



Thunder Run

Vol. 32 – NO. 4

“Together Then – Together Again”

4th Quarter, 2017

The 11th Armored Cavalry’s Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia ORLANDO - A LOOK BACK



The number of attendees going into The Orlando Reunion was 1150+. This number would change as the week progressed. A lady named Irma did her best to destroy the event. It is pretty obvious that Irma did not know The Blackhorse was in town. We being the fighters that we are would do our best to stick together and endure her fury. By Saturday night the numbers diminished and the winds picked up. The number for the banquet came in around 525 diehards

who choose to stick around. The food was plentiful; the drinks were flowing there was great fellowship with everyone willing to help each other and the music loud.

In spite of all that happened we all had a great time. I hope and pray that all of you who chose to leave had a safe trip home, we did miss you all. This Reunion will not be soon forgotten. Blackhorse forever!

*Steve Page
Reunion Chairmen*

Friends – A Port in the Storm



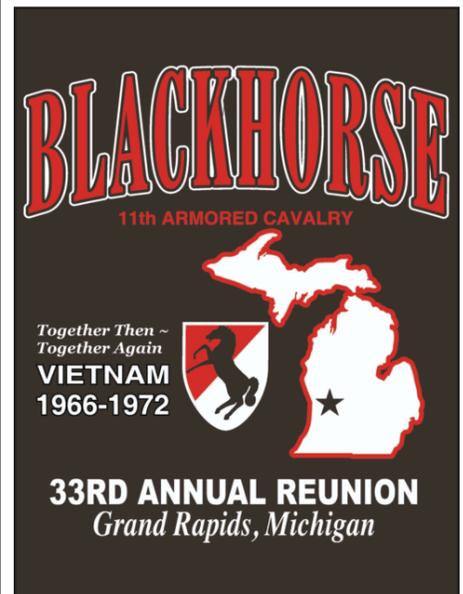
Joe Gehring, Concetta Cioffi, Harris Rosen, Dolores Wilson, Pete Walter, Karen Gowrie (partially obscured man is the Rosen Centre floor manager).

Grand Rapids, Michigan

2018 ACVVC Reunion

September 5 – 9, 2018

Where do you have seventy-five+ local craft breweries, thirty+ restaurants and multiple attractions about five minutes from the hotel front door? The only city that comes to mind - Grand Rapids, Michigan - is the site for your 2018 reunion.



Besides being known as Beer City, Grand Rapids is Americas #2 most affordable Foodie City. There are more than thirty wineries and tasting rooms in the area around the city. If this is not enough, there are twelve Bloody Mary Bars around town!

Local attractions are The Gerald Ford Presidential Library directly across the river from our hotel. The walking bridge is almost outside the door. Meier Gardens are a short drive away, a must see but well worth the trip. The sand dunes and beaches at Lake Michigan are a short seventeen mile drive away. Holland, Michigan is

Please turn to **Reunion 33** on page 6

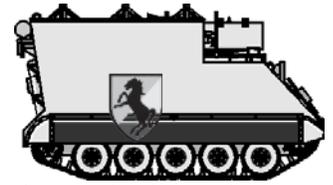




Allen Hathaway
President

From The Command Track

By Allen Hathaway, President



Each of our 32 annual reunions has its own unique memories. Those memories usually include meeting old friends, sharing pictures, swapping stories, making new friends or enjoying the local attractions. For those who attended the 2017 reunion in Orlando, they have different and unusual memories, hurricane Irma. Despite the weather, all those who stayed the weekend enjoyed the friendship and comradery of their fellow Blackhorse friends.

The Friday prior to the reunion, nearly 1,200 were registered for the reunion. Everyone was monitoring the weather forecast throughout the weekend as Irma moved through the Caribbean. As with many reunions, people arrived a few days early to use the time to enjoy some of the local attractions. By Tuesday, over 200 people had arrived. We met with the hotel management on Tuesday to review the conditions. The staff assured us the hotel was safe, was built to withstand hurricane force winds and had been through hurricanes in the past. All the hotel services would be available. It would be “business as usual”. Given the number of people already at the hotel, a decision was made to continue with the reunion as planned.

Approximately half of the 1,200 decided to contact the hotel and cancel their plans. Airlines began cancelling outbound Orlando flights for Sunday and Monday as the airport would be closed. For those who were in Orlando and affected by cancellations, it meant they would stay for a few extra days! Some who drove to Orlando decided to leave before the weekend; but, despite the forecast, an estimated 500+ decided to “weather the storm” and stay. Blackhorse troopers persevere! And so, the reunion went on as planned.

Registration officially opened on Wednesday. In addition to the names tags, meal tickets and reunion pin, everyone received a \$15 meal voucher which could be redeemed in any of the restaurants in the hotel. This was a good deal! After registration, the next stop for many was the Quartermaster Store!

Some who drove to Orlando decided to leave before the weekend; but, despite the forecast, an estimated 500+ decided to “weather the storm” and stay. Blackhorse troopers persevere! And so, the reunion went on as planned.

The bunker (hospitality ballroom) also opened on Wednesday and the crowd began to gather. Admittedly, it was sparse at times. This may have been the only reunion when you could carry on a conversation and hear what was being said.

The weather on Thursday and Friday was sunny. 35 golfers played in the Marty Ognibene Golf Tournament on Thursday. Others enjoyed the pool while some took in some of the local attractions. You would have never suspected a hurricane was headed toward this area.

On Friday evening the hotel furnished hot hors d’oeuvres from 7-8 pm. The silent auction was held at the same time. Over 170 items were laid out on tables. The room was spacious which allowed everyone the opportunity to study each item carefully. Some of the items were very popular and many tried to outbid each other.

The annual Business Meeting was held on Saturday morning where we reported on the state of the organization. The financial report was given and elections were held, the results of which are printed elsewhere in this issue. The Westgate Resort and Casino in Las Vegas, NV, will be the 2019 reunion site.

Chaplain Bill Karabinos conducted the memorial service on Saturday afternoon. The names of departed Blackhorse troopers who have passed away since the previous reunion were read. A final salute was rendered to those troopers.

The Saturday evening banquet and program are typically the highlights of the reunion. A few adjustments were made to the program but all in all the evening went well. Mike “Doc” Rafferty gave a report on the 2017 scholarship recipients. He also reported that beginning in 2018, grandchildren would be eligible to apply for scholarships. The audience gave a

very affirming round of applause.

We have a longstanding tradition to ask the “first timers” to stand and receive a “welcome home” round of applause from the audience. Many of them commented afterward that they waited far too long to attend their first reunion.

The Saturday evening program was topped off by the Blackhorse Salute, a 20 minute video featuring photos of “everyday life” in your regiment in Vietnam. This is always a very powerful and sometimes emotional part of the program as we honor the service of the thousands of Blackhorse troopers who served in Vietnam with this great regiment.

By Sunday the hotel staff began to “batten down the hatches” by removing pool furniture and other outdoor items. Irma moved through Orlando late Sunday evening and early Monday morning. My room was on the 18th floor (of a total of 24 floors). I slept like a rock! You would never know there was a hurricane unless you looked out the window. The sun was shining again on Monday. Many took the opportunity to get out and walk around. By Tuesday, people were checking out of the hotel and heading home.

I can’t say enough about the hotel and staff at the Rosen Centre. The restaurants were opened throughout the weekend. There was plenty of food and water available. There was no flooding. The power remained on. There was air conditioning and hot water for showers. The staff was extremely helpful in extending the reservations for our attendees as rooms became available due to other cancellations. Yes, the 32nd annual reunion certainly had some unique memories.

Throughout the reunion week we tried to keep everyone informed on the status of the reunion through our website bul-

Please turn to **PRESIDENT** on page 6



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," Peter L. Walter, 8 Tallowood Dr., Westampton, NJ 08060-3721.

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13th ACVVC Annual Reunion XXXII



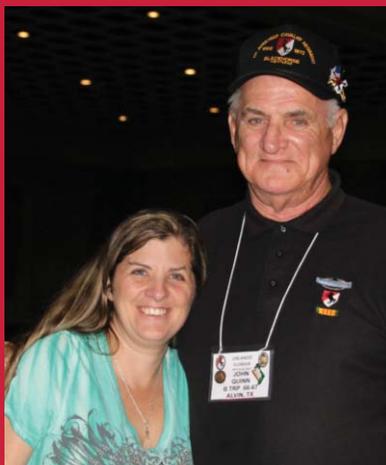
Registration (note sandbags prepped for flooding)



Pam Hathaway, Jennifer Quinn, and Gerri Page



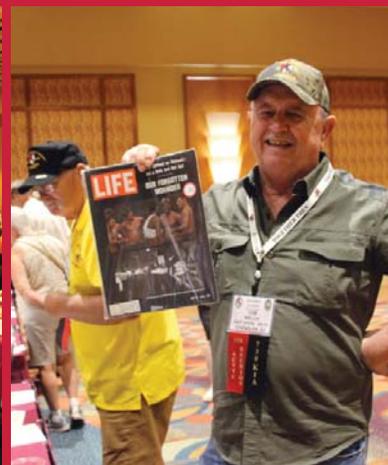
B Troop



Jennifer (our photographer) & John Quinn



Chp. Bill Karabinos, President Allen Hathaway, Treasurer Ollie Pickral



Tom Welch at the Silent Auction



Frank Church, 2017



Terry Stivers, 32 consecutive reunions!



Doc Rafferty (Schol. Chm.) and Charlie Melo, previous scholarship recipient



Saturday Banquet

Orlando, FL

2016 Quilter Award
Recipient Frank Church,
2017 Quilter Award
Recipient Mike
Osborne, Sherri
Bowman and "Jack the
Dog"



Al & Linda Brown, Jay Proctor, Robert Maley



2017 Trooper of the Year!



Secretary Greg Mason



Ollie Pickral prepares the "Missing Man" table



Hurricane Irma from the 23rd floor

PRESIDENT from page 2

letin board and Facebook page. There were many cancellations. Some attendees may receive a refund. Please take a few minutes to read the 2017 Orlando Reunion Refund article in this issue and on our website. Several hundred refunds must be processed manually so if you meet the criteria please be patient.

The 2018 reunion will be held at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Hotel reservation information is in this issue and on our website. Please make your hotel reservations early. Grand Rapids is eager to welcome the 11th ACVVC. It has much to offer by way of entertainment and dining.

The 2018 calendar will be mailed in November. Members always look forward to receiving the calendar. The Scholarship Program depends solely on donations from you, our members. The cost of printing and mailing the calendar must be paid first, then any remaining funds are used to award scholarships. We ask our members to continue their support by making a donating.

Approximately 24 percent of the 7,100 who receive a calendar in 2017 made a donation. That's 1,700 out of 7,100. This year, once again, our goal is to increase that percentage. Help to achieve that goal by making a donation. Even the smallest donation helps!

We have a great organization and I want to take this opportunity to thank our members for their continued support. Welcome Home, it's good to be "Together Again".

REUNION 33 from page 1

just a short drive from Grand Rapids with Windmill Island and Big Red Light House.

For everything you ever wanted to know about Grand Rapids please go to: ExperienceGR.com

Hotel Reservation information is posted in this issue of *Thunder Run*. As always I ask that you make your hotel reservations early. This makes all this planning easier and you guarantee that there is a room for you.

Steve Page, Reunion Chairman

Orlando, Florida

2017 Reunion Recap

Elections:

Elected for 2 year terms beginning January 1, 2018:

■ Vice President: Peter Walter

■ Treasurer: Ollie Pickral

Elected for a 3 year term:

■ Director: Stephen Page

2019 Reunion Site:

Westgate Resort & Casino, Las Vegas, NV, August 21-25, 2019

Annual Awards

The following awards were presented at the 2017 annual reunion for service "Above and Beyond" to the 11th ACVVC and its membership.

■ Trooper of the Year: Frank T. Church, G Troop, 2/11, ACR 1969-1970

■ Outstanding Trooper: Lawrence E. (Larry) E. Cofty, E Troop, 2/11 ACR, 1967-1968

■ Quilter Award: Michael A. (Oz) Osborne, G Troop, 2/11 ACR, 1969-1970

■ Women's Award: Zilda Ritchie

Volunteers:

THANKS to the many volunteers who helped make the 2017 reunion in Orlando, Florida a success:

■ Reunion Chairman: Steve Page

■ Reunion Assistant: Frank Church

■ The Board: Pete Walter, Ollie Pickral, Greg Mason, Bob Moreno, Steve Page, and Mike Rafferty

■ Registration: Bob, Barb and Raleigh Moreno, Vincent Sinervo, Gary Sumlar, Emma Melo

■ Chaplains: Blandin (Bill) Karabinos

■ Quartermaster: Jerry and Jan Beamon, David and Phyllis Ballard, Jim and Vanessa Young, Concetta Cioffi, Pat Smothermon, Jerry and Pat Mitchell

■ Silent Auction: Greg and Joanne Mason, Ron and Jan Krueger, Joe and Yolanda Gehring, Fred Sheetz and Cathy Phillips, Mike "Doc" Rafferty

■ Golf Tournament: Pete Walter

■ Reunion Photos: Jennifer Quinn

■ Internet Coordinator: Otis Carey, Bob Kickenweitz, Paul Gruber

■ Public Affairs: Eric Newton

■ Women's Group Coordinators: Kathy Tandburg

Your Generous Donations for 2017

General Fund	Total	20.....	\$2,465.00
Memorial Fund	Total	2	\$150.00
Assistance Fund	Total	8.....	\$1,910.00
Scholarship Fund	Total	34.....	\$5,430.00
Calendar Donations	Total	1789.....	\$77,281.96
Total Donations: (as of 30 Sept.)	1853.....	\$87,236.96	

2017 Orlando Reunion Refunds

Many members have asked about cancellations and refunds. In light of the circumstances of hurricane Irma, the Board of Directors has agreed to waive the cancellation date of September 1, 2017, as outlined in the Registration Deadline and Cancellation Policy.

This is an explanation of the circumstances for refunds:

With every reunion there are administrative costs that are incurred and must be paid by the organization. These costs are factored into the reunion registration fee. The costs include: audio/visual equipment and support, name tags, hat pins, printing, signage, disk jockey, shipping, postage and other miscellaneous office expenses. These administrative costs are approximately \$20.00 per person for 2017.

The organization is contractually responsible and, therefore, financially obligated to service providers for goods

and services based on the registration count as of the reunion registration deadline of August 9, 2017. Beer and soda must be ordered by this date. (There are no returns after the reunion for any excess.)

A meal count for the Saturday banquet must be given to the hotel no later than noon on the Thursday of the reunion week. The hotel orders and prepares food based on this count and the organization is billed for this number of meals, plus tax and service charges. The meal cost is the largest portion of the reunion registration fee. All reunion expenses are paid based solely on registration fees collected and do not rely on any other outside sources for funding.

On September 1, 2017, a total of 1,186 people were registered for the reunion. **Based on this number the estimated cost of the reunion was approximately \$110,000.**

In order to defray some of the

administrative costs, the board has drafted the following criteria for refunds:

1. Those who were registered for the reunion and who contacted any board member by phone, e-mail or 11th ACVVC website OR those who cancelled their Rosen Center Hotel reservation by 9:00 am on Thursday, September 7, 2017, will receive a refund less an amount of \$20.00 per person to cover administrative costs.

2. Those who were registered for the reunion and picked up their reunion name tags, meal tickets and food vouchers were included in the meal count for the Saturday night banquet. The organization is billed based on the number of meals and therefore the individual will not receive a refund. Those individuals who picked up name tags and chose to leave prior to the Saturday banquet will not receive a refund.

Several hundred cancelled as a result of the hurricane and met the criteria in # 1 above, and will receive a refund within the next few weeks. Refunds are processed manually so we ask for your patience as we work through this process.

Thank you for your support!

*The 11th ACVVC Officers
and Board of Directors*

Newsletter Deadlines

Due dates to submit articles for *Thunder Run*

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

All submissions for publication must be sent to: Allen Hathaway, 13194 Rettew Dr., Manassas, VA 20112-7800; email 11thcav1966@comcast.net.

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: _____

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
11thcav1966@comcast.net
for listing in "Journey to Fiddler's Green."**

Another Great Event!

26th Marty Ognibene Memorial Golf Outing

On Thursday, Sep. 7, 2018 thirty-five hard core golfers assembled at the spectacular Shingle Creek Golf Course in Orlando to play 18 on a beautiful, sunny day. The weather was perfect, the course was excellent and the golfers were a happy and hearty group. There were originally forty-five registered to play but the hurricane warnings resulted in some golfers staying home. Due to the generosity of the staff at Shingle Creek, those who did not play were provided with refunds.

Shingle Creek closed its doors for most of the 2016 season and had the entire back nine redesigned by Arnold Palmer Design – the last project he would take on before his death. The redesign made for some adventurous putts on the rolling greens.

After golf, we all enjoyed a wonderful Italian buffet lunch of salads, vegetables, cheeses, hoagies, penne pasta primavera, sausage & peppers and cookies. We all paused to remember Marty Ognibene who passed away Sep. 24, 1991 and Bill “Jim” Boyd who left us on June 24, 2017.

Prizes were awarded to the following:

- Low Gross Men – Ken Miller, 79 (San Jacinto, CA, 2nd How, '69/'70)
- Low Net Men – **Beau Mann**, 72 (Monterey, CA, F Trp, '70)
- Low Gross Ladies – **Yolanda Gehring**, (The Villages, FL)
- Low Net Ladies – **Barbara Suhre**, (Greeley, CO)
- Long Drive Men – **Mark Gordon**, (Alvin, TX)
- Long Drive Ladies – **Concetta Cioffi**, (Staten Island, NJ)
- Closest To The Pin – **Pete Walter**, (Mt. Holly, NJ, 3rd How, '70)

The staff at Shingle Creek were great, especially Corey Collins and Lindsay Walden. After a “pass the hat” collection was made we presented them with a gratuity of ~\$160!

Marty Ognibene Memorial Golf Outing at Shingle Creek



I heard many positive comments and no negatives, a rare occurrence! I'd like to recognize the following folks for their donations of time, effort, money, golf clubs, balls, tees, markers, etc. Dave & Melanie Scheumann, Ken Miller, Joe & Yolanda Gehring, Rich Kenyon, Vince Simmers, Rocky Swiger, Tom Doll, John Quinn and the very generous Ed Buening! A special thank you to Yolanda Gehring who donated her \$100 prize to next year's outing! And finally, my personal thank you to Jennifer Quinn who provided photographic coverage!

I am already in contact with courses in the Grand Rapids, Michigan area and we will play there on Thursday, September 6, 2018 in the 27th MOMGO. Watch *Thunder Run* for details. “FORE!”

Pete Walter, (aka “Mr. Golf”)



Three Generations of golfers

The 2017 Silent Auction

By Greg Mason

Thanks to all who participated in the Silent Auction and a special thanks to all those who donated items. The auction is totally dependent on your support and those who participated came through once again. A total of 172 items were donated this year generating \$4,460 in gross receipts for the Scholarship Fund. This amount is equivalent to one full scholarship and almost a half of a second. Our donations and proceeds were down from prior years as a result of hurricane Irma getting ready to hit Florida. Many of the items had military or 11th Cavalry themes, which are always very popular. We also had a number of hand-crafted items and to those of you who made these items, very special thanks as many of them were ones that had the highest bids. We hope you will continue to make and donate these items.

Special thanks to Ron and Janet Krueger (HHT, 1/11), Joe and Yolanda Gehring (I Troop, 3/11), Mike "Doc" Rafferty (G Troop, 2/11), Fred Sheetz (919th Engineers), Kathy Phillips and Joanne Mason for help in collecting, organizing, tagging items, setting up and monitoring the silent auction. Thanks to Bob Moreno and his staff for receiving items in our absence and for assistance at the end of the auction in processing credit card payments. All of these folks helped make the auction a success.

The following is the list of donors for our Silent Auction, many who donated more than one item. Start thinking of items that may be donated for next year's reunion!

- 11th ACR (1 item)
- 11th ACVVC (4 items)
- 3rd How (1 item)
- Anonymous (20 items)
- Dale & Marguerite Austin (1 item)
- Morris & Sherry Boyett (12 items)
- Timothy & Rose Burke (1 item)
- Frank Church (1 item)
- Doug Clack (1 item)
- Dennis Creal (4 items)
- Lester Culver Jr (3 items)
- Gary Dilberian (1 item)
- Mason Epperly (1 item)
- Jane Evans (1 items)
- Jim Felker (3 items)
- Ken Geesey (2 items)
- Kevin & Kimberlie Gerlach (3 items)
- Karen Gowrie (2 items)
- Deb Herndon (9 items)
- Renate Howell & Kiersten Hoffman (1 item)
- Bill Karabinos (2 items)
- Dennis Kelly (1 item)



The Silent Auction at the 2017 reunion.

- Frederick Kenyon (6 items)
- George King (1 item)
- Rudolph Kohler (17 items)
- Ron Krueger (1 item)
- Don LaFontaine (2 items)
- Albert LaPoint (1 item)
- Stephanie Linn (1 item)
- Robert Maley (1 item)
- Walker Malone (1 item)
- Greg Mason (4 items)
- Kit Mayberry (1 item)
- Robin McCarthy (1 item)
- Bob & Barb Moreno (3 items)
- Raleigh Moreno (3 items)
- Terrel Nickeson (2 items)
- Mark Perez (3 items)
- Fredena Pion (3 items)
- Cherry Platt (2 items)
- Tony Puglisi (1 item)
- Jennifer Quinn (7 items)
- Mike (Doc) Rafferty (2 items)
- Fred Sheetz (2 items)
- Vincent Sinervo (8 items)
- Byron Skinner (1 item)
- Tom & Donna Stone (2 items)
- John Szekely (6 items)
- Gerald & Georgia Uzzi (1 item)
- Pete Walter (3 items)
- Dennis & Patricia Weachter (6 items)
- Jim Young (1 item)



An Incredible Poem

No sooner had I returned home from the 32nd reunion that I was asked to participate at the burial of an Air Force veteran of both Korea and Vietnam. The family had not requested an honor guard and there was neither a military nor Legion or VFW presence at the interment. My friend's ashes were placed in a vault at a memorial garden cemetery in Virginia. The traditional folding of the flag, fired salute and playing of Taps were all missing.

After the final prayers were concluded, I stepped forward to presumptively represent the United States Armed Forces and a grateful nation. I acknowledged my friend's long service to his country, spoke a bit about his career, offered what words of comfort I could muster to the family and then read the poem that the 11th Armored Cavalry Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia traditionally use at our Memorial Services: "Bury Me With Soldiers."

At our reunion in Orlando, we recognized over 600 of our brothers who passed this past year; it was a dutiful and solemn salute. During that ceremony we had one of our troopers read the poem, "Bury Me With Soldiers." Hundreds of you have heard it any number of times, or rather have heard parts of the poem. I haven't attended any reading where a Black Horse trooper could finish the recitation with a clear and steady voice and without pauses to gather himself. That's true of me, and it would be true of most of you. Many of our troopers do not want to take on the responsibility of reading that poem as they know that it will tear up their hearts so much with memories of those events in our service in Southeast Asia that we would rather forget or better still; have had no part in. This year Trooper Roger Dennis took on the awesome task and he too was moved like all before him. Roger bravely managed to finish, something few of us could have handled.

It is an incredible poem and so rich in meaning. When I first perused it, I didn't think it was that good and poetic. I was never a poetry fan in my school days. But after I heard it read the first time, I noted how touching the words were and how deep the meaning. Each time since then, the poem glues me to a seat on the back of a truck, bouncing through a dry field at the edge of a jungle and concerned that red ants aren't falling from trees and down the back of my neck. It echoes rifle and resonates machine gun fire, mortars popping and rockets whizzing into our midst and chopper blades slapping wind overhead. It is an awakening from a long dream ... and not a good one. That is why, we can't read it without pause, without our hanker chief turning into a dish rag, without swallowing our tears and without a burning stomach. It is a powerful poem.

For a while, the author was listed as unknown. Pete Walter set me straight and found the name and address of the author. The author was Charlie Fink, Sergeant of the 199th Light Infantry Brigade, serving in Vietnam in 1969 and 1970. Charlie and his Delta Company actually did run a lot of operations with the 11th Cav while in country. He too is one of ours in a cousinly combat unit fashion.

I haven't attended any reading where a Black Horse trooper could finish the recitation with a clear and steady voice and without pauses to gather himself. That's true of me, and it would be true of most of you.

When Charlie returned to the States and left the service, he began divinity studies and is now the pastor of a parish on the south shore and in the middle of Long Island: Monsignor Charles Fink.

Thanks to Pete, I have been in touch and Charlie responded to my letter on the 25th of September. I'll include only parts of his message: "Thanks very much for your kind and gracious letter. I remember the 11th Armored Cav very well. We ran a lot of operations with them when I was in Delta Company, 2/12, 199th Light Infantry Brigade. Some of my first experiences of being in the boonies were with you guys. I'm always very gratified and humbled when I hear that my poem has touched other veterans and their families. An elderly woman called me from Connecticut one day not long ago to tell me that her husband, a WWII vet who never talked about his war experiences had recently died. She found "Bury Me With Soldiers" folded up in his wallet and wanted to thank me for giving him something to hold on to. I did write it while I was in the seminary, and in reaction to some nasty things that were said about Vietnam Veterans. I'm honored you found it helpful in your chaplaincy work. God bless you and yours and all our veterans."

So I too had a very difficult time reading the poem at the cemetery where we buried my friend and Air Force veteran, Master Sergeant Don Aspinall. Don served 23 years, was the son of a career Air Force

Master Sergeant and brother of a United States Marine, whose name is on that Wall that we reverently and proudly touch at least twice annually at the 11th Cav gatherings in DC on Memorial and Veterans days. And yes, I did have a folder flag that I could present to the widow of our fellow soldier "... on behalf of a grateful nation."

BURY ME WITH SOLDIERS

I've played a lot of roles in life;
I've met a lot of men;
I've done some things I'd like to think
I wouldn't do again.
And though I'm young, I'm old enough
To know someday I'll die,
And think about what lies beyond,
Beside whom I would lie.
Perhaps it doesn't matter much;

Still, if I had my choice,
 I'd want a grave 'mongst soldiers
 When at last death quells my voice.
 I'm sick of the hypocrisy
 Of lectures by the wise.
 I'll take the man, with all his flaws,
 Who goes, though scared, and dies.
 The troops I knew were commonplace;
 They didn't want the war.
 They fought because their fathers and
 Their fathers had before.
 They cursed and killed and wept—God knows
 They're easy to deride—
 But bury me with men like these;
 They faced the guns and died.
 It's funny, when you think of it,
 The way we got along.

We'd come from different worlds,
 To live in one no one belongs.
 I didn't even like them all;
 I'm sure they'd all agree.
 Yet I would give my life for them.
 I know some did for me.
 So bury me with soldiers, please,
 Though much maligned they be.
 Yes, bury me with soldiers, for
 I miss their company.
 We'll not soon see their like again;
 We've had our fill of war.
 But bury me with men like them
 Till someone else does more.

*Msgr. Charles Fink, formerly Sgt., 199th Lt. Inf. Brigade,
 Vietnam (1969-70)*

2017 Election Results

The results of the elections held at the Membership Meeting on September 9, 2017 at the Orlando reunion are as follows:

Elected for 2 year terms beginning January 1, 2018:

- **Vice Pres. – Peter Walter**
- **Treasurer – Ollie Pickral**

Elected for a 3 year term:

- **Director-Stephen Page**

2017 11 ACVVC Raffle Winners

1st Place Winner\$500Babe Halstead
 2nd Place Winner\$400Sam Lovato
 3rd Place Winner.....\$300Gary Hartwig
 4th Place Winner.....\$200Brad Durant

5th – 15th Place Winners.....\$100 each:

- Kim Raseman
- Jesus Dominguez
- George Patch
(donated winnings to Scholarship Fund)
- Arthur Thomas
- Charles Childers
- Douglas Traylor
- Bobby Bates
- Harry Bartosik
- Paul Moxley
- Felix Galaviz
- Barbara Nelson

11TH ACVVC DONATIONS

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

Members donations are used for the sole purpose for which they are intended. Whether it be for Scholarship, Reunion Assistance, Memorial or the General Fund, member donations are used to support that specific fund.

Scholarship Fund

Graham, Ray & Cheryl
 In Memory of Fred
 Platt

Henry, A.J.
 Neary, Sheldon

Silver Level

Massey, Tom
 Sexton, Edward
 In Honor of Ron
 Mihalenko

Memorial Fund

Ostrom, David

Platinum Level

Schmidt, Bonnie

Reunion Assistance Fund

Patch, George
 Rosenbaugh, Howard
 Thompson, James

Silver Level

Kotek, Richard

Bronze Level

Boston, Russell
 Carroll, Patrick
 Eager, Michael
 Flick, Walter

Gold Level

Arnaud, Garland
 Brewer, James
 Darnell, Ronald
 Endres, Brad
 Ferreira, John
 Gassaway, Wayne

Silver Level

Maria, Lawrence
 Wardrope, Scott

Silver Level

Reith, Gary

BronzeLevel

Freeman, Dennis

Calendar Fund

Gold Level

Arnaud, Garland

Silver Level

Hamm, Thomas
 Moyer, Jack

Gutierrez, Winslow
 Hebert, Donald
 Jordan, John
 Rush, Robert
 Thompson, James
 Van Horn, David

General Fund

Gold Level

Johnson, Gene

Bronze Level

Borum, William

Vietnam

*We few, we happy few, we band of brothers;
For he today that sheds his blood with me
Shall be my brother; be he ne'er so vile,
This day shall gentle his condition.
And gentlemen in England now abed
Shall think themselves accursed they were not here,
And hold their manhoods cheap whiles any speaks
That fought with us upon Saint Crispin's day. —Shakespeare*



David Drake

Photo by Roger Brwnell

This picture was taken in July of 1970 when I was in the field with the 1st Squadron of the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment. I was at a firebase somewhere in Military Region III. The place didn't have a local name that I ever heard; it was just a chunk of jungle bulldozed open to hold maybe fifty armored vehicles including six 155-mm self-propelled howitzers. I was an enlisted interrogator, part of the six-man Military Intelligence team accompanying the squadron.

The greatest single influence on my life was the Vietnam War. I wish that weren't true, but it is.

In a normal world I'd have graduated from law school and gone on to be an attorney who'd sold a couple stories when he was in his twenties. Instead I was drafted out of law school in the middle of my second year; sent to basic training (Ft Bragg, NC), Vietnamese language school (Ft Bliss, TX), interrogation training (Ft Meade, MD); and Southeast Asia, just in time for the 1970 invasion of Cambodia which the 11th Cav spearheaded. There was a time that I'd actually spent twice as long in Cambodia as I had in Vietnam.

I then came back to the World, finished law school, and (though I had a job as Assistant Town Attorney for Chapel Hill) wrote a great deal more fiction than

would otherwise have been the case.

Frequently I write about soldiers or veterans: military sf. Because of that I'm accused of writing militaristic sf by those who either don't know the difference between description and advocacy or who deny there is a difference. I wrote the following essay as an afterword to a collection of military sf stories, attempting to explain exactly where I'm coming from. I'm reprinting it here for the same reason.

Afterword to The Tank Lords

I wouldn't have—and couldn't have—written these stories without being a Nam vet. Because of that and because I'm sometimes accused of believing things that I certainly don't believe, I've decided to state clearly what I think about Viet-Nam and about war in general. I don't insist that I'm right, but this is where I stand. The speech Shakespeare creates for Henry V to deliver on the morning of Agincourt (the Speech on St. Crispin's Day) is one of his most moving and effective. The degree to which the sentiments therein are true in any absolute sense, though—that's another matter.

My own suspicion is that most soldiers (and maybe the real Henry among them, a soldier to the core) would have agreed with the opinion put in the mouth of the Earl of Warwick earlier in the scene. Warwick, noting the odds were six to one against them, wishes that a few of the men having a holiday in England were here with the army in France. One of the leader's jobs is to encourage his troops, though. If Henry'd had a good enough speechwriter, he might have said exactly what Shakespeare claims he did.

A soldier in a combat unit may see the world, but he or she isn't likely to "meet exotic people" in the sense implied by the recruiting posters. (Mind you, one's fellow soldiers may turn out to be exotic people, and one may turn into a regretably exotic person oneself.) I travelled through a fair chunk of Vietnam and a corner of Cambodia. My only contact with the locals as people came on a couple MedCAPs in which a platoon with the company medics and the Civil Affairs Officer entered a village to provide minor medical help and gather intelligence.

My other contacts involved riding an armored vehicle past silent locals; searching a village whose inhabitants had fled (for good reason; the village was a staging post for the North Vietnamese just over the Cambodian border, and we burned it that afternoon); the Coke girls, hooch maids and boom-boom girls who were really a part of the U.S. involvement, not of Viet-Nam itself.

And of course there's also the chance that some unseen Vietnamese or Cambodian was downrange when I was shooting out into the darkness. That doesn't count as meeting people either.

I was in an armored unit: the 11th Armored Cavalry, the Blackhorse Regiment. Infantrymen probably saw more of the real local people, but not a lot more. The tens of thousands of U.S. personnel working out of air-conditioned buildings in Saigon, Long Binh, and other centers saw merely a large-scale version of the Coke girls, hooch maids and boom-boom girls whom combat units met. The relative handful of advisors and Special Forces were the only American citizens actually living among the Vietnamese as opposed to being geographically within Vietnam.

I very much doubt that things were significantly different for soldiers fighting foreign wars at any other period of history. Sensible civilians need strong economic motives to get close to groups of heavily-armed foreigners, and the needs of troops in a war zone tend to be more basic than a desire to imbibe foreign culture.



11th Cavalry Rear Base at Di An, 1970

Soldiers aren't any more apt to like all their fellows than members of any other interest group are. In school you were friends with some of your classmates, had no particular feelings about most of the rest, and strongly disliked one or two. The same is true of units, even quite small units, in a war zone. The stress of possible external attack makes it harder, not easier, to get along with the people with whom you're isolated.

And isolated is the key word. We changed base frequently in the field. One day we shifted an unusually long distance, over fifty miles. The tank I was riding on was part of a group that got separated from the remainder of the squadron. We had three tanks, four armored personnel carriers modified into fighting vehicles (ACAVs), an APC with added headroom and radios (a command track), and a light recovery vehicle that we called a cherrypicker though it had just a crane, not a bucket. We ran out of daylight.

By this point three ACAVs and the command track had broken down and were being towed. The remaining ACAV and one of the tanks were going to blow their engines at any moment. All the vehicles were badly overloaded with additional weapons and armor, and the need to pack all the squadron's gear for the move had exacerbated an already bad situation.

We shut down, trying by radio to raise the new base camp which had to be somewhere nearby. The night was pitch dark, a darkness that you can't imagine unless you've seen rural areas in a poor part of the Third World. We were hot, tired, and dizzy from twelve hours' hammering by

I haven't tested my manhood by having my leg amputated without anesthetic; I don't feel less of a man for lack of the experience. And believe me, I don't feel more of a man for anything I saw or did in Southeast Asia.

tracked vehicles with half of the torsion bars in their suspensions broken.

And we were very much alone. So far as I could tell, nobody in the group would have described himself as happy, but we were certainly a few. Personally, I felt like a chunk of raw meat in shark waters.

The squadron commander's helicopter lifted from the new base, located our flares, and guided us in. No enemy contact, no harm done. But I'll never forget the way I felt that night, and the incident can stand as an unusually striking example of what the whole tour felt like: I was alone and an alien in an environment that might at any instant explode in violence against me.

Don't mistake what I'm saying: the environment and particularly the people of Vietnam and Cambodia were in much greater danger from our violence than we were from theirs. I saw plenty of examples of that, and I was a part of some of them. I'm just telling you what it felt like at the time.

So Shakespeare was right about "few" and wrong about "happy." The jury (in my head) is still out about folks who missed the war counting their manhoods cheap.

I'd like to think people had better sense than that. The one thing that ought to be obvious to a civilian is that war zones are an experience to avoid. Nonetheless, I know a couple men who've moaned that they missed "Nam," the great test of manhood of

our generation. They're idiots if they believe that, and twits if they were just mouthing words that had become the in thing for their social circles.

I haven't tested my manhood by having my leg amputated without anesthetic; I don't feel less of a man for lack of the experience. And believe me, I don't feel more of a man for anything I saw or did in Southeast Asia.

The people I served with in 1970 (the enlisted men) were almost entirely draftees. At that time nobody I knew in-country:

- thought the war could be won;
- thought our government was even trying to win;
- thought the brutal, corrupt Saigon government was worth saving;
- thought our presence was doing the least bit of good to anybody, particularly ourselves.

But you know, I'm still proud of my unit and the men I served with. They weren't exactly my brothers, but they were the folks who were alone with me. Given the remarkably high percentage of those eligible who've joined the association of war-service Blackhorse veterans, my feelings are normal for the 11th Cav. Nobody who missed the Vietnam War should regret the fact. It was a waste of blood and time and treasure. It did no good of which I'm aware, and did a great deal of evil of which I'm far too aware. But having said that . . .

I rode with the Blackhorse.



All US Cavalry regiments use this patch with variations in color. This is the version of my unit—the 11th Armored Cavalry, the Blackhorse.



Summer, 1970: Dave in the field with 1st Squadron. Disposal of human waste in the field, AKA shit-burning. Photo by Roger Brownell.

Faces Never Forgotten

By Allen Hathaway, Operation Embrace

“Faces Never Forgotten” is a program of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund with the objective to put a face to each name listed on The Wall. Since 2009, and with the help of scores of volunteers across the country, over 42,000 photographs have been collected. The photographs collected so far can be viewed online at www.vvmf.org. In the future, the photographs will be permanently displayed in the Education Center at The Wall. Each face is a story of those who served our country in Vietnam.

Volunteers across the nation have been instrumental in helping find photos. Photos have been submitted by family members, friends, fellow veterans, classmates, veterans’ organizations, high school history classes and many other sources.

The 11th ACVVC has participated in this program by collecting and submitting photographs of our fallen troopers. We want to continue to help collect photos for anyone listed on The Wall but especially those who served with the 11th ACR in Vietnam. To date, photographs for approxi-

mately 650 of the 730 casualties of the regiment have been collected. This leaves only 80 more to have complete accountability for our 11th ACR troopers.

We need your help. If you know someone whose name is on The Wall and you are a relative or fellow veteran, please honor them by putting a face with their name.

Photos can be submitted in numerous ways. They can be uploaded directly to VVMF’s website or a printed copy can be mailed to the VVMF office. For more information on how to submit a photo, please contact Allen Hathaway at 703-791-6610 or 11thcav1966@comcast.net

Photos that are submitted to the VVMF are also posted on our website. Please visit the memorial pages of our troopers at: www.11thcavnam.com select: Fiddler’s Green select: Vietnam.

Make the effort to honor these Veterans. It will speak to the importance of honoring our Veterans and remembering those who died serving our country.

PHOTO REQUESTS

NAME	TOUR DATES	UNIT	
BARFIELD, LARRY B	1969	A Trp, 1/11	
BATTLES, TROY C	1967-1968	H Co, 2/11	
BREWSTER, OLLIS	1967-1968	B Trp, 1/11	
BROWN, MANCE	1970	C Trp, 1/11	
BURGOS, JUAN R	1967	E Trp, 2/11	
BUSCH, JOHN E	1966-1967	How Btry, 3/11	
CHAMBERS, JAMES D	1967-1968	F Trp, 2/11	
COLE, EMILE	1967-1968	A Trp, 1/11	
CWIOK, FRANK J	1970	C Trp, 1/11	
DARNELL, MICHAEL E	1969-1970	K Trp, 3/11	
DASH, DAVID W	1969-1970	919th Engr Co	
DAVIS, BILLY C	1968-1969	G Trp, 2/11	
DAVIS, JAMES	1967-1968	B Trp, 1/11	
DEMOND, DONALD A	1969	A Trp, 1/11	
FREY, JESSE C	1969-1970	B Trp, 1/11	
GAGLIARDI, GREGORY	1967	G Trp, 2/11	
GALVEZ-PASTRANA, MANUEL	1970	M Co, 3/11	
GARNETT, LEON JR	1970	F Trp, 2/11	
GASSAWAY, AMBROSE	1968-1969	G Trp, 2/11	
GENTILE, JAMES R	1968-1969	B Trp, 1/11	
GREEN, EUGENE	1968	A Trp, 1/11	
GREEN, JAMES D	1966	B Trp, 1/11	
GREEVER, HAROLD L	1968-1969	A Trp, 1/11	
GREGORY, ROBERT A	1968	H Co, 2/11	
HAMNER, CHARLES	1967-1968	G Trp, 2/11	
HARVEY, JEFFERY A	1968-1969	Air Cav Trp	
HAYES, JOHNNY V	1967	A Trp, 1/11	
HENRY, JOHN P	1969-1970	HHT, 3/11	
HIVELY, BENNIE R	1970-1971	G Trp, 2/11	
HOLT, MERRIL	1970	A Trp, 1/11	
HUTTON, WALTER W	1969-1970	Air Cav Trp	
JENKINS, ISADORE	1971	E Trp, 2/11	
JOHNSON, WILLIAM F	1966-1967	A Trp, 1/11	
JOURDAN-FONT, JORGE L	1970	HHT Regt	
KENNEDY, MATTHEW D	1966-1967	I Trp, 3/11	
LAMB, DONALD C JR	1970	E Trp, 2/11	
LEE, ALFRED	1966-1967		K Trp, 3/11
LEIMBACH, LARRY K	1969-1970		L Trp, 3/11
LEWIS, RODGER D	1966-1967		B Trp, 1/11
LITTLE, WALLACE S	1968		C Trp, 1/11
LUBAS, JAMES A	1967		D Co, 1/11
MARTINEZ, DONALD L	1966-1967		HHT, 1/11
MCDANIEL, ROGER P	1966-1967		F Trp, 2/11
MCFADDEN, FLOYD	1967-1968		HHT, 1/11
MCGLONE, MICHAEL T	1968-1969		I Trp, 3/11
MCKINNEY, RONALD E	1966-1967		L Trp, 3/11
MEDLEY, HOMER L	1967-1968		H Co, 2/11
MOSCHETTI, BILL A	1968-1969		C Trp, 1/11
NARAMORE, DAVID Z JR	1967		I Trp, 3/11
NAYLOR, DENNIS E	1968		L Trp, 3/11
OWENS, JAMES E	1966-1967		K Trp, 3/11
PATTERSON, SAMUEL L	1969		A Trp, 1/11
PHELPS, HERBERT L	1969		G Trp, 2/11
PIERCE, WALTER M	1970		G Trp, 2/11
PINKNEY, ROBERTIS	1970		L Trp, 3/11
PRESTON, JOHNNY C	1966-1967		E Trp, 2/11
RUSS, JAMES E	1969-1970		How Btry, 1/11
SAYERS, PAUL F	1969-1970		H Co, 2/11
SCHYSKA, LEROY F	1967		46th Inf Plt (Scout Dog)
SMITH, CLARENCE E	1968-1969		L Trp, 3/11
SMITH, GEORGE J JR	1968		F Trp, 2/11
SMITH, JOHN L	1970		A Trp, 1/11
STRAHIN, ARTHUR R	1966-1969		919th Engr Co
THOMPSON, CALVIN E JR	1969-1969		919th Engr Co
THOMPSON, JENNINGS M	1966-1967		A Trp, 1/11
THOMPSON, WILLIAM B	1968		G Trp, 2/11
VINCENT, IVAN L JR	1968		G Trp, 2/11
WAKEFIELD, JOSEPH JR	1970		A Trp, 1/11
WARD, KURT E	1968		B Trp, 1/11
WASHINGTON, THOMAS M	1967-1968		B Trp, 1/11
WILLIAMS, JIMMIE	1966		E Trp, 2/11
WILLIAMS, RAYMOND L	1969-1970		F Trp, 2/11
WILLIAMS, THOMAS H	1968		B Trp, 1/11
WOLF, DEWITT J	1967-1968		M Co, 3/11
YOUNG, WILLIAM	1966		F Trp, 2/11

Reunion Registration

Bob Moreno

Wow, what a reunion we had this year! To those of you who left early, or were held over a few days we hope you made it home safely. I would like to take this time to extend a big thank you to Vincent Sinervo (HHT 1/11), Emma Melo (G Trp 2/11) and Gary Sumlar (H Co 2/11) for helping at the registration desk. Due to the hurricane, our son Raleigh was unable to attend and we sure missed him. Without your help things would not have run as smoothly as they did.

We had 62 first timer troopers who registered this year. Due to the hurricane, our total reunion numbers dropped by about half. For those of you who did attend the reunion, we hope you enjoyed yourselves and will return year after year. To our Gold Star families, as always it is an honor to have you join us. The sacrifice that your loved one made will never be forgotten.

I would also like to thank you all for being so complete in your registrations. I have had to make very few phone calls this year to ask how things are spelled or what year you were in Viet Nam. Using address labels or on-line registration almost prevents me from having me make any extra calls.

Well folks, I just brought Barb home from the hospital as



2017 reunion registration, Bob Moreno & Gary Sumlar

she has back problems. Therefore I'll save anything else for the next time. Get those registrations in early, and this would also be a good time make your hotel reservations. Call me if you have any questions using either my cell Phone (608-387-3346) or my Home phone (608-372-5892).

ALLONS

Bob (two dogs) Moreno, G Troop (68-69), 11th ACVVC Board of Directors/Registration Chairman



CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

November 11, 2017 – Veteran's Day Wreath Laying at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Washington, D.C. All Blackhorse Troopers, family and friends are invited to participate in the Annual Veterans Day wreath laying at the Wall.

When: 10:00 AM, Saturday, November 11, 2017

Where: Near the Three Soldiers Statue at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Washington D.C.

Who: All Blackhorse Troopers from all eras, family and friends

What: We will initially gather near the statue of the Three Soldiers, make introductions, say a few words, and then informally carry the wreath to the apex of the Wall.

Look for the Blackhorse Patch Wreath that will be there by 09:45. Please pass this information to anyone who might be interested in participating.

November 11, 2017 – Veteran's Day Breakfast in Plano, Texas at Poor Richard's Café, 2442 K Ave, Plano, TX 75074. The North Texas Members of the 11thACVVC will be gathering at Poor Richard's Café, Plano Texas for Breakfast and Friendship on November 11, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. The Management will be hosting, along with the Blue Star Mothers, a celebration of Veterans Day. Activities at the Café will include a Unit Flag Display, along with recognition of the different branches of service by trumpet. Blue Star Mothers will be "Greeters" and have a display of memorabilia and various pins for donations. The

Management will present to each Veteran a token of their appreciation for their service to our country. Those 11th ACVVC members, and/or family members of the same, are welcome to join the group in celebrating this day of importance to our country. Should you wish to be part of our group, please contact: Jay Reese, 972-690-4386, by phone, or email: jayree7282@aol.com

Any additional information including directions to Poor Richard's Café, Plano, Texas and updates will be provided. "ALLONS!"

December 16, 2017 – National Wreaths Across America Day. Honor the fallen by placing wreaths on veteran's gravesites at Arlington National Cemetery, as well as over 1,500 additional locations in all 50 U.S. states.

February 2, 2018 - All Blackhorse Troopers, family and friends are invited to attend the wreath laying at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

When: 11:00 AM, Tuesday, February 2, 2017

Where: Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA

Who: All Blackhorse troopers from all eras, family and friends

What: A wreath will be laid at the Tomb in observance of the anniversary of the activation of the 11th Cavalry on February 2, 1901 at Fort Myer, Virginia.



2018 REUNION - GRAND RAPIDS SEPTEMBER

AMWAY GRAND PLAZA HOTEL
187 MONROE AVE NW
GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49503



RESERVATIONS:800-253-3590
ROOM RATE:\$139.00 + TAX, SINGLE – QUAD
SELF PARKING:\$10.00 PER DAY

- ★ Rooms are reserved on a first-come, first-served basis
- ★ In-room internet fee waived
- ★ Rates are good three days prior to and three days after event based on availability.
- ★ 600 room block

Register online using the line on our website: www.11thcav.com/
Hotel Reservations Must Be Made No Later than August 13, 2018

NEARBY ATTRACTIONS:

GRAND RAPIDS PUBLIC MUSEUM

<http://www.grpm.org/>

Located approximately 1/4 mile from the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel.



HOURS OF OPERATION:

- ★ Monday - Saturday, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
- ★ Sunday, 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm

ADMISSION:

- ★ \$8.00 for adults
- ★ \$7.00 for seniors
- ★ \$3.00 for students
- ★ \$3.00 for children

Reunion Registration Deadline and Cancellation

The purpose of this policy is to document and standardize the 11th ACVVC reunion registration cutoff dates.

Effective with the 2017 reunion, and all future reunions, the cutoff date for registration will be twenty-eight (28) days prior to the first Wednesday of the reunion.

The cutoff date for Grand Rapids will be August 8, 2018. All registrations must be received by this date. Any registration received after this date will be returned to sender. This policy will be published in all Thunder Run issues that have reunion information in them. Postings will also be made on the web site and Facebook.

AND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN

R 5 - 9, 2018



GERALD R. FORD PRESIDENTIAL MUSEUM AND LIBRARY



Located approximately 1/4 mile from the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel.

HOURS OF OPERATION:

★ Monday - Saturday. 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

★ Sunday, 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Free for children under the age of 5

Free parking is available

ADMISSION:

★ \$8.00 for adults

★ \$7.00 for senior citizens and military service members

★ \$6.00 for college students with ID

★ \$4.00 for youth ages 6-18

ation Policy

Cancellations and Refunds

Registration refunds will be paid in full to our members if cancellation is received by the Treasurer at least five (5) days prior to the first Wednesday of the reunion. The last day to cancel and receive a refund for the Grand Rapids reunion is August 31, 2018.

Deadlines

- 2018 Reunion Registration Deadline: August 8, 2018
- 2018 Reunion Cancellation Deadline: August 31, 2018
- 2018 Hotel Reservation Deadline: August 13, 2018

See ya'in Grand Rapids

Grandchildren Eligible To Apply For Scholarships In 2018

You may have already heard that I made an announcement at the membership meeting in Orlando that grandchildren of our membership will be able to apply for an 11th ACVVC scholarship in 2018. Here are some details about this exciting change to our scholarship program:

Beginning January 1, 2018, an applicant for an 11th ACVVC scholarship must fall into one of the following categories:

1. A child or grandchild of a deceased 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment trooper who was killed in action or died as a result of their service in Vietnam or Cambodia.
2. A child or grandchild of a current member of the 11th ACVVC in good standing.
3. "Child" is defined as a natural born, adopted or step-child.
4. "Grandchild" is defined as a natural born, adopted or step-grandchild.

Additional Criteria

1. **The applicant must have maintained a minimum Grade Point Average of 3.0 during the last two years of high school (or college if applicable).**
2. The applicant must be a high school graduate (by fall semester 2018).
3. There is no age limit for applicants.
4. Graduate and doctoral level students are not eligible.
5. **The 11th ACR veteran sponsor of the applicant must be a Life Member or Annual Member for at least one year.**

Determination of Scholarship Winners

The scholarship chairman shall determine the Grade Point Average (GPA) of each applicant from their submitted grade transcripts after the May 15th deadline. A volunteer judge, who is not a member of the 11th

ACVVC, will determine a score for extra-curricular and volunteer activities of the applicant and this score will be added to their GPA.

The Board of Directors will determine the total amount of funds available for scholarships and then the scholarship chairman will apply that number to the list of applicants in descending score order. **The scholarship award for 2018 will be \$3000.**

The 2018 scholarship application is printed in this issue of Thunder Run and is also available on our website (11thcavnam.com). Please have your child or grandchild complete this application and send it with their grade transcripts to me by May 15, 2018.

If you have any questions please send me an email.

Mike "Doc" Rafferty
Platoonmedic36@gmail.com

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.**



**11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam & Cambodia
Scholarship Application (effective January 1, 2018)**
Please review Scholarship Guide at www.11thcavnam.com/scholar.html
Application Deadline May 15th



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

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

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

Street address: _____ Apt./Unit # _____

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

**Applicant's Status: ___ Child ___ Grandchild of an 11th ACVVC member.
___ Child ___ Grandchild of an 11th ACR veteran who was killed in action or died as a result
of service in Vietnam or Cambodia.**

Applicant's Sponsor (11th Cav Veteran): Full name: _____ E mail: _____

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

Name and Address of College or Trade School you plan to attend:

Name: _____

Address: _____

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

Schools and Colleges Attended (10th Grade to Present)

Name	City, State	Dates (From/To)

What was your High School GPA? _____ College GPA (if applicable)? _____

You must attach a copy of your grade transcripts from your last 2 yrs. of High School or College.

You must have at least a 3.0 Grade Point Average to apply for a scholarship.

Briefly tell us about your extra-curricular and volunteer activities in the **space below**:

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

Signature of Applicant Printed Name Date

Signature of Sponsor Veteran or Guardian Printed Name Date

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

The beginning...

11th ACR Combat Photography

How the 11th ACR Got Its Combat Photography Capability, and How It Got the Photo Feature Story in *Life Magazine*: A Comedy in Several Acts

By Davidson Loehr

Part II

I went out to the airport and talked with a sergeant who ran the impressive darkroom. He said they could make the prints, but there was no arrangement whereby the Army would reimburse the Air Force for printing pictures for an Army unit. “OK, so?” So, he explained, I had to be able to trade something they wanted in return for so many pictures. Turns out they really wanted jungle fatigues and C-rations! (Gen. Westmoreland had a rule — a good one, I think — that only troops stationed in the field could wear jungle fatigues. If soldiers in cities like Saigon were found with them, it was at least an Article 15 offense.) So jungle fatigues became a macho symbol, and Saigon Warriors lusted after them. But C-rations? I never understood that.

I said I had no way to get these things. Ah, the sergeant could help! He said I needed something to trade with supply sergeants back in base camp, and he had just the thing. He brought out an 8x10 photo that made my eyes pop. It was of Ann-Margret dancing. Whoever shot it was shooting up at her, since she was on a stage. Her skirt was swirling, her underpants were about three sizes too small, absolutely skin-tight, showing everything. What a picture! The sergeant gave me several copies, said I needed to get a lot for them, but they should work. Well, Colonel Cobb had said this would be my creative challenge, and this was at least creative!

It worked. The supply sergeant at one of our squadrons also felt his eyes pop when he saw it, and I got my bundle of jungle fatigues and C-Rations. The Air Force let me use a typewriter at one of their offices while they made and stacked the 420 prints, and I spent a long afternoon typing the captions and taping them to the back of the 5x7 glossy prints. I took them all to the JUSPAO office and filled

the racks with them. To my surprise, all 420 prints were picked up by the many news media folks who came for the daily briefings. And before long, I learned that our troops were hearing from their families and friends that “We saw your unit’s picture and story in the paper!” You could feel the morale shoot up. Thank you, Ann-Margret! Bet you didn’t know your dancing saved the lives of some soldiers. I never showed the picture to anyone except the supply sergeant, trading one each time I needed a bunch of prints made.

So that’s how the 11th ACR got the ability to do combat photography. I don’t know what happened after I left; maybe it would become the next Lieutenant’s creative challenge. Sure wish I’d kept a copy of that picture.

How LIFE Magazine did a photo feature on the 11th ACR

This too was a fairly complex — and a bit weird — story: the behind-the-scenes stuff nobody ever hears about. Why do you think LIFE magazine does stories on particular units? I don’t know, but I can tell you why they did the nice photo essay on the 11th ACR that came out in the June 2, 1967 issue (pp. 68-77). It was a strange and roundabout story I’ve never written about before.

As Press Officer, I had to make almost weekly trips into Saigon to make the rounds of the news media, telling them about our small but wonderful 11th ACR, telling them to watch for pictures and stories at the JUSPAO rack they could use, and developing relationships with them, hoping that would make them look for, and take, the photos and stories I was releasing. When they picked up photos taken by soldiers, they put their own name on them. So you see photos credited to AP, UPI, Reuters, etc. But in a war, you have no idea who really took them. We took them, they took credit for them and published them; it was a win-win.

One of the stops I made was to the

small LIFE magazine office. LIFE covered the war during my time there with a staff of just two people. Colin Leinster was the bureau chief and writer, and the remarkably gifted photographer Co Rentmeester (from Amsterdam) shot all the photos, all the LIFE magazine cover shots of the Vietnam War. He was 30 when I met him: just six years older than I was. He carried four Nikon cameras, with different lenses, and shot only Ektachrome film. The film was sent back to the LIFE lab (in New York City, I think), which developed it. He didn’t even carry a light meter. He could simply, and accurately, feel the light. I watched him take an eight second time exposure inside a tank at night, and later saw a print of it that LIFE sent us — perfectly exposed.

But I’m getting ahead of myself. When I visited the LIFE office in February after releasing my monstrous pile of 420 photos, Colin acted a bit strangely. “Did you shoot all those pictures? Is it true that those 21 photos came from one roll of film?” The story had gotten out. When I said yes (I got a really big head over it), he got a little stern, and said “We’re having a party at the LIFE villa this Friday night. Be there. Co wants to talk to you.” Wow! Now my head was really big! I was going to get to meet Co Rentmeester!

That excited anticipation lasted ... until I met him. “So you’re the idiot? You released 21 of 36 photos? You’re a damned fool!” Embarrassed and defensive, I said I thought that was a pretty good ratio. “No, it’s not pretty good. It means you don’t know a damned thing about combat photography, and won’t live through the war unless you learn what the hell you’re doing!” I was stunned and confused. Co explained that everyone has a job to do in war, and I needed to learn what my job was, and stay down while others did their jobs. Their job was to fight the war. Mine was to take pictures that could communicate the realities of war to people back home. When they’re



I still have the live bullet that was in the chamber of the AK-47 aimed at my head when the NVA officer pulling the trigger 20 feet in front of me was killed by the two men beside me. I must have looked like a snotty young tourist,...

shooting, I needed to stay down. Standing up with a camera pissed off the enemy, because I looked like a damned tourist shooting pictures of my invading army killing their people. “Hell, some of them will try to shoot you just on principle,” he said. I left that party with my tail between my legs and felt absolutely humiliated.

I know that Co Rentmeester saved my life with that short angry dressing-down, because I was almost killed on that first operation. I still have the live bullet that was in the chamber of the AK-47 aimed at my head when the NVA officer pulling the trigger 20 feet in front of me was killed by the two men beside me. I must have looked like a snotty young tourist, an insult to him and the Vietnamese people my army was savaging. After that harsh, painful, life-saving talk from Co, my approach to combat photography changed. I stayed down more, shot a lot more pictures, released a much smaller percentage of them, and looked for good pictures before and after the shooting rather than during it. They were still honest depictions of war, but done more intelligently. I was never a great combat photographer, though I was adequate. (And I remembered his talk to me when I read the next year that Co had been shot through the hand while photographing the TET offensive in Saigon in early 1968.)

A month or so after my scolding, Co was at the LIFE offices when I made my rounds, so I asked if he would do a photo feature story on my unit. “What unit?” The 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment in Xuan Loc. “Never heard of it.” I tried to convince him that was why he should cover it: a good small unit that wasn’t getting the attention it deserved. Co was not impressed. Besides — I said, grasping at straws — it has all sorts of photographically interesting things: flame throwers, machine guns fir-

ing tracer bullets, tanks, ACAVs.... I could tell I wasn’t winning him over. “And the food is good,” I added in desperation. “Our cook was a professional chef in the outside world.” I said Colin had my phone number, and I hoped he’d think about it, said our people would treat him like royalty. He wasn’t the least bit interested.

It must have been two months later, in our Xuan Loc base camp, that I got the phone call. “You said the food was good. Is that true?” I thought, “You’ve got to be kidding! You’re a famous photographer with a world-famous magazine, covering a war, and you ask whether the food is good?” I assured him that it was. “Do you have a steam shovel?” What? I thought about it, remembered we had an engineering unit attached and that yes, I had seen a steam shovel. “And track-mounted flamethrowers?” Yes. “OK.” We set the dates, and Co Rentmeester spent 3-4 days photographing some of our units. The steam shovel had confused me the most. He got into it, had them lift him high into the air, and he shot down at the formation he had assembled on the ground: of track-mounted flamethrower, maybe another flamethrower, machine guns shooting with the tracer rounds, and whatever else he had found that seemed picturesque. LIFE didn’t use that photo, though they made black and white prints of many he shot, including that one, and sent them to me to share with our units. You might try to get a copy of that old magazine — you can check on eBay, or [www .oldlifemagazines.com](http://www.oldlifemagazines.com).

OK, that’s how it all came about: our combat photography, and the photo feature in LIFE Magazine. It happened, fifty years ago, half way around the world, in the midst of some life-defining experiences that still seem like they happened only yesterday. I feel lucky and blessed to have played a part in it.

Show Your Pride



Ronald. Martin (F Troop, 2/11 ACR, 1966-67) of Menomonie, Wisconsin shows his colors on his custom ride.



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.

Harold E Anson II, A Troop, 1/11 (1969-1970) passed away on July 14, 2017. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Dekalb, IL.

Peter A Biltjinitis, HHT, 1/11 (1965-1968) passed away on August 20, 2017. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Dundalk, MD.

Michael H Carrigan, H Company, 2/11 (1969-1970) and HHT, 2/11 (1969-1970) passed away on June 15, 2017. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Boise, ID. He was laid to rest in Idaho State Veterans Cemetery, Boise, ID.

Roger A. Chandler, L Troop, 3/11 (1967-1968) passed away on May 1, 2017. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Madison, IN. He was laid to rest in Indiana Veterans Memorial Cemetery, Madison, IN.

Larry C Chilton, L Troop, 3/11 (1969-1970) passed away on July 30, 2017. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Pilot Mountain, NC. He was laid to rest in Brims Grove Cemetery, Brims Grove, NC.

Richard B Corbett, F Troop, 2/11 (1970) passed away on May 1, 2015. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Newton, MA. He was laid to rest in Newton Cemetery, Newton Center, MA.

Dennis M Gunn, I Troop, 3/11 (1969-1970) passed away on July 7, 2017. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Tampa, FL. He was laid to rest in Bay Pines National Cemetery, Bay Pines, FL.

William F Handschumaker, 506TH S&S Company (1967-1968) passed away on July 5, 1999. He was a member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Cuyahoga Falls, OH. He was laid to rest in Northlawn Memorial Gardens, Cuyahoga Falls, OH.

Richard W Hartman, 551ST Maintenance Company (1966-1967) passed away on July 13, 2017. He was a member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Macon, GA.

Johnnie M Hunter, E Troop, 2/11 (1970-1971) and I Troop, 3/11 (1970-1971) passed away on July 4, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Preston, GA. He was laid to rest in Andersonville National Cemetery, Andersonville, GA.

James A. Jones, L Troop, 2/11 (1968-1969) passed away on September 23, 2017. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Fairdale, KY. He was laid to rest in St. Michael Cemetery, Louisville, KY.

Paul J A Lehnard Jr, Howitzer Battery, 3/11 (1966-1967) passed away on July 18, 2017. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Saint Louis, MO. He was laid to rest in Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery, St. Louis, MO.

Larry C Manning, D Company, 1/11 (1969) passed away on September 2, 2017. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Fort Payne, AL.

Harold B Palmer II, E Troop, 2/11 & HHT, 2/11 (1969-1970) passed away on August 31, 2017. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Overland Park, KS. He will be laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA.

Thomas E Pierce, 919TH Engineer Company (1970) passed away on June 29, 2017. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Brandon, MS. He was laid to rest in Mississippi State Veterans Memorial Cemetery, Newton, MS.

Robert A Reasor, A Troop, 1/11 (1970-1971) and HHT, 1/11 (1971) passed away on September 14, 2017. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Evansville, IN.

Barry L Reichley, A Troop, 1/11 (1966-1967) passed away on August 18, 2017. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Snowflake, AZ. He was laid to rest in National Memorial Cemetery of Arizona, Phoenix, AZ.

William E Ryerson, B Troop, 1/11 (1967-1968) passed away on July 5, 2017. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Conway, AR. He was laid to rest in Little Rock National Cemetery, Little Rock, AR.

Alfred E Santoro III, Air Cavalry Troop (1969-1970) and HHT REGT (1970) passed away on August 20, 2017. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Eagleville, PA. He will be laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA.

Rodger D Schlottach, HHT, 2/11 (1968-1969) passed away on March 12, 2017. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Owensville, MO. He was laid to rest in St James Cemetery, Drake, MO.

Martin K Sims, A Troop, 1/11 (1967-1968) passed away on September 12, 2017. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Broaddus, TX. He was laid to rest in Restlawn Memorial Park, Vidor, TX.

Howard M Sisson, F Troop, 2/11 (1969-1970) and H Company, 2/11 (1970) passed away on September 12, 2017. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Wirtz, VA.

Thomas E Sitzlar, HHT, 1/11 (1968-1969) passed away on July 29, 2017. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Ten Mile, TN. He was laid to rest in Pleasant Hill Baptist Church Cemetery, Ten Mile, TN.

Warren N Swinford, D Company, 1/11 (1969) passed away on September 23, 2017. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Mooresville, IN. He was laid to rest in White Lick Cemetery, Mooresville, IN.

David A White, HHT, 1/11 (1967-1968) and HHT REGT (1967-1967) passed away on February 17, 2017. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Louisville, KY. He was laid to rest in Arch L Heady at Resthaven, Louisville, KY.



As Ringling Brothers would say, "The show must go on." And so the 32nd annual reunion of the 11th ACVVC held the first week of September at Orlando, Florida, did indeed go on, regardless of an appearance of Hurricane Irma.

Blackhorse reunions are always filled with memories of those days gone by, and new memories and stories that come out each reunion. Add in interloper Hurricane Irma, and the Orlando reunion will certainly be one to be remembered by those who were able to attend. I know there will be stories abound for the next couple reunions!

While attendance was a little lower due to Irma, gatherings around reunion quarters continued, as did Saturday morning meetings and memorials, and of course the banquet.

Now this is where I usually share what occurred and was decided upon at the annual Women's Group meeting: who was there, what we did together, decisions we made together at the Saturday morning Women's Group meeting, and what we have up our sleeve for the next reunion.

However, this year I was among four of our board members unable to attend thanks to Irma. The show did go on as the annual Women's Group meeting was held with three board members: Marguerite, Jan and Cathi, and 33 women in attendance. The meeting was short, but also a wonderful time for those there to get to know one another better.

We are happy to announce the selection of Blackhorse Women's Group member, Zilda Ritchie, as the recipient of the 2017 Women's Award for Exceptional Service to the 11th ACVVC. Zilda, who has an extensive financial background, and business with her husband, Kenron, (K Trp, 68-69) graciously audited the Blackhorse Women's Group books. We appreciate the valuable assistance she has provided the group.

The remainder of our well-planned Saturday morning meeting was scrapped until next year, including the bracelet-making activity because Cherry, our prayer shawl chairperson, was also our bracelet chairperson for that activity. Cherry had driven south to the reunion from her Atlanta home. When the hurricane forecast began to include Atlanta, she stayed a couple days and then turned north for home. Her drive north was filled with bumper-to-bumper traffic and became 15 hours instead of the seven hours it took her to drive down.

Sarah's Angels

During the business meeting, the group had a short visit from Richard (Rick) Belcher, who presented us with a memorial gift of \$500 in memory of his wife, Sarah, who passed away last year. We thank you Rick, for this kind gift. Sarah, a Women's Group volunteer, became the inspiration and the namesake for Sarah's



Blackhorse Ladies

Angels. Through Sarah's Angels, each year at the Blackhorse Women's Group annual meeting we will read the names of any Blackhorse 11th ACVVC women/spouses/significant others who have passed from this earth. It's a way for us to honor and remember those who have supported their trooper all these many years. We can only add a name to those that will be read each year if we are made aware of the loss. That is where we need your help. We ask that you notify us if you hear of the loss of an 11th ACVVC Blackhorse woman/spouse/significant other. You can notify us in a couple ways. Contact Prayer Chairperson, Jan Beamon, with information of a loss. She will need name, husband's name and troop, date of death, and address. All losses need to be verified so if you have a link to an obituary (or one that can be mailed or emailed) that would also be appreciated.

Contact Jan by email at janwowwe@gmail.com or email at 903-780-5621. Or you can contact me, Kathy Tandberg, at 701-870-6868, or by email at kathy.tandberg@yahoo.com or by mail at 3818 Lone Peak Drive, Bismarck, ND 58503, or any other Women's Group Board member.

Contact information for all Women's Board Members can be found on the men's website at <http://www.11thcavnam.com> and then go to the area marked "Messages" in the middle of the home page. Click on "Messages." That will take you to the next page where you can click on Blackhorse Women's News, then click on Women's Board Members for contact information.

Bracelet Activity

As I mentioned, the bracelet-making activity was postponed. I apologize to those of you who were there, but we will do it next year at the 33rd annual reunion to be held at Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Grand Rapids Plans

In the next issue of the *Thunder Run* I will announce our women's group plans for 2018. We are in the process of firming up details for a women's luncheon/tour. Stay tuned for details and get ready to sign up.

Until next time.

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



#1 Coffee Mug \$15.00



#2 Key Ring \$5.00



#3 Bumper Sticker \$3.00



#8 Mouse Pad \$12.00



#9 Cavalry Hat \$225.00



#7 Blackhorse Patch Colored \$5.00



#21 Small Magnetic Patch (5"x4 3/4") \$5.00



#4 Window Sticker \$3.00



#11 Flag, Indoor/Outdoor \$60.00



#16 Tote Bag, Embroidered \$20.00



#13 License Plate, Blackhorse \$8.00



#15 Attache Case \$30.00



#17 Blackhorse Pin \$5.00



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



#10 Web Belt with buckle \$25.00



#12 30th Reunion Challenge Coin \$15.00



#19 Blackhorse Cavalry Pin \$5.00



#18 11th ACR Regimental Crest \$5.00



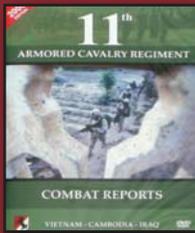
#20 Vietnam Blackhorse Pin, Wreath \$5.00



#25 Blackhorse Coin \$15.00



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



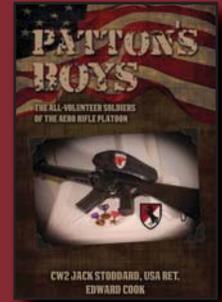
#28 Video (DVD) Combat Reports \$30.00



#23 Leather Gear Bag \$45.00



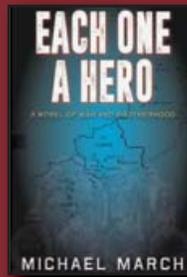
#32 Book: Diary of a Draftee \$22.00



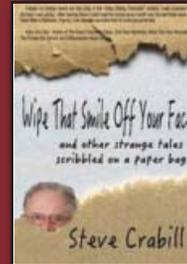
#33 Book: Patton's Boys \$20.00



#22 Gear Bag, camouflage \$45.00



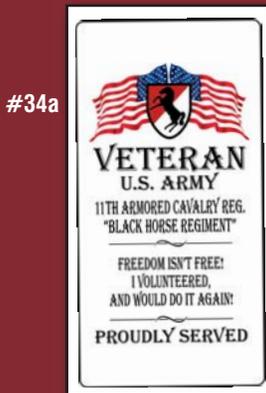
#31 Book, "Each One A Hero" \$20.00



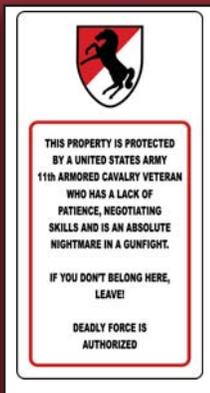
#27 Book, "Wipe That Smile Off Your Face" \$16.00



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

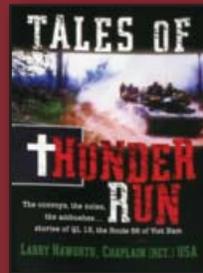


#34a

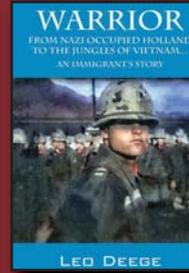


#34b

#34 Signs \$25.00



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



#35 Book, "Warrior" \$15.00



#40 Golf Shirt, w/BH Insignia. Specify color: Red, White or Gray \$35.00



#38a



#38b



#38c



#38d

#38 Poplin Hats \$17.00



#39 a/b T-Shirt, Dark Gray & Sand \$20.00

#30 Car Flag \$25.00



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



#41 Denim Shirt, w/BH & VN Ribbon \$35.00



#42 Blackhorse Jacket, 100% Nylon \$95.00



#29 Ladies Necklace \$25.00



From the Quartermaster...

Jerry Beamon

Hello To All our Blackhorse Troopers!

Needless to say that Reunion 32 in Orlando turned out pretty well despite Hurricane Irma. She kinda messed up our schedule a little. But we still had a good time together again.

I would like to personally thank all of the volunteers who helped us out in the Quartermaster Store. Our times were changed so we could be more accommodating to make your stay more pleasant while we waited on Irma to pass on by.

Again we are reminding everyone who sends us an order in the mail to please, please fill out the bottom of the order form. I need a return address to mail your package out to you. Also, we need a phone number; believe it or not many of you guys leave off your shirt or jacket size. And we need to give you a call so we can send out the correct size.

And finally, on the order form we are asking you to add the 3 digit CVC code on the back of your credit card. Our credit card company is requiring us to have that in case of fraud or identity theft.

Again next year we are having the EAST TEXAS ROUND UP the last weekend in April, the 28th & 29th. So Mark your calendar for that weekend and come and join us at the TYLER STATE PARK off Interstate 20 on FM 14. You can RSVP by calling Jan at 903-780-5621.



Quartermaster Jerry Beamon and wife Jan.

Many troopers say they have not been able to get in touch with me so I'm adding a phone number for Quartermaster. Just in case I'm not able to answer the phone, please leaves me a voice mail and I'll get back to you. It is 903- 805 -0703

Allons everyone!

Jerry Beamon, Quartermaster



Membership is Our Strength

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



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		Macmurdy, William Jr	66-66	E TROOP, 2/11		I TROOP, 3/11	
Newton, Michael W	67-69			Brandon, Stanley L	68-69	Harrod, Hugh E	67-68
Scofield, Nelson S	66-67	HHT, 1/11		Hendrickson, John L	66-67	Lopez, Kenneth E	66-67
398th TRANSPORTATION DET		Sanchez, Angel L	65-67	G TROOP, 2/11		K TROOP, 3/11	
Dye, Kenneth D	69-70	C TROOP, 1/11		Witham, Harry L	65-67	Miller, Edward L	66-67
409th RADIO RESEARCH DET		Hargrove, Dwight D	66-67	HOWITZER BATTERY, 2/11		Ryan, James J	70-71
Etheredge, Bruce L	66-67	D COMPANY, 1/11		Deems, Russell M	70-71	L TROOP, 3/11	
541st MI DET		Mcclellan, Curtis	67-68	HHT, 3/11		Brown, Robert L	69-70
Lopez, Kenneth E	66-67	HOWITZER BATTERY, 1/11		Wooten, Owen S	68-69		
		Duncan, Thomas L	66-67				



Quartermaster

ORDER FORM • 3rd Qtr 2017

11TH ARMORED CAVALRY'S VETERANS OF VIETNAM AND CAMBODIA

Item No.	Product Description	\$ Amt	Size	Qty	\$ Total
1.	Coffee Mug, white, ceramic (glass) 11oz w/full color Blackhorse insignia	15.00	_____	_____	_____
2.	Key ring, 1.5 " Embroidery square w/full color Blackhorse insignia	5.00	_____	_____	_____
3.	Bumper Sticker "I Rode With The Blackhorse" w/full color BH insignia	3.00	_____	_____	_____
4.	Window Sticker, full color BH insignia and Vietnam service ribbon	3.00	_____	_____	_____
7.	Blackhorse Shoulder Patch, Colored	5.00	_____	_____	_____
8.	Mouse Pads	12.00	_____	_____	_____
9.	Cavalry Hat (Brown in color, rope and pin included in price--round or oval head shape)	225.00	_____	_____	_____
10.	Belt: Military style "web" trouser belt with Blackhorse buckle	25.00	_____	_____	_____
11.	Flag, indoor/outdoor 3'x5' with color insignia	60.00	_____	_____	_____
12.	30th Reunion Challenge Coin	15.00	_____	_____	_____
13.	License Plate, metal red & white background with crossed sabers & 11	8.00	_____	_____	_____
14.	License Plate Frame, metal, black w/Blackhorse 11th US Cavalry in white	12.00	_____	_____	_____
15.	Attache Case w/shoulder strap 11.5" x 15.5" w/dir emb. BH insignia & VN rib	30.00	_____	_____	_____
16.	Tote Bag, red & black, 14x1x6 w/full color BH insignia and VN rib	20.00	_____	_____	_____
17.	Blackhorse Pin	5.00	_____	_____	_____
18.	11th ACR Regimental Crest	5.00	_____	_____	_____
19.	Blackhorse Cavalry Pin, brass, 11 over crossed sabers	5.00	_____	_____	_____
20.	Vietnam Blackhorse Pin w/wreath	5.00	_____	_____	_____
21.	Small Magnetic Patch "Blackhorse" (5" x 4 3/4")	5.00	_____	_____	_____
22.	Gear Bag, camouflage w/color BH insignia	45.00	_____	_____	_____
23.	Leather Gear Bag w/Blackhorse Insignia and pull handle	45.00	_____	_____	_____
25.	Blackhorse Coin	15.00	_____	_____	_____
26.	Large Magnetic Patch "Blackhorse" (8" x 7 3/4")	7.00	_____	_____	_____
27.	Book, "Wipe That Smile Off Your Face" by Steve Crabill	16.00	_____	_____	_____
28.	Video: "Combat Reports" (DVD Only)	30.00	_____	_____	_____
29.	Ladies Necklace	25.00	_____	_____	_____
30.	Car Flag	25.00	_____	_____	_____
31.	Book, "Each One A Hero," by Michael Marsh	20.00	_____	_____	_____
32.	Book, "Diary of a Draftee," by: James M. Yunker	22.00	_____	_____	_____
33.	Book, "Patton's Boys," by: Jack Stoddard and Edward Cook	20.00	_____	_____	_____
34.	Signs <input type="checkbox"/> 34a, <input type="checkbox"/> 34b	25.00	_____	_____	_____
35.	Book, "Warrior," by Leo Deege	16.00	_____	_____	_____
36.	Henley Sport Shirt w/ BH patch & RVN ribbon red in color. Size: <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/> XL <input type="checkbox"/> 2XL <input type="checkbox"/> 3XL	28.00	_____	_____	_____
37.	Book, "Tales of Thunder Run," by Chaplain Larry Haworth	11.00	_____	_____	_____
38.	Hat, Poplin adjustable <input type="checkbox"/> 38a, <input type="checkbox"/> 38b, <input type="checkbox"/> 38c, <input type="checkbox"/> 38d	17.00	_____	_____	_____
39.	Blackhorse T-shirt, 100% cotton, preshrunk, full color BH insignia. Specify color: <input type="checkbox"/> Dark Gray <input type="checkbox"/> Sand	20.00	_____	_____	_____
40.	Golf Shirt, w/BH insignia and VN Ribbon: Specify color: <input type="checkbox"/> Red <input type="checkbox"/> Dark Gray <input type="checkbox"/> White	35.00	_____	_____	_____
41.	Denim shirt (men's)	35.00	_____	_____	_____
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.	_____	_____	_____	_____

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 _____

Shipping Costs: (Includes multiple Items)

Total _____

- A) \$4.00 — \$5.00 = \$3.00 C) \$15.00 — \$59.00 = \$12.50
- B) \$6.00 — \$15.00 = \$6.75 D) \$60.00 and over = \$17.15

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 \$17.15. 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
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NONPROFIT ORG.
 U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
 JACKSONVILLE, FL
 PERMIT NO. 3



Together Then – Together Again

THIS ISSUE

DEPARTMENTS

From the Command Track	2
Chaplain’s Corner	10
11th ACVVC Donations	11
Calendar of Upcoming Events	15
Membership Application.....	18
Fiddler’s Green	22
Blackhorse Women’s News.....	23
QM Store	24
From the Quartermaster	26
Welcome Aboard	26
Quartermaster Order Form	27

NEWS & NOTES

Orlando - A Look Back.....	1
2018 ACVVC Reunion.....	1
13th ACVVC Annual Reunion XXXII.....	4
2017 Reunion Recap	6
2017 Orlando Reunion Refunds	7
The 26th Annual Marty Ognibene Memorial Golf Outing.....	8
The 2017 Silent Auction.....	9
Vietnam	12
Faces Never Forgotten.....	14
Reunion Registration	15
2018 Reunion, Grand Rapids, Michigan	16
Grandchildren Eligible To Apply For Scholarships in 2018.....	18
Scholarship Application.....	19
11th ACR Combat Photography: Part II	20

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