilled Marinated Breast of Chicken

Cut Fajita Style Topped with Sautéed Onions, Green and Red Bell Peppers. Served with Spanish Rice, Rio-Rio Refried Beans, and Flour Tortillas. Garnish: Guacamole, Pico De Gallo, and Sour Cream

**#2. Enchiladas de la Casa:** Cheese Enchiladas topped with a Mild Chile Sauce, Served with Spanish Rice, Rio-Rio Beans (This is a nice choice for Vegetarians.)

**#3. Gluten Free option,** a gluten free fajitas may be served depending on numbers; regardless there will be a nice gluten-free meal available

**#4. Chicken Fingers Plate**

Dessert- Served Family Style: Cinnamon Churros

Beverage Included: Iced Tea and Water

**\*Bar Service Available as Cash Bar, not included in luncheon price**

We have a fun event planned in addition to great food so we hope you will join us for an early afternoon of fun, food and good conversation! Ladies, do you have guests attending the reunion with you? Bring them along to the luncheon. Simply register them for the luncheon along with yourself. The Rio Rio Cantina is located along the River Walk at 421 East Commerce Street, San Antonio, within a 5 to 8-minute walk from the reunion hotel, the Grand Hyatt Riverwalk. It's a walking location because transportation costs as a group in the city would cost us out. However, if walking isn't an option, individuals are welcome to find their own transportation to the venue. Your own hotel will be able to give you directions from your location. Please note that Pre-payment and Pre-registration are required to attend the Women's Luncheon so the venue has an advance head count. Please use the

Registration form that is included with this issue of the Thunder Run. A firm deadline of August 11 is set to guarantee this price without increase from the venue.

### Our Annual Meeting

The Women's Group Annual Meeting will be held from 9 a.m. - 12 noon Saturday, August 27. The room location will be announced in your reunion schedule. If you have not yet attended a meeting, please join us. You will be pleasantly surprised! We have a fun and interesting meeting each year. After we take care of a little annual business, we will have a speaker, share announcements and then open the floor to hear what you, the Blackhorse Family, would like to share. One of the items on our agenda, for instance, will be to set up a PTSD Committee, following up on our wonderful guest speaker last year. Bring your ideas, your thoughts, yourself and guests. Please!

### Speaker

The Blackhorse Women's Group board members look forward to presenting another guest speaker at our Saturday morning meeting. He is someone most of you know if you have attended previous reunions. Chaplain Larry Haworth (HHT 2/11, 69-70), Chaplain of the 11th Armored Cavalry Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia, will be speaking to us about his experiences while ministering to our troops in Vietnam. In addition, Chaplain Haworth, who has authored a book on his experiences, will be available for a book signing.

### Prayer Shawl Project

Our prayer shawl chairperson, Cherry Platt, once again has shared with me the praises of the support that comes from our 11th ACVVC members and their families. Thank you for keeping this very important, worthy project going.

Since the last reunion in August 2015, Cherry has mailed more than 45 prayer shawls to families whose Troopers have passed on to Fiddler's Green. Sadly, that number grows each month! Cherry thanks everyone for the beautiful thank you notes sent by the many families.

The Prayer Shawl Project is one of two top projects for the Blackhorse Women's Group. The other is our annual donation of support to Wreaths Across America. The wreaths we donate are laid on graves at Arlington National Cemetery each Christmas. Every lanyard or other fundraiser item you have made a donation for is what helps keep these important projects going. In addition, every dollar you have donated for postage has also gone a long way to helping! "Thank you to each and every one of you for your support!" Anyone can be a part of the Prayer Shawl Project whether they come to the women's meetings or not. If you can knit or croquet and would like to help, please contact Cherry for more information by email at or by phone at 770-445-7534.

### San Antonio/River Walk Trivia, Part 2

Who reads the Blackhorse Women's Group column? Below you'll find some information that just may become useful at our San Antonio

Fiesta Luncheon. You never know what might happen with this knowledge.

- Where can turtles often be found sunbathing along the River Walk? (On the banks of the Four Points River Walk North)
- What year did the first River Walk Beautification project begin and at what cost? (1939 for \$430,000)
- Which government agency was used to construct the modern day River Walk? (The WPA- Works Progress Administration)

• In 1968, what significant event happened in San Antonio? (The Hemis Fair, World's Fair)

Kathy can be reached by email at [kathy.z.tandberg@yahoo.com](mailto:kathy.z.tandberg@yahoo.com) or by phone at 701-873-2970. At the reunion you can reach her on her cellular phone at 701-8701-6868. Be sure to check out the Blackhorse Women's webpage site by going to [www.11thcavnam.com](http://www.11thcavnam.com) and locating Blackhorse Women's News tab in the white box near the bottom. Find and "Like" us on Facebook by searching Blackhorse (11th ACVVC) Women.

## Women's Group Luncheon Registration Form

**Deadline extended to August 11**

Please join us for a San Antonio Style Fiesta Luncheon.

- **Time:** Friday, August 26, 2016, 12:15 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
- **Location:** Rio Rio Cantina, 421 East Commerce Street, San Antonio, TX. (5 to 8-minute walk from Reunion Site).
- **Price:** **\$25.00 per person** includes tax and tip.

Sign-up must be received by **August 11, 2016.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Meal Choice: Includes garnishes and more, dessert and ice tea

Chicken Fajitas Plate # \_\_\_\_\_ Cheese Enchiladas # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gluten Free Selection (to be decided) # \_\_\_\_\_ Chicken Fingers Plate # \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks or money orders payable to: Blackhorse Women's Group**

**Mail this form with payment to: Kathy Tandberg, Blackhorse Women's Group, 112 4th Ave NW, Beulah, ND 58523**

## 11<sup>TH</sup> ACVVC DONATIONS

| Donor Levels:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Platinum Level \$500+                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Gold Level \$100-\$499                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Silver Level \$50-\$99                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Bronze Level \$1-\$49                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Trooper Assistance Fund</b><br><b>Gold Level</b><br>Embrey, James<br>Gillins, Alfonso<br><b>Silver Level,</b><br>Gehring, Joseph<br>Griep, Paul<br><b>Scholarship Fund</b><br><b>Platinum Level</b><br>Williams, Michael<br><b>Gold Level</b><br>Corona, Gary<br>Davis, Barry | Gillins, Alfonso<br>Kautz, Dan<br>Mason, Gregory<br>Mulcahey, Daniel<br>Sanders, Joe Mac<br>Wiltse, Thomas<br><b>Silver Level</b><br>Blasdel, Jerry<br><b>Bronze Level</b><br>Crosier, Leo<br>Ehrenberg, Arthur<br>Neary, Sheldon | <b>Memorial Fund</b><br><b>Gold Level</b><br>Support Group, Vietnam Veterans: Frank, Johnny, Phil, Jeff, Doug, Rich, Ted<br>Rick, Leroy, Amy, Dr. Walter Knacke<br><b>General Fund</b><br><b>Gold Level</b><br>Bloese, Michael<br>Carraher, Joseph<br><b>Bronze Level</b><br>Brock, Alfred<br>Cook, Danny<br>Fowler, James<br>Main, Larry | Taylor, Michael<br><b>Calendar Fund</b><br><b>Gold Level</b><br>Bock, Daniel<br>Caporiccio, Guy<br>Jeter, Jeffrey<br>Kelliher, Patrick<br>Kenyon, Richard<br>Kern, Paul<br>Kersis, Bruce<br>Lafontaine, Donald<br>Rieth, Gary<br>Rucker, Richard<br>Walker, Dan<br><b>Silver Level</b><br>Silver Level,<br>Arabian, Gordon<br>Carr, Hoye<br>Coopet, Joseph | Dunphy, Timothy<br>Fultz, Jimmie<br>Gunn, Dennis<br>James, Anthony<br>Kauppi, Ernest<br>Kerrins, William<br>Klinn, Lewis<br>Manzo, Joseph<br>Ochowicz, William<br>Otoman, Michael<br>Stallings, Joseph<br>Taylor, Michael<br>Tracy, Stephen<br><b>Bronze Level</b><br>Alexander, Doyal<br>Arsenault, Stephen<br>Black, Phillip<br>Flick, Walter<br>Fraliex, Larry<br>Fry, Gary | Gamble, Jimmy<br>Gulke, Wayne<br>Halstead, Babe<br>Joslin, Joe<br>Kiehl, Ronald<br>Landt, George<br>Leesmann, Dale<br>Madsen, Paul<br>McKnight, Matt<br>Melo, Salvador<br>Millea, Keith<br>Ortiz, Concepcion<br>Ostrander, Robert<br>Pepe, Michael<br>Phillips, Frank<br>Roller, Arthur<br>Rosel, Frederick<br>Sevigny, Richard<br>Shakow, Raymond<br>Shop, Monroe Spirits<br>Tumlin, R.M. |



# Fiddler's Green

We are sorry to report 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. Funeral Honor Guard, please check daily at [www.11acr.com/hg.htm](http://www.11acr.com/hg.htm). We check over 500 U.S. Newspapers. The daily obituary keyword is 11th Cavalry. Information is then posted on our website to allow us to attend the funerals.

**Gerald R. Arend**, Howitzer Battery, 3/11 (1966-1967) passed away on May 19, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Cincinnati, OH.

**Ray A. Banks**, L Troop, 3/11 (1967-1968) passed away on June 19, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Wichita, KS.

Melvin C. Blackman, K Troop, 3/11 (1966-1967) passed away on December 27, 2012. He was a member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Pflugerville, TX. He was laid to rest in Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery, San Antonio, TX.

**Dwight E. Bowman**, HHT Regiment (1968-1969) passed away on October 2, 2014. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Orchard Park, NY. He was laid to rest in Hillcrest Cemetery, Hamburg, NY.

**Luis Bumanglag**, HHT, 3/11 (1966-1967) passed away on November 16, 2012. He was a member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Lakewood, CO. He was laid to rest in Ft. Logan National Cemetery, Denver, CO.

**Jerome N. Burek**, L Troop, 3/11 (1966-1967) passed away on April 18, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Carnegie, PA. He was laid to rest in National Cemetery of the Alleghenies, Bridgeville, PA.

**Peter S. Calabrese**, A Troop, 1/11 (1969) passed away on October 31, 2013. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Ozone Park, NY. He was laid to rest in St. Charles Resurrection Cemetery, Farmingdale, NY.

**Gary C. Callaway**, HHT, 2/11 (1969-1970) passed away on May 3, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Tallahassee, FL. He was laid to rest in Quantico National Cemetery, Triangle, VA.

**Edward L. Clouds**, F Troop, 2/11 (1969) passed away on September 27, 2012. He was a member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Huntsville, TX. He was laid to rest in Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery, Killeen, TX.

**James D. Cottle**, E Troop, 2/11 (1970-1971) passed away on March 28, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Van Lear, KY. He was laid to rest in Highland Memorial Park, Staffordsville, KY.

**John R. Deist**, HHT, 2/11 (1967-1968) passed away on November 6, 2014. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Duncansville, PA. He was laid to rest in Alto Reste Park, Altoona, PA.

**Charles J. Ganno**, 541st MID (1970-1971) passed away on May 1, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Hernando, FL. He was laid to rest in Calvary Catholic Cemetery, Clearwater, FL.

**David H. Griffin**, HHT, 3/11 (1969-1971) passed away on May 24, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Gainesville, GA. He was laid to rest in Memorial Park Cemetery, Gainesville, GA.

**Robert B. Harley**, Air Cavalry Troop (1966-1967) passed away on December 27, 2015. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Kennerdell, PA. He was laid to rest in Rockland Cemetery, Rockland, PA.

**Robert A. Hashimoto**, Air Cavalry Troop (1967-1968) passed away on November 4, 2015. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Mililani, HI.

**Thomas J. Hisson**, L Troop, 3/11 (1968-1969) passed away on September 24, 2014. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Oxford, WI.

**Donald E. Honaker**, H Company, 2/11 (1969) passed away on December 24, 2015. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Jane Lew, WV.

**Myron G. Honican**, 37th Medical Company (1969-1970) passed away on May 15, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Goshen, OH. He was laid to rest in Graceland Memorial Gardens, Milford, OH.

**Richard D. Iannone**, B Troop, 1/11 (1968-1969) passed away on February 28, 2013. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Greenwood, NY. He was laid to rest in Bath National Cemetery, Bath, NY.

**Robert W. Johnson**, G Troop, 2/11 (1970-1971) passed away on March 27, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Lyndhurst, NJ. He was laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA.

**Loman P. Jones**, HHT Regiment (1966-1967) passed away on July 12, 2014. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Point Pleasant, WV. He was laid to rest in Kirkland Memorial Gardens, Point Pleasant, WV. Loman is also a veteran of World War II and Korea.

**Joe P. Joslin**, Howitzer Battery, 1/11 (1968-1969) passed away on May 14, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Leslie, AR.

**Gary E. Kelly**, 919th Engineer Company (1969-1970) passed away on October 30, 2015. He was a member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Mount Vernon, AR.

**Thomas J. Klosiewicz**, HHT Regiment (1966-1967) passed away on March 24, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Wilmington, DE. He was laid to rest in Cathedral Cemetery, Wilmington, DE.

**Charles R. Knebel**, Howitzer Battery, 1/11 (1967-1968) passed away on March 28, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Jasper, IN. He was laid to rest in Fairview Cemetery, Jasper, IN.

**Thomas R. Kolich**, HHT, 3/11 (1968-1969) passed away on June 10, 2014. He was a member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Tempe, AZ.

**Bruce R. Lundmark**, Howitzer Battery, 3/11 (1970-1971) passed away on August 29, 2015. He was a member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Amery, WI. He was laid to rest in Balsam Lake Cemetery, Balsam Lake, WI.

**Thomas R. Maxson**, HHT Regiment (1967-1968) passed away on October 3, 2013. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Vine Grove, KY.

**Bobby J. McKinzey**, H Company, 2/11 (1966-1967) passed away on April 4, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Whitesboro, OK. He was laid to rest in Whitesboro Cemetery, Whitesboro, OK.

**Paul L. Middaugh**, D Company, 1/11 (1970-1971) passed away on March 20, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Wooster, OH. He was laid to rest in Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery, Rittman, OH.

**Dennis R. Moersch**, Howitzer Battery, 1/11 (1967-1968) passed away on March 23, 2016. He was a member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Rolla, MO. He was laid to rest in FT. Leonard Woods Veterans Cemetery, Waynesville, MO.

**Dennis J. Morena**, HHT, 2/11 (1970-1971) passed away on May 13, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Brentwood, NY. He was laid to rest in Calverton National Cemetery, Calverton, NY.

**Kenn D. Nielsen**, Air Cavalry Troop (1967-1968) passed away on December 14, 2015. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in La Grange, CA. He was laid to rest in San Joaquin Valley National Cemetery, Gustine, CA.

**Gregory A. Pratschner**, E Troop, 2/11 (1969) passed away on May 14, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Sequim, WA. He was laid to rest in Tahoma National Cemetery, Kent, WA.

**David E. Robbins**, K Troop, 3/11 (1967-1968) passed away on March 18, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Hebron, MD. He was laid to rest in Springhill Memory Gardens, Hebron, MD.

**Charles A. Rollins**, L Troop, 3/11 (1967-1968) passed away on April 14, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in El Paso, TX. He was laid to rest in FT. Bliss National Cemetery, Fort Bliss, TX.

**David H. Sasai**, L Troop, 3/11 (1970-1971) passed away on March 26, 2015. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Hagatna, GU. He was laid to rest in National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, Honolulu, HI.

**Leslie K. Smith**, M Company, 3/11 (1966-1967) and K Troop, 3/11 (1966-1968) passed away on May 11, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Colorado Springs, CO. He will be laid to rest at a later date in Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA.

**Larry L. Snack**, K Troop, 3/11 (1967-1968) passed away on January 11, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Zanesville, OH. He was laid to rest in Greenwood Cemetery, Zanesville, OH.

**Trenton P. Thompson**, L Troop, 3/11 (1967-1968) passed away on November 7, 2015. He was a member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Traverse City, MI. He was laid to rest in Grand Traverse Memorial Gardens, Traverse City, MI.

**Terrence K. Welsh**, L Troop, 3/11 (1970-1971) passed away on December 19, 2014. He was a member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Philadelphia, PA.

**Eddie W. Williams**, B Troop, 1/11 (1966-1967) passed away on March 24, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Little River Academy, TX. He was laid to rest in Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery, Killeen, TX.

## Handshake Tour

*By: Mark Montalban  
7th Surgical Hospital, 68-69*

There were seven Army surgical hospitals and eleven evacuation hospitals in Viet Nam in 1969. I was a surgical technician at the 7th Surgical Hospital in Long Giao in the Long Khanh province. When the Blackhorse base camp was dispersed in May 1969 I was reassigned to the 3rd Surgical Hospital which was a "Must" unit (medical unit self-contained transportable) in Dong Tam in the Dinh Tuong province.

My father, actor Ricardo Montalban, had approached the U.S.O. regarding a handshake tour. He had hoped the timing would coincide with my completion of duty. Unbelievably, my father and I flew out of Saigon together. Dad had dinner with General Creighton Abrams who orchestrated our departure logistics.

Fast forward to July 4th 1987. Executive Director Joey Talley conceived of a non-profit five hour H.B.O. program at the Capital Center in Washington, DC.



**Ricardo Montalban meets the troops.**

The event was named Welcome Home Viet Nam Veterans. The music special included artists John Fogerty, Linda Ronstadt, Stills and Nash, Bonnie Raitts, The Four Seasons, The Four Tops to name a few. Speakers included actors John

Voight, John Ritter, Catherine Bach, my father and others. I had the privilege in introducing my father to the audience. Those two airline trips with Dad were obviously the most emotionally charged flights I have ever encountered.

# Blackhorse Hoofbeats

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

By: *Don Snedeker*, Historian, 11<sup>th</sup> ACVVC

## The Animals - Part III

On the 4th of July 1968, Fox Troop found a 12-foot long snake that had been run over by a track as they set up their NDP. Jim Griffiths was there. "Its mouth was wide open and the size of it indicated it most likely could swallow a massive amount." Like an unsuspecting Blackhorse Trooper who might fall asleep while on guard? Jim was part of a 4-man listening post located 25 meters outside the perimeter that night, and everyone stayed wide awake just in case that constrictor's mate came looking to get even.

Boat Person PFC John Stanley was "more afraid of snakes...than anything else." The classes aboard the Sultan on the way to Vietnam described the many varieties of poisonous snakes found in the jungle. "I was afraid to pick up my foot once I got on land", John recalls. And, sure enough, one of those deadly critters found him. It happened while he was driving his ACAV outside the new base camp. He wasn't paying careful attention (driving in circles to crush the vegetation was, after all, pretty boring), so he didn't see the rather sizable tree that he ran into. It stopped his vehicle dead in its tracks.

"I saw something come out of the tree. It came down and landed right between my legs and landed down below, and in less than a minute I knew it was a snake and while the personnel carrier was still running I came up out of [the driver's compartment]". John recalls that he normally had to squeeze his shoulders to get through the hatch, so he doesn't know how he was able to rocket out of his seat and onto the top of the track. "I never even touched it. I just, whoosh, shot up out of there." Another crewmember killed the foot-long krait, but John was scarred for life. "That was as close as I came to dying while I was over there..."

Tom Koch distinctly remembers the day in the summer of 1969 when he was on a Huey. It was while on the way back to Blackhorse Base Camp, after a short stop in an area of thick reeds, that the pilots noticed they had a passenger on board whose name was not on the flight manifest. "The pilots took turns flying", Tom remembers. "As one took the controls, the other would lift his feet into the air! This occurred several times over several minutes. Eventually, they set the copter down on the pad at base camp and we all bailed out." CPT Bob Phillips was the pilot that day. "We were making our final approach to Blackhorse when we found the snake... He suddenly appeared on top of the compass near the co-pilot's head. We immediately recognized it as a bamboo viper, about eight inches long and very poisonous." When Tom asked what all the commotion up front had been about, CPT Phillips told him that a snake had apparently slithered on board while they were sitting amongst the reeds – the same reeds that Tom had slogged through to get into the chopper. Eventually they found the snake and donated it to the Blackhorse Replacement School. The sign on the viper's tank warned the new Troopers to avoid such reptiles while on patrol – or when flying.

Oh, and the rats. From day one in Vietnam, they were virtually constant companions to the Blackhorse Troopers. Probably to her great dismay, Jack Burns closed his 16 September 1966 letter to his Nana: "We killed a rat in the tent with a bayonet today" (Jackie, boy, what were you thinking?).

Charlie Troop had a close encounter of a rat kind after conducting a road security mission on QL 13 in 1970. At the end of the day, the Troop occupied an abandoned fire base along Thunder Road, intending to overnight there before assuming a new mission in the morning. The 3rd Platoon Leader, 1LT Paul Baerman, was awakened about 2300 hours by "the distinct feeling there were others present. I felt tiny claws walking up my chest. I opened my eyes and found myself staring at the beady eyes of a rat!" By consensus, the Charlie Troopers surrendered the fire base to the rats, spending the rest of the night – with one eye open all the time – 500 meters away. But, if there were rats in the bunkers, at least that that meant there weren't any snakes there!

But Troopers didn't have to go to the 'field' to encounter such critters; there were plenty who resided inside Blackhorse Base Camp. When he first got to Long Giao in late 1968, Mark Crist heard stories from the 'old hands'. Those veterans advised against sleeping inside the bunkers on the perimeter.

A series of tales worthy of a Steven King novel today...had me wondering if all those horror and Science Fiction movies I'd seen in the '50's were based on actual events. 'Things' that oozed from the primordial slime and did go bump in the night awakening dormant primal fears. A staccato of stories shot through with terror of how garden variety pests back home had indeed become those mutated matinee monstrosities... I heard about spiders as big as dinner plates, centipedes as long as a man's arm, gigantic cockroaches, snakes, bats, and rats, the bite of either guaranteeing only one thing, making it as far as the door before meeting the Grim Reaper face to face. Last, but not least, the hideous Sun Spider, a beast as big as a dog, red, and pulsating with poison that dripped from fangs longer than a bayonet.

Two years later, First-HOW was back in the Xuan Loc area for a short sojourn. SP4 George Krcelich remembers the night when the bunker guards "reported an unidentified flying object over the perimeter". Not knowing what it might be (this was before the invention of drones), the OIC gave the OK to shoot it up. The guards did so enthusiastically. A search of the area after daylight confirmed a target kill – a bat with a 4-foot wingspan.

Following the Tet '68 offensive, units of the 11th ACR were assigned as a quick reaction force for the Bien Hoa-Long Binh area. Sometimes this involved occupying a centrally-located laager in order to be able to respond quickly should the enemy attack. On other occasions, Blackhorse Troopers were told to defend critical installations and infrastructure, such as bridges over the Saigon or Dong Nai Rivers. The bridges were a target for VC frogmen who frequently attempted to bring a bridge down by

attaching mines to it. Part of the countermeasures at one particular bridge site was a flock of geese who would 'sound the alarm' whenever anyone approached.

SGT Greg Mason, an RTO in the Third Squadron TOC, remembers: "Our troops had to periodically walk up to the geese at night to see how close they got before the geese honked. Then they had to call in the 'Honker' report to me for recording and forwarding". Bob Grossman, Bengal 3 at the time, recalls that the geese were not reliable. "They did not work. The II Field Force vet was asked to check out the geese and he reported them as starving. Improved feeding did not improve their ability to sense people."

Just as the first Blackhorse Troopers adopted pets almost as soon as they got off the boats in September 1966, the last Troopers in country carried their animal pals around with them to the end. Like 'Charlie Chicken', the "ugliest, scrawniest chicken" liberated by a Golf Trooper from its VC captors while in Cambodia in mid-1970. Despite missing half of its feathers and having red skin, Charlie Chicken was saved from the cooking pot by finding its way into the hearts of more than one Battle Squadron Trooper.

'Shortshaft' (named for the shaft connecting the turbine with the blades on an LOH) was one of those mongrel Vietnamese dogs that knew when they had a good thing going (i.e., being fed dinner rather than being dinner). He hung around the 2/11 Aviation

Section for at least two years, right up until the squadron stood down and went home in early 1972. Like many of the flight crews who had adopted him, Shortshaft was born to fly. Normally, he stuck with the uneventful short admin hops, but one day he stowed away on Vince Favale's LOH as it went out in search of the enemy. "No one knew he was there," Favale remembers. Shortshaft stayed hidden somewhere in the small helicopter until they went into action. Then, as Favale started engaging a target with his machine gun, Shortshaft spooked. "He scared the hell out of me... He jumped onto the M60, then over the front seat, and tumbled into the controls, throwing the chopper into a lurch." All three crewmen – the pilot, Favale, and Shortshaft – survived the incident, none the worse for the wear.

Just as Sergeant Beans was remembered for many years by the Blackhorse Troopers who had adopted him in the 1920s, so too was Arthur, a spider monkey adopted by Alpha Troop, First Squadron, in 1969. When Dick Moore finally worked up the courage to contact John Sorich in 2010, they struggled to find common memories. Sure, his name was familiar, but why? Then Arthur's name popped into the conversation and "united us again". Both Dick and John had pictures of themselves with the little monkey; Arthur opened the door, and the memories flooded through.

## 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)

SER NO RANK (during tour) \_\_\_\_\_ SSN NO \_\_\_\_\_

OTHER INFORMATION \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE MEMBERSHIP:  NEW  RENEWAL MEMBERSHIP NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

(Sign) \_\_\_\_\_

Visa  Mastercard Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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

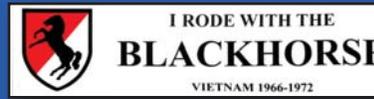
# The 11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia QM Store



#1 Coffee Mug \$15.00



#2 Key Ring \$4.00



#3 Bumper Sticker \$2.00



#5 Blackhorse Watch w/Leather Band (men's only) \$35.00



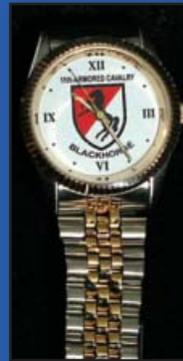
#7 Blackhorse Patch Colored \$4.00



#8 Blackhorse Patch Gray \$4.00



#4 Window Sticker \$2.00



#6 Blackhorse Watch w/Metal Band (men's only) \$35.00



#9 Cavalry Hat \$225.00



#11 Flag, Indoor/Outdoor \$60.00



#16 Tote Bag, Embroidered \$20.00



#10 Web Belt with buckle \$20.00



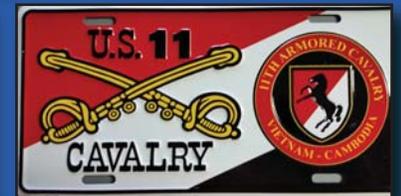
#15 Attache Case \$30.00



#17 Blackhorse Pin \$5.00



#14 License Plate Frame, Black w/white letters \$12.00



#13 License Plate, Blackhorse \$8.00



#12 30th Reunion Challenge Coin \$15.00



#19 Blackhorse Cavalry Pin \$5.00



#18 11th ACR Regimental Crest \$5.00



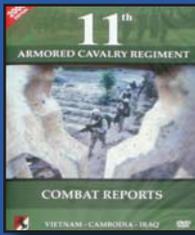
#20 Vietnam Blackhorse Pin, Wreath \$5.00



#25 Blackhorse Coin \$15.00



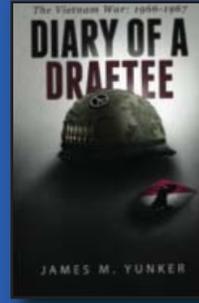
#26 Large Magnetic Patch (8" x 7 3/4") \$7.00



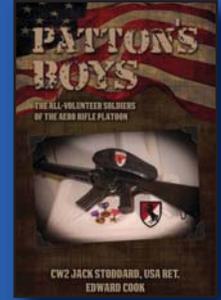
#28 Video (DVD) Combat Reports \$30.00



#23 Leather Gear Bag \$45.00



#32 Book: Diary of a Draftee \$22.00



#33 Book: Patton's Boys \$20.00



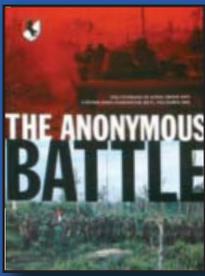
#22 Gear Bag, Red \$45.00



#21 Small Magnetic Patch (5" x 4 3/4") \$5.00



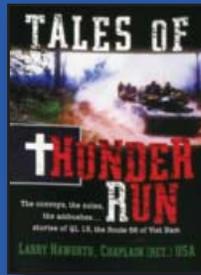
#36. Henley Sport Shirt w/ BH patch and RVN ribbon red in color, \$28.00



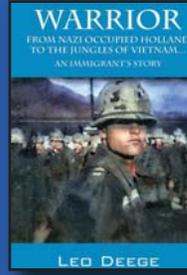
#34 Book: The Anonymous Battle \$16.00



#31 Book: The Anonymous Battle : Part II \$16.00



#37 Book, "Tales of Thunder Run" by Chaplain Larry Haworth \$11.00



#35 Book, "Warrior" \$15.00



#40 Golf Shirt, w/BH Insignia. Specify color: Red, White or Gray \$32.00



Hat A



Hat B



Hat C



#38 Poplin Hats \$15.00

Hat D



#39 a/b T-Shirt, Dark Gray & Sand \$18.00



#43 Windbreaker, black w/snap front & BH Insignia & VN Ribbon, \$35.00



#41 Denim Shirt, w/BH & VN Ribbon \$32.00



#42 Blackhorse Jacket, 100% Nylon \$95.00



#29 Ladies Necklace \$25.00



# From the Quartermaster...

Jerry Beamon

Hello to all Blackhorse Troopers! It is that time again already, REUNION time! Just about the time you receive this issue of the Thunder Run it will be just a few days until we come again in San Antonio for another great reunion. Hope you have already made your reservation and have already registered. So please come on to our reunion and have a great time with fellow BLACKHORSE troopers.

Just think, 50 years ago our Regiment set out on a mission trip and set a standard that would be for all who served with the BLACKHORSE and the rest of the Army to follow. A standard of what fighting unit should be. This reunion we will be honoring all of the Medics who served with the 11th Cavalry. A truly unique individual that would set aside their own safety for the needs of someone else's. For this special kind of person, we are truly grateful.

Please take a moment to look over the order for some things have

changed, we have added several new items and have done away with some that sales have not been selling for a long time. Also some prices have changed. So please take time too look over the order form. When ordering, please include the largest of chosen items Shipping and Handling cost with your order. Maximum per order charge is \$16.85. Checks or Money Orders should be made payable to 11th ACVVC. Signed order form\* allows us to withdraw only from your account allowed funds. Please allow six weeks for processing and delivery. ALL PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE. Previous price lists are invalid.

Mail orders to: 11th ACVVC Quartermaster, Jerry Beamon, 15926 Cedar Bay Drive, Bullard, TX 75757.

\* Required info to process your order.



## Welcome Aboard!

New Members of the 11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia (11th ACVVC) since our last issue of *Thunder Run*. Are you looking for an old friend? Please contact any Officer or Board Member listed on page 3 for help.

| NAME                               | DATES | NAME                          | DATES | NAME                          | DATES | NAME                          | DATES |
|------------------------------------|-------|-------------------------------|-------|-------------------------------|-------|-------------------------------|-------|
| <b>HHT REGIMENT</b>                |       | <b>409th RR DET</b>           |       | <b>C TROOP, 1/11</b>          |       | <b>G TROOP, 2/11</b>          |       |
| Foley, Robert D                    | 69-70 | Conner, Gwendel C             | 69-70 | Farlin, Greg J                | 66-67 | Kerstein, Roger D             | 71-72 |
| Glaspell, James A                  | 70-71 | <b>541st MI DET</b>           |       | <b>HOWITZER BATTERY, 1/11</b> |       | Stottlemire, Teddy G          | 67-67 |
| Herrig, Daniel M                   | 70-71 | Foley, Robert D               | 69-69 | Bachmeier, Michael G Sr       | 68-69 | White, Russell E              | 70-71 |
| Volta, Donald H                    | 69-70 | <b>919th ENGINEER COMPANY</b> |       | Hatten, John L                | 69-70 | <b>H COMPANY, 2/11</b>        |       |
| Williams, Michael P                | 66-67 | Glynn, Ronald D               | 66-67 | Schenk, Ralph R               | 68-69 | Armstrong, Ronald W           | 69-70 |
| <b>AIR CAVALRY TROOP</b>           |       | Duncan, Steve                 | 67-68 | Zepf, Robert F                | 70-70 | <b>HOWITZER BATTERY, 1/11</b> |       |
| Becker, Edward J                   | 69-69 | Marsh, Irving T               | 68-68 | <b>HHT, 2/11</b>              |       | Ramsey, Jerry                 | 66-67 |
| Brock, Alfred O                    | 68-69 | 1/11                          |       | Dais, Merlin                  | 68-69 | <b>I TROOP, 3/11</b>          |       |
| Martinez, Richard M                | 71-71 | Smith, Edward E               | 68-68 | Glaspell, James A             | 70-71 | Bullard, Harold D             | 66-67 |
| Port, Rollie A                     | 68-69 | <b>HHT, 1/11</b>              |       | Main, Larry B                 | 70-70 | <b>K TROOP, 3/11</b>          |       |
| Shubert, Richard                   | 67-67 | Heller, George W              | 69-70 | Miller, Eric L                | 70-71 | Quichocho, Enrique T          | 71-71 |
| <b>27th ENGINEER BATTALION</b>     |       | Kline, Larry P                | 67-68 | Morrissey, Patrick D          | 71-72 | <b>L TROOP, 3/11</b>          |       |
| Hewelt, Gary R                     | 66-67 | Long, Robert G                | 68-68 | <b>E TROOP, 2/11</b>          |       | Ferrell, John W               | 70-70 |
| <b>37th MEDICAL COMPANY</b>        |       | <b>A TROOP, 1/11</b>          |       | Herbener, Leroy H             | 66-67 | Risinger, James E             | 70-71 |
| Mcevoy, Stephen D                  | 70-71 | Kuehn, Douglas E              | 67-68 | Main, Larry B                 | 71-71 | <b>M COMPANY, 3/11</b>        |       |
| <b>46th INFANTRY PLT SCOUT DOG</b> |       | <b>B TROOP, 1/11</b>          |       | Meece, Robert W               | 70-71 | Brannam, Jerry C              | 69-70 |
| Rosett, Ronald B                   | 67-67 | Engstrom, Robert E            | 67-69 | <b>F TROOP, 2/11</b>          |       | Pitchford, Ronald W           | 67-68 |
| <b>398th TRANSPORTATION DET</b>    |       | Rogers, Eldon L               | 69-70 | Rangel, John Jr               | 67-68 | <b>UNKNOWN</b>                |       |
| Giroux, George M                   | 71-72 | Scott, Harold H               | 69-69 | Streety, Thomas J             | 70-71 | Murray, Nelson                | 67-68 |



## Membership is Our Strength

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





# Quartermaster

ORDER FORM • 2nd QTR 2016

11TH ARMORED CAVALRY'S VETERANS OF VIETNAM AND CAMBODIA

| Item No. | Product Description                                                                                                                                                                                               | \$ Amt | Size  | Qty   | \$ Total |
|----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|-------|-------|----------|
| 1.       | Coffee Mug, white, ceramic (glass) 11oz w/full color Blackhorse insignia .....                                                                                                                                    | 15.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 2.       | Key ring, 1.5 " Embroidery square w/full color Blackhorse insignia .....                                                                                                                                          | 4.00   | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 3.       | Bumper Sticker "I Rode With The Blackhorse" w/full color BH insignia .....                                                                                                                                        | 2.00   | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 4.       | Window Sticker, full color BH insignia and Vietnam service ribbon .....                                                                                                                                           | 2.00   | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 5.       | Watch, BH insignia on face, leather band (indicate choice) <input type="checkbox"/> Man's .....                                                                                                                   | 35.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 6.       | Watch, BH insignia on face, metal band (indicate choice) <input type="checkbox"/> Man's .....                                                                                                                     | 35.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 7.       | Blackhorse Shoulder Patch, Colored .....                                                                                                                                                                          | 4.00   | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 8.       | Blackhorse Shoulder Patch, Subdued .....                                                                                                                                                                          | 4.00   | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 9.       | Cavalry Hat (Brown in color, rope and pin included in price--round or oval head shape) .....                                                                                                                      | 225.00 | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 10.      | Belt: Military style 'web' trouser belt with Blackhorse buckle .....                                                                                                                                              | 20.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 11.      | Flag, indoor/outdoor 3'x5' with color insignia .....                                                                                                                                                              | 60.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 12.      | 30th Reunion Challenge Coin .....                                                                                                                                                                                 | 15.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 13.      | License Plate, metal red & white background with crossed sabers & 11 .....                                                                                                                                        | 8.00   | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 14.      | License Plate Frame, metal, black w/Blackhorse 11th US Cavalry in white .....                                                                                                                                     | 12.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 15.      | Attache Case w/shoulder strap 11.5" x 15.5" w/dir emb. BH insignia & VN rib .....                                                                                                                                 | 30.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 16.      | Tote Bag, red & black, 14x1x6 w/full color BH insignia and VN rib .....                                                                                                                                           | 20.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 17.      | Blackhorse Pin .....                                                                                                                                                                                              | 5.00   | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 18.      | 11th ACR Regimental Crest .....                                                                                                                                                                                   | 5.00   | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 19.      | Blackhorse Cavalry Pin, brass, 11 over crossed sabers .....                                                                                                                                                       | 5.00   | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 20.      | Vietnam Blackhorse Pin w/wreath .....                                                                                                                                                                             | 5.00   | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 21.      | Small Magnetic Patch "Blackhorse" (5"x 4 3/4") .....                                                                                                                                                              | 5.00   | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 22.      | Gear Bag, camouflage wwith color BH insgnia .....                                                                                                                                                                 | 45.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 23.      | Leather Gear Bag w/Blackhorse Insignia and pull handle .....                                                                                                                                                      | 45.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 25.      | Blackhorse Coin .....                                                                                                                                                                                             | 15.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 26.      | Large Magnetic Patch "Blackhorse" (8" x 7 3/4") .....                                                                                                                                                             | 7.00   | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 27.      | Magnetic "Support Our Troops" Ribbon .....                                                                                                                                                                        | 4.00   | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 28.      | Video: "Combat Reports" (DVD Only) .....                                                                                                                                                                          | 30.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 29.      | Ladies Necklace .....                                                                                                                                                                                             | 25.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 30.      | Book, "Vietnam Insights" by James Griffiths .....                                                                                                                                                                 | 10.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 31.      | Book, "Anonymous Battle II" .....                                                                                                                                                                                 | 16.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 32.      | Diary of a Draftee, by: James M. Yunker .....                                                                                                                                                                     | 22.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 33.      | Patton's Boys, by: Jack Stoddard and Edward Cook .....                                                                                                                                                            | 20.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 34.      | Book, "The Anonymous Battle" by John Poindexter .....                                                                                                                                                             | 16.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 35.      | Book, "Warrior" by Leo Deege .....                                                                                                                                                                                | 16.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 36.      | Henley Sport Shirt w/ BH patch & RVN ribbon red in color. Size: <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/> XL <input type="checkbox"/> 2XL <input type="checkbox"/> 3XL ..... | 28.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 37.      | Book, "Tales of Thunder Run" by Chaplain Larry Haworth .....                                                                                                                                                      | 11.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 38.      | Hat, Poplin adjustable <input type="checkbox"/> Hat A, <input type="checkbox"/> Hat B, <input type="checkbox"/> Hat C, <input type="checkbox"/> Hat D, .....                                                      | 15.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 39.      | Blackhorse T-shirt, 100% cotton, preshrunk, full color BH insignia. Specify color: <input type="checkbox"/> Dark Gray <input type="checkbox"/> Sand .....                                                         | 18.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 40.      | Golf Shirt, w/BH insignia and VN Ribbon: Specify color: <input type="checkbox"/> Red <input type="checkbox"/> Dark Gray <input type="checkbox"/> White .....                                                      | 32.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 41.      | Denim shirt (men's) .....                                                                                                                                                                                         | 32.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 42.      | Blackhorse Jacket, 100% Nylon, zipper front, fleece lining w/full color BH insignia, (6" back ), and ACVVC front left .....                                                                                       | 95.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |
| 43.      | Windbreaker, black w/snap front, BH insignia & VN Ribbon .....                                                                                                                                                    | 35.00  | _____ | _____ | _____    |

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

Subtotal \_\_\_\_\_

**Shipping Costs: (Includes multiple Items)**

- A) \$2.00 — \$5.00 = \$3.00    C) \$16.00 — \$60.00 = \$12.35
- B) \$6.00 — \$15.00 = \$6.60    D) \$61.00 and over = \$16.85

Shipping and Handling \_\_\_\_\_

Total \_\_\_\_\_

Visa  Mastercard Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

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. Maximum per order form charge is \$16.85. Checks or Money Orders should be made payable to **11th ACVVC**. Allow six weeks for processing and delivery. **ALL PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE**. Previous price lists are invalid.

Mail order to: **11th ACVVC Quartermaster, c/o Jerry Beamon, 15926 Cedar Bay Dr., Bullard, TX 75757. JerryLBea@aol.com**

**\* Required info to process your order**



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**Manassas, VA 20112-7800**

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## Check Your VFW Magazine

In the June-July issue of the VFW (National) Magazine on page 6, they refer to an upcoming book they are publishing on the Vietnam War's Deadliest Battles. In the book, they list the battle that K Troop was in in 1967 - Snoi Cat/QL1, where we lost 16 KIA. They are planning to release the book in 2017 but need "personal accounts and photos" from our troopers to complete that portion of the book. The book will be 450 pages and will have

over 700 photographs. K Troop and backup elements and anyone directly involved are included. This will be an important part of showing our history and making sure it is right. Those involved are encouraged to contact the VFW Magazine; Attn: Vietnam Book; 406 West 34th Street; Kansas City, MO 64777. (no phone calls please).

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**[www.11thCavNam.com](http://www.11thCavNam.com)**

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