



Thunder Run

Vol. 29 – NO. 4

“Together Then – Together Again”

4th Quarter, 2014

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

Columbus Georgia, Here We Come!

By: Steve Page
Director and Reunion Chairman

With the memories of our Las Vegas reunion still fresh in our minds our attention turns to Columbus Georgia and our 30th Annual Reunion. Thirty consecutive years is a milestone in any organization. This event will prove to be one that is not soon forgotten

This Reunion will have many moving parts. The primary purpose is to rededicate our Monument in this new place of honor. We will use multiple hotels and have transportation and varied sites to visit.

The folks at Fort Benning will roll out the red carpet for us. As was the case with our trip to Fort Irwin this visit to Benning will be the largest group they have hosted. Most events are still in the planning stages, we anticipate future coordination

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visits to Georgia to work out all of the many details.

Hotel reservation information is listed in this issue of *Thunder Run*. Please make your hotel reservations early, remember you are not charged until you arrive on site. Please check with the hotel you choose on their cancellation policy as they may vary.

More details will be posted in February issue of *Thunder Run* and on the web site.

Your Officers and Directors have been working on this reunion for some time. We will make sure this is another first class event.

Memorial Groundbreaking Ceremony

A new 11th Cavalry Memorial will take place on Veterans Day, Tuesday, November 11, 2014 at 11:30 am at the site of the future National Armor and Cavalry Museum in Columbus, GA. Construction for the new memorial will begin in early 2015 and is expected to be completed by May-June.

The ground breaking is being held in conjunction with the official dedication of Patton’s Park. The park is a 750 foot walking trail featur-

ing nine combat vehicle displays tracing the development of armor from WW II to the present and a parking area for 30 vehicles. It is located on Benning Boulevard just outside the gate at Fort Benning, GA and adjacent to the National Infantry Museum. Please join us on Veterans Day for these two important events.



Artist’s rendition of new memorial site.

The Blackhorse Lands in Vietnam

By Raye Ashe,
HHT Regiment 1966-67

The landing craft eased softly into the Vietnamese beach and the ramp lowered to the sand. Colonel William W. Cobb, age 49 of Dallas, TX, stepped from the landing craft followed by CSM Arthur W. Hawthorne and the honor guard carrying the American Flag and the Regimental Colors. They were followed by the Squadron Commander and then the troop guidons.

Waiting on the beach to meet them were LTG Jean E. Eagler, Deputy Commanding General USARV, LTG Jonathan Seaman, Commanding General II Field Force Vietnam, MG W.E. Depuy, Commanding General of the 1st Infantry Division, and the 1st Infantry Division Band. Also there was a rather ragged little black Vietnamese pony and 15 Vietnamese schoolgirls who presented them with flowers as they stepped off the landing craft.

During the debarking ceremonies, General Eagler spoke to the newly arrived Blackhorse Troopers, “Officers and Men of the Blackhorse Regiment, welcome to the United States Army Vietnam. In this struggle we are joined by many of our allies. The 11th Armored Cavalry has a long and proud tradition. Throughout its 65 year history the Blackhorse Regiment has been known for its ability to perform its mission through preparedness of both men and material. Now with your deployment to Vietnam, I know you are ready to take up your weapons in the cause of freedom. You will always be true to your motto – ALLONS – Let’s Go.”

Please turn to Vietnam on page 18

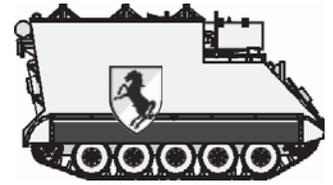




Allen Hathaway
President

From The Command Track

By Allen Hathaway, President



The 29th annual reunion was held on September 3-7 at the Rio All Suites Hotel in Las Vegas. Nearly 1,500 people attended this year. It was an impressive turnout.

People began arriving a few days early and took advantage of combining the reunion with a vacation. Some would make day trips to nearby Hoover Dam while others visited the Grand Canyon either before or after the reunion. Many took time to enjoy some of the shows and other entertainment in Las Vegas.

Registration officially opened on Wednesday afternoon and many were on hand to pick up their reunion packets. "First Timers" were recognized as they checked in and were greeted with a "welcome home" and a round of applause from the crowd. One hundred and eight (108) troopers attended their first reunion - - another impressive number.

The "bunker," which is the large banquet size hospitality room, opened in the afternoon. People began arriving in the early evening to meet up with their old friends. Guidons are placed on tables to make it easy to find others from their unit. Troopers were pouring over photo albums, newspaper articles, and other memorabilia. There were many instances of troopers meeting for the first time since leaving Vietnam. Those were the most meaningful reunions. One trooper said, "The last time I saw him he was putting me on a chopper to be evacuated". While another said, "I always wondered what happened to you after you got evacuated." These are very special moments during the reunion.

Golfers got an early start on Thursday morning to beat the heat for the 23rd annual Marty Ognibene Golf Tournament. Fifty-two (52) golfers participated this year. Most stopped for a refreshing beverage that was offered on the 9th hole.

The silent auction was held on Thursday evening. Over 150 items were donated and available for bid. We have an incredible number of talented members who provided crafts to support the auction. Many items were one-of-a-kind with the Blackhorse theme.

Our next reunion will be in Columbus, GA and Fort Benning in August 2015. We're working on another great reunion with several tours and activities and of course to dedicate our memorial.

Friday was a very special day and the primary reason that the reunion was held in Las Vegas. This was an opportunity to visit the 11th ACR at their home at the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, CA. Over 700 veterans, family and friends boarded 14 motor coaches for the trip. I think all will agree that the regiment really turned out to welcome the veterans. We had the opportunity to tour the 11th ACR museum and to get hands on with some of the equipment and vehicles on display. We also were able to meet and talk with many of the soldiers and learn about what they do at the NTC. We were also treated to a demonstration by the horse detachment.

Perhaps the highlight of the day was when hundreds of Blackhorse veterans and the entire regiment gathered for an impressive group photo. This is a very special keepsake for all Blackhorse veterans. They say a picture is worth a thousand words but at times a picture can also leave you speechless. The photo is awesome!

The Annual Business Meeting was held on Saturday morning where we reported on the state of the organization. Elections were held for one director, the results of which are printed elsewhere in this issue. An overview of the 2015 reunion in Fort Benning was given. San Antonio, TX will be the location of the 2016 reunion.

Chaplain Larry Haworth conducted the memorial service on Saturday afternoon. The names of departed Blackhorse troopers who have passed away since the previous reunion were read. Members of the audience had the opportunity to speak about friends or loved ones lost this past year. There were many heartfelt tributes to our departed Blackhorse troopers.

The Saturday evening banquet and program is the highlight of the reunion. We would like to thank our guest speak-

er, Major General Larry Gunderman (USA Ret), for his excellent speech. As a captain he served in HHT, 1/11 in 1966 then as C Troop commander in 1967.

We would also like to thank the current regimental commander COL Kevin Jacobi for attending the reunion and giving an update on the activities of the regiment. Included in the update were outstanding videos showing scenes of how our Blackhorse soldiers train America's Army at Fort Irwin. They are the best of the best.

We were also pleased, that through donations made by our very generous members, we were able to bring thirty-seven (37) Blackhorse troopers and spouses from Fort Irwin to attend the Saturday evening banquet.

The Saturday evening program was topped off by the Blackhorse Salute. This is always a very powerful and sometimes emotional portion of the program as we salute the service of the thousands of Blackhorse troopers who served with this great regiment in Vietnam.

Our thanks to all who attended, and especially the volunteers who worked tirelessly, to help make this another successful reunion. We especially want to thank the many Blackhorse troopers, family and friends who attend and support these great events. It's your participation that makes these reunions so successful year after year.

Our next reunion will be in Columbus, GA and Fort Benning in August 2015. We're working on another great reunion with several tours and activities and of course to dedicate our memorial. All hotel reservation information is in this issue. Make your plans early. We hope to see you in Fort Benning in 2015. It's great to be "together again" ALLONS!



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

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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.

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The 29th Annual Reunion of the 11th







Bill Gregory, Editor
Thunder Run

Another super reunion! The officers and board members of this organization excel at reunions, no matter how good they get, somehow they manage to outdo themselves the next year! Congratulations to all you guys who had a hand in this year's reunion!

Here at *Thunder Run*, we have put this issue together in the hope that it will be an enjoyable reliving of the reunion, and give those who could not get to Vegas a taste of the flavor of it. The highlight had to be the trip to Fort Irwin. Thanks to the officers, men, and women of the active regiment, for receiving us Vietnam Era Vets, with such warm hospitality! What a wonderful job you did.

It is not too early to start planning to go to Columbus, Georgia (Fort Benning) in August of 2015! We will be rededicating our memorial during this – our 30th Reunion! This issue has some of the information that will be useful to you in planning the trip. There will be much more in the winter 2015 issue of *Thunder Run*.

This issue has as many pictures from the reunion as we can get into it. Plus, we have included a lot of pictures from the relocation of our monument from Fort Knox to Fort

Benning. That is such a big job, and it is interesting to see how it was done and get a feeling for the care with which the team of workers did it. Please look in this issue for how you can be a part of this great undertaking, either by your presence at some of the ceremonies and/or making contributions to help offset the cost.

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I hope you find our articles entertaining and informative, some are for your information and others are pure fun, (we hope). This issue contains an article featuring 10 of our scholarship winners for 2014; we will feature the other 9 in the winter issue. We can all be proud of these young people and happy that we can help further their educations. Thanks to Dale Newcomb, Bob Kickenweitz, and the late Raye Ashe for our member articles in this issue. Dale remembers a humorous time from the early days of the Vietnam War and Bob reminds us of just how close we got to

be to those we were in war with. Ray's article may have been published in *Thunder Run* before, but I could not find it. Even if this is a reprint, Raye had a gift for writing about events in our shared history that bears re-hearing from time to time. We never have too many articles, so if you have an experience you would like to share, send it on to us and we will try to get it published.

It is time to put the gun tube over the back deck on *Thunder Run* for 2014 and head back to contentment, get a little R & R, and start getting ready for 2015. Since this is our last issue for 2014, my family and I want to wish you and your family a very special Holiday Season; Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! As Roy Rogers used to say at the end of his TV show (yes, we are THAT old) "May the Good Lord bless and keep you 'til we meet again".



Membership is Our Strength

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



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



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

2014 Newsletter Deadlines

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

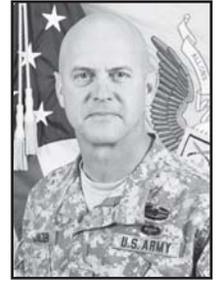
- 1st Quarter Jan 15
- 2nd Quarter Mar 25
- 3rd Quarter Jun 25
- 4th Quarter Oct 1

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@epbfi.com



From the 66th Colonel of the Regiment

COL Kevin L. Jacobi



FORT IRWIN, Calif. – I am absolutely humbled and amazed by the pride, honor, and camaraderie of this organization. In the short time that I have commanded this historic regiment I’ve had the privilege of meeting many of you during your recent visit to the regiment. Nowhere in the Army, today or at any point, has there been such loyalty and dedication to a unit than what Blackhorse Troopers and Veterans display.

The 11th ACVVC is on record as holding the largest Vietnam Veterans reunion of a single unit across the Department of Defense. It was one of the proudest moments of my career to be in attendance and to welcome you all home to the Regiment at the same time. I’m not sure who enjoyed the event more, you all or our Troopers. It was extremely rewarding for them to have Fort Irwin decked out with 11TH ACR equipment and put on a Cavalry demonstration and see you enjoying it all.

The last quarter has been an exciting one. The regiment, and the three active squadrons, transitioned to new commanders. After a few short introductions the Regiment took a well deserved break after riding hard for six straight months. Block leave was a dedicated time for our Troopers to spend time with

their Families, they are our number one support system and we would accomplish nothing without them. Our Troopers recharged to come back fresh.

With one rotation under our belt, the commanders and I are gaining an understanding of the regiments strengths and weaknesses. Clearly, out of all the Regiment’s strengths, challenging the rotational training units is at the top of the list.

At the end of this rotation the leaders of the regiment will conduct an off-site to discuss and develop a shared vision for the future of the Regiment and how to achieve excellence in all we do. In next quarter’s edition of the Thunder Run I will share with each of you the vision, our guiding light for the new quarter.

The ride so far has been exciting; again, it is an absolute honor to serve as the 66th Colonel of the Blackhorse Regiment, the best regiment in the Army! I look forward to meeting many more of you in the future and remember, you are always welcome home. Allons!



SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM UPDATE

by Mike “Doc” Rafferty, Director and Scholarship Chairman



Mike ‘Doc’ Rafferty

Since the inception of the 11th ACVVC scholarship program in 1996, our organization has awarded **356 college scholarships totaling \$1,126,000!**

These scholarships include the nineteen scholarships totaling \$78,000 we were able to award this year. Our 2014 scholarship winners submitted outstanding applications and are well-deserving of their awards. You can view some of the winner’s photos and their feelings about receiving a scholarship in this issue of *Thunder Run*.

Each year one applicant is selected to receive the Colonel Charles L. Schmidt Leadership Scholarship Award. This year’s winner is Morgan Craig, daughter of Michael Craig (F Troop, 70-71), who was selected by Bonnie Schmidt, Colonel Schmidt’s widow. Congratulations Morgan on this well-

deserved honor!

As we have done for the past few years, each scholarship this year is dedicated to one of our Blackhorse brothers who was killed in action in Vietnam or Cambodia. Each recipient received a certificate suitable for framing honoring the KIA name assigned to their scholarship. Duplicate certificates were sent to next of kin where possible. We received a number of thank you notes from next of kin who were very appreciative their loved one was honored and remembered in this manner.

The fact we have been able to help so many children of our members attain their educational goals over the past eighteen years is a tribute to your generosity. Your support of the calendar, raffle and silent auction have provided the bulk of the monies given to these deserving students. As you read their thank you notes in this issue, you can see they truly appreciate your generosity.

Reunion Quote

Last week [my wife] and I got back from Vegas and my reunion with the 11th Armored Cavalry Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia, 1500 strong. We didn’t go to gamble, [we] spent our time meeting friends and making new ones; my brothers and sisters all. If you saw the pictures you know I was right at home with these troopers. We had a fantastic time every night until late talking and remembering and laughing, crying and hugging. It was amazing how tight the bond has formed. The wives and families all hang out like old neighbors, one big happy family. This is absolutely true, and I feel it very deeply. I took a couple days off from the internet and thought. And writing down what I thought, jogging my memory and filling in the holes. Hard work, hard times. It’s all good. I rode with the Blackhorse! ALLONS

From the Secretary’s Desk

Steve Page was elected for another 3 year term on the Board of Directors, beginning January 1, 2015 and ending on December 31, 2017.

Congratulations, Steve!

THANKS!

To the many volunteers who helped make the 2014 reunion in Las Vegas a success:

Reunion Chairman: Steve Page

The Board: Pete Walter, Ollie Pickral, Adrian Vaaler, Bob Moreno, Steve Page, and Mike Rafferty

Guest Speakers: MG George L. (Larry) Gunderman (USA Ret), HHT, 1/11 and C Troop Commander, 1966-1967, COL Kevin L. Jacobi, 66th Colonel, CSM Carl Ashmead, 21st Regimental Command Sergeant Major, Fort Irwin, California

Fort Irwin Trip Coordinator: MAJ Colin Vance,

Registration: Bob, Barb and Raleigh Moreno

Chaplain: Larry Haworth

Historian: Don Snedeker

Quartermaster: Jerry and Jan Beamon, Jerry and Pat Mitchell, Pat Smothermon, Carie Holton, James Young, Gregory Mason, Concetta Cioffi

Thunder Run Editor: Bill Gregory

Silent Auction: Paul and Teresa Gissible, Ron and Janet Krueger, Greg Mason, Adrian Vaaler, Arthur Ehrenberg

Golf Tournament: Joe and Jaci Coopet, Pete Walter

Reunion Photos: Ken Jankel, 11th ACR Public Affairs Office

Reunion Shirts: Chuck and Cathi Bower

Internet Coordinator: Otis Carey, Bob Kickenweitz

Public Affairs: Eric Newton

Women's Group Coordinators: Kathy Tandburg, Renee Majors

And many thanks to the scores of people who stepped up and volunteered a few hours of their time to help in the Quartermaster Store, registration desk, the silent auction and to sell nametag lanyards!

Show Your Pride



Patrick Arble, 398th Transportation Detachment, 1970, will always be seen and show much pride where ever he drives his Chevy truck around Adrian Michigan.



Michael "Mitch" Henschel, B Troop, 1967 -1968, displayed his pride on his antique tractor in a tractor parade to benefit veterans at the Iron Mountain, Michigan VA Medical Center. Mitch lives in Iron River, Michigan.



Romeo Martin, A Troop 1970, is proud of the 11th Cavalry as you can see from his special Connecticut veteran's license tag. Romeo is from Plainville, CT.



Bill Troxell, 919 Engineers 70-72, made this cannon to display his pride at the base of his flag pole in Toombsboro GA.

The 2014 Silent Auction

Thanks to all who participated in the silent auction. A special thanks to all those who donated items for bid. The auction is totally dependent on your support and those who participated came through once again. A total of 164 items were donated this year for a net of \$7,635 toward the Scholarship Fund. This amount is nearly equivalent to two full scholarships. Many of the items had a military or 11th Cavalry theme; which are always very popular.

• Special thanks go to Ron and Janet Krueger (HHT, 1/11), Paul and Teresa Gissible (G Troop, 2/11), Greg Mason (HHT, 3/11), Adrian Vaaler (HHT Regt) and Arthur Ehrenberg (409th RRD) for coordinating the silent auction during the reunion. There were also a number of other volunteers who helped in collecting, organizing, tagging items, setting up and monitoring the silent auction. Their help was invaluable and we thank them.

• The following is the list of donors for our silent auction in Las Vegas. Several individuals donated more than one item. Start thinking of items that may be donated for next year!

- Austin, Dale (2 items)
- Austin, William
- Avila, David & Cookie (5 items)
- Bailey, Ben (4 items)
- Bailey, David & Linda (5 items)
- Bower, Chuck

- Boyce, Roger
- Brune, Ervin (2 items)
- Clack, Doug
- Cofty, Dee
- Council, Arleen
- Creal, Dennis (3 items)
- Crossno, Jim & Donna
- Freeman, Dennis (2 items)
- Gardner, Ken
- Gardner, Vickie (6 items)
- Geesey, Ken (2 items)
- Gerlach, Kevin
- Gerlach, Kiimberlie
- Gissible, Paul & Teresa (3 items)
- Graham, James A
- Hall, Jay
- Hepler, Robert
- Jacoba, Dennis Roy SR (2 items)
- Karels, Roger
- Krebs, Richard
- Krueger, Ron (11 items)
- Kujawa, Theodore & Wilma
- Leesmann, Dale & Patricia
- Malone, Kathy
- Mason, Gregory R (2 items)
- Miller, Kenneth J (3 items)
- Mitchell, Jerry W
- Mollhoff, Wayne (4 items)
- Moreno, Arturo & Margarita
- Moreno, Bob (4 items)

- Morrison, Jack (8 items)
- Morrison, Tom & Terri (3 items)
- Naidas, Kenny G (3 items)
- Nelson, Kenneth L (11 items)
- Padgett, Connie
- Platt, Cherry & Fred (2 items)
- Puskarich, William
- Quinn, Richard
- Rector, David
- Reynolds, Marla
- Rich, Curt
- Rodriguez, Ray
- Rogers, Jimmy
- Rusteberg, Homer (3 items)
- Sheetz, Fred (3 items)
- Shegogue, Ed
- Sinervo, Vincent (6 items)
- Smith, Ron & Marzolf Shane
- Struble, Ron & Marilyn
- Sutherland, Harland J
- Tandberg, Lauren (2 items)
- Target, Barry B (9 items)
- Thomson, Chelsey
- Trosper, Ed
- Wagner, Rick
- Weachter, Dennis & Pat (4 items)
- Weynard, Mike
- Wiley, Scott (4 items)
- Wilson, Delores
- Wright, Anne P

The 11th ACVVC Annual Awards

The following awards were presented at the 2014 annual reunion for service "Above and Beyond" to the 11th ACVVC and its membership.

Trooper of the Year Award

Robert E. (Bob) Moreno, Reunion Registration

Women's Award

Marguerite Austin
Sheryl Myers

11th ACR Regimental Honor Scroll Inductees

Stephen R. Page
Peter L. Walter

Raffle Winners for 2014

The raffle winners from this year's reunion at Las Vegas were:

\$500Wilma Kujawa
\$400John Raney
\$300Billy Salters
\$200 Denver Evans

There were eleven \$100 winners:

Richard Bokankowitz, Billy Salters, Rocky Swiger, Wanda Chubbuck, Wilma Kujawa, William Goad, Elliott Tepper, Roy R. Williams, Dana L. Williams, Frederick Hotzman, and Rocky Swiger.

Congratulations!

Meet Our 2014 Scholarship Winners

This issue contains brief statements from 10 of our 2014 Scholarship Winners. Future issues will feature the remaining Scholarship Winners.

Morgan Mykel Craig



Words cannot begin to express how grateful I am to have received this prestigious and generous scholarship on behalf of Colonel Charles L. Schmidt. This scholarship will greatly help me further my education at the University of Kansas and pave the way for my future endeavors. I feel incredibly blessed that I was awarded this scholarship and I would like to thank all of those who have served for our country and who have given me the opportunities and life that I have today. Morgan Craig is the daughter of Michael Craig, F Troop 70-71, and the 2014 Col. Charles Schmidt Leadership award winner.

Melanie Buckmann



It is an honor and blessing to have been selected to receive one of the 11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia scholarship awards. I am excited to be able to be going back to school to receive a degree in nursing, but as a mother of 3, it is also quite a challenge.

This scholarship will greatly help to relieve some of the financial burdens of school and allow me to be more focused on my classes. I want to thank my Dad and all other members of the 11th ACVVC for giving me the opportunity to receive this scholarship and an even bigger thank-you to all veterans, past and present, for serving our country.

Melanie Buckmann is the daughter of Ken Moser, M Company, 67-68. Dedicated to Robert J. Brinkman, How Battery 1/11, (KIA 4/13/69).

Lauren M. De Paul



I'd like to express my gratitude for being honored with this scholarship. It means a lot to me, and I will proudly display it in memory of Trooper James G. Belinski. This scholarship is important to me not only because it relieves a little financial pressure, but because it proves

that someone who I don't even know has faith in me. I'm willing to work hard to achieve my goals, and lead a worthwhile life, and I appreciate that a stranger is willing to support that. War is a terrible thing, but it has been fought by valiant, courageous, and honorable individuals. I am full of gratitude for those who have served and protected our country; I am blessed to live in this country, and attend a university immediately after high school. Thank you to everyone who has helped protect this country and all the wonderful opportunities she has afforded me. I'm so grateful for this scholarship, and extremely excited to begin the next chapter of my life! Thank you.

Lauren Marie DePaul is the daughter of Richard DePaul Jr. HHT 3/11, 67-68. Dedicated to James G. Belinski, B Troop, (KIA 7/1/68).

Shilea S. Drummer



The 11th Cavalry Black Horse Scholarship is very important to me because it will help me in my future endeavors in terms of my education. This scholarship will be put to good use for my education by paying for books, supplies and other materials that I will need during my program of study for nursing. It means a lot to me

that the 11th Armored Cavalry has established a scholarship to support the children of Veterans of Vietnam. I sincerely appreciate being chosen for this scholarship and will forever be grateful.

Shilea Drummer is the daughter of Frank Drummer, A Troop, 70-71. Dedicated to Richard E. Weiss, I Troop, (KIA 6/23/69).

Brendan T. Ford



I would like to thank you for selecting me as a recipient of the 11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam & Cambodia scholarship award. This scholarship means very much to me because, I am prepared to enter to the ROTC program at Stonehill College, and it is an honor to carry on the leg-

acy of the 11th Armored Cavalry. Thanks to all who thought highly of me to receive this award, I am truly grateful.

Brendan Ford is the son of Robert Ford, G troop, 71-72. Dedicated to James W. Ambrose III, E Troop (KIA 1/31/69).

Shawna L. German



I was very happy to learn that I was a recipient of the 11th Armored Cavalry Scholarship. I am writing to thank you for your generous, financial support towards my higher education. By awarding me this generous scholarship and lessening the financial burden, I am able to concentrate on my education. I hope one day I will be

able to help others achieve their goal as you have helped me. I plan on majoring in Kinesiology at Kansas State University, where I begin my college career as a freshman this fall. I later plan to pursue a career as a Physical Therapist. Thank you again for recognizing my worth. It truly is an honor.

Shawna German is the daughter of Ronald German, E Troop., 69-72. Dedicated to Jerry W. Wickam, F Troop, (KIA 1/6/68).

Kevin Gochenour

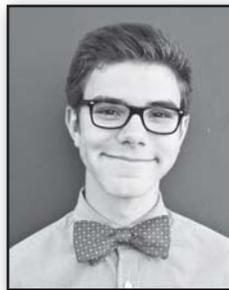


I wanted to send you this brief note in thanks for the scholarship that you and the other veterans of the 11th Armored Cavalry Veteran's of Vietnam & Cambodia have bestowed upon me. What this scholarship means to me in a word is "everything." I cannot express to you in words how much this scholar-

ship means to my family and me this coming fall. As you are likely aware the cost of a higher education is higher than ever, and for folks like me who chose a career path that didn't include college at first it's even harder. My plans for this money are to pay a large portion of my fall tuition expenses at Northern Arizona University. I was very proud to accept these funds in memory of PFC Delbert O. Lewis of Shelby Ohio, who was killed in action on Christmas Day 1967. I plan to honor him and my father Samuel Gochenour who served as a door gunner with the 11th ACR from November of 1966 to November of 1967, by attending Medical School two years from now and making them both proud.

Kevin Gochenour is the son of Samuel Gochenour, Air Cav Troop, 66-67. Dedicated to Delbert O. Lewis, M Company, (KIA 12/25/67).

David J. Hormell



As a first generation college student, I feel blessed to receive this kind of support from people I don't even know who are willing to invest in my dreams. I will be attending Western Kentucky University in the fall. I will be studying Journalism with a concentration in professional writing. I recently visited a small, independent

bookstore. I spent hours in there, completely losing myself in the literature. When I left, I knew that, without a doubt, writing is what I want to do for the rest of my life. Thank you for selecting me as a scholarship recipient. This is truly an honor and I know this will help tremendously. David Hormell is the son of James Hormell, K Troop, 67-68. Dedicated to Gary A. McLannan, L Troop, (KIA 7/21/67).

Lori K. Kays

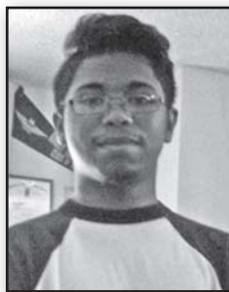


I am truly grateful for the generous scholarship I received from the 11th Armored Cavalry Veterans of Vietnam & Cambodia. As someone planning to enter the field of social work, a profession in which one often has to sacrifice personal needs, it seems fitting that part of my education will be dedicated to

Clarence E. Smith, a trooper who made the ultimate sacrifice and lost his life on March 20, 1969. I will do my best to honor him, others who died, and veterans like my father, Danny Kays, through my work with at-risk youth.

Lori Kays is the daughter of Danny Kays, G Troop, 69-70. Dedicated to Clarence E. Smith, L Troop, (KIA 3/20/69).

Nino A.D. Lane



Thank you to all who are a part of this wonderful community of Veterans who believed that I am worth allowing me to have this scholarship. This scholarship is a large deal to me, seeing that it will allow me to go on to school and not worry as much on cost but focus on my education. It allows

me to go on and one day be able to give back to my community in the medical field, thank you.

Nino Lane is the son of Earl L. Lane, Air Cav Troop, 69-70. Dedicated to Ronald E. Clark, A Troop, (KIA 5/14/68).

More winners in the next issue!

By Bob Kickenweitz
HHT, Regiment, 66-67

It was late January 1966. My dad and I were watching the Bob Hope 1965 USO Christmas Tour on TV. I was thinking to myself, I could be one of those soldiers next year. You see I have been going to school part time while working during the day. I had a student S1 deferment while going to school. After transferring from Union County Technical Institute to Rutgers University, Newark Campus I thought I was good for the 1966 spring semester. Getting home from work about three days later I received a letter. I knew what it was immediately. My greetings letter, no doubt about it. I don't get letters with the return address: The Office of the President of the United States every day. I opened the envelope and sure enough, it read: "Greetings from the President of the United States. You are to report to the Selective Service Board Office in Plainfield, New Jersey on Wednesday, 20 April 1966 at 7:30 AM for induction into the Armed Forces of the United States of America."

On the 20th I reported as instructed, had eight weeks of basic training at Fort Dix, New Jersey, then eight weeks of Jungle Warfare School, at Fort Polk, Louisiana. Little did I know it at the time, but the same thing was happening to a guy from Hicksville, Long Island. His name was Tom Brophy, he was from a middle class blue collar family like me, both of us were Roman Catholic, and Tom came from Irish America descent and I from Austrian, Irish America descent. Tom had been inducted a few months before me and was assigned to the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, 1st Squadron, Howitzer Battery, which was training at Camp A.P. Hill, VA and Fort Pickett, VA. On August 18th, 1966 Tom was flown from Friendship Airport in Baltimore to Oakland, CA. There he boarded the USNS Sultan for Vietnam, and landed ashore at Vung Tau, South Vietnam on September 7, 1966. My training was just ending around this some time. I was given a three week leave, and then reported to McGuire Air Force Base for deployment to South Vietnam. Arriving on the 11th of October 1966, not having been assigned to any unit, I was taken to the 90th Replacement Center at Long Binh to await assignment

Tom and Me



Tom Brophy (L) with the author

to a unit. After a few days I was assigned to the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, HQ & HQ Troop as a scout. My job was to provide security on convoys.

One day Tom was called to headquarters and was told that he was needed at the Post Exchange due to him being good with numbers. Somewhere around the beginning of November I was transferred to the Post Exchange as well due to having an accounting background. Tom and I worked together and got the Post Exchange running well. We even bunked in the same tent. We were on more convoys, been under more rocket and mortar attacks than I care to remember, but thank GOD we made it. When August 1967 rolled around we had a party for Tom and the next day he left. I didn't leave till late September of that same year. Tom went home, got married, had two sons and was living his life. The same things happened to me, but I had a daughter and a son. Time went by and we never knew where the other one was. I always looked for him out on Long Island, to no avail.

Then September 11, 2001 hit! Tom's son Thomas was a New York City Police Officer. Thomas went to ground zero on September 11th and was stationed there for 98 days. I had written a story about the spiritual Christmas I had in Vietnam and

knew that this coming Christmas there would be young soldiers away from home and I hoped they would have the same kind of Christmas as I had. I had sent the story into the 11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia web site and they printed the story.

Now here is where the story of Tom and me all comes together. You see one day Tom was on the web site and read my story and then went on to other stories and articles. For some reason he came back to my story and read it again. This time he noticed my name at the bottom along with my e-mail address. He sent an e-mail saying: I don't know if you remember me I'm Tom Brophy, we worked together in Vietnam. And I replied: Francis Thomas Brophy how could I ever forget you. Well that started e-mails going back and forth. We told each other what we were doing over the years and all about our respective families. Tom told me about his son Thomas who by this time had been diagnosed with cancer due to the bad air at ground zero. One day when I called Tom, his wife Marsha answered the phone. I asked about Thomas. He was not doing well and Tom went to visit him out on Long Island. I said to Marsha, should Thomas pass away please call me, I want to go to the viewing for Tom. Unfortunately I didn't have to wait long. I received the call from Marsha that Thomas passed away and she gave me the address of the funeral home. My wife Patti and I drove out to Long Island for the wake. We were on line to pay our respects when Tom first spotted me, then my 11th Cav lapel pin. He said to Marsha; "that's Bob Kickenweitz." For the first time in 38 years Tom and I embraced in front of his son's casket. We introduced our wives to each other; Tom took me over to his kids and introduced me to them. I was about to say "I'm Bob Kickenweitz and Tom and I served together in Vietnam," when his step daughter Kristen said: "we know who you are; your picture has been in our living room for years."

Well when you reunite with somebody after so many years you always say, if you are in our neighborhood you have to stop by. Later that year my wife Patti and I were going on vacation to Cape Cod, so we called Tom and Marsha and asked if we could come by. That started six years

of friendship between Tom, Marsha, Patti and me. Tom was a lot of fun, always the life of the party; you could always count on him to have a can of Budweiser next to him or in his hand. We would go to their place in New Hampshire and they would come down to our place New Jersey. We went on two 11th Cav reunions together, one in 2007 at Louisville, KY and one in 2010 at Washington, DC. Life was good, but for Tom his time was running out. He was very ill. Tom was diagnosed with Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension (PAH), one of only two cases in the state of New Hampshire. Tom was on oxygen constantly. After returning home from the 2010 reunion in Washington, DC he went to bed and for six months fought the fight of his life. Patti and I went to visit him in late January and to help Marsha.

None of the hospitals wanted to take Tom in due to his illness; nobody knew how to handle it. The only hospital that would see Tom was Dartmouth-Hitchcock at Dartmouth College an hour and a half away. They instructed Marsha and one of her neighbors how to mix Tom's medication. Mix it incorrectly and it could kill Tom, so they worked together and double checked everything. Other than Marsha's neighbor Debbie, Marsha was on her own in trying to help Tom. In March Marsha called and asked if we could come up for a few days to help give her a little breather. We stayed for a few days, got some things done for Tom, but then had to leave for home not knowing if we would see him again. Within a week Tom passed way. We drove back up to New Hampshire for Tom's funeral and helped Marsha with all the running around and things that needed to be done after a funeral.

But the story doesn't end there, Patti and I still go and see Marsha, and she comes down to see us. We go on vacation together, we call, and we e-mail and always have a great time. We genuinely love and care about each other, we are family. When we are in New Hampshire visiting Marsha, the three of us go to the New Hampshire State Veteran's Cemetery to see Tom. We all know that Tom would be happy that we continue to see each other.

Las Vegas Golf 2014

By: Joe Coopet, A Troop, 68-69

The 23rd annual Marty Ognibene golf tournament was contested early Thursday, September 4, 2014. 52 golfers played and 56 attendees lunched afterward at the Wildhorse Golf Club in Henderson (Vegas suburb). These are great turnouts!

Although golf was played over 18 holes, most participants will tell you that they played 27 holes when including the walk to the buses at the far end of the convention center. It is safe to say that our Board of Directors have heard enough about the distance from our rooms to the meeting areas.

Players literally came from around the world this year. Dr. Ned and Sook Stoll (Reg. Q) came from Korea. Sook almost stole (no pun intended) the show with a fine individual score of 85. Roland Campos (F Troop), a first time attendee as well as the Stoiles traveled from Hawaii. Best count estimate was 18 first time reunion attendees showed for golf. Our Ognibene trophy went to Maj. Gen. Larry Gunderman (ret). Yes, our guest speaker well knows his way around the golf course. Gen. Gunderman posted the day's low net score of 69. Ken Miller led the field with a low gross of 80. Take away some of his many 3 putt greens (7 times) and he would have had quite the round.

Temperature at the golf course hit and stayed at 107 degrees. It's not like these guys haven't seen high heat

before. Give them and their girls lots of beer or water—take your choice—and this group can overrun any golf course. Five women participated—yes ladies; we have room for you—and all received prizes for their excellent performances. Generous donations by Ed Buening (F Troop), John Quinn (B Troop), Ken Miller (2nd HOW), Pete Walter (3rd HOW), Waldo Hagen (B Troop) and Tom Doll (2nd Sq HQ) allowed for many prizes and most importantly, funded the two tour trip buses for all of our participants. Also, of note, Ed Buening (F Troop) received the “tough guy of the year” award from his fellow golfing troopers. Ed had open heart surgery in April and saw fit to join us in full swing just a few months later. He has been one of our biggest benefactors over the years. Glad to see him so well!

Lastly, and most importantly, is to remember the spirit of Marty Ognibene. Marty was involved in our early reunion years and succumbed to Agent Orange related cancer in 1991. He served with A troop and Air Cav Troop 1969-1971. Marty's biggest love was his family followed closely by his passion for golf and the 11th ACR. Pete Walter (3rd HOW) started this event in Marty's memory in 1992. Every year we fellow troopers and golf buddies take a moment to honor our missing comrade. Marty, we hope Fiddler's Green has wonderful golf. Allons.

Find an Old Friend

All Troopers, please go to “Find an Old Friend” on our web site 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. 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.

Allons,
Bob Kickenweitz

Visit our website at:

www.11thCavNam.com



Commo

When you were in Viet Nam did you ever make a MARS call? I expect some of you did. Most of you were out in the bush where there was no MARS. Maybe you were able get to the rear where they had a MARS station. Some troops in the rear had convenient access to one. Maybe one was on your base camp if that's where you were. You do remember what a MARS station was, don't you? Now they've gone the way of the dinosaur. In those days they were a state-of-the-art way to communicate by two-way radio with folks back home. How they worked was that a MARS station radio operator in Viet Nam would contact a ham radio operator in the States who would patch you through to your family's phone at home. You talked by saying what you wanted to say, then you'd say, "Over." Then your mom, dad, girlfriend, wife, or whoever, talked and then they'd say, "Over." It went back and forth like that until you were finished then you'd say, "Out." It was wonderful to hear your family's voice. I understand that now soldiers deployed overseas can use cell phones and carry on regular conversations with someone at home (if that's what you call regular conversations).

MARS was only one way that we had for communicating when we were in The Nam. Do you remember field phones? You couldn't always use them in the jungle because the bad guys could cut the wire and that was that. But within a fire support base or in the rear, field phones were a practical way to talk to someone who wasn't standing right next to you. In case you forgot, a field phone was a box at each end of a very long wire. They were colored OD (olive drab) and were about the size of a skin-

ny shoe box. They had a crank handle on the side and a black phone receiver cradled on top. You put the phone to your ear, cranked the handle making a box at the other end ring, someone would answer, then you talked. It was fairly reliable, if you were in a place where you could use it. (The last time I saw one was in a museum).

ny shoe box. They had a crank handle on the side and a black phone receiver cradled on top. You put the phone to your ear, cranked the handle making a box at the other end ring, someone would answer, then you talked. It was fairly reliable, if you were in a place where you could use it. (The last time I saw one was in a museum).

What about PRC 25s? I'm not going to get involved with nick-names that everyone called them. You can do that without me. They were much heavier than what soldiers have today. Everyone knows that one of the most dangerous jobs in an infantry platoon was to be a platoon leader. If that was you, your radioman was right behind you with that PRC 25 with its antenna waving high telling every VC in the county you were the leader in front of the guy with the radio. Same with cavalry. Except with cav you were riding an M48 tank or an ACAV with their antennas waving high telling every VC around that you were a prime target. Radios were clearly good to communicate talk but also effective for attracting RPGs, bullets, ambushes, command detonated mines, and other assorted dangerous devices from the Gooks (Gooks were bad guys who were trying to send you to your ancestors).

Since we're talking about commo (for you family members, that's short for communication), do you remember mimeograph? "What?" "Mimeograph". "What's that got to do with commo?" you say. Well, we're talking about com-

municating and we communicated in writing too, you know. Don't forget, copiers weren't invented yet. So mimeograph was one way we communicated in writing. If you doubt what I'm saying, it's easy enough to prove. I know you remember your orders to Viet Nam. You undoubtedly have tried to forget, but you can't. Those orders were mimeographed. You had thirty-five copies or maybe more, not less. Everywhere you went, someone wanted copies. You had to communicate in print who you were and where you were going, whether you wanted to go there or not didn't matter. Of course, some mimeograph was wonderful, especially if the mimeograph was orders to go on R & R or ETS. That's a very pleasant memory of mimeograph. Right?

I guess the most common way to communicate in Viet Nam was face to face talking. "Aw, come on chaplain. That's too obvious," you say. "I agree," I reply. But remember, there were times when you couldn't talk and then you realized how important talk was. Like when you were sitting in a squad guard post on the land bridge from Cambodia into Viet Nam on an active NVA trail at 0200 hours (as in two o'clock in the morning). You sure kept your trap shut then. On the other hand, on normal evenings when things were quiet, you just sat around with your buddies chewing the fat. You got to know each other better than your own blood brother. You talked, (you communicated), about things you'd no way talk about at any

So that his brethren shall know...

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

other time or place. Am I right?

Then there's body language. Everybody knows about body language. Right? Like when you saw an old buddy you hadn't seen in a long, long time. In Viet Nam you had bonded tighter than brothers when you were under fire somewhere you didn't want to be. You had covered each other's back. Years later you met up at a reunion or somewhere and spotted each other (whether you expected to see each other or not doesn't matter). You got all excited, got across the room or through the crowd, and hugged and shook hands like there was no tomorrow! That's body language. And what did it say, before you even spoke a word? You know - it said very loud and clear that you were more than happy to see each other. It said things that you don't need me to tell you. I'm just pointing out that body language is a clear way

to communicate about Viet Nam.

Communicating about commo could go on for a while. I'll just talk about one more commo type and then let you go. I hope I'm communicating OK. Am I? The last we'll discuss here is one I hope you're into, like all the time. I mean communicating with God. The Bible has plenty to say about it. Reading the Bible is a way of communicating with God because it's his Word speaking to you. Communicating to God is called prayer. That's what the Bible, the Word of God, calls it. It's what God wants us to do. One of the greatest places where God tells us how to communicate by praying is in Matthew 6:7-13 (NIV). It's called the Lord's Prayer. Here it is: "And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what

you need before you ask him. This, then, is how you should pray: 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.'" There are too many other instructions about communicating by praying to God to talk about now. I'll just let you know that one of my favorite Scriptures says to pray without ceasing. In other words, to pray all the time. After all, God is with us all the time. It's up to us to plug in, to communicate with him. He'll communicate with you too. Like right now.

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

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.**

30TH ANNUAL COLUMBUS / FORT BENNING, GA

We're looking forward to the 2015 reunion in Columbus. We have an exciting agenda planned for the reunion week. This is a brief description of some of activities and tours in store for the reunion. Exact details are being finalized and will be printed in the February issue of *Thunder Run*.

WEDNESDAY



Registration, quartermaster and bunker open. The 24th Marty Ognibene Memorial Golf Tournament. Shuttle service will be provided between hotels and convention center from Wednesday thru Saturday.

THURSDAY

This is an exciting day as we begin at the National Infantry Museum Parade Ground to attend graduation ceremonies for a new generation of soldiers following in our footsteps to defend our Nation.



This will be followed by the dedication of the 11th Cavalry Memorial on the nearby site of the future National Armor and Cavalry Museum.



Following the memorial dedication you can visit the World War II Company Street across the parade field.

You will also be able to visit the National Infantry Museum for an on-your-own tour of this amazing state-of-the-art museum which traces the infantryman through the history of the United States. Be sure to visit the Armor Gallery in the museum. The new gallery tells the Armor story through a mix of actual combat vehicles, uniforms, soldier equipment, wall displays, and dioramas that also showcase the Armor museum collection. Shuttle service will provided between hotels and the National Infantry Museum. Those who drive can park at the museum parking lot. Registration, quartermaster and bunker will open in the afternoon.



FRIDAY

We will begin with the exciting Ranger Demonstration at Victory Pond presented by the Ranger Department. The Ranger demonstration is limited to the first 400 who register.



Next we will visit the armor restoration facility at Sand Hill. This is the largest collection of armor vehicles in the world. This will be followed by a tour and static display of vehicles and weapons at the new Armor School at Harmony Church. Next we depart for a brief tour of old post which includes McGinnis-Wickam Hall and Airborne school training area. There will be an optional fee per person for the Friday Fort Benning tour. Participants must be registered with the 11th ACVVC and be aboard their assigned motor coach.

SATURDAY

Membership meeting, Women's meeting, memorial service, Saturday evening banquet and program.



AL REUNION

♦ ♦ ♦ AUGUST 19-23, 2015

REUNION HOTELS & ACTIVITIES CENTER

HOLIDAY INN COLUMBUS NORTH

2800 Manchester Expressway
Columbus, GA 31904
Rate: \$99 single/double
Phone: 706-324-0231
Reservation Cutoff: Aug 3, 2015
175 rooms - Distance to Convention Center: 5 miles
Rate includes full southern breakfast buffet

HILTON GARDEN INN

1500 Bradley Lake Boulevard
Columbus, GA 31904
Rate: \$109 single/double
Phone: 706-660-1000
Reservation Cutoff: Aug 3, 2015
100 rooms - Distance to Convention Center: 5 miles
Rate includes 1/2 price breakfast coupons, 2 coupons, per room, per night

DOUBLETREE COLUMBUS

5351 Sidney Simons Boulevard
Columbus, GA 31904
Rate: \$109 single/double
Phone: 800-222-8733
Reservation Cutoff: July 28, 2015
150 rooms - Distance to Convention Center: 5 miles

MARRIOTT COLUMBUS

800 Front Avenue
Columbus, GA 31901
Rate: \$129 single/double
Phone: 800-228-9290
Reservation Cutoff: July 20, 2015
110 rooms - Distance to Convention Center: 1/2 block

- All hotels offer the following:
- Complimentary parking
- Complimentary guestroom internet
- Complimentary shuttle service to/from Columbus airport (call the day prior to make arrangements)

For anyone needing transportation complimentary shuttle service will be provided from Wednesday thru Saturday between the following hotels and the Convention Center: Holiday Inn, Hilton Garden Inn, Doubletree

COLUMBUS CONVENTION CENTER

801 Front Avenue
Columbus, GA 31901
Reunion Registration, Quartermaster, Bunker, Membership Meeting, Women's Meeting, Saturday Banquet and program
Complementary Parking (400 spaces)

11TH ACVVC DONATIONS

Donor Levels:	Platinum Level \$500+	Gold Level \$100-\$499	Silver Level \$50-\$99	Bronze Level \$1-\$49	
Memorial Fund Gold Level Brauker, Barney Murphy, K. Newman, Roger Penn Sport, Embroidery Silver Level Taylor, Douglas Bronze Level French, William Lemperle, Myron Pabey, Orlando Palmer, Philip Parker, C.R. Shuey, Lawrence	Trooper Assistance Fund Gold Level Argento, Chuck Embrey, James Scholarship Platinum Schmidt, Bonnie Silver Level Russell, W. Arthur Bronze Level Neary, Sheldon	General Fund Bronze Level Heise, Daniel Calendar Gold Level Quinn, John Silver Level Kelly, Dennis Miller, William Moeller, Daniel Sewell, Leslie Bronze Level Flick, Walter	Fralix, Larry Green, James Nassif, John Patrick, Ronald Tighe, Michael Van Horn, David Active 11Cav Reunion Assist Bating, Douglas Baxter, Randolph Blue, Donald Boyce, Roger Caruthers, Verna Crittlinger, Clifford Crutchfield, Nathan Feyers, Larry Flanagan, Hershel Gatewood, Henry	Graham, Raymond Green, Franklin Gunn, Michael Gwinn, Ted Harper, Melvin Helgeson, Steven Hepler, Robert Hernandez, John Hester, Charles Holmes, Eric Ioannides, Paul Klosowsky, Rich Lewis, Stan Lopez, Rudy Mathews, Anthony Moore, Austin Organ, Rick Patrick, Ronald Raney, John	Rogers, Richard Rollins, Chuck Sanderson, Arthur Sexton, Patrick Smith, Steve Smith, Terry Stampley, James Starbuck, Todd Stuedemann, Mary Ann Sutton, Harold Swain, Burl Sweningson, Bruce Tarbet, Barry Ulestad, Keith Vaaler, Adrian Vance, Colin Wing, Douglas Wood, Eddie

VIETNAM from page 1

After the ceremony the Troopers marched to the airfield where they were loaded on C130's and flown from Vung Tau to Bien Hoa Air Base. There they were loaded on Army busses with wire shields over the windows and driven to the staging area at Long Binh that would be home for the next few months. During the drive thru the streets of Bien Hoa, the Troopers looked out at the strange people and took in the sights, sounds and most of all the smell that was Vietnam.

It was September 7th, 1966 and the Blackhorse had landed its Headquarters Troop and 1st Squadron, commanded by LTC Martin D. Howell, along with the attached units. The 2nd Squadron, commanded by LTC Kibbey M. Horne, landed on the 9th and the 3rd Squadron, commanded by LTC Palmer A. Peterson, came ashore on the 12th. The Troopers were immediately moved into Long Binh staging area and began digging in, building bunkers and sorting equipment. The ships carrying the tracks, tanks and vehicles arrived beginning on September 16th thru October 9th. They were immediately convoyed up to the staging area for waiting crews. Meanwhile, the Troopers worked very long hours getting the piece of the puzzle back together after the separation of the men from their equipment.

On the 7th of October the Blackhorse began Operation Hickory to secure the staging area and provide route and area reconnaissance. This search and destroy operation was conducted by the 3rd squadron. At 1455 hours PFC Roy A. Nungester of I Troop was hit in the right shoulder by a sniper while conducting a mine sweeping operation. The first Trooper had been wounded by hostile action. Later that night VC sappers crawled to within 50 meters of the Squadron CP and placed 4 claymore mines, but one of the VC tripped a flare alerting the perimeter. The VC fired only one claymore, wounding SFC Harold Jones in the left arm.

The operation continued on the 8th without enemy contact, but on the 9th of October VC moved in on a supply point just outside the staging area perimeter to set up an ambush. At 1155 hours PFC John R. Pierce, of Bonnie, IL, and I

Troop, walked toward the OP just outside the perimeter which caused the VC to believe they were about to be detected. They opened fire wounding PFC Pierce. At the sound of the gunfire tanks and tracks from I Troop, K Troop and M Company swung into action firing canister and automatic weapons. Five VC were killed in the fire. PFC John R. Pierce died later that afternoon from his wounds. The Blackhorse had lost its first son and had killed its first five Viet Cong.

Hickory continued through 15 October. In the operation the Regiment killed 15 VC with another 2 possible and captured 17 more VC. The Blackhorse suffered 2 men killed in action and another 20 wounded in action.

On October 20, 1966, the Regiment started Operation Atlanta to secure a regimental base camp area in the vicinity of the Ong Que Rubber Plantation. Search and destroy operations went on daily around the new base camp and roadrunner operations were run from Gia Ray in the north to Long Binh. Daily supply convoys brought the equipment from the staging area.

On November 16, the VC hit the new camp with 70 rounds of 82mm mortars and 75mm recoilless fire. Eight Troopers were wounded in the attack. The VC were watching the development of the base camp and when the 1st Squadron was called away on Operation Attleboro and the 3rd Squadron was on Operation Uniontown and security of the staging area in Long Binh, the 5th Viet Cong Division which had dominated Long Khan Province for years went on the offensive. Colonel William Cob demanded the return of at least one of the squadrons to protect the base camp.

The 1st Squadron was released from Operation Attleboro and started returning to the staging area on the afternoon of November 20th. It was determined to get as many Troopers into the new base camp as possible to provide security. A Troop and How Battery 1/11 were sent north as soon as they arrived.

On the morning of November 21 a convoy of over 80 vehicles, comprising the Regimental Headquarters Troop, 28th Military History Detachment, 33rd

Chemical Detachment, Tactical Air Control, 541st MI Detachment, 48th Transportation Group, as well as the Staff Sections (S-1, S-2, S-3 and S-4) of the Regimental Headquarters, was formed and started toward the base camp. At 1025 hours the convoy was ambushed from both sides of Highway 1 by two battalions of the battle hardened Nong Nai Regiment (274th VC) and the Headquarters of the 5th VC Division. Small arms, automatic weapons, recoilless and RPG fire poured into the convoy from close range.

1LT Neil Keltner, commander the escort of 9 ACAV's, decided to try and run the convoy through the fire, but the VC destroyed 4 trucks and totally blocked the highway and trapped over half the convoy in the killing zone. Truck drivers, clerks, medics, cooks and radiomen dismounted, formed fire teams and fought back desperately, putting out a fire that was described as "tremendous." 1LT Keltner, in a performance that would win him the Distinguished Service Cross, ran his ACAV's through the killing zone again and again trying to shield the convoy from the heavy VC fire.

Two FAC choppers saw the action and attacked with the only weapons they had - WP marking rockets. They were joined by the only operational Huey gunship in the 1st Squadron. The gunship made two close passes over the ambush and somehow survived the intense return fire by the VC. The Regimental Light Reaction Team's two gunships arrived and made passes firing rockets and machine guns. Even with the chopper support, the VC were there in large numbers and the small arms fire was barely holding them back and the position was very much in danger of being over run.

Now came what was called by some a "lucky break" and by others "an act of God." Three Air Force F-100's going out on a mission to another area saw the smoke and fire and asked if they could help. Could they! They came in low with napalm, 500 pound bombs and 20mm cannons. They were soon joined by two F-5's that made more passes on the VC positions. A few minutes later the reaction force of B Troop, C troop and D

After the shooting ended that afternoon, 99 VC bodies were found and it was estimated that another 150 VC had been killed, but taken from the field. Three VC had been captured. captured. The Blackhorse had 22 men wounded in action but none killed.

Company arrived and the convoy was saved. In the action the Blackhorse killed 30 VC with an estimated 100 more killed, but taken off the field. The Blackhorse lost 7 Troopers that day and 8 others wounded.

The next morning the convoy reformed and again moved up Highway 1 to the base camp. This time the VC knew better than to attack. When the convoy reached the base camp, the men were directed to the mess tent, where they were very surprised to find a hot meal of turkey and dressing with cranberry sauce. At first they were puzzled by this good fortune, but soon realized that it was Thanksgiving Day 1966. To many, who had been in the ambush the day before, it was perhaps the most thankful Thanksgiving Day of their lives.

Operation Atlanta continued around the base camp, while the 919th and 27th Engineers cleared fields of fire and built roads in the camp. Work on the 63 bunkers and 6 watch towers were started. The hard work of clearing the elephant grass, bamboo thickets and rubber trees was done by the Troopers armed with machetes. Long hours of back breaking work was the rule with nights of bunker guard, radio watch and patrols.

Defoliation of the base camp was accomplished by the spraying of herbicides, including Agent Orange, Agent White and Agent Blue. The chemicals were sprayed by chopper, truck and by hand. Agent Orange was mixed with diesel fuel and was considered to have a very strong and fast kill strength for vegetation in Vietnam.

On the 2nd of December, a supply convoy consisting of 2 M48A3's of D Company, 3 ACAV's of B Troop and 2 2 1/2 ton trucks from the 27th Engineers was ambushed by two battalions of the 275th VC Regiment at the area that was

later to be known (with good reason) as "Ambush Alley". The tanks and trucks reacted immediately by escorting the trucks out of the killing zone and then returning with guns blazing. They raked the area with a tremendous fire of tank canisters, 50's and 60's, along with grenades and M-16 fire.

When word of the ambush was heard over the radio, B Troop, C Troop and D Company converged on the killing zone within minutes. D Company traveled 22 kilometers in 25 minutes and began working over one side of the highway while B Troop worked the other. C Troop arrived, followed by How Battery and both began laying down heavy fire. The VC thinking all reinforcements had arrived began a flanking attack only to be caught in a crossfire as A Troop sped into the action. C Troop shifted further south and blocked the escape routes. Artillery and fighter-bombers came in on the trapped VC, along with the Regimental Light Reaction Team choppers laying down rockets and machine gun fire.

After the shooting ended that afternoon, 99 VC bodies were found and it was estimated that another 150 VC had been killed, but taken from the field. Three VC had been captured. The Blackhorse had 22 men wounded in action but none killed. The only KIA was one of the 27th Engineer truck drivers. IT was a resounding defeat of the VC and one that would change their tactics in the future. They had seen the awesome firepower of the Blackhorse twice in eleven days and had been hurt badly on both occasions.

On the 4th of December, the 3rd Squadron began Operation Alexandria in Tuc Thanh and Xuan Loc Provinces to eliminate an unknown force of VC that had been laying mines, collecting taxes and killing Vietnamese population in that area. On the two day operation they found

24 major tunnel complexes and were constantly under fire from snipers and unseen enemy rifles. They captured and destroyed 13 1/2 tons of rice, 4,100 pounds of peanuts and numerous small arm weapons. They killed 4 VC and captured 600 VC suspects. Blackhorse losses were 2 KIA and 10 wounded.

The first week of December, the Air Cavalry Troop began to arrive and was soon a part of the Regiment again. It would be several weeks before their choppers and equipment arrived and they began active operations, but the Regiment was at full strength for the first time since October 1965. Volunteers were asked for a new unit for long range reconnaissance. Twelve men were selected and began training at the MACV Recondo School at Nha Trang. They returned wearing the black beret's of the LRRP.

The work and patrols didn't stop as Christmas neared. The Troopers stayed hard at work building the base camp and securing the area. They filled sandbags and continued to clear the jungle away in the boiling hot sun. They were a different set of Troopers than had boarded the ships in August. They were tanned from the many ours in the open; their new green jungle fatigues had been bleached from the sun and permanently stained from the red mud of Long Khanh Province. They looked like the battle-hardened Troopers that they were. For four months they had been in constant contact with the enemy and it showed. The newness had worn off and left them "lean and mean."

Bob Hope didn't come out to the "boonies" at Christmas, but Hank Snow did. The Troopers sat in the hot sun and listened to the country and western singer with banjos and fiddles. Rebel, yankee and westerner tapped their boots to the music and enjoyed the show. Hit of the show was Hank Snow's daughter-in-law. A black haired beauty, who smelled good and had round eyes. After the show the Troopers returned to their tents to write letters home and enjoy the only liquor ration they ever received. For many it was their first Christmas away from home, but it wasn't that lonely. They had each other instead of family after the long hard months, they had become very close.



Women's Group Reorganizes and Elects Board

First of all, I want to congratulate not one, but two deserving Blackhorse Women's members who were recipients of the 29th Annual 11th Armored Cavalry 2014 Women's Award, given for Exceptional Service to the 11th ACVVC.

This year congratulations go to Sheryl Elaine Myers and Marguerite Campbell Austin. Ladies, thank you for being part of the Blackhorse 11th ACVVC Women and for all you do and did to help make our reorganization a great success!

Thanks also to all the women who attended our reorganization meeting at the Las Vegas reunion. We had a full house and what a success it was! It was a busy meeting as we heard from you what you want from our meetings each year during the 11th ACVVC reunions. What we learned was:

- 1.) Yes! You want to continue to fundraise to further our worthy projects, mainly the Prayer Shawl Project at this time. And, you want to continue to donate each year to Wreaths Across America for Arlington Cemetery.
- 2.) Yes! You want to continue to have an occasional hands-on-project, such as the silent auction quilt in which proceeds go to the men's causes. Stay tuned to the Thunder Run and the women's column and Facebook and the website for ideas for the next quilt project!
- 3.) Yes! You want speakers at our meetings, when possible, on worthy subjects, such as living with a soldier with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, which many of our veterans still deal with. We'll work on having information for you at the next reunion on where to get help and how to help him and your family.
- 4.) Yes! You would enjoy, when possible, to have the occasional outing.

This is just a bit of what we discussed! In addition to these important causes, we will of course also assist with other causes as the need arises. This includes, as needed, assisting with reunion registration fees for the spouse/companion of a trooper who also receives reunion assistance from the 11th ACVVC.

We also discussed various fundraising ideas. Each year the Blackhorse Women will offer a new lanyard designed for the reunion location. In addition, we will usually offer when able, one other item as we fundraise. Several fundraising ideas came to us from the women, as well as one from a Trooper that was well received. More on fundraising will be discussed in another article.

After a few announcements and discussions about the future of Blackhorse Women's meetings, we heard a report from the treasurer, Marguerite Austin, that we are slowing rebuilding our funds that enable such projects and assistance.

Marguerite is also the address chair. If you haven't attended a women's meeting lately, or if your contact information has or ever does changes, please contact Marguerite at or any women's board member with the information. We heard from board mem-

ber and Prayer Shawl chair Cherry Platt that 175 prayer shawls and lap robes have been given since the project began in 2011. That number has sadly already increased since the reunion. This project sees that a prayer shawl is sent to the family of troopers who pass on to Fiddlers Green if we are made aware of the loss. As our numbers of loss continues to grow, so does the need for prayer shawls. Cherry has said that since the meeting, more women have joined this worthy cause, joining those who knit or croquet at home. This project is expanding to those who quilt. Anyone who has information on quilting these shawls and robes, please contact Cherry by email at for more information. Facebook chair Cathi Bowers reminded everyone to check out our Facebook page. You can search for us under Blackhorse (11th ACVVC) Women. Please "Like" our page and help spread the word. Comments on the page are also appreciated.

We officially kicked off a new project at the Las Vegas meeting called Getting to Know You. Chairing this project is Rosa Rector, who came up with the idea as a way to meet and know the women of the Blackhorse. The concept of this project is to help everyone to get to know one another just a little better because most of us meet only once a year at the reunions. If you took a form home from the reunion, don't forget to return them once completed to Rosa in the envelope provided. Please contact Rosa by email at for more information or for a form for the project. Don't worry about your pages. Rosa will explain what is needed and help is available if needed. The finished forms/pages will be placed in a binder and available for viewing each year at our meetings.

We heard from two guest speakers at the Las Vegas meeting. The 11th ACVVC Historian, Don Snedeker, spoke to us about a special history project he is working on. Don is seeking stories from Blackhorse spouses, family members or girlfriends from the days of Vietnam, and now, today. Not sure if you have a story to share with Don? Contact him at and find out. Thank you, Don, for sharing with us and letting us know what you need.

We also heard from one of our own Blackhorse Women, Pam Hathaway. Pam and her husband, Allen, volunteer each December with Wreaths Across America, placing wreaths at Arlington Cemetery. She shared her experiences and said anyone can participate in the program at their local military cemetery. Thank you Pam!

Finally, we formalized a board of directors for the Blackhorse Women. The position of director has been eliminated and the group now has a seven-member board that will vote on decisions and bring many of them to the membership. In addition, we have a treasurer, with two names on the account. Our account will be audited annually by non-board Women's Group members.

The election results are as follows:

- Co-Coordinators - Kathy Tandberg (Lauren Tandberg, C Troop 69-70) and Renee Majors (Gary Majors, C Troop 70-71)
- Secretary - Sheryl Myers (Gary Myers, L Troop 1969)

Continued on page 27

Boot Stomp March

By: Dale Newcomb
G Troop, 1966-1967

Gather around Troopers, for I have another tale to tell...The best I can remember, about an East Coast Summer day with our flags and guidon flying in those warm ocean breezes, and a local crowd cheering our troopers on parade. It all began behind the scenes; apparently Ft. Meade - the Army base for ceremonial soldiers, had a shortage of drill teams [honor guards] in '66 - Possibly because of the Vietnam build up. Much of our 11th Cav was in Virginia, at the training camp [A. P. Hill], but remember we were formally stationed at Ft Meade, in those large white barracks buildings. I remember trying to go to the post movie theater and being denied admission because the 'Post' dress code was no 'patch pockets' on your clothing. Yea, Ceremonial alright!

Back to Virginia; as a driver [pfc] in 'G trp' headquarters platoon, I first heard rumors that something 'Big' was coming up for the troop. At troop formation we were told that we were going to practice close order drills! HUH? We're living in tents, running around in the woods, getting ready for Vietnam deployment!! What's UP?

Well, OK- Here we go- around the camp area in Virginia on grass, on gravel, and pavement. Actually we were pretty good, because a large portion of us were fresh out of Basic/ AIT. Also we noticed that this new activity was limited to 'G troop'. We were now providing a bit of entertainment and diversion for the rest of the Squadron! The old-timers soon fell into the rhythm of the drills and our confidence improved. I can't remember, but I suspect that we had a drummer for the count [cadence]. Soon the secret leaked out. Due to a schedule conflict or shortage of ceremonial soldiers, 'G troop' was to replace the U S Army honor guard in the Annapolis 4th of July PARADE! All 200 of US!!!

WOW!!!! Did our spirits soar, suddenly we realized that we were the SHOW, in fact, we stole the SHOW; to the chagrin of the ceremonial troops. So we gave the crowd the loud boot stomp march and ROCKED those streets!

But wait! We weren't ceremonial caliber, white boot laces, chrome bayonets on Springfield rifles: no we didn't even have our class A's... those were back North in the Ft. Meade barracks. Well the Army didn't care, soldiers were promised and 'G troop' was it! What we did have were Brand New Vietnam issue Jungle fatigues, Jungle boots, steel helmets with camo covers, AND NEW BLACK RIFLES [M-16s]. This gear was HOT STUFF in 1966. The Vietnam issue was not plentiful and virtually unknown to the general public. Quickly, the awareness and uniqueness of this parade opportunity spread among us in G troop. Our enthusiasm became contagious, and the agenda of our day in town just got better as the details fell into place. Our schedule consisted of transport to the parade staging in trucks, form up, parade march, and then break down at the local VFW Hall. There we would secure our rifles and helmets, and enjoy promised kegs of beer and a few hours of Liberty in the city and harbor of Annapolis!

What a Glorious Day; It all worked as planned. The ceremonial honor guards representing all the other military branches formed up and marched off as the parade developed. I could see their smirks at us amateur 'Country Bumpkins'. Then it was our turn, and off we went, not really knowing what to expect. We weren't experienced at all compared to those honor guards.

Soon, we noticed that our cadence noise was dominate in the tight old colonial streets; the echo off the close buildings reverberated and reinforced our cadence. WE all remembered Basic Training when we could take over a

street with a bit of extra boot stomp [boot strike].

No one said a word of course, but I remember that our cadence started getting louder. Down the street we came and into a real crowd of spectators. They lined both sides of the street 6-8 deep.

At first they showed astonishment, this was NO drill team! They had heard us coming, and didn't know what to expect, for all they had experienced in years past, were those preceding us, the ceremonial detachments. The kids were the first to react. They came pouring out of the crowd, yelling "G. I. Joe"... "G. I. Joe"!! And then they were running along with our formation.

WOW!!!! Did our spirits soar, suddenly we realized that we were the SHOW, in fact, we stole the SHOW; to the chagrin of the ceremonial troops. So we gave the crowd the loud boot stomp march and ROCKED those streets!

The rest of the day was blur... smiles all around at the veteran's hall... congrats and toasts. Weapons and gear secured, and we were off on foot to explore the city and harbor. The original Constitutional Convention Hall; and for me the Naval academy and harbor. Our small group boarded a Navy ship, got a scolding about not saluting the 'fantail flag' and finally a sympathetic Navy lieutenant took us under his wing and escorted us throughout his ship.

Back to the Hall [the Beer was gone!], collect our rifles and gear, and into the trucks for the ride back to A.P. Hill. WHAT A DAY!!!! Thanks to CPT Thorson, 1SG Embrey and 'G troop'.

Note: Annapolis was CPT. Thorson's "Home" city!

Blackhorse Hoofbeats

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

By: Don Snedeker
11th ACVVC Historian

Getting there 'furthest with the mostest.' Operation Attleboro (8-20 November 1966) was General Westmoreland's first multi-battalion attack on enemy base areas in War Zone C. It was also the first time the 11th ACR was called upon to move quickly into a new area and bring its mobile firepower to bear upon the VC. The following extract from the Combat Operations After Action Report for the period describes First Squadron's transition from an ongoing operation east of the new Blackhorse Base Camp to support the Big Red One during Operation Attleboro. The entire squadron moved over 100 miles in under six hours and entered combat the following morning. This action proved the capability of the Regiment to fulfill Civil War General Nathan Bedford Forrest's maxim to "get there first with the most." Attleboro was followed in early 1967 by Operations Cedar Falls, Junction City, and Manhattan.

"8 November: 1st Squadron terminated its operations in the GIA RAY – VO DAT area at 1000 hours. Squadron elements cleared GIA RAY at 1300 hours on their way to LAI KHE [1st Infantry Division headquarters] stopping for Class I [fuel] and Class III [ammunition] resupply at the LONG BINH STAGING AREA. The first elements of the squadron arrived, 200 km's [kilometers] later, in LAI KHE at 1630 hours, and by 1830 the entire squadron had closed. The move involved approximately 200 vehicles and 1000 men completely combat ready. [On 9 November, 1st Squadron, under the operational control of the 1st (US) Infantry Division, began Operation Attleboro, returning to Regimental control on 20 November.]"

You can run, but you can't hide. From an article on 2 October 1967 in the Pacific Stars and Stripes entitled "Chopper Outruns a Red": "A routine administrative run turned into a chase for two lieutenants recently. First Lt. Matt D. McKnight, S-5 officer for the 1st Sq., 11th Armored Cav, Regt., was riding an H-23 observation ship to the 1st Sq. Command Post during a recent operation. As the ship neared the CP, pilot 1st Lt. Kevin Kenney asked to fly cover for a convoy. Kenney steered the aircraft over the trucks and armored vehicles moving along Highway 1. The convoy halted when a claymore mine was prematurely detonated, barely missing the lead vehicle, and Kenney piloted his ship to the head of the convoy. 'We dropped right down on the deck,' McKnight said, 'with Kevin holding the ship about five feet off the ground. We could see a wire leading from the road and followed it for about 200 meters. We saw a VC running from the bushes and chased him down. We hovered about two feet above him, and I motioned for him to get up and surrender. Instead he made a break for the thick jungle nearby. I fired five rounds at him as he ran, and hit him five times. He wasn't dead, so we gave him first aid and evacuated him. We went back to where we had first pinned him down and found batteries, detonators and lots of ammo.'"

Aero-scout in the attack. In the space of just eight days in

March 1969, Air Cavalry Troop's aero-scout Justin 'Guy' Ballou was awarded a Bronze Star with "V" for valor and a Distinguished Flying Cross. On March 9th, Warrant Officer Ballou was flying over the Aero Rifle Platoon, which had been inserted into a fortified enemy base camp in the Catcher's Mitt east of Lai Khe. The ARPs sustained several casualties from the dug-in enemy. Mr. Ballou was attempting to land his light observation helicopter (LOH) to evacuate the wounded when it was "hit by intense enemy automatic weapons fire and crashed over the bomb crater in which the wounded men were lying." His Bronze Star "V" citation continues: "After extinguishing a fire started by the crash and pulling the men from under the wreckage of his aircraft, Warrant Officer Ballou quickly administered first aid and set up a defensive perimeter around the bomb crater. Despite the intense hostile fire, Warrant Officer Ballou left the safety of the crater and picked up a medical kit dropped by an aircraft overhead. Realizing the need for communications, he once again left the relative safety of the area in order to secure a radio left behind by the wounded personnel. Crawling through hostile fire, he secured the radio and quickly called for reinforcements. When the friendly element arrived [platoons from Delta Company, India and Kilo Troops], he once again left the crater and crawled to a position where he could brief the armored elements on the enemy and friendly situations."

Eight days later, Warrant Officer Ballou was back in the air, piloting another LOH over the Michelin Rubber Plantation. His sharp-eyed observer spotted a large force of North Vietnamese Army soldiers amidst the rubber trees. Realizing that they had been detected, the enemy sent up a stream of AK-47 and machinegun fire. Despite the heavy ground fire, "Warrant Officer Ballou began making low level passes over the area in order to mark the positions for tactical airstrikes." His Distinguished Flying Cross citation continues: "In spite of the accurate enemy antiaircraft fire, he remained in the contact area for nine hours in order to direct the airstrikes [a total of eight airstrikes hit the enemy in the space of those nine hours], place suppressive fire on the enemy positions, and mark them for helicopter gunship assaults... Although he was forced to leave the area because of extensive damage to his aircraft, he was personally credited with killing sixteen of the enemy..." Warrant Officer Ballou and his Air Cavalry Troop mates had uncovered the lead two regiments of the 7th North Vietnamese Army Division that had recently infiltrated from Cambodia. Over the course of the next week, the Blackhorse Regiment, along with elements of the 1st and 25th (US) Infantry and 1st Cavalry Divisions, reduced these enemy regiments' morning reports by almost 350 and prevented a planned attack on Saigon. Guy Ballou was also awarded a Silver Star and another DFC during his tour with the Blackhorse Regiment in Vietnam.

Do you want to be the last VC to die in this war? The Regimental psychological operations (PSYOPS) section worked long and hard at convincing enemy soldiers to Chieu Hoi – to give

Continued ➤



Welcome Aboard!

New Members of the 11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia (11th ACVVC) since our last issue of *Thunder Run*. 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
HHT REGIMENT		HHT, 1/11		HHT, 2/11		HHT, 3/11	
Givens, Ossie Jr	66-67	Godbee, Donald J	68-69	Blue, David L	70-71	Cline, Curtis L	68-70
Heddesheimer, Bruce A	70-71	Lewis, James Jr	68-68	Conte, Daniel J	-	Davis, Barry A	68-70
Mitchell, Joseph P	66-67	Theemling, Fred J Jr	68-69	Footman, Levern	66-67	Hennings, Verle D	69-69
Prior, George E	69-70	A TROOP, 1/11		Fox, Robert W	66-67	I TROOP, 3/11	
Richardson, Frank E	66-67	Batting, Douglas A	68-69	Hamilton, William A	67-69	Hansen, Fred J	68-68
Rigsbee, Arnold W	67-68	Scott, Lee A Jr	67-68	Holden, Robert W	71-72	Rodriguez, Nelson C	66-67
Schweitz, Robert J	70-71	Thompson, Michael H	68-68	Marling, John R	72-72	K TROOP, 3/11	
AIR CAVALRY TROOP		B TROOP, 1/11		Matlock, Joe D	71-71	Corpuz, Alberto	70-71
Ament, Marc C	67-68	Garcia, Theodore T	68-69	Vroegindewey, Thomas R	66-67	Davidson, John L	66-67
Arzate, Joe F	69-70	Hanna, James A Jr	66-67	E TROOP, 2/11		Lauderbaugh, Don	67-68
Hamilton, William A	67-69	Michels, Edwin G	66-67	Wilson, Gail A	66-67	Mcdevitt, Francis F	68-69
Mahn, Jay W	70-70	Miller, Lyle G	70-71	F TROOP, 2/11		Trujillo, John T	66-67
Ozanich, John C	68-69	Sanders, Larry W	66-67	Leffew, Donald A	70-71	L TROOP, 3/11	
541st MI DET		C TROOP, 1/11		Mckibbin, James A	69-70	Brown, Ronald L	69-70
Sneiderman, Robert A	67-69	Brown, Ronald L	69-69	Seiler, Bernard Jr	70-70	Futak, Sherman L Jr	67-68
551st MAINTENANCE CO.		Durand, Daniel D	68-68	G TROOP, 2/11		M COMPANY, 3/11	
Legel, Raymond L	67-68	Federlin, Donald E	70-71	Coleman, Ronald R	70-70	Benedetti, David A	69-69
Litynski, Daniel M	67-67	Goodwin, John S	69-70	Dorsey, Jerome N	66-67	Tarango, James G	69-69
919th ENGINEER COMPANY		Hofmeister, Leonard E	68-69	Hnatusko, Theodore S	66-67	Wohlwend, Elam	66-67
Bennett, Donald W	67-68	Merriam, Charles S li	67-68	Stacey, Richard W	68-69	HOWITZER BATTERY, 3/11	
Franklin, Danny	67-69	Ortiz, Gilbert P	66-67	HOWITZER BATTERY, 2/11		Ament, Marc C	67-68
Payne, Robert G	70-70	D COMPANY, 1/11		Masters, Gary E	68-68	McConnell, Rodger E	67-67
		Coleman, Ronald R	70-70			Turner, Jerry H	68-69

HOOFBEATS continued

up life in their jungle base camps and to rally to the South Vietnamese government. The following report from early 1970 describes how they approached this mission, using broadcast messages from helicopters circling suspected enemy unit locations and leaflets scattered across the jungle, rice paddies, and hamlets. "An intensified PSYOP's campaign has been launched against the 101st [NVA] Regiment and its supporting unit, the 50th Rear Support Group. This is being accomplished by broadcasting their hardships and shortcomings using divisive and chieu hoi themes, and disseminating leaflets designed to make the individual discontented with his leaders and the ever increasing problems that face him. A second campaign was initiated with the use of specially designed banners and posters to induce the NVA soldier to surrender or rally. They ask in a subtle manner if the individual wants to die or be the last to die in this war, and also inquire about the well being of his family."

Surprise, surprise, surprise! From the June 1970 edition of the Blackhorse Newspaper: "A group of NVA soldiers running a small

enemy convoy must have been rudely surprised when they rounded a bend and saw a gaggle of F Troop vehicles bearing down on them. But if they were, they didn't have time to show it. Within minutes four of them were dead and one captured. The incident occurred in an area seven miles east of Snuol [Cambodia]. F Troop was on a reconnaissance mission when they discovered a two-lane highway tunneling through triple canopy jungle. They started up the road to investigate. Shortly afterward they ran into the three trucks and two jeeps that formed the convoy. The troopers also captured 400 lbs. of medical supplies, 2000 lbs. of rice, numerous packs, and some rifles and small arms... Two days later they ran across an NVA motor pool. Searching an area near the convoy contact, F Troop cavalrymen found an abandoned 2½ ton truck and two 55 gallon drums hidden in the jungle. An exhaustive search of the area netted an additional five trucks and eighty drums of diesel fuel. Also recovered in the area were 900 lbs. of rice, 300 lbs. of corn, two truck jacks, one wheelbarrow and some small arms."

11th Cavalry Memorial Project

By Allen Hathaway,
President, 11th ACVVC

The 11th Cavalry Memorial Project took another major step in July when all the components were carefully packed up and moved from Fort Knox to Columbus, GA. The monument will remain in storage until early 2015 when construction of the new site will begin. The target date for completion is May-June 2015.

The monument will be the first to be located on the site of the future home of the National Armor and Cavalry Museum. The new memorial will feature all the components of the original memorial including the Vietnam Memorial, the three memorials which are dedicated to the Philippine, World War II and Iraqi Freedom campaigns, plus the nearly 1,000 granite bricks which surround the memorial.

The move also provided an opportunity

to add several new features. These new additions include a bronze plaque placed in front of the Vietnam monument with a narrative of the history and special significance of this particular monument. Two additional, freestanding granite stones will be added to the memorial site. One stone will contain a brief history of the 11th Cavalry since 1901 and will feature a large Blackhorse insignia. The second granite stone will list the 24 campaigns credits of the 11th Cavalry since 1901 along with the regimental crest. Minor refinements are still being made to the overall design.

The cost of the move will be shared between the 11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia and the Blackhorse Association. To help offset the cost of this project both organization are offering granite bricks.

Anyone can purchase a memorial brick.

The bricks are a lasting tribute of YOUR SERVICE to our regiment. The bricks are a special way in which we ALL can participate and show our support for our fellow Blackhorse troopers whose names are listed on the memorials. The bricks measure 8 x 4 x 2 inches and can accommodate inscription of up to three lines of 15 characters per line. Many choose to have their name, unit and years of service with the regiment inscribed on their brick. The cost of the granite bricks is \$100. We currently have orders for approximately 260 new bricks which will be placed at the new memorial site at Fort Benning during the construction phase.

The opportunity to purchase a brick will end on December 31, 2014. The bricks add a very special and personal touch to the memorial. Don't miss the opportunity to be a part of this project. We urge you to support this worthwhile project by ordering a brick before the deadline.

11th ACVVC

2014 11th ACVVC Calendar Appeal

Pete Walter
Vice President, 11 ACVVC

The 11th ACVVC's 2015 calendar will be mailed to every dues-paid member in December. If you do not receive your copy by Jan 1, 2015 please contact Allen Hathaway or me. The 2015 11th ACVVC Calendar again features new photos submitted by you! We want to thank all who have sent photos for consideration but remind those of you who have still high quality unpublished images from your service in Vietnam...please send hard-copies or digital copies to me. The calendar contains significant historical dates of and information on your regiment in Vietnam. Indeed, it is a lasting photographic and documentary tribute to the exemplary service of you and the legendary Blackhorse Regiment.

We once again appeal to your generosity as we ask for donations to support our Scholarship Program. The Scholarship Fund is a separate, self sufficient fund. That is, all scholarships awarded as well as the printing and mailing cost associated with the calendar are paid directly from donations

made to the Scholarship Fund. Membership dues are not used to pay for the calendar. The number of scholarships awarded each year depends on the total donations made during that year. Without your support the program would not be viable.

The calendar you receive is yours to keep and use whether you donate or not. We do however ask for your support with the most generous tax-deductible donation that you can make to assist children of the 11th ACVVC members begin or continue their post-secondary education. The scholarships can be used for college, trade school, or any other educational training following high school.

The members of the 11th ACVVC generously donated \$68,000 to our 2014 Calendar Project; amazingly, this huge contribution came from about 1,600 members. This is an average donation of over \$40 per donor! While this generosity is admirable, a lesser donation of \$10 per member would have generated a higher total.

For 2015 I am hoping we can achieve two goals for the Calendar Fundraising

Project. First, I hope we can continue to see greater participation from our members. Currently approx. 24% of our members participate. Ideally, I would like every member to donate to the Calendar Project. Second, I hope we can continue to generate a greater total every year. If we surpass \$70,000 in 2015 it will mark the single largest year for donations to the Calendar Project. Since 2009 the annual donations have increased a total of 85%. Many of you have generously donated \$100 to \$500 for this cause. We ask that you continue your ardent support.

A limited number of extra calendars will be available while they last. Instructions on how to orders extras will be included with the calendar. Watch for your calendars in the mail in December then use the convenient envelope enclosed to return your donation. Every donation counts, regardless of the amount.

The Calendar Project is the single greatest annual fund-raiser of the 11th ACVVC with all proceeds benefitting our Scholarship Fund. We thank you in advance for your generous support!

The 11th Cavalry Memorial Project



11th Cavalry Memorial Project

11th Armored Cavalry Memorial Relocation Donations

The 11th ACVVC gratefully acknowledges the generosity of the following individuals who have purchased granite bricks in support of the 11th Armored Cavalry Memorial relocation project. The list includes orders received through September 20, 2014. **The deadline for ordering bricks is December 31, 2014.**

- Fred D. Ayers
- Rick Belcher
- Richie B. Bernard
- Larry J. Bonds
- Peter L. Bunce
- Richard B. Carter
- Frank T. Church (5 bricks) in honor of Buck Collins, Bob Zwickel, Vince Stephens, Chris Pfamatter, Bill Harper
- Ralph E. Cox
- Lee E. Duke
- Arthur Ehrenberg
- Edward T. Fagundes
- Vickie G. Gardner
- Dwaine Glathar
- Gary Goldsmith in memory of Bob Smith and Phil Elliott
- Rocky W. Hand (2 bricks)
- Charles W. Harris
- Edward J. Hayes
- James Hendrick
- Ewald Hoelker
- John E. Knapp
- Don Larson
- Nick Lomangino in honor of Bernard Gorberg and Dale Pound
- Pierre Lorie
- William E. Lucas
- Johnny M Mann
- Henry V. Marin
- Leonard McCarthy (2 bricks)
- Stewart McGregor
- Tom Molino
- Stephen Page (2 bricks) in honor of Ken Jankel
- Lee J. Pryor
- George A. Ramey
- Marla Reynolds in memory of Johnnie Reynolds
- Dominic Romano
- Gerald A. Rudisill
- James M. Saeva
- Leslie P. Sewell
- Kenneth Simon
- Lauren Tandberg
- Leo E. Teadi
- Paul Thayer
- Edgar V. Tomlinson
- James Trier
- Eddie W. Trospen
- Brian Ugelstad (2 bricks)
- Thomas G. Valenti
- John R. Van Nus
- Calvin Vander Kooi
- Ken Walker (2 bricks)
- Michael B. Watkins
- George A Wright Jr.

Brick Order Form

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

LINE 1:

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

LINE 2:

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

LINE 3:

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

4" x 8" x 2" Brick - \$100 enclosed

Visa Master Card Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature (Required for Credit Card): _____

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



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. 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.

James A. Alexander, E Troop, 2/11 (1968-1969) passed away on July 21, 2014. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Port Saint Lucie, FL.

Larry D. Autry, HHT, 2/11 (1967-1968) passed away on July 22, 2014. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Horatio, AR.

William S. Bell, Howitzer Battery, 3/11 (1969) passed away on July 29, 2014. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Saint Charles, MO. He was laid to rest in Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery, St. Louis, MO.

Gary O. Gehrig, HHT Regt (1968-1969) passed away on September 24, 2014. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in San Antonio, TX. He was laid to rest in Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery, San Antonio, TX.

J. Michael Heim, HHT, 2/11 (1971-1972) passed away on August 25, 2014. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Greensboro, NC. He was laid to rest in Hains Church Cemetery, Wernersville, PA.

Harold E. Jones, HHT, 3/11 (1966-1967) passed away on August 19, 2014. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Killeen, TX. He was laid to rest in Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery, Killeen, TX.

William B. Kent, I Troop, 3/11 (1967-1968 and 1969-1970) passed away on June 30, 2014. He was a member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Calvert City, KY. He was laid to rest in Pinckneyville Cemetery, Livingston County, KY.

John C. Ozanich, Air Cavalry Troop (1968-1969) passed away on August 20, 2014. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Warren, MI.

Robert J. Phillips, B Troop, 1/11 and HHT, 1/11 (1970) passed away on May 28, 2014. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Burbank, CA. Robert is also a veteran of World War II.

Charles E. Pinks, 919th Engineer Company (1967-1968) passed away on September 2, 2014. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Francesville, IN. He was laid to rest in Kusters Cemetery, Francesville, IN.

Richard W. Ritter, C Troop, 1/11 (1970) passed away on October 26, 2013. He was a member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Elizabeth, WV.

Franklin D. Streightiff, HHT, 3/11 (1966-1967) passed away on June 9, 2014. He was a member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Saint Paul, MN. He was laid to rest in Ft. Snelling National Cemetery, South Minneapolis, MN.

Melvin C. Swope, K Troop, 3/11 (1969-1970) passed away on June 17, 2014. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Flat Rock, MI. He was laid to rest in Great Lakes National Cemetery, Holly, MI.

Ashby W. Tyree, B Troop, 1/11 (1966-1967 and 1968-1969) passed away on August 21, 2014. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Zephyrhills, FL. He was laid to rest in Florida National Cemetery, Bushnell, FL.

WOMENS NEWS from page 24

- Treasurer - Marguerite Austin (Dale Austin, K Troop 68-69)
- Member at Large - Jan Beamon (Jerry Beamon, K Troop 69-70)
- Member at Large - Cherry Platt (Fred Platt, L Troop 66-67)
- Member at Large - Cathi Bower (Chuck Bower, L Troop 69-70)

The following women's members hold committee chair positions: Marguerite Austin, Address Chair; Renee Majors, Fundraising Chair; Cherry Platt, Prayer Shawl Chair; Cathi Bower, Facebook Chair/Manager; Rosa Rector, Getting to Know You Chair. Please know we need all of you to make and keep the Women's Group a success. Together we are a team! Bear with us as we begin anew and move forward. You are important and vital to our group and we want to continue to hear from you and to hear your ideas and thoughts. Please contact any board member anytime. You can find contact information on the men's website at <http://> and then go to the middle of the home page to the group of listings and click on Blackhorse Women's News, then click on Women's Board Members for contact information. You can also contact me anytime at 701-873-2970, leave a message if no answer, or by email at . Until next time!

2013 Raffle Winners

Editor's Note: For some reason we failed to print the winners of the 2013 Raffle that was held at the Indianapolis reunion last year. Sorry, we just missed it!

Joseph Gehring	\$500
Norman Koch	\$400
Gary Webb	\$300
Linda Bright	\$200

The eleven \$100 winners were:

Raymond Olivarez, Donald Fischer; Howard Shafer; John Buczkowski; Lonnie Burris; Raymond Tarr; William Alsobrook; William Kujawa; Michael Deglman; Monroe Howell and Atanacio Loya.

Belated congratulations!

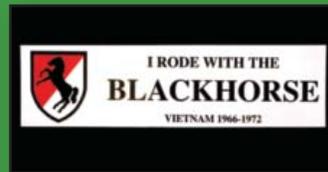
The 11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia QM Store



#1 Coffee Mug \$12.00



#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 Subdued \$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 \$50.00



#16 Tote Bag, Embroidered \$20.00



#10 Belt, \$30.00



#15 Attache Case \$30.00



#17 Blackhorse Pin \$5.00



#13 License Plate, Blackhorse \$5.00



#14 License Plate Frame, Black w/white letters \$10.00



#21 Blackhorse Women's Sterling Pendant \$45.00



#23 Men's Ring, Gold & Silver \$380.00

#24 Men's Ring, Gold & Silver w/Diamonds \$430.00



#18 11th ACR Regimental Crest \$5.00



#20 Vietnam Blackhorse Pin, Wreath \$5.00



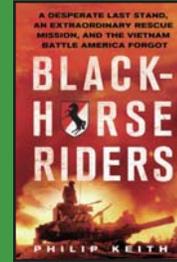
#19 Blackhorse Cavalry Pin \$5.00



#25 Blackhorse Coin \$15.00



#26 Magnetic Blackhorse \$5.00



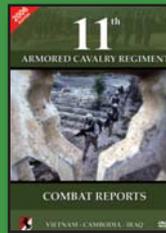
#31 Book: Blackhorse Riders \$25.00



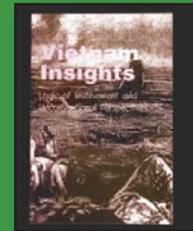
#22 Gear Bag, Red \$45.00



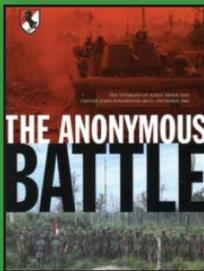
#27 Magnetic Ribbon \$4.00



#28 Video (DVD) Combat Reports \$30.00



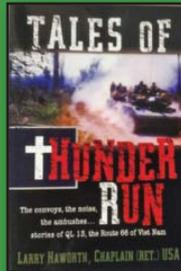
#30 Book: Vietnam Insights \$10.00



#34 Book: The Anonymous Battle \$16.00



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



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



#36. T Shirt, "My Grandpa Rode With The Blackhorse" (Youth sizes: S, M, L) \$20.00



#38 Poplin Hats \$15.00



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



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



#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





From the Quartermaster...

Jerry Beamon

Hello to All Blackhorse Troopers, what a turn out we had in Las Vegas!! It was great!

We got to see a lot of troopers who had not been to a reunion lately, and of course we had a lot of First Timers, who have not been to a reunion at all. Our trip to Ft. Erwin was just as good; those who went had a great time. Seeing that our Regiment is in good hands with Col. Kevin Jacobi, we had fun checking out all the military vehicles that were on display, and the troopers who gave us their time to show us around, providing us with plenty of water to drink out in the heat of the desert.

A personal note to Col. Jacobi, CSM Carl Ashmead and all the Troopers who did an outstanding job showing us old guys & gals around; *Thank You All*, so much for the warm welcome we received. It was great to be able to interact with the troopers at all the displays. Just shows once a *Blackhorse* trooper always a *Blackhorse* trooper! On that note, Jan & I would like to THANK all of our volunteers who helped us out in the short time we were open, without their help it would have been rough. To Jerry & Pat Mitchell, James Young, Pat Smothermon & Carrie Holdon,

Gregory Mason, Concetta Cioffi, thank you each and everyone for your support.

Please check out the new items we have come out with, and then also watch out for the price increases they are on the way unfortunately. New items will added in the next issue of the Thunder Run as well, so please be watching for them.

Everyone make plans for next year to be in Columbus GA, it will be a special time; our big 30th Reunion! It does not seem that far away so make your reservations early and please register as soon as you can, so Steven Page can make plenty of room for all of us who will be there. Come on *all* you K troopers get busy and be there, so we will have the largest troop turn out. Again if you are in the East Texas area the first weekend in May, (May 1st and 2nd 2015) we will be at the Rusk Railroad Park just outside Rusk TX. If you live in the area or have a camper come on out, someone is having a fish fry on Friday night of our Roundup. For more info you can call Janice at 903-780-5621. If you come camping you can get 1/2 price on camp sites if you register before the end of January.

Incoming...

Information provided by and for our Troopers

■ Congratulations to Salvatore J. (Sal) Cassano on his recent retirement as the Fire Commissioner of the New York City Fire Department. Sal was appointed to this position in 2010. He has 40 years of experience in the FDNY with the world's largest fire department with more than 16,000 fire, EMS and civilian members. Prior to joining the FDNY, he served in Vietnam with HHT, 1st Squadron, 11th ACR 1966-1967.

Notable former members of the 11th U.S. Cavalry in Vietnam were featured in the October 2014 issue of VFW magazine. Under the "Vietnam's Most Highly Decorated," John "Doc" Bahnsen was added to the list joining George Patton IV and Harold Fritz from the previous issue of the magazine. "Doc" Bahnsen was listed as the recipient of the Distinguished Service Cross (DSC) and five Silver Stars. In the same issue of VFW, under the column, "Pro Sports Figures Who Served in Vietnam," Blackhorse trooper Alonza "Al" Bumbry a former professional baseball player for the Baltimore Orioles for 13 years and played with the San Diego Padres for his final year in the pros. Al

served as a Lieutenant with F Troop and HHT 2/11 in 1970-71. In 2002, Al was inducted into the Virginia Sports Hall of Fame.

■ We extend belated congratulations to Trooper Richard D. Stobbs, (HHT, 1/11, 1969). In 2011 Richard was inducted into the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame. On Thursday November 10, 2011 at the Franklin County Veterans Memorial in Columbus, Ohio, Governor John R. Kasich and Thomas N. Moe, Director of the Ohio Department of Veterans Services, inducted 20 members of the Class of 2011 into the Hall of Fame. The bronze plaques representing each of the classes inducted are permanently on display at the Vern Riffe Building, 2nd Floor located at 77 South High Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

The induction citation reads:

RICHARD D. STOBBS
Belmont County
United States Army Veteran
Vietnam War

Mr. Stobbs has been a public servant and advocate for veterans since his Army days.

His most recent achievement was serving as chairman of the Ohio Gold Star Family Committee. In that capacity he coordinated Ohio's legislative efforts with numerous veterans' groups to make the new Gold Star license plate a reality in Ohio, visibly honoring those who lost loved ones in service to our country. Dick is active with the Martins Ferry American Legion Post #38; AMVETS Post #44, Disabled American Veterans Post #117, Military Order of the Purple Heart Chapter #625, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #8848, the Blackhorse Association, 11th Armored Cavalry Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia, Ohio Veterans United, Combat Veterans for Congress, and the National Rifle Association. A former sheriff of Belmont County, he continues 30-plus years of public service by serving with the Ovarian Cancer Alliance of Ohio and as Law Enforcement Liaison, Ohio Attorney General's Office. Most importantly, Dick was married to the late Jo Ann Stobbs for 34 years. Dick exemplifies the ideals of a veteran who served in the military, in combat, and still serves.



Quartermaster

ORDER FORM • 3rd QTR 2014

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	12.00			
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			
11.	Flag, indoor/outdoor 3'x5' with color insignia	50.00			
13.	License Plate, metal red & white background with crossed sabers & 11	5.00			
14.	License Plate Frame, metal, black w/Blackhorse 11th US Cavalry in white	10.00			
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, 14x11x6 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.	Blackhorse Women's Pendant w/chain, sterling silver w/full BH insignia	45.00			
22.	Gear Bag, camouflage w/color BH insignia	45.00			
23.	Men's Ring, gold & silver w/full color BH insignia on face (specify size)	380.00			
24.	Men's ring, gold, silver, & diamonds	430.00			
25.	Blackhorse Coin	15.00			
26.	Magnetic "Blackhorse"	5.00			
27.	Magnetic "Support Our Troops" Ribbon	4.00			
28.	Video: "Combat Reports" (DVD Only)	30.00			
31.	Book: "Blackhorse Riders"	25.00			
30.	Book: "Vietnam Insights" by James Griffiths	10.00			
32.	Book, "Anonymous Battle II" (Picture not available)	16.00			
34.	Book, "The Anonymous Battle" by John Poindexter	16.00			
36.	T Shirt, "My Grandpa Rode With The Blackhorse" (sizes: S, M, L)	20.00			
37.	Book, "Tales of Thunder Run" by Chaplain Larry Haworth	11.00			
38.	Hat, Poplin adjustable w/mesh back <input type="checkbox"/> white <input type="checkbox"/> black Solid cloth back, (black only) Old Style <input type="checkbox"/> New Style <input type="checkbox"/>	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	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			
44.	OTHER: Sale Items, Etc.				

NEW!
NEW!
NEW!

Subtotal

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

Shipping and Handling
Total

Shipping Costs: (Includes multiple items)

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

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 \$14.55. 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**



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

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Stable Call: 4,500 Active Blackhorse Troopers and 700 Blackhorse Vietnam Veterans.

DEPARTMENTS

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