

PATROLLING

FALL 2015

75TH RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.

VOLUME 28 ISSUE III

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CHINA - BURMA - INDIA - VIETNAM - IRAN - GRENADA - PANAMA - IRAQ - SOMALIA - AFGHANISTAN



WHO WE ARE

The 75th Ranger Regiment Association, Inc., is a registered 501 (c) corporation, registered in the State of Georgia. We were founded in 1986 by a group of veterans of F/58, (LRP) and L/75 (Ranger). The first meeting was held on June 7, 1986, at Ft. Campbell, KY.

OUR MISSION

1. To identify and offer membership to all eligible 75th Infantry Rangers, and members of the Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol Companies, Long Range Patrol Companies, Ranger Companies and Detachments, Vietnamese Ranger Advisors of the Biet Dong Quan; members of LRSU units that trace their lineage to Long Range Patrol Companies that were attached to Brigade or larger units during the Vietnam War and the 75th Ranger Regiment.

2. To sustain the Association. Unlike the WWII Battalions and Merrill's Marauders, the 75RRA accepts members and former members of the Active Ranger Battalions. By doing so we are perpetuating the association. It will not "die off" as these two organizations someday will.

3. To assist, when possible, those active units and their members who bear the colors and lineage of the 5307th Composite Provisional Unit (CPU), 475th Infantry Regiment, 75th Infantry (Ranger) Companies (Merrill's Marauders), 1st and 2nd Battalions (Ranger) 75th Infantry, the 75th Ranger Regiment, consisting of Regimental Headquarters 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Ranger Battalions, successor units, or additions to the Regiment.

WHAT WE DO

During the last five years we have provided financial support to the young men of the 75th Ranger Regiment. Each year, through contributions from our members and some outside sources, we have provided about \$4,000.00 to each of the three Ranger Battalions and \$2,000.00 to the Regimental HQ. These funds enabled the families of the junior enlisted men, (E-5 & below) to get certificates for toys for the children and turkeys for Christmas dinner.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE

SECTION 2: Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol

- V Corp (LRRP)
- VII Corp (LRRP)
- 9th Inf. Div. (LRRP)
- 25th Inf. Div. (LRRP)
- 196th Inf. Bde. (LRRP)
- 1st Cav. Div. (LRRP)
- 1st Inf. Div. (LRRP)
- 4th Inf. Div. (LRRP)
- 101st Abn. Div., 1st Bde. (LRRP)
- 199th Inf. Bde. (LRRP)
- 173rd Abn. Bde. (LRRP)
- 3rd Inf. Div. (LRRP)

SECTION 3: Long Range Patrol

- Co D (LRP) 17th Inf.
- Co E (LRP) 20th Inf.
- Co E (LRP) 30th Inf.
- Co E (LRP) 50th Inf.
- Co F (LRP) 50th Inf.
- Co E (LRP) 51st Inf.
- Co F (LRP) 51st Inf.
- Co E (LRP) 52nd Inf.
- ICo F (LRP) 52nd Inf.

- Co C (LRP) 58th Inf.
- Co E (LRP) 58th Inf.
- Co F (LRP) 58th Inf.
- 70th Inf. DET (LRP)
- 71st Inf. DET (LRP)
- 74th Inf. DET (LRP)
- 78th Inf. DET (LRP)
- 79th Inf. DET (LRP)
- Co D (LRP) 151st Inf.

SECTION 4: 75th Infantry Ranger Companies

- Co A (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- Co B (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- Co C (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- Co D (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- Co E (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- Co F (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- Co G (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- Co H (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- Co I (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- Co K (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- Co L (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- Co M (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- Co N (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- Co O (RANGER) 75th Inf.

- Co P (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- Co D (RANGER) 151st Inf.

SECTION 5: Vietnamese Ranger Advisors BDQ
All units of the Biet Dong Quan (BDQ).

SECTION 6: 75th Ranger Regiment

- 1st Battalion (Ranger) 75th Inf., activated in 1974.
- 2nd Battalion (Ranger) 75th Inf., activated in 1974.
- 3rd Battalion (Ranger) 75th Inf., activated in 1984.
- 75th Ranger Special Troops Battalion, activated in 2007.
- 75th Ranger Regiment HHC Company, activated in 1984.

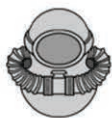
SECTION 7: Long Range Surveillance: Any Long Range Surveillance Company or Detachment that can trace its' lineage to, or is currently assigned to a Brigade or larger element that was deployed to Vietnam as listed in section 2, 3 or 4 above.

We have funded trips for families to visit their wounded sons and husbands while they were in the hospital. We have purchased a learning program soft ware for the son of one young Ranger who had a brain tumor removed. The Army took care of the surgery, but no means existed to purchase the learning program. We fund the purchase of several awards for graduates of RIP and Ranger School. We have contributed to each of the three Battalion's Memorial Funds and Ranger

Balls, and to the Airborne Memorial at Ft. Benning. We have bi-annual reunions and business meetings. Our Officers, (President, 1st & 2nd Vice-Presidents, Secretary & Treasurer), are elected at this business meeting. This reunion coincides with the 75th Ranger Regiment's Ranger Rendezvous, and is at Columbus, GA. (Ft. Benning). We have off year reunions at various locations around the country.

PRESIDENTS

- 1986-1988 Bob Gilbert
- 1988-1990 Billy Nix
- 1990-1992 Bob Gilbert
- 1992-1994 Roy Nelson (resigned)
- Milton Lockett (resigned)
- Duke Dushane (appointed by Directors)
- 1994-1996 Roy Barley
- 1996-1998 Rick Erlher
- 1998-2000 Terry Roderick
- 2000-2002 Emmett Hiltibrand
- 2002-2004 Dana McGrath
- 2004-2005 Emmett Hiltibrand
- 2005-2007 Stephen Crabtree
- 2007-2009 William Bullen
- 2009-2011 John Chester
- 2011-2013 Joe Little
- 2013-2015 Bill Anton
- 2015- Richard Barela



Rangers and All Association Community Members,

There are many factors that go into developing and delivering each issue of *Patrolling*. We have struggled to meet deadlines, and frequency over the past several years. It takes a number of people working together and cooperating to get the magazine out the door. That failure in performance falls on no one person. We're all responsible to some extent, and have come to accept ownership thereof.

What's new is that we think we've found and resolved all issues. We believe that we have come up with the right formula that puts us squarely back on track beginning with the next issue, which will be Winter 2015 (Fall *Patrolling* is at the printer as of 10/11/2015).

There are some changes so we want to be certain that everyone "gets the word." We'll lay that out in some detail here then include a little housekeeping at the end of this notice. It's a team effort and what we really want everyone to know is that we are asking for your help.

The nice thing is that it's actually pretty simple:

1. All member submissions flow from contributing members to their respective Unit Directors. Advocates & Feature articles e-mail direct to *Patrolling*.
2. Unit Directors will submit their unit functions, notices, and message to the editor via the patrolling@75thrra.com e-mail address.
3. Everything needs to be in BEFORE the "cut-off" date. That's when we lock the issue and send it to the printer. We'd appreciate having a few days to go through it all before sending it out. If you will get your submission in well before the lock it will help to speed things along and guarantee the magazine getting to the members on time. So if you're ready to send a week (or even a month) before the lock then, by all means, SEND IT! Anything received after lock will be held for the following issue or be added to an electronic version.
4. **THE NEXT LOCK DATE IS NOVEMBER 15th.** Please treat this as your notice. We will send a reminder 7-10 days in advance of the lock.
5. Advertising starts as little at \$150. Members can purchase it online on the Quartermaster page with PayPal or credit card on our www.75thrra.com or by sending a check to the secretary. Links to your website, graphics, and what you want placed in *Patrolling* (and the free spot on the website) should be sent to the e-mail address above.

This message has been prepared for all Unit Directors, Advocates, Elected Officers, and interested parties. Due to the importance of the topic it has been e-mailed as appropriate, and appears in the FALL 2015 issue of *PATROLLING MAGAZINE*.

PLEASE PASS IT ALONG TO ALL MEMBERS . . .

Most of you have met the standard with regularity, which is greatly appreciated. Some units don't have news for every issue, and that's alright. Nobody expects you to fabricate a submission where none exists. If you don't have anything for *Patrolling* please just let us know as that will help us manage available space.

Here are a couple things that most contributors to *Patrolling* already know (or may serve as a refresher) and will be beneficial for new directors and others:

1. Wherever possible please submit your articles in MS Word format. If you don't have Word then plain text will suffice.
2. Please never (ever) embed your photos in a Word document. Simply write, i.e., "photo 1 here" where you want the shot placed in your article then label your attached photo(s) accordingly.
3. If you have a spell checker, use it. We have no way of knowing when the name of one of your people or a region in a foreign country is spelled incorrectly. Of course the spell checker isn't likely to know either but it will help identify those words and give you a second chance to decide for yourself if what you typed is what you intended.
4. We said it above but it bears repeating . . . Everyone, Please submit **ONLY** to patrolling@75thrra.com and not any of the media group personal e-mail addresses. If you will do as requested it will then go through a mail handler that sends it to ALL of us in the media group. The benefit is that should one of our computers or hard drive take a dump we'll still have a complete set of everyone's submitted material.
5. If you are the outgoing, or new (incoming) UD, please make absolutely certain to notify the Secretary AND Media Group of all your contact info. Please don't risk embarrassing yourself by leaving your people hanging.

The "media group" is Marc Thompson, Editor, David Regenthal, tech & workflow, and John Chester, advertising and mentor. If you need help with anything, have a suggestion or question, please reach out to any of us without delay.

We want to close by saying that we appreciate both your support and patience, including those who have understandably been a little less patient. Truth is that your inquiries and insistence that we "get it right" have helped move the ball down the field and forced some of the decisions that we think will help us to deliver a high quality product, on time, beginning with the very next issue. RLTW!

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The opinions expressed by the Officers, Unit Directors, Editor and other writers are entirely their own and are not to be considered an official expression or position of the Association.

Advertisements for products or services do not constitute an endorsement by the Association. Manuscripts, photographs and drawings are submitted at the risk of the individual submitting the material. Captions must be submitted with any photographs or graphics.

The Officers and the Editor reserve the right to edit submissions for clarity and space constraints. Every precaution will be taken to preserve the intent and scope of the author. The Officers and Editor reserve the right to refuse any submission, that is in bad taste, offensive or that discredits unnecessarily any individual or group.

Deadlines are the 15th of February, May, August, and November for the Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter Issues respectively.

POSTMASTER

Send address corrections to:
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Website & Magazine News

Rangers,

I'll keep this short . . . in fact in future issues we may just roll this into the 2VP column (or discontinue it). Here's what you need to know:

We have a website.

We have a magazine too (yes, really!). Marc Thompson is the new editor as of last issue of Patrolling. When we finally got out of his way he got it rolling without great delay or a lot of fanfare. Our new 1st Vice President, John Chester will be Marc's primary backstop (if one is actually needed). I'll be shifting my focus away from the magazine and pulling limited duty as requested by Marc.

We're going to be talking about the magazine elsewhere in this issue and, I suspect, several to follow. The only reason I mention PATROLLING here is because there are several things that unite the magazine with the website.

When sponsors pay for advertising in Patrolling it also appears on our website at no extra charge. You can, by the way, get an ad in Patrolling for as little as \$150 for a year. That's a lot of bang for very little bucks!

Important fact: We want you to be aware that sometimes when late breaking information comes in after the published cut-off date, or didn't fit into the issue proof, it will instead be available on the website. I'll be taking my instructions from Marc Thompson on that topic . . .

Hey, some of our members don't go to our website regularly—okay, that's not a capital offense (I think). While I'm not suggesting you have to frequent it daily, I'd recommend that you check in occasionally because that's where we put the important information that comes in between issues of the magazine. How to stay in the loop? www.75thrra.com

Our Website –

“If you don't go you're not going to know!”

Submission for Winter Patrolling are due between 5-10 November, don't be late (please).

Dave Regenthal '68-69

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Richard S. Barela

To all the members of the 75th Ranger Regiment Association; Vietnam Era LRP's, LRRPS, Ranger Companies and those who served in the 75th Ranger Regiment. I am introducing myself as the new president of the association. Here is a small bio of myself:

I live and work in Lexington KY with my wife (Barb) and will celebrate our 40th anniversary this coming December. I was on active duty for a total of 24 years and 9 months and retired as a MSG/E8. I started my military career in 1972 in the 82nd Abn Div and then volunteered for assignment with the newly formed 1st Bn. (Ranger) 75th Infantry and was assigned to A Co 1/75 at Camp Swampy (Fort Stewart GA). Yes that was before the activation of the 75th Ranger Regiment. I transferred to 2nd Bn. (Ranger) 75th Infantry and served in both HHC and C Co. I did a tour with the 9th Inf. Div and a tour as a Drill Sergeant at Fort Jackson, SC. I tired of training new soldiers and as 3rd Ranger Bn. was forming I again volunteered (I never learn) and transferred to Fort Benning. I was present for the activation ceremony of both the 3rd Ranger Battalion and the parent headquarters of the Rangers, the 75th Ranger Regiment. After a tour on Johnston Island (16 months 2 weeks and 3 days), I was looking for a home and volunteered for a tour as the Regimental S4NCOIC with HQs 75th Ranger Regiment where I deployed with the regiment for Operation Just Cause in Panama. After that as Desert Shield kicked off, I was transferred to Germany and assigned to the 7th Special Operations Support Command (TA) and deployed for Desert Storm plus a bunch of other little operations supporting all branches of the SOF community in the European theater with 7th SOFC (TA), SOCEUR and 1st Bn. 10th SFGA.

When I retired in from the U.S. Army in 1996, I started working for Lockheed Martin and will retire this coming January as the Multi-Function Purchasing Manager, which supports the Special Operations Forces-Contractor Logistics Support Services Contract. The Big Ranger in the Sky showed his wisdom and had me supporting Rangers again. As for other interests, I enjoy golf, hunting, and fly-fishing.

Next, I want to thank those who asked if I would stand for president, I had to think long and hard as I thought there were more qualified members within the association, but in the end I accepted the nomination. To all those who I spoke to prior to the election and at the Rendezvous I want to thank you for your guidance and vote of confidence. I have accepted the responsibility and will give 100% and then some to move the 75th Ranger Regiment Association in a positive direction.

I would like to thank the officers from the 2013 to 2015 office years for their hard work and dedication; they made some changes that needed to move the association forward. A Ranger salute goes out to these officers who moved forward to make our association something to be proud of.

President	Dr. William (Bill) Anton
1st VP	Kevin Ingraham
Secretary	Tom Sove
Treasurer	Roger Crunk

Now let me introduce you to the new officers for 2015-2017:

1st VP	John Chester (Past President and Secretary)
2nd VP	David Regenthal (Double Duty as the Webmaster)
Secretary	Tom Sove (Back in the saddle for another term)
Treasurer	Roger Crunk (Also back in the saddle for another term)

I would like to give special thanks to Roger and Tom for stepping up for another term in their respective offices. I am looking forward to working with both these fine rangers during my tenure. I am also looking at the 1st VP as he also has lots of past knowledge about the association. We need to have our officers be proactive and I feel this team will do just that. Last kudos goes out to Marc Thompson who has taken over the role as the editor of the Patrolling magazine. He took over the reins in mid-stream and made this a true success.

What do I want to see accomplished over the next 2 years? Here is my line of thought

1. Make the Ranger Rendezvous a really great reunion. The turnout was good and I understand the turmoil that most units and individuals had in attending but that was beyond our control. Open up the line of communications and keep our members informed and the only way we can do this is through the officers communicating with the UD's and keeping the website updated with the most current information. I know you are doing a good job but we can always get better.
2. Ranger Hall of Fame: We need packets submitted of truly deserving rangers and we need to see about those we want submitted for 2016 and 2017. We had 3 members ap-

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (Continued)

proved from the association this year but feel we can do better. I was able to attend the RHOF ceremony and I was proud of who was selected. I have spoken to Bill Anton (former president and a RHOF inductee), Kevin Ingraham (former 1st VP) and Gary Dolan to assist in reviewing packets to ensure our packets are well prepared and that our association members are recognized.

3. The Patrolling Magazine. Making sure our publication is out to the members but also reduce the cost by seeing who would like it sent electronically. (Doesn't mean we are going to stop publishing but want to see how we can reduce costs).
4. Open communications for each event going on with both our LRRP Company Rangers, the Ranger Companies and the active regimental rangers, and bring them into the fold.
5. Look for a Quartermaster sponsor for the association. It has come to my attention that we have not had a QM store for a couple of years now. I think we need to find a company that is willing to support our association. If anyone has any suggestions or ideas or if you are a supplier vendor, let us know and let's see what we can work out that would be agreeable to all parties concerned.

CAR - 15 RAFFLE GIVEAWAY

During the 2015 Ranger Rendezvous Osprey Global Solutions donated a specialty built copy of the CAR - 15 rifle which was used by the LRP, LRRP and Ranger companies in Viet Nam as one the prizes for our raffle. The rifle with serial number LRRP 002 was won by Ranger Doug Childress from K Co. (See photos of a happy ranger with new toy)



Doug Childress and his CAR - 15

All funds raised from the raffle were donated to the Osprey Relief foundation, (ORF), which is a 501c3 non-profit organization. The foundation provides charitable initiatives which support all levels of support to communities and veterans alike. The foundation is the brain child of the founder of Osprey

Global Solutions and former member of Lima Company Rangers, also commanded in company C 1/75 and was the 7th Commander of 75th Ranger Regiment from 1991 to 1993. Gen Grange was also the guest speaker at this year's banquet and a personal friend of the past president of the association, Bill Anton.



PAST PRESIDENT UPDATE

I am happy to report that the Secretary of the Army, the Honorable John McHugh, announced that Dr. Bill Anton was appointed on 15 July and will be sworn in as the new Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army (CASA) for Nevada on 8 September.



Dr. Bill Anton

Bills credentials are many but include commanding five units in during his military career, his awards include the Combat Infantryman's Badge, the Master Parachutist Badge, the Pathfinder Badge, the Ranger Tab and the Special Forces Tab. LTC Anton was the first Nevadan inducted into the U.S. Army Ranger Hall of Fame in 2009 and received the Military Intelligence Corps Knowlton Award in 2011. Bill is a 100% Disabled Veteran, the past DAV state commander and adjutant for Nevada and is a past national President of the 75th Ranger Regiment Association. Let us give Bill a ranger HOOAH on being appointed to this prestigious position.

As I stated to the officers and UD's this is what I see as a direction to move forward and my general thoughts. If you have something you think needs to be forwarded get with your Unit Director (UD) and have him send it forward. My email address is at the bottom and I feel this to more information than needed and want to close as this really has made my "brain housing group smoked" after all this thinking and writing.

Thanks to all you for your service and I look forward to your support and being able to make our association grow during my tenure as President - Rangers Lead the Way – All the Way!!!

Richard (Rick) S. Barela
President 2015-2017

1ST VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By John Chester



John Chester

Well, it looks like I'm back. I want to say a couple of things up front. First, Mary Anne and I thought long and hard about my return to a role in the Association. I don't think the Association can survive without a magazine being published quarterly, and to that regard Rick asked me to assist Marc in getting the magazine out. My staff responsibility will be to assist in the publication of the magazine. I am familiar with the process and I know most of the people involved. The second point I need to make, is that (believe it or not) my ego is not involved in this decision. I have 4 ex-wives, a current wife, two daughters, 10 (female) chickens, a female dog and two houses, so I have plenty to do. My sole concern is the welfare of this Association and its continued welfare & prosperity. Too many good people have worked too hard & too long to let it go.

I was very pleased that Rick Barella ran for, and was elected, President. He is the first modern era Ranger to be President, (and the first not to be a Vietnam Vet), and has some good ideas and energy to bring to the table, and God knows we could use a fresh perspective. Welcome aboard Rick & Barbara. I look forward to working with you.

We sponsored 4 young men and their wives to go to the banquet and we paid for their membership for the next year, (see photo below).



My posse & me. From L to R, Guillermo, Tony, Leroy & Steve and their wives.

If we each sponsored 1 new current Ranger, we would double our membership, and bring in some new blood. These are some of the finest young men & women I have ever met. They have allowed me to be (a little) optimistic about the future of our country.

This past April, Mary Anne & I went to Alabama to meet Jellyroll at his winter quarters. We did this in conjunction with our attendance at the Best Ranger competition. While we were there we talked to Jim Billie, who is Chairman of the Seminole Tribe of Florida. He said, "Come on down," so we did. He put us up at the Hard Rock Casino & Hotel in Hollywood, FL. And we had great time. Mary Anne even got her first helicopter ride. They have a number of veteran's programs at the Reservation, and have the means to assist them with jobs, health care, etc. Jim was running for re-election when we were there, and I am happy to report that he won, and is once again Chairman of the Seminole Tribe of Florida.



Mary Anne & her first helicopter ride.

The Veteran's building, shaped like a star (five points), has an auditorium, training facilities, kitchens, and dayrooms with pool tables and table tennis. It is quite an operation and certainly speaks volumes about the Seminole tribe's devotion to their veterans and to their support of those veterans. There is also a wall of photos of those who have served that specifies their branch and dates of service.



Entrance to the Veterans Building, Seminole Tribe of Florida.

For those of you that don't know, Jellyroll, (Brian Radcliffe), and Jim Billie and I were in the same unit in Vietnam. In fact my first Long Range Patrol in Vietnam was with a team that had Jellyroll and Jim Billie on it, it was, (and continued to be) a learning process. We learned a lot from each other and the experiences that each day generated. I really believe that we were as successful as we were, because we had post-mission briefings and analyzed everything that happened from every perspective possible.

1ST VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (Continued)

Wall of honor, Veterans Building, Seminole tribe of Florida.

REUNION

The reunion this year in Columbus, GA was not the best we have ever had. One of the big problems was the Regiment changing the dates of the Rendezvous from the end of August to the end of June. This was compounded by a LRRP, LRP & LRS reunion in Branson, MO, which was planned months earlier, as fate would have it, the same week as the Rendezvous was rescheduled. This was only done a few months prior to the actual dates, so everyone had to jump through their butt to get everything changed and planned for the new dates. To further complicate matters, the reunion hotel, the Holiday Inn North, was under new management, did not have a liquor license yet,

(no bar in the lobby or beer trucks in the back). To be perfectly honest, that situation probably did our livers & wallets a big favor. If Herb Reichel had not been there with the Ranger Chapel, I think there might have been an epidemic of sobriety.

I think we might need to take input from as many members as possible and see what the members want. Some of the questions would include:

1. Do we want the Reunion to remain in conjunction with the Rendezvous?
2. If not, do we want to go somewhere other than Columbus/Ft. Benning?
3. Do we want to stay on an every other year schedule, or go to every year in different parts of the country?
4. And any other valid concerns.

I do think the business meetings and election of officers needs to stay on a bi-annual basis, but there is no reason that the other issues cannot be changed or modified. We are planning to do a survey, (either on-line or through the magazine), to see what our members think. Warning, if you don't participate, you can't bitch about the results later.

There were also some issues with the rifle that was 'donated' for the raffle. See the Presidents article for more details.

2ND VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Dave Regenthal



Dave Regenthal

Rangers,

On behalf of those of you that could not join us in Columbus I'd like to thank the outgoing officers, and welcome the new ones. We're fortunate to have elected Rick Barela as president, and John Chester (who's he?) as 1st Vice President. I am sure they, with the returning "dynamic-duo" of Roger Crunk & Tom

Sove, will make the best team ever if we will only support them by voicing our observations and suggestions. There's a lot of work ahead of us!

Thank you also to those of you that gave me your vote for 2nd Vice President. I plan on working to build and maintain that confidence. I'm hoping to bring our technical operations into the 21st Century. I'll not be serving in any elected position beyond this 2015-2017 period.

Unit Directors. These folks are the core, or backbone of this organization. They are the people at the unit level that you have appointed/or elected to represent you to the Association—this

is especially important when we're not at a rendezvous. They're the funnel through which the members have a strong voice to let us know what they think and how they feel. I had the pleasure of speaking with several UD's in Columbus and, as always, came away better for it.

I'm hoping you will help your unit director and the secretary by keeping them abreast of any changes in your contact information. We realize that there have been a few holes in the net and we are working to make corrections. If you can hold up your end (letting us know how to contact you) then we will be able to function the way you want us to . . . we're already working on practices that will keep unit directors in the loop at all times.

I'd like to invite everyone to contact me (or any of us) with your thoughtful suggestions. If you've got a complaint or see where something isn't working as expected, don't keep it to yourself—speak up, really! E-mail works best for me but I've got a phone too so if you need a hand or have an idea get in touch. My contact information is here in the magazine and on our website: www.75thrra.com

Dave Regenthal '68-69

TREASURER'S MESSAGE

By Roger Crunk



Roger Crunk

The reunion has come and gone. Although our numbers were down due to the date change but it was still a success. I want to thank everyone for changing their plans to attend. Not everyone could do that and the Association apologizes for that.

As of this date, (7-9-15) I haven't run the numbers yet but just a quick look at the major expenses versus income it looks like we probably made a little money or at least broke even. The reunion is not meant to be an income generator, but simply to provide an opportunity for our Brothers to get together. If we can pay the bills with reunion income only, then we are a success.

I need to thank Tom Sove, and Robert (Twin) Henriksen for helping count our daily intake, and Wayne Mitsch for a final

count and depositing to the bank.

Although I am a little prejudiced, I have to say a special thank you to K-Company for all the volunteers who helped Tom and I behind the desk making sure everyone got their t-shirts, raffle tickets etc. The ladies were a Godsend in making sure we had a drink, snacks, or a meal. Of special note are the ladies (of their own accord) raised \$895.00 for the Benevolent Fund. That's unheard of. Thank you ladies! And of course Herb Riechel for contributing his profit from the Blue Bucket Chapel. Also the guys who made the daily runs to keep the coolers in the hospitality room full.

I also want to thank the membership for trusting me as their Treasurer again for the next two years. I am here to serve.

Roger Crunk, Treasurer

75th Ranger regiment Assoc. Balance Sheet Accrual Basis As of June 30, 2015

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

Affinity/Family Fund	6,112.11
Affinity/Operations	10,923.87
Affinity/Savings	18,345.40
Benevolent Funds/MM	29,827.08
Life Funds/MM	33,206.28
Paypal	5,151.37

Total Checking/Savings 103,566.11

Total Current Assets 103,566.11

TOTAL ASSETS 103,566.11

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Equity

Opening Balance Equity	89,542.73
Unrestricted Net Assets	26,566.78
Net Income	-12,543.40
Total Equity	103,566.11

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY 103,566.11

FEATURE ARTICLES

THE DEATH OF PATROLLING MAGAZINE AS WE KNOW IT . . . (MAYBE)

Now that we have your attention . . .

When I attended my first Ranger Rendezvous (1992) Roy Boatman, and perhaps others who I am unaware of were a driving force behind many things, including a quarterly mailing of Patrolling. Association dues were \$12 (went to \$20 in 1993). Patrolling was two sheets of 11x17" slick paper, folded such that we got eight pages of 8 ½ x 11" by printing on both sides.

I can't say what it cost to bulk mail that Patrolling but I do know a first class stamp was twenty-five cents. We had nowhere near the number of life members then that we have today (1400).

Anyhow, in the intervening years many things have changed. We've seen the magazine grow, and cost to publish & mail it increase dramatically. Currently we send a box to each battalion, and a copy to each member and other legitimate recipients.

In the words of Jim Lovell (or Tom Hanks in the movie, Apollo 13), "Houston, We have a problem" (and that would be putting it mildly). In round numbers it costs right at \$6500 per issue to publish and mail the present iteration of Patrolling. Were we to actually deliver on a quarterly basis as we have in the past, you can see the problem. \$26,000. Holy ---- Well Okay then, ahh . . . Yikes!

I think we can agree that we've identified the problem, and the cause. Next would be developing a solution, right? It's not my function as your 2nd VP to dictate a fix or tell you what I think (although I will share my thoughts on that next issue). My hope is that this article will generate sufficient buzz that, as an organization, we might discuss a thoughtful remedy. We'll use this issue of Patrolling AND your unit directors to get the word out so that you can provide the necessary feedback indicating what you want us to do.

The telephone is a good vehicle as is e-mail for you to make your thoughts known to your unit director and/or any of the elected officers. We will promote "polls" through the use of our website. While these polls won't drive actual new policy they can be a means of collecting information from the membership. If we are smart enough to ask the right questions AND have sufficient participation from you then there will be value in this data. The results will be posted and updated with regularity on our website.

So what can we do? There are likely many different approaches, or combinations that will save the day, many of which may not be obvious to me . . . that's where you come in.

If you weren't at the business meeting during this summer's Ranger Rendezvous then you probably don't know that all proposed By-Laws changes were approved by only 54 members that returned their votes by mail (this, after our having mailed a ballot to every member in Patrolling). Who says your vote doesn't make a difference?

We have, and are in a continual process of shopping the cost of producing Patrolling to multiple different publishing companies. It appears "the deal" we are currently getting from the folks we've been using for at least the past decade is not the problem.

So what can we do? Here is a, likely incomplete, list of possible actions:

1. Discontinue publishing the magazine entirely.
2. Deliver Patrolling exclusively via digital means, i.e., PDF via the internet.
3. Develop additional revenue stream to support Patrolling, paid advertising.
4. Reduce the size from the customary 80-88 pages to 48.
5. Raise the price of annual dues or make magazine delivery optional at addition annual cost.
6. Eliminate color cover.
7. Discontinue a life membership option and/or suggest life members (I am one of these) pay for a subscription on an annual basis.
8. Establish a separate accounting of dedicated funds for Patrolling.
9. Request donations from members.

Rangers, know this . . .the issue didn't just crop up overnight. Finger-pointing is always counterproductive and, in truth, the responsibility for this is owned equally among all members. There has already been a plenty of discussion on the subject (some heated). Just remember, despite the best efforts of each of us it's likely someone is going to be unhappy with whatever final solution is crafted . . . which is an unfortunate feature of life.

I'm hoping that all of you will become involved in the process. I'd like to think that the conversation will be driven by thoughtful discussion or suggestions and not how we "feel" about the situation. This thing isn't going to fix itself so, Let's Go!

Dave Regenthal, 2VP

FEATURE ARTICLES (Continued)

BEST RANGER COMPETITION

By John Chester

Mary Anne & I traveled south for the Best Ranger Competition again this year. This makes 7 or 8 times for us, and I still get tired watching those guys. It is one of most amazing contests I have ever witnessed. When I hear these commentators at NFL games talk about how tough a given player is, I think, "Oh yeah? Go down to Ft. Benning next April, & I'll show you tough." Most Americans have no idea who is protecting our way of life, and of what they go through to accomplish that mission. The following is courtesy of the Ft. Benning PIO and the Army Times.



"The 32nd annual David E. Grange Jr. Best Ranger Competition kicked off Friday, April 10, 2015 at Fort Benning, Georgia. The storied three-day competition pits two-man teams against each other in back-to-back events. The winning duo will earn the title of Best Ranger. Competitors, who must be graduates of the Army Ranger School, are put through events that test their physical conditioning, Ranger skills and team strategies. The events are back-to-back and around the clock for 60 hours, allowing little time for rest and meals.

Events included weapons firing, extended road marches, day and night land navigation courses, Ranger skills and parachute jumps. All events are timed, and competitors score points for each completed event. Both team members must complete each task. The Best Ranger Competition was established in 1982 and has been compared to Ironman and Eco-Challenge competitions.

Two senior NCOs from the Airborne and Ranger Training Brigade on Sunday claimed the title of Best Ranger after a grueling three-day competition. Sergeants 1st Class Jeremy Lemma and Timothy Briggs bested the field of 51 teams at the 2015 Best Ranger Competition. This is the second victory for Briggs. He won with another partner in 2013.



This year's second-place team is Captains Robert Killian and Travis Cornwall, representing the National Guard. Killian competed last year with another officer and came in second then as well. In third place this year is a team from the 75th Ranger Regiment: Staff Sgt. Philip Jewah and Sgt. Thomas Malphrus. All three teams dominated the famously tough competition all weekend, leading the pack. Just 24 teams made it to the final day of competition.

A formal awards ceremony was held 10 a.m. Monday, 13 April, 2015 at McGinnis-Wickam Hall in Fort Benning's Marshall Auditorium."

The purpose of our trip was actually two-fold, the competition of course, and a visit to Brian Radcliffe (Jelly Roll) and Jim Billie, who is Chairman of the Seminole tribe of Florida. We stayed several days with Jelly Roll and then to Hollywood, FL to visit Jim Billie. Jim very generously put us up at the Hard Rock Café and Hotel in Hollywood & showed us around. See more in my column in the Officers section.



FEATURE ARTICLES (Continued)

New Reconnaissance Association Formed

LRRPs-LRPs-LRS from around the Nation and as far away as Argentina converged on Branson, Missouri on June 24-28, 2015 to renew old friendships and to make new ones. Over 100 were registered for the LRRP-LRP-LRS Rally and at least another 25 arrived at the sound of beer being opened and war stories being told. This follows the LRRP-LRP-LRS Rally held in Columbus, GA, April 2014.

Gary Linderer, 101st Airborne LRRP was the host. He and his wife went to great lengths to ensure there was ample beverages and food. If someone left hungry or thirsty....well it wasn't their fault. The City of Branson welcomed the group with open arms and the local Newspaper had the Rally on the Front Page.

As the result of growing interest in forming an association that includes LRRPs, LRPs, and LRS of all eras, the proposal was made at the Rally to form such association. There was unanimous approval and the LONG RANGE RECONNAISSANCE ASSOCIATION (LRRA) was formed.

Marshall Huckaby, 25th ID LRRPs was elected as President; Scott Rathjens, E Co 109th MI (9th ID LRS) and F Co 51st INF LRS, was elected Vice-President; Miguel Wood, E 51st LRS/ F 51st LRS, was elected Secretary-Treasurer; Carl Witkowski, E Co 110th MI (10th MTN LRS), was elected Sergeant-At-Arms; Brian Halbbrook, E 51st LRS was elected Historian, and Captain Charlie Shields, former E Co 51st LRS, currently serving as Chaplain with the 173rd ABN BDE in Italy, volunteered to serve as Chaplain. Chaplain Shield also performs Jumpmaster duties for the 173rd.

The requirements for membership in the Long Range Reconnaissance Association, is: Active Member: Any person is eligible for membership who has served honorably with a LRRP, LRP, or LRS Unit/Detachment or successor unit during peacetime or war.

Membership in the Association can be achieved through nomination by an active member, who is responsible for the vetting and validation of eligibility of their nominee. To date over 260 LRRPs-LRPs-LRS have joined the new LRRA.

When asked how the LRRA plans to compete with the 75th RRA and the USARA, Huckaby said *"I am a Life Member of both of those Associations and our goal is not competition with them, but be an addition to them. There may be LRRA Members who, due to Unit affiliations do not meet their Qualifications, not a Tabbed Ranger, or not having served in a unit with lineage to the 75th RRA. And there will be members, like myself, who are members of all three". As long as a member belongs to something, to reunite with his Brothers, then that is good. Membership in the LRRA is not a requirement to attend our Rallies, (as long as you pay your fair share)."*

The LRRA will closely monitor our Brothers who are leaving us and will make every attempt to offer condolences to the LRRP-LRP-LRS's Family.

The LRRA Motto is: **"OCULUS EXERCITUS"** (Eyes of the Army).



LONG RANGE RECONNAISSANCE ASSOCIATION
Branson, MO., June 27, 2015

FEATURE ARTICLES (Continued)

NOVEMBER 6, 2015
PATRICK'S UNIFORMS & INDOOR GUN RANGE
NOVEMBER 7, 2015
0830 CHECK-IN
1000 SHOTGUN START
THE CLUB AT SAVANNAH HARBOR



Active Duty Individual

\$50

Active Duty Team

\$200

Veteran/Other Individual

\$125

Veteran/Other Team

\$500

SINCE OUR FIRST TOURNAMENT IN 2012, RANGER EVENTS HAS RAISED OVER \$46,000. THE PROCEEDS HAVE SUPPORTED MILITARY ORGANIZATIONS AND FOUNDATIONS, SUCH AS, GALLANTFEW, THE TANNER HIGGINS MILITARY MEMORIAL FUND AND WOUNDED VETERAN RETREAT PROGRAM.

**REGISTER AT:
WWW.RANGEREVENTS.COM**

**CONTACT:
JASON OLSON
912.220.9030**

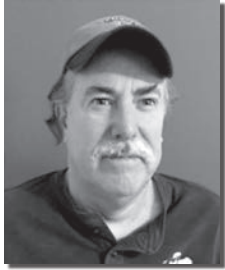
UNIT REPORTS



1ST BN, 75TH RANGER REGT

Unit Director - Steve Cochran

Unit Director Steve Cochran has been very ill off and on this past year. Bill Acebes and his wife Brenda have submitted the First Battalion news in his place.



Steve Cochran

Has been a busy year so far.

Steve Murphy and his son (Craig) struck out on the Appalachian Trail on 26 March – They expect to finish by the end of September. Along with the walk; Steve and Craig are representing the Sua Sponte Foundation and donations can be made to the SSF in their names. The website to go to is www.crowdrise.com/stevemurphyapprailthrewhike

The annual Jason Dahlke Memorial Energy Challenge will be coming up on 30 May – Always the first Saturday after Memorial Day. So the date changes each year. Held at Fort McCallister, Richmond Hill, GA. There are all sorts of activities during this challenge (checkpoint finding; and physical challenges; compass skills are required). This Challenge supports the Sua Sponte Foundation. Always a fun time – Come out and support this great endeavor, hosted by SSG Dahlke's parents (Tessa and Roger Dahlke). As a side note; the first year the challenge was held, SSG Jason Dahlke and SSG Dominic Annechinni won the challenge. SSG Dahlke was killed a few months later; on 29 August 2009. The following year; the challenge was renamed in his honor. There will also be a BBQ cook-off. I appreciate the opportunity to judge this event.

The 1st Battalion Rangers participated in the St Patricks Day Parade this year. First time in several years. The Rangers looked great (as always).

We lost two great Rangers during the past several months. CSM (R) Joe Heckard and SSG (R) William Sears. You may remember that Bill Sears was injured during the assault on Grenada. His precious wife Lilly had died 20 months prior to his passing.

Gold Star Father Bill Rouse has had several visits to the hospital; but is recovering well at home these days.



Cory Remsburg moved in to his new home; in Arizona; 13 March; a home made possible by the "Lead the Way Fund". Cory retired last August from his "home" at 1st Ranger Battalion. He hosted the May Ranger Phoenix Breakfast at his beautiful on 9 May. Thanks Cory!

Three Rangers received awards for heroism - SSG James Jones and SGT Derek Anderson received Silver Star for braving heavy automatic gunfire to retrieve a wounded SGT Travis Dunn. SGT Dunn received the Bronze Star with V Device and Purple Heart. The awards were presented by Army Vice Chief of Staff General Daniel B. Allyn. General Allyn served as Charlie Company Commander during Operation Just Cause, December 1989.

CSM Bishop and Holly and family will be moving to Fort Benning soon. Congratulations on being selected as Regimental CSM. Hooah!

Congratulations to LTC Tegtmeier and Julie on being selected for Brigade Command. Hooah!



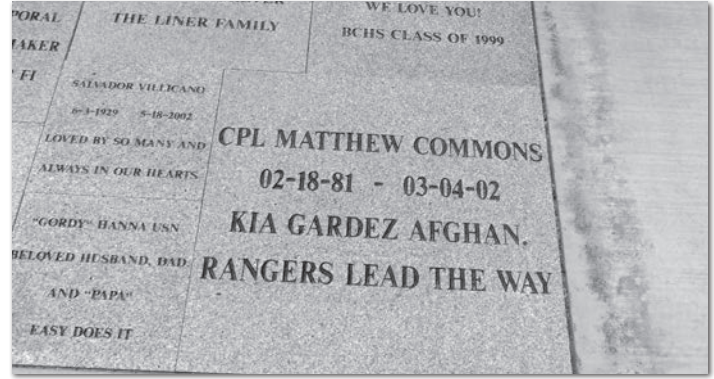
Bill Acebes and Gary Schindele

Brenda and I went to San Diego in May; for the 50th Anniversary Reunion of 173rd Airborne Brigade - COL Mike Foster (prior 1st Battalion Commander; now Commander of the 173rd Airborne Brigade in Italy) was the Guest Speaker. Also attending was another original 1974 Ranger; CSM (R) Gary Schindele. Picture attached.

We also stopped at the Veterans Memorial Park in Boulder City, Colorado. We looked around and took a few pictures of Corporal Matt Commons' stones and also a street sign. The entire street thru the Memorial Park is Commons Way. Pictures attached.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

1ST BN, 75TH RANGER REGT (Continued)



Single Ranger Retreat; 9-11 June. Holly Bishop has started a Bible Study at her home; every Thursday; 1000 hours. Marriage Retreat at Hilton Head, SC; scheduled for 6-8 June.

Submitted by:
CSM (Ret.) Bill Acebes and Brenda Acebes

 **HQS 75TH RANGER REGIMENT AND SPECIAL TROOPS BATTALION (STB)**
Unit Director - Rick Barela

If you missed the Ranger Rendezvous this past June well we had a pretty good time even though it was moved up by two months. Still, a lot of rangers showed up as the Rendezvous was held in conjunction with the 75th Ranger Regiment Change of Command ceremony and the Ranger Hall of Fame induction ceremony. Overall there were a total 16 inductees and you can find their names on the website. There were a lot of familiar faces inducted this year that have served in the Regiment over the years and here are the ones that served in the battalions and regiment and we are proud to say they are now in the Ranger Hall of Fame.

Gen John Abizaid
Gen Stanley McChrystal
CSM Jimmy Broyles (Current Member of the 75th RRA)
SFC Taft Yates (Current Member of the 75th RRA)

I was invited to the Ranger Hall of Fame dinner for all new inductees as the guest of our outgoing president of the 75th RRA Bill Anton. LTC Anton was the in inductee into the RHOFF in 2009. During the dinner I ran into lots of old friends dating back to my days in the 1st Ranger Battalion in 1974 and also from my last regimental assignment. It was good to see all of them and catch up on old business.

During the rendezvous there was lots of fun and as per this picture in the hospitality room you can see what I mean. Granted we are all a little (lot older) and as someone stated we are carrying our rucks where the reserves used to sit but we are still and ready to have some fun.



During the week I was able to meet with the 75th Ranger Regiment Public Affairs Officer (Major John Mayne) and discussed which was is the best approach in getting the information about the 75th RRA to the Rangers on active duty and especially to those leaving the regiment? We need to let all these rangers know about the association which was created by our brothers from the Vietnam era and let them know we are an association for those who have served and worn the scroll. As the unit director, I am trying to get involved with both the organization and being the interface for both the 75th Rgr. Rgt. and the STB. I talked to some of the folks to see what we can do to get the present day rangers active in the association.



I attended the change of command ceremony which had a large contingent of rangers from each battalion to watch as Colonel Christopher Vanek handed over the reins of the 75th Ranger Regiment to the new commander Colonel Marcus Evans who is listed as the 19th Commander of the regiment. After the ceremony and celebrations were held at Lawson AAF with the bar-b-que where Charlie Daniels performed, granted

HQS 75TH RANGER REGIMENT AND SPECIAL TROOPS BATTALION (STB) (Continued)

the weather got a little dicey but fun was had by one and all. There was a great time had by all to include the ladies of the association who went ziplining across the Chattahoochee River. They all to have the ranger spirit and reached the ranger objective. Granted there were some questionable comments but they all drove on to the ranger objective.



As I put an end this quarter's article I have to report on sad news that was passed to me today by CSM (Ret.) Jeff Mellinger, the passing of yet another one Darby's WWII Ranger originals - Warren "Bing" Evans. Bing was reported as passing by his son, who said Bing passed quietly in his sleep. Bing has a long history associated with the 75th Ranger Regiment and is an Honorary CSM of 2nd Ranger Battalion; he also served as President of WWII Ranger Battalion Association for many years.

May your thoughts and prayers reach out to the Evans family. Even though his time here has passed he is now with the Big Ranger in the Sky ready again to drive on with his brothers in the ranger family who have preceded him.

Well that's an end to this mission and will update you again in the next issue of the patrolling, on a closing note we had the general membership meeting and election of new officers for the next term of 2015-2017. Let me make the introduction of the officers for the coming term:

- 1st VP John Chester
(Past President and Secretary)
- 2nd VP David Regenthal
(Double Duty as the Webmaster)
- Secretary Tom Sove
(Back in the saddle for another term)
- Treasurer Roger Crunk
(Also back in the saddle for another term)

Oh I forgot one of the officers; I have been elected as the President for the association and with the corps of officers we will strive to do our best to move the 75th Ranger Regiment Association forward and will perform double duties and the UD and president.

RANGERS LEAD THE WAY



B/75 - C/58 LRP - VII CORPS LRRP
Unit Director - Marc L. Thompson

REUNION

I missed the reunion this year, partially because the dates were changed, and in part because my wife and I now care full-time for her 86-year-old father who faces certain physical and geriatric challenges. I'm also keeping this short because if you read other portions of the magazine, you'll see that printing space is at a premium.

THIS MAGAZINE

I need to hear from all of you about Patrolling (no, not what a lousy job I do as editor or Unit Director, but about costs and format). You'll see discussion of that elsewhere this issue, but the short version is that the cost of publishing exceeds the funds available.



Would you all be willing to absorb an annual \$10-20 cost (even life members) to continue receiving the printed version? I am. Please let me know.

RANGER BROYLES

CSM (R) Jim Broyles was inducted into the 2015 RHOE. Well deserved, despite my screwing-up and someone else having to submit the nomination packet.

Mike Moser says:

Just wanted to share a story about Jim Broyles with you. I went to Benning this spring to watch Jim's son Jason compete in the BRC. Quite an experience to say the least. Jim, myself and Sherry Klein

were riding back the last day and decided to drop by the Ranger

B/75 - C/58 LRP - VII CORPS LRRP (Continued)

willing and extremely able to carry out their missions. You would be proud of your “off spring”.



The other big event for us was the Regimental Barbeque. Everyone made that signature event. Highlighting all the food you could eat, from steaks to hot dogs, was a live music concert by the Charlie Daniels Band. Suffice it to say, we all had a great time and returned back to the hotel to rest.

A personal highlight for the Fee tribe happened when grandson Garrett recognized one of the Rangers who starred in the movie Restrepo, a harrowing account of a besieged outpost over in the Rockpile mountains. Two years after seeing the movie, Garrett picked him out of a crowd of over a thousand. He and Katrina had a great time when he came over to our table.



We never made it to Snuffy's, but Tom Forde and I did attend a couple of services at “The Chapel” on the final night. Having never served “in country”, Tom and I continue to be impressed with

the “no shit!” exploits and harrowing experiences of those who did. Remnants of PTSD still effect deep emotions and behaviors of some of the guys. I hope reunions and the coming together help deal with remaining feelings and that they realize the pride and honor of having done their duty with courage and distinction under fire far from home, even as ignorant assholes were berating them. Unfortunately, they received no homecoming from an ungrateful nation.

Moving on, I attended the Unit Directors’ meeting that seemed to focus on inaccurate financial issues and Patrolling magazine. Of the former, there was a call for more transparency and Association by-laws dicta.

Re Patrolling, the magazine: Basically, it’s a major expense that needed to be addressed. The Exec Committee seemed to be pushing for an on-line version as a cost cutting measure. In my experience, this has been an issue for many years at several reunions. A significant number of old timers present (60-100) seemed to favor the magazine format, including myself, even at

the expense of an additional annual surcharge of \$20 or so. No action was taken and the motion was tabled for another time. In other words, why do today what you can put off until tomorrow?

Our Unit Director, Marc Thompson was not present, but it was decided that we should poll paid 75thRRA members for an informal vote on the issue. To that end, send your responses to me any way you want and I’ll forward them to Marc for a final tally. Your choice are (a) keep the magazine in its present state, (b) Keep the magazine, but with a minimal surcharge, or (c) opt for the on-line version. The latter would be free. Add any comments you’d like, but keep them brief and succinct, please.



I spoke with Kevin Ingraham re Ranger Hall of Fame nominations. In my opinion, perhaps unjustified, there’s a disproportionate number of officers selected compared to the NCO and enlisted ranks — just an opinion. If any of you think that any of our numbers are worthy candidates, let me know. Provide as much info as you can. Collectively, we know a lot about each other, but individually we’re pretty much ignorant. Think about it; talk it up. Note that Glenn English (MOH) is our only member to date.



The final event of the week was the Ranger Banquet. We all enjoyed a fairly good meal. By fairly good, I mean they ran out of some food items. The highlight for us was when they called out #656437 for

a bottle of Jim Bean and Steve “I won, I won” Lengel went running up to claim his prize only to find out that that he was “pranked” by someone at our table, who will, of course, remain anonymous. Right, Tom? Steve got a pretty good laugh out of it, too...we think.

That about sums up the reunion in a nutshell. I know it doesn’t seem like much, and in spite of the initial confusion we all had a great time just getting together and renewing old friendships; and that’s what it’s all about. If you’ve put off attending one of our reunions, either Regimental or VII Corps, you owe it to yourself and us to atone for your sins of omission. This leads me to Operation Double Nickel.

B/75 - C/58 LRP - VII CORPS LRRP (Continued)**OPERATION DOUBLE NICKEL**

Operation Double Nickel is the name I've given to our VII Corps LRRP off year reunion at Ft. Bragg in October of NEXT year (2016). You have plenty of time to save your Deutsches marks and make your plans to be there. This will be a great time for some real "Show and Tell" bragging to your grandchildren. The exact dates are not solidified yet, but it will probably be sometime around the middle (13-17) of October. Dates and many reminders will follow periodically.

I've dubbed it Operation Double Nickel for two reasons. 2016 marks the 55th Anniversary of our inception as a Unit by Major Maltese in 1961 and the rebirth of the LRRP/Ranger corps. Secondly, we will be coming together to recognize and honor the accomplishments of Association founder Joe Chetwynd and CSM David Clark, while celebrating the unique brotherhood of the LRRPs.

As a side note, while visiting in-laws in Fayetteville over 12 years ago, I stopped by the 82nd Airborne Division Museum on post. Reading a post newspaper, I noticed a reunion of the VII Corps LRRP unit out of Nelligen, Germany meeting in Washington, DC. My reason for telling you this is that I went, not knowing who I'd see or know after some 40 years of zero contact from anyone. But I went and I can honestly say that I went away making friends with guys I never knew before and meeting some I did know long ago. As LRRPs we shared a common bond that is alive and well today, some 55 years later. Some of the guys I may have known, but weeks in the field establishing this new concept in military history left them vacant in my mind. There was Maltese, Bingham, Chetwynd, Attaway, Gibson, Visel, Touchon, Hill and a strange old guy in faded farmer overalls with a limp and a country southern draw. That was (and is) Sam Storey, whose complete cigarette roll parachute malfunction left him nearly dead and two inches shorter on one leg. Two notes: He spent the next two and a half years in Walter Reed recuperating and rehabbing and turned 71 this week (July 6). One of the guys to stop by his Tennessee mountain a while back was Fred Kennedy, the guy who was holding Sam's mangled leg that fateful day. Sam never knew until Fred stopped by out of the blue to visit him. Had it not been for our 1014 reunion at Savannah, they might have never met, since it was Fred and Steve Straley's first reunion. I think our reunions are Divine Intervention.

Back to Operation Double Nickel: We want all of you to attend — in the strongest terms! Details and reminders will follow OFTEN. I anticipate a \$30 or so tithing (offering, if you will)

to cover costs and miscellaneous stuff. Any leftover monies will be donated to the Association's kitty (and I don't mean Forde's wife or vacation in Ireland). You may also want (or should) save up your shekels to pay your \$25 annual dues if you're not a Life Member. In several months, I'm going to pre-order the shirts, so we'll need your bucks and sizes ASAP. I haven't got this all figured out yet, but trust me, I will get it out.

LRRP BROTHER NEWS

Theo (Knaak) was diagnosed with Multiple Myeloma, a cancer of the bone marrow. We don't know what the prognosis is yet, but he's in for a couple of ass-puckering prop blast events. When I spoke with him the other day, he was excited about Lorrie Morgan, that fine looking champion soccer player from Theo's little NJ town, and the upper and lower GI tract he had due the next day. Feel free to call or text him. His contact info is: (c) 856-461-3904, (e) lrrp7corp@comcast.net, (add) 106 Mulberry St, Delran, NJ 08075.

Also, Sam Storey turned 71 last week. Except for his constant battle to ward off a stroke due in part to not opening his parachute after jumping out of a perfectly good airplane, he's doing well. Daughter Rachel promised to keep an eye on the old dog. I promised him that if he lived and made next year's reunion, we would let him and our other two preachers (Dave Clark and Zeke Evaro) each give a three-minute sermon to bless our souls and families. Anything over three minutes is just pontificating and putting the troops to sleep. (s_storey100@yahoo.com) NO DIRTY OR SUGGESTIVE STUFF, please.

Speaking of Zeke, I spoke with him. He's somewhat okay but sounded like shit. He's having heart trouble. Nothing specific and it seems to be under control.

Finishing up, I want to thank Edgar Morales and Nazario Aviles for traveling so far from Texas; the Fee tribe for adding some fun from Arkansas; Steve "I won, I won" Lengel and Tom Forde for the camaraderie and humor they provided, and Greg Eacker for keeping me company while waiting for the backsliders to muster. That's it guys. I'll try to attach some photos taken at the reunion. Don't forget the Patrolling magazine polling we need. ...and take good care of yourselves and your families. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure and that is damn important as we age. It ain't too late. That's just a cheap ass excuse for using (as Dave says) the remote instead of getting off your asses. My sermon for the quarter! My final caveat, as usual, is to please excuse any mistakes of commission or omission.

B/75 - C/58 LRP - VII CORPS LRRP (Continued)

I leave you with this poem by Joe Touchon:

AN ODE TO THEO

From five thousand feet, this great glob of meat
Slithered gently to the door.

On the command to "GO", he slid out quite slow,
Hoping for one chance once more.

Hanging there like a bag from strings to a rag,
He sought out the "X" on the DZ floor.

Down there with a turn, the first thing to learn
Is that a tree is much more.

As he made a low pass, that tree he did grasp.
Altitude was with him, no more.

Now, branches don't turn, but leave scratches that burn,
And blood stains, some on his drawers.

Then came the ground, he felt safe and sound,
But swore "never no more".

While looking around, those blood stains were brown
Tracks left while leaving the door.

Sounds a little like Tom Forde and roof tops or Sam Storey
forgetting where his reserve chute is.

In Brotherly Love,
Dick Foster, President
VII Corps LRRP Association



C/75 - E/20 LRP
Unit Director - Del Ayers

**An Khe Patrol Team
4-3 Summer 1968
1st Tour Company
E LRP 20th Inf**

By: Ray Bohrer

By the third day I thought the NVA were all but gone in this area. I then spotted a Patrol of around seven, crossing an open hillside about 2 clicks to our north. They were armed with AK 47's and all had rucksacks. I called for Fast movers A-4's as we were along way out of Artillery fan. They were on the spot in less than 15 minutes and dropped a couple of napalm bombs and it was over in a flash. Not much left to hump over and access.

We stayed low and observed the area the rest of the afternoon fighting off mosquitoes and heat. Getting low on water, instead of calling for resupply, we elected to go into a night halt as we were getting extracted the next morning, about two k's from here.

At first light I led off on point and started moving towards our LZ. Mostly an uphill hump. When we arrived at the LZ Tom Workman observed the area and noted it looked just like a golf green, with dew on the grass. I observed a well worn trail



cutting it right in half and disappearing into the jungle a few feet from us. With the Patrol in the woodline, I did a 360 around the LZ. crossing the trail twice on the north and south sides, I did my best not leave any boot prints. However the grass was wet with dew and left a few unintended marks . The trail was old with no signs of recent travel. So we settled on the North side and called for extraction

Sp/4 Dunkleberger was the RTO, Sp/4 G. Stewart was slack, I Sgt. Bohrer was point, SSG Workman was TL and PFC Presley was rear. About ten feet in the wood line, we waited, and could hear the Huey's coming a long way off. As I pulled out my yellow smoke I saw movement to my south and a NVA patrol came out of the woods on the trail. The point was at the ready, around a meter apart eleven NVA soldiers came out , By this time the team was ready for action, the point man was about ten feet from me when the rear element started speaking loud. The NVA halted and all readied their weapons. The last NVA soldier started to notice my marks were I did a security check earlier. He followed the boot prints with his finger and spotted PFC Presley laying low in the wood line. He yelled something and the point man swung around when I then took him and the two others in front out. The NVA

C/75 - E/20 (Continued)

patrol started to scatter. All Hell broke loose and in a couple of minutes eleven NVA lay dead. Just then the first Gunship flew over for a routine pickup and I popped red smoke and Dunkleberger yelled "Contact" Tom directed the Guns to spray down the wood line, I then ran out and made sure all eleven were dead. Collecting as many weapons as I could carry and called for assistance. Two large rucksacks with documents and maps, nine Ak's one US 30 cal. Machinegun and a mouser we assumed used for sniping.

The pickup slick called down and said if he was to land we needed to move the bodies off the LZ, as it small but large enough for one slick as we moved the bodies I noticed that two of them looked a larger than the rest. I took their uniforms and ID's and turned them in with the rest of the Document and weapons to S-2. Turns out they were Chinese and were being moved to a larger unit.

At the end of a dry recon patrol the seven I spotted that the fast movers took care of, and the eleven the last hour of the patrol, It turned out to be quite exciting.

LOST BROTHERS

The E/20 C/75 Family lost three of our warriors in the past few months.

Randy Mills E/20 4th Platoon passed on April 20th. He served with 502nd / 101st before volunteering for E/20. Randy was a long time resident of Charleston SC. He was active in the Association. He and Tom Workman were responsible for locating several E/20 men to bring them into the Association and starting them on the road to receiving their VA benefits. Randy will be remembered as a gallant warrior who always had a quick smile.

Daryl "Elvis" Presley E/20 4th Platoon passed away on May 16 at home. Daryl came to E Co. directly from Jump School. Daryl stayed in Toledo OH after the Army. Daryl became a recluse because of his debilitating injuries received while with E Co. until found by Tom and Randy who quickly got him back to the VA. As a result he was upgraded to 100%. Daryl will be remembered as a young Soldier who grew to manhood as a warrior.

Michael Rosensweig "The Jew" passed away in March after a battle with cancer. He was at home with friends close. Michael lived in Indiana. Michael served with Gary Dolan C/75 2nd Platoon.

A remembrance and celebration of life and service was held at the Ranger Memorial during our reunion.

**D/75**

Unit Director - Richard "Herd" Nelson

I am sorry that most of this article didn't make it into the spring issue. I submitted it as winter of 2015 instead of as spring. I will just add the newer information and submit it as one article. This will now be in the summer/fall issue.

There is both good news and some really sad information to update people about I will start with the best update first. When I talked with Bill Fitzgerald, he told me that he and Kathy had become grandparents again. Their daughter Aileen and her husband had a healthy baby girl named Ava at the end of January. They had an enormous amount of snow up there where they live in New York last winter. When I talked with him again before I submitted this amended article he had further good news.

On our last mission together with D Company 75th in March of 1970, he was seriously wounded and medevaced out, he was



awarded a Bronze Star with V device, but he never had it presented to him. Since he found out about it from our team leader he has been trying to get the archive folks to find the orders and send them to him with an amended DD-214, without much luck. After the 2013 Reunion he and our team leader, Tom Delaney, submitted letters to them requesting a search of the 2nd Field force archives for those orders since D 75th was attached to them. Just recently he received confirmation that they had found those orders but couldn't send them directly to him because he was never presented the medal which an officer would have presented to him. The

great news is that his son-in-law who is married to Aileen is a captain in the Army and can present him with it. They will be coming to New York for the wedding of another one of Fitz and Kathy's daughter's wedding in September, he will be presented his Bronze Star with V device during that visit with

D/75 (Continued)

his daughters and wife in attendance, by one of his sons-in-law.

Psycho and Julie who also have a home in upstate New York had a really cold winter up there last year and so Julie came down to Florida for an extended vacation at her sisters place. Now that it is fairly warm she is back up there again. As many of you know they are huge dog lovers and have had four dogs, the two oldest have passed away due to age related causes.

Ed Mercer told me that he and Onecia had just started getting over the flu. He did say they were having a warmer winter than usual. He also said he had gotten some sad news around Christmas. He doesn't know what platoon Frank Fogg was in but that he received a Christmas card from Frank's mother informing them that Frank had passed away June 3rd of 2014. Frank and Ed exchanged Christmas cards every year so after he and Onecia sent the card to him they got the card back from Frank's mother. Ed also said he and Frank went through Jump school together and received their orders for D Company 151st at the same time.

**Ed Mercer****Frank Fogg**

They arrived in-country together and went home at the same time as well. Since the above information was given to me I received a call from Richard Lowes to inform me that Ed had passed away from a Brain Aneurism. Ed served on team 4-2 with D Company.

When I talked with Maddog Krause he said that he was doing alright and he and Janice are going to try to make the reunion at Ft. Benning again this year. He had been out earlier cutting firewood. It is also getting about time for them to start collecting maple sap and boiling it down to syrup as well. He later talked with me and he was able to attend the reunion and let me know what went on at the association meeting there. The meeting ran longer than usual due to some controversy. It was a poorly attended reunion, and some of the controversial items have been tabled and will be sent to the unit directors. As always I'll forward the information to you before I vote on anything.

The last time I talked with Ken Dern he was playing poker so I didn't get to talk long, but he told me that he and Linda were doing well. He and Linda are still taking care of Linda's mother, and that their daughter has found her own place now. Some of you might remember from an earlier article that she

had moved in with them while she was getting divorced. This is where I have to include the third piece of sad news as Ken's mother passed away from cancer on Martin Luther King Day this year. She was almost 90 years old, and she had a large mass behind her heart.

**Linda & Ken Dern**

As you might remember from my last article I reported that Rosie Norris wasn't feeling well and was waiting for some tests and their results. When I called Carl on Thanksgiving he

**Carl & Rosie Norris**

told me that the results were in and it was not good. Rosie had stage four lung cancer and if they tried to treat it, the treatment would kill her. She was so far along that the cancer progressed very rapidly that she passed away on December 7th. Carl, their son Mike, Mike's wife Cindy and Carl and Rosie's Granddaughter Katie were all in the room with her when she passed. I had called Carl on that day about 1 hr. and 30 minutes after she had passed, Carl asked me to let everyone I knew that knew them know what had happened. Although it is still difficult for Carl to talk about Rosie he says he is getting a little better, after all they were together for 54 years. Now Carl doing better now and was able to attend the reunion and is now, at the time of this article, over in Germany visiting with Rosie's family and his in-laws.

Here is the obituary that her granddaughter Katie posted on Facebook:

Rosie Norris, a longtime resident of Sierra Vista passed away Sunday, 7 December after a short but courageous battle with Lung Cancer. Rosie was born in Frankfurt, Germany during the time period of Hitler and the expansion of the NAZI regime. During this period, times were extremely rough for Rosie's family. Her father Karl Lechner was drafted into the German army and was killed in France. Her mother Margarete, then a war widow was tasked with the responsibility of providing for Rosie and her brother Hans. Even though things were tough for the Lechner family, Rosie graduated from school and became a laboratory technician for the famed IG Farben chemical complex.

D/75 (Continued)

In 1959, Rosie met her future husband, Carl, a simple soldier that loved and adored not only her, but her family as well. A wedding was planned in Germany but due to the complex paper work, that did not happen, Carl returned to the United States and sponsored Rosie as an immigrant. Following that, they were married and recently celebrated their 53rd wedding anniversary. Rosie was the perfect military wife and was proud to be associated with the United States Army and to be a United States citizen. She accompanied Carl back to Germany for assignments and also Japan, plus numerous stateside assignments in such lovely places like Ft Bragg, Fort Hood, Fort Benning, Fort Rucker and Fort Huachuca.

Rosie had one son, Michael, whom she was extremely proud of. Rosie leaves behind to cherish her memories, her devoted husband, Carl, son Mike, Daughter-in-law Cindy, grandchildren, Jeremy and Katie and numerous friends. Funeral services are planned for Thursday at the Southern Arizona Veterans Cemetery chapel beginning at 11:00AM. In accordance with Rosie's wishes in lieu of flowers, donations to the Sierra Vista Animal Shelter would be welcome.

When I talked with Billy Faulks he was doing well and I let him know that the information for the August Reunion was on the association web site, and that the schedule was going to be different this year but that we should still be able to have the combined D Company 75th, D Company 151st Bar-B-Que Somewhere in there. He said the pigs will be ready by then. After the Reunion I called him and told me that basically no one showed up.

When I called Jim and Donna Owen to get an update on them Donna's mother told me they were on a cruise. They have since then gone to the Reunion at Benning. Donna posted several pictures she took at the reunion on Facebook.

Gary Olson is also doing well and he is planning on attending the reunion in August as well. Mike and Vicki Jaussaud are doing well up in Indiana, and they are still taking care of Vicki's mother. They are also looking forward to seeing us all at Ft. Benning in August. As it turned out with the change in dates of the reunion at such a late date none of them were able to attend the reunion.

Mike and Sharon Warren are doing fine up in Kentucky and so is the rest of their family. I hope that they can make it down to the reunion, but that will depend on their grandkids schedule this August. Moe Lamphere told me that he and

Cindy are doing well up in South Dakota and will also try to join us down in Ga. Like so many others when the dates got changed for the reunion they all were not able to attend, and in Mike and Sharon's case their family vacation to Florida in early June was a great success again. Every June they go down to the military resort in Destin Florida for a family reunion vacation, and their Kids and Grandkids really enjoy it. They have been doing that for many years now.

Tom and Janice Delaney were not able to attend the reunion due to the fact that they had already had plans to attend a family reunion in upstate New York about the same time as the rescheduled reunion.

I have been having health related issues that prevented me from attending the reunion this year. First I developed a serious infection in my right foot after stepping on a drywall screw in late April or early May. Since I am a type two diabetic I was required to see my Podiatrist every week until it finally healed about the middle of July. While it was healing I had to wear a clumsy padded boot which made it difficult to drive. I have also been having trouble with what I can only describe as vertigo-like symptoms and I have been falling down, then have some trouble getting back up or even sitting up for a little while. In addition ever since I fell in the shower about two and a half years ago I have had some trouble with the feeling in my fingers which has gotten much worse and I keep dropping things I have in my hands. I have a scheduled appointment with my primary care physician on September 1st and I assume I will be in for several tests then. This is the first time in many decades I have had trouble getting in to see one of my VA doctors.

Some of the issues that are being forwarded to us unit directors is how to create funding for operating expenses for the Association as they aren't able to fund everything they are responsible for on the amount we are receiving for annual memberships and the By-laws would have to be changed to use any of the Lifetime membership money. Our By-laws prohibit their use for operating expenses. More will be revealed on this issue and I'll keep you informed as the information comes to me.

Last but not least, let's all please put the family and friends of all who passed since my last article for Patrolling Magazine in our prayers.

RLTW
Herd



E/75 - E/50 LRP - 9TH DIV LRRP

Unit Director - C. "Jeff" Webb, Jr.

BONDING OF WARRIORS OUR STORIES

Bonding of Warriors is still available. The book can be found at www.lulu.com

UNIT DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

As Unit Director, I continue to pursue a three-prong agenda – which has not changed from my first formal letter to the Unit in the fall of 2013 - (1) to honor ourselves as veterans who survived the war, (2) to celebrate the men and women who, today, volunteer for military service and swear allegiance to the United States of America and to defend her against all enemies – foreign and domestic and (3) to preserve the memory of our men who fell on the battlefields in Vietnam or who succumbed to their wounds sustained in Vietnam.

Today, I can report that we are still marching forward with our focus on the three prong agenda as we plan our 2015 reunion. Thanks to our reunion coordinators, Roy Barley and Tyrone Muse, and their team, we have now moved from a “tentative/flexible” itinerary to a focused reunion itinerary.

This reunion is possibly one of the most significant reunions our unit, E50/E75, will ever organize – other than the first reunion in Baltimore in 1993 – because it falls during the early period of the national ten-year long Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War.

The national commemoration began on May 28, 2012 (1962) and will culminate on November 11, 2025 (1975). This year, 2015, represents the year 1965. 1965 was the year after some of us had graduated from high school; for others, 1965 was the year they graduated from high school. For many of us it was an unquiet period; a heady time between the carefree days of high school and the day we decided to enroll in college, waited to be drafted or volunteered for service in the United States Armed Forces. Whatever our decision, by 1967, some of us was in Vietnam and assigned to E50 LRRP; others were in basic training or completing AIT at various stateside posts and anticipating our orders for Vietnam. The unbroken stream of young men destined for a tour of duty with in Vietnam would continue from 1964 until 1975.



Both the nation and the state of New York issued proclamations recognizing the 50th Anniversary of the Viet Nam War.

The national proclamation states, in part, *“The commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War – a 13 year effort to honor and give thanks to a generation of proud Americans who saw our country through one of the most challenging mission we have ever face. While no word will ever be fully worthy of their service, nor any honor truly befitting their sacrifice, let us remember that it is never too late to pay tribute to the men and women who answered the call of duty with courage and valor.”*

At our mini-reunion in Baltimore in 2014, we focused on 2 of the 3 agenda items –to honor ourselves by recognizing one of our own, CSM Roy D. Nelson, and to preserve the memory of our men who fell in battle by traveling as a group to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. At the memorial we made tracing of the name of our KIA's. Those tracings will be used to create an appropriate banner which will be displayed at future reunion memorial services.



From left: 75th Infantry Ranger Jeff Webb salutes E/50 LRRP CSM Roy D. Nelson at mini-reunion banquet.

In Newburgh we are focusing on “honoring our own”. I am working closely with Roy and Tyrone and their team, to develop an agenda that honors “our own”, while, of course, having an excellent time with each other and our guests. When I use the words “our own”, I encourage everyone to expand the meaning of those two simple words because words have meaning and they are important.

In honoring “our own” I am reaching back to the beginning days of our country – to the Revolutionary War, now flash forwarding to the Vietnam War and then again to the third major assault on the United States of America - the attack on the North and South Towers of the World Trade Center.

E/75 - E/50 LRP 9TH DIV LRRP (Continued)

These three events changed who we are as a people while strengthening our resolve to become a better country.

Let us consider the significance of Newburgh, New York after the Revolutionary War. Many of our fellow citizens do not know what happened in Newburgh, New York in March 1783. In fact, before the unit decided to hold our 2015 reunion in Newburgh, I, too, did not know “What Happened in Newburgh in 1783”. Suffice it to say, it was the culmination of numerous events that established several important American governance principles. So “What did happen in Newburgh, New York in 1783?” While I am not a “conspiracy geek”, I encourage everyone to research the “Newburgh Conspiracy”.

Roy Barley, Past President, 75th RRA wrote: “ Poncho, As I think about the men of our unit I am reminded that each of us is getting into our senior years and with that how many more years will we be able to attend these reunions. I ask that all members try to attend this reunion because it may be the last time for some of us. In the past couple of years we lost more men and this will accelerate as we get older. There are some men who have never attended a reunion and I really wish they would before we go to the next phase in our journey.



From left: LRRPS - Clancy Matsuda, former E/50 Company Commander, Duane L. Alire and Roy Barley, former president, 75th RRA.

We all went through one of the most difficult times in our country's history and this is the chance to see where this country started. If Washington had not spoken so eloquently at Temple Hill in rejecting the crown, we could have been another monarchy. This is one of the very historic places we will visit and walk where Washington walked. We will walk where men walked in some of the most difficult times in our country's history. It is ironic that men who faced times of difficulty generations apart will walk the same paths.”

I, too, am concerned. For us, this reunion is the second in the 10-year recognition of the Vietnam War. During this particular reunion we will visit three historically important places. They are (1) Temple Hill, referenced above by Roy; (2) we will conducted our Memorial Service at the chapel at West Point and will also honor General Wayne Downing for his unique

service to his country with a brief wreath laying ceremony; and (3) we will visit the 911 Memorial and Museum. All three of these historically significant sites contributed to the fabric of our society. Events and people at Temple Hill and West Point influenced our service as LRRPs and Rangers in the Vietnam War. The events on 9/11 significantly changed how we conduct ourselves today. Events at these three locations, like Pearl Harbor, became defining moments in American history.



From left: LRRP point man Bob Pegram and LRRP TL Duane L. Alire after an extraction by PBR in the Mekong Delta in 1968.

Temple Hill, in particular, set a course which influenced our country. Think what America would be like if Washington had accepted his countrymen's ideas about crowning him “king”, or if he had failed to influence the military officers in his command to reject the idea of civilian control of the military, or if he had never created the Purple Heart medal, or if the Constitution, as we know it today, had been written differently or if the British had won the Revolutionary War.

Today, we would live in very different country.

2015 E50/E75 REUNION IN NEW YORK

Planning continues for our 2015 reunion in Newburgh, New York.

Reunion Dates: September 21 – 27, 2015

Reunion Hotel: Hudson Valley Hotel & Conference Center, Route 17K, Newburgh, NY, 12550.

Telephone Number: 1-845-564-9020.

Be sure to mention “E50 LRP/E75 Rangers”.

Rates are: \$80.99 plus tax.

Reunion Airport: Stewart International Airport is two miles from hotel.

Reunion fee structure: The fee structure for the reunion is itemized below.

1. Registration fee (banquet, hospitality room, West Point & bus transportation to NYC) (\$60.00)
2. 911 Memorial & Museum (\$18.00 for veterans/\$21.50 for non-veterans)
3. 911 Memorial electronic audio device (if desired) (\$7.00)
4. Statue of Liberty ferry ride (\$28.00)

E/75 - E/50 LRP 9TH DIV LRRP (Continued)**REUNION RAFFLES**

Sharon Barley wrote: "Just wanted to give all of you, who will be joining us in Newburgh in September, some information on one of our fund raisers. As we did in Buffalo, we are going to try and run a daily 50/50 raffle. Tickets will be available all day and the prize will be drawn around 8:30 each evening. We will also run a Reunion 50/50 all week, the winner to be drawn at the dinner on Saturday evening. Something different this year, we will be having a Chinese Auction or Basket Auction (depending on what they are called in your area of the country). The baskets will be on display during the week and the winners will also be drawn at the dinner.

We are asking everyone to bring an item for the auction. It can be as small as a gift card from a national restaurant chain or gas card, to a handmade item or a piece of memorabilia that you wish to donate. There will also be a few items from the attractions around the Hudson Valley area. Think about donating something from your area. We have already had a few pieces of jewelry from New Mexico donated, as well as house flags and garden flags. We will be including a few copies of the recently printed unit cookbook, 'A Recipe Guide: From LRRP Rations to Gourmet Dining. We are also including a couple of copies of "Bonding of Warriors". Please help us make the auction a great success.

If you would like to send something ahead of time, or will not be able to make the Reunion but would like to participate, items can be shipped to Roy and Sharon Barley, PO Box 233, Springville, NY 14141. We will be leaving home for the Hudson Valley on September 18th so please make sure it will arrive prior to that time.

If large items are donated we will have a silent auction for those items. As always all proceeds from the fund raisers go to the Unit Fund."

LEST WE FORGET...

I am saddened to report the passing of Kenneth Lamar Marze, age 68. Kenneth was from Port Arthur, Texas and passed away on Thursday, June 25, 2015 at his residence. He was born on November 24, 1946 in Merryville, Louisiana to the late Herbert Marze and Lorene Leftrick.

From his obituary, "Kenneth served honorably in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. He served in Company E, 50th Infantry Air Borne 75th Rangers, the Elite LONG RANGE PATROL COMPANY of the 9th Infantry Division during the Vietnam War."

In addition to his wife, Chris Marze, Kenneth is survived by his children and grandchildren.

Kenneth, or as we knew him, "Lantern Head" served honorably in E50 LRRP. He was interred on Tuesday, June 30, 2015 at the Houston National Cemetery, Houston, Texas.

I thank Danny Hays alerted me to Kenneth's passing and Roy Barley for arranging for a floral arrangement to be sent. On behalf of the Unit, I sent a letter of condolence to Mrs. Marze.

BOB HERNANDEZ WROTE

Hi Duane, Tess, Cody and I just returned from the Second Annual LRRP Reunion in Branson MO. The reunion was held June 25 – 28, 2015. The 9th Division had a pretty good representation. Attending was Chuck Watson and wife Liz, CR Mathis and wife Judy, Jim Thayer and wife Maria, Robert Hill, Tess, Cody and myself. Also in attendance was Brad Gallardo, Seff Gallardo's brother. There were also a few members of the Long Range Surveillance from Fort Lewis, Washington and they were very excited to meet us.

The men came to vote on forming a new association called: The Long Range Patrol (LRRP) Long Range Patrol (LRP) Long Range Surveillance (LRS) Association. This is the first time this group has come together to form an association. The point of the new association is to preserve our history separate from the Rangers, and claim our place in history.

I look forward to attending next year's reunion and watch the younger LRS's step up and take the place of us older soldiers. I believe that we are in good hands. Bob, LLTW (LRRP's -LED The Way)!

UNIT COOK BOOK, "A DINING GUIDE FROM LRRP RATIONS TO GOURMET DINING"

Several months ago Mrs. Sharon Barley, wife of Roy Barley, and other members of our extended family, affectionately known as the "Warrior Women", began talking about creating a cook book as a fund raising project. The idea from inception to completion is described in the book's brief introduction which I have included below.



Cover of the Cookbook.

E/75 - E/50 LRP 9TH DIV LRRP (Continued)

The story of the E50/E75 Warrior Women began in 1967, when the LRRP Unit was deployed to Viet Nam. Some of the Warrior Women were sweethearts, wives, mothers or friends of the soldiers; others came to the Unit after the war.

In 2012, during the Houston Reunion to honor Hilan Jones, some of the women took a ride in a Huey helicopter – the same type of helicopter the men of the company rode into battle in Viet Nam. They immediately became enamored with the distinctive ‘whoop, whoop, whoop’ sound of the two main motor blades and the adrenalin rush of feeling the helicopter break free of the tarmac and rise above the airport. Nothing – not some carnival ride or some high-priced roller coaster ride – can match the feeling of the g-force of a power turn and the gravity defying pull of the seat of your pants as the helicopter turns on its axis. After the ride, the Warrior Women were high-fiving, shouting and cheering. Thus was born the E Company Warrior Women and the plan to help financially with a Unit specific cookbook.

Needless to say, the recipes are unquestionably enticing. Recipes for everything from Appetizers, Beverages, Soups,

Salads, Vegetables, Main Dishes, Breads, Rolls, and Desserts are included.

The cookbook acknowledges the special role our friend, Connie Matsuda, wife of Colonel (retired) Clancy Matsuda, for her invaluable help with recipes and guidance.

Additionally, the cookbook is dedicated to the memory of Gayle Walden, wife of LRRP Elbert Walden. Gayle was our “Company Grandmother” and quite possibly one of the gentlest people we have ever known. Her family contributed several of her recipes to the book.

The cookbook is available for purchase at: Sharon Barley, 12080 Route 39, Chaffee, New York 14030. They are \$12.00 each plus \$4.00 postage and packing per book ordered.

**BONDING OF WARRIORS
OUR STORIES**

Bonding of Warriors, our most recent book, is still available. The book can be found at www.lulu.com.

**F/75 - F/50 LRP - 25TH DIV LRRP**

Unit Director - Tim Walsh

Greetings once again,

Much has happened since my last submission to Patrolling. There have been two reunions both of which happened in the same week in June, 2015. The 75th Ranger Regiment Assoc. had to change its scheduled reunion in Columbus, GA from August to June to coincide with the rescheduled Ranger Regimental Change of Command. That was in the same week that an all-era LRRP/LRP/LRS rally that Marshall Huckaby and others had planned in Branson, MO. I was deeply saddened that I couldn't attend the LRRP/LRP/LRS rally. The attendees at the LRRP/LRP/LRS Rally formed the new Long Range Reconnaissance Assoc. (LRRA). Go to their Facebook page for membership details. Best of luck to our new LRRA brothers!

The 75th RRA Ranger Rendezvous in Columbus was HOT! It was in the '90's the entire time. Well, except when it rained. Then the temp dropped a few degrees for a few minutes, and added several points to the humidity. I have included a list of the attendees. You'll notice that Co. F had a lot fewer, about half as many, attendees as in previous years.



Attending the 75th RRA reunion were: Tim & Theresa Walsh, Colin & Pearl Hall, Ron & Carole Hart, Phil Davis, Dave Regenthal, Francis Jarvis, Mike Turner, Nick Demongeot, Dick Ewald, Tom Cahill, Frank Hamilton, Tom Schommer, Gene Reilly, Don Purdy, Bob Gericke, Rick & Georgia Ellison.

The 75th RRA elected a new slate of officers at the general membership meeting. Please join me in congratulating Rick Barela, President; John Chester, First Vice President; one of our own, Dave Regenthal, was elected to the position of Second Vice President; continuing as Secretary is Tom

Sove and returning as Treasurer is Roger Crunk. I know y'all will give Dave and the other new officers all the support they need.

As has been the case in the past several reunions, we made a coordinated tactical assault on the Mikata Japanese Steak House. We always enjoy ourselves there. And we continued the tradition of going to Country's BBQ as well. A couple of us went to the Cannon brewpub in downtown Columbus...

F/75 - F/50 LRP - 25TH DIV LRRP (Continued)

well, maybe more than once. And many of us went to a fantastic BBQ at the home of one of our brother Rangers. Ranger Roger Brown (N/75) has hosted a free BBQ at his home for the past several reunions. A HUGE thank you to Roger! I have expressed my opinion about the repetitiveness of going to Columbus every other year. But hey, there are still some terrific ways to enjoy yourself while you're there.

Off Year Reunions. As you know, Co. F was formed in Vietnam in 1966. Those of us who came to the unit after that owe a lot to the guys who set the whole thing in motion. If you've never talked to any of those early Co. F guys, you owe it to yourself to sit down and listen to what they had to go through. They were given a mission, but weren't given anything to accomplish that mission. NOTHING! It's truly amazing to hear how they "appropriated" all the stuff they needed (it's my understanding that most of the Statute of Limitation issues have been resolved). It is my pleasure to announce the 50 year anniversary of the "founding" of Co. F. To celebrate the event, they are holding an off-year reunion in Savannah, GA in April 2016. All Co. F members are welcomed, regardless of when you were in country. They don't have all the details (exact dates, hotel, etc.) worked out, but please plan on attending the 50th Anniversary of the founding of Co. F with us in April, 2016 in Savannah. Savannah, by the way, is one of the nicest cities Theresa & I have visited. We will definitely be there. More details will follow in Pointman. Also keep an eye on the Co. F website.

I completely understand all the talk about holding a reunion somewhere other than Benning. I also understand the issues those of you on the west coast (and Hawai'i) have about traveling to the east coast. It's pretty clear that the 75th RRA isn't going to shift its reunion away from Benning for the foreseeable future. The recent Branson LRRP reunion was very successful. Branson is probably the most "veteran friendly" city around. At the last 75th RRA reunion (this year) we discussed holding an off-year Co. F reunion in 2016. Many of the folks attending the 75th RRA reunion said that they would go to an off-year Branson reunion because it's more or less in the center of the country. Problem is – there's already a Co. F reunion planned for April in 2016 and many of us don't have the luxury of going to more than one reunion per year. I've asked before, but please let me know how y'all feel about off year reunions. Based on the limited attendance at the 2015 75th RRA reunion, I'd say we would probably have some success at planning an "on-year" reunion (in 2017) at someplace other than Benning. Our brothers in the newly formed Long Range Reconnaissance Assoc. (LRRP) may help resolve this issue. More to follow.

For the past few "reunion cycles", many of us have attended the ¾ Cav reunions on the off/even years. We have gone to Nashville (2012) and San Antonio (2014) as the guests of ¾ Cav. As I have said in the past, they really know to put on a reunion. They plan well, execute well, have it in a different, interesting place, include events for the wives/significant others and keep it all relatively affordable. Go figure. (The next ¾ Cav reunion is scheduled for Sept., 2016 in Harrisburg, PA. Details to follow.)

At the 75th RRA reunion I made a point of talking to each Co. F attendee face-to-face, rather than having a "Co. F business meeting" as I have had in past reunions. There just weren't enough of us in attendance and there wasn't anything terribly important to discuss to warrant a meeting. I wanted to make sure to everybody knew about three things; 1) I told everybody about the upcoming Co. F reunion in Savannah in 2016, 2) I said that I wasn't going to be "passing the hat" for contributions because the Co. F fund is fairly solvent (specific details to appear in the next Pointman), and, lastly, I asked if anyone would like to take over as Unit Director. Normally, the response to that last question is "NO". But I was pleasantly surprised when Tom Cahill said that he would consider serving as U/D if I needed him to. I thanked him, and said that I would continue to serve for the while. Don't be surprised to learn that Tom Cahill will be your next U/D. Thank you, Tom!

I always ask for you to send me things that I can include in Patrolling and Pointman. Thanks to those of you who have.

**This from Steve Grezlik (Co. F, 6/70-12/70)
from a book he hopes to finish...**

Most embarrassing moment, F Co Rangers:

It had rained heavily in one of the provinces north of our area and that info hadn't been factored into our mission. By the third day we had water up to our ankles and rising. The TL kept referencing his map and nothing made sense to him. Towards afternoon, we were in waist deep water and moving in 180 degrees, towards the rear, did not help. The heavy rains north of us had swollen the river and we were humping flooded jungle with rising water. When all options were exhausted, Tom Schommer, our TL, called for an extraction bird, without a suitable LZ. Our machine gunner, Neal, popped smoke and threw it. The can arced into the air and fell into three feet of water. We had purple bubbles where we should have smoke. We could hear our bird coming.

I put my weapon on a fallen tree trunk protruding from the water and pulled another smoke from my web gear. With my

F/75 - F/50 LRP - 25TH DIV LRRP (Continued)

left hand I pulled the pin, let the spoon (handle) fly and waited. POP...my hand jerked slightly and I quickly set the smoke grenade on the log before it got hot. Purple smoke billowed out of it. The bird came in and hovered over us lowering a Jungle Penetrator. It came down right where I was. It almost hit my head so I grabbed it, opened it up and straddled it. With a smug sense of satisfaction I thought about how I had shown the boys how to pop smoke under waterlogged conditions and how to go up on a jungle penetrator. As I rose up to the bird I looked down.

I'd left my weapon on that log.

The following from Jim Gebhardt (Co. F, 9/67-3/68):

In the paragraph below I have pasted the web address for a LRRP study I completed about 10 years ago while a contract historian at the Combat Studies Institute, Fort Leavenworth. I served in the 25th Division LRRP Detachment when it was attached to 3-4 CAV from October 1967 to March 1968. In December 1967, we were designated F Company, 50th Infantry (LRP). Here is what I recommend you place in Pointman:

US Army LRRP Study available on the Internet: Have you tried to explain LRRP to your wife, your children, your grandchildren, and can't put it all together for them? Here is some help for you. Go to: http://usacac.army.mil/cac2/cgsc/carl/download/csipubs/gebhardt_LRRP.pdf

Here you will find a study done for the US Army about 10 years ago by a Vietnam LRRP veteran. It traces LRRP history back to US forces in Germany and Italy in the late 1950s, explains how they got started there and why. Chapter 3 is all about the Vietnam LRRP experience. How were LRRP units created, manned, equipped, trained, and used, with a brief history of each of the many divisional and brigade-level LRRP units. Download it to your own computer and read it yourself, send it to your family members or friends, help them know and understand what you did in the Vietnam War. Keep a copy for posterity. Print it if you have the paper--since it was generated by the US Government, you won't be violating any copyright laws. Most of all, be proud of what you did under very difficult circumstances.

Guys, if you have never seen this, please take a good look at it, especially the Vietnam chapter (begins on page 45, I think). It's very readable, based on all the sources I could round up at the time (2004), and was well received by the LRRP and Ranger community when it was first released. Pieces of it can be found scattered about the Internet, but the address I have provided is from the Combined Arms Research Library at Fort Leavenworth.

Jim Gebhardt, Leavenworth, KS

That's about it for this issue of Patrolling. Look for an issue of Pointman in the near future.

Live long and prosper
Tim Walsh, Unit Director, F/75

G/75 - E/51 LRP - 196TH LRRP
Unit Director - Steve Johnson

I just returned from the Ranger Rendezvous held at Columbus, Georgia and I enjoyed every minute of it. Congratulations to the new and returning officers of the 75th RRA and a special thank you to those that have served as officers of the association. Job well done! The Charlie Daniels Band topped off the barbecue at Lawson Field. Wow!



Lawson Field BBQ



Our company association is getting ready for our reunion that is being held at the Mall of America in the Twin Cities. For those Rangers or LRRPs that are in the area and would like to attend our memorial service at the Airborne Circle in Ft. Snelling National Cemetery you are welcome. The service starts at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 12. More information can be found on our website by entering, then hit the news ribbon and use the newsletter tab: www.lrrpranger.org.

Jill Stephenson, Gold Star Mother of CPL Benjamin Kopp, U.S. Army 3/75 Ranger Regiment, who died from wounds on July 18, 2009 sustained during combat in Helmand Province, Afghanistan, is our guest speaker at our banquet and at our memorial service at

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Airborne Circle, Ft. Snelling National Cemetery.

We are privileged to have her with us and there shouldn't be anyone nodding off face-first into his or her salad bowl with Jill's presentation.

When I first contacted Ms. Stephen-son and explained who I was and that we were having our LRRP-Ranger reunion in the Twin Cities, I asked if she would consider being our guest speaker. She mentioned that Rangers always held a special place in her heart and that she would be honored to be our guest speaker.

The first time that I met Jill was at a Twin Cities Ranger/SF Breakfast-Perpetuating the Great Ranger Legacy hosted by Sherry Klein. Jill asked me how she was sought after as our guest speaker. I said, "karma." She laughed!

A nationally recognized speaker on behalf of Veterans, especially Rangers, Jill is proactively involved with the 75th RRA Gold Star Families. She will share with you what she has done since losing her son and what she presently does to preserve Ranger Ben Kopps' name with honor.

We welcome you, Jill!
RLTW!

UNNOTICED AND NO CLAIM TO FAME FEATURED MEMBER CHUCK FORD

My life has been divided into three phases: Pre Nam, Nam, and Post Nam.

Pre Nam was a very simple life, as I was raised on a small farm on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. Times were tough, but we survived and grew because of it. At 11, my father took a second mortgage on the farm and probably one on me too, and built a 10,000 capacity chicken house. For my 12th birthday, he gave me a 14 inch steel shovel to help clean that house every 10-12 weeks. Two years later, he expanded and built another one. One might say, I learned about chickens before Danny Jacks knew what came first, chickens or the eggs.

I had a passion for baseball, but it was hard to get to the higher leagues in the summer because of the work on the farm, but did try to play in high school. Because of my size, I was also recruited to play football, and got reasonably good for my level. I even had hopes of playing both sports at a higher level. That was until I got to walk on the same field with Fred Miller, Artie Donovan, Jim Parker, and John Mackey. I found out that Lenny Moore and Raymond Berry could walk faster than

I could run. Out went the football dream. While I was not exactly a good model for academic excellence in high school, I did set a goal to get my college degree, and spend at least two years in the US Military.

I tried college first, but put my efforts in the wrong subjects. As I found out too late, *Women and Alcohol* do not count as college courses, but I did put in a good effort. For that effort, I was rewarded by the US Government, with all-expenses paid trip to Exotic South East Asia. The US Army decided I needed some pre-Vietnam training at Fort Bragg, NC. Not a bad idea, but I could not figure out why I needed to learn how to peel potatoes, clean grease pits, or scrub pots and pans. I already knew how to do that. Twelve weeks later, they moved me to Fort Knox, Kentucky, to learn of all things how to drive a tank. It seems they forgot that I wanted to be an MP. I did well at that and came out number three in my class, and on my 20th birthday, was given orders to report to Ft. Lewis, Washington for my trip to South East Asia.

Vietnam was in the picture; I just did not know it. Remember, I said I was not gifted in high school! My orders did not say Vietnam; they just said S. East Asia, RVN. But I got on the plane and went anyhow. We landed in Cam Rahn Bay, stayed one day and left for some place called Chu Lai. On the flight up, I saw some tanks stuck in the rice paddies, and knew that was not the life for me. In Chu Lai, a nice SSG named Miller recruited me for Co G Rangers 75th Inf Div. LRRPs. That had a nice ring and I thought I would try it. He also had not mentioned getting shot at in the middle of the night. When the school finally started, the bottom fell out. I found out that SSG Miller, as well as Hardy and La Brie were not such nice guys after all. I started the school at 220 lbs., and graduated at 180. I did not know if I was hard enough to make it, and was considering dropping out. Then I found out that some of my future Ranger Buddies had started a pool, as to when, not if, but when I was going to drop out. That motivated me to stick with it, and fooled both them and myself, by graduating as the Honor Student. That was a building block for my future. 1st SGT Williams got me drunk that night, and then shipped me to Hawk Hill. My experience was not easy, and we had many close calls but I made it through my 14 months. Lots of people had a positive influence on me.

There were some good times, and some things I regret. The loss of three teammates, still hangs heavily over me, especially knowing that if I had done something different, 2 of them may still be with us. Going into Nam, I was an E2; 14 months later I was an E5; something that I was extremely proud of. Being a part of the 75th Rangers was the 2nd most rewarding accomplishment of my life.

G/75 - E/51 LRP - 196TH LRRP (Continued)

Post Nam: I came home to a very un-appreciative nation, as did most all of us. Had it not been for my Ranger training, a great Uncle, and a lovely young Lady, I may not have had the success I had. My uncle got me into coaching baseball, and the Lady chose that hard task of marrying me. I did finish college with a BS in Business Administration and had Anne's name put on my degree, worked 12 years in the trucking Industry, and 17 years in the concrete Industry. My wife graced me with three lovely children (now expanded to 6 grandchildren with another one on the way) and I still coached baseball. I had my own program for over 15 years, working mostly with less fortunate young men, ran tournaments for over 20 years. I used the Ranger philosophy of going in with a mission, doing what I had to do, drawing no attention to myself, and by doing that called it a successful mission. I also was an assistant high school coach for 11 years and head coach for the local American Legion Post for 9 years. Now I am mostly retired, relearning how to fish and enjoying life. And I forgot to mention, that lovely young Lady, my life partner Anne, we are still married after 43 years, and I consider that my most rewarding accomplishment.

**Chuck Ford****THE RELUCTANT WARRIOR**

As Gary Gentry would say, "This ain't no shit....."

I basically grew up in a family owned business; what many would call a supermarket. I worked full time while attending high school. I was a good worker but an average student. My parents didn't really care where I went or what I did as long as I showed up for work on time. I always had great cars and money in my pocket, but no time to enjoy either.

My father died two weeks before I was to graduate in 1964 and my mother took over the daily operation of the business. I continued to work at the store after graduation. I was taking classes at a business college and received a deferment from the draft as long as I attended school full time. I decided to take off the winter semester and attend school during the summer. I figured it wouldn't matter as long as I was enrolled in school full time. But the draft board didn't see it that way.

I was ordered to appear at Fort Wayne in Detroit Michigan for a physical. I passed with flying colors and was told to go home and wait to be contacted by the army.

I met a guy at Fort Wayne and we decided to join the Air Force. We filled out all the paperwork and were told to standby to take the oath. So we sat on the steps to the induction center and waited. We could see Windsor Canada across the river. We were both aware many young American males had left the United States and fled to Canada to avoid the draft but neither of us felt leaving was the right thing to do.

We discussed what it would be like spending four years in the Air Force and then sat quietly pondering our fate. Suddenly he turned to me and announced that he had changed his mind and four years was too long to spend in the military. Ironically I was thinking the same thing so after a few seconds we stood up, shook hands and went home.

Three weeks later I received my notice to appear for induction. On the early morning of August 1st 1967, I boarded a bus to Fort Knox Kentucky for basic training. Two weeks into training, my mother told me a letter had arrived from the Air Force ordering me to report. I told her to contact them and convey my regrets along with my military serial number. After basic I was sent to Fort Polk Louisiana, the arm pit of the world, where there was no gravity, everything just sucked, for AIT.

Upon graduating from "Tiger Town" I stood in the company area awaiting my orders to Vietnam. But they didn't come. For some reason there had been a mix up in orders and while all but five of us received orders for Nam, the rest of us were ordered to Schofield Barracks Hawaii.

I became an RTO for the Recon Platoon, Echo Company, 4th Battalion, 11th Brigade, 21st Infantry, 23rd Infantry Division (Americal) and spent the next four months training in the beautiful hills on Oahu.

We were lucky if we trained four hours a day and spent the rest of the time in beach bars at Waikiki or body surfing and snorkeling at one of the military beaches on the North Shore. Not surprisingly, on one spectacular morning in April of 1968,

G/75 - E/51 LRP - 196TH LRRP (Continued)

as I crossed the second story open veranda on my way to the latrine, I noticed our “quad” was ringed with six by six metal connex containers. Instantly I knew my time in paradise had come to an end.

Less than a week later, as our names were called, we climbed aboard a bus to Hickham Airfield where we reluctantly boarded a Brantiff Airlines Boeing 707 bound for Vietnam. We touched down at Chu Lai and were convoyed to the Welcome Center. After processing in we wandered over to an outdoor movie being shown next to the Center. Before the movie started I saw two soldiers dressed in tiger fatigues and black berets working the crowd. They were looking for volunteers for a LURP Company located down the beach. When I found out what Lurps were and the missions they pulled, I was glad to be part of a thirty-five man recon platoon. The following morning we were again convoyed south on the Red Ball but this time to LZ Bronco along with Echo Company’s sister unit, a four duce mortar platoon. We sat on the LZ getting acclimatized. But after two weeks of doing nothing but pulling guard duty, reluctantly, Recon Platoon, 4/21, walked through the wire and into harm’s way.

Our motto was “We Hump” so command took us at our word and rarely did we see another LZ for months at a time. We “humped” our AO getting dysentery and shot at on a regular basis, all the while the PRC-25 strapped to my web gear and banging the back of my head, was becoming an irritant. Romeo Six-Oscar was not happy.

I became disillusioned with what I saw as our meaningless wandering and was looking for a way out. Admittedly I was reluctant to leave my friends but I had to believe there was something better. Something that would make me feel like my efforts would make a difference in the outcome of the war. I discussed my disillusionment with Carl Ritter who was the

leader of the first squad. He confirmed he felt the same way. Injuries and illness had taken its toll on our unit. We were short several men so simply requesting a transfer was out of the question. We had heard if Division Lurps wanted a man the request could not be denied by the soldier’s command.

In early July Carl and I developed a plan for me to fake foot problems and get medivaced, which turned out to be a resupply chopper, back to Chu Lai where I would find my way to the Lurp Company and sign up both of us.

Two days later, I stepped off the chopped as it came to rest on the helipad outside of the 2nd Evac Hospital. I walked through the emergency room doors and out the front doors of the hospital, hitched a ride in a jeep with a fixed wing fighter pilot to the Lurp Company.

I walked out of the hot sun and into the shade of the orderly room and completed all the required paperwork; I knew Carl’s information just as well as I knew my own. I was told that if we were accepted, we would hear in about two weeks.



Sgt. Robison

With my feet miraculously healed, I caught another resupply chopped back out to the field. It took slightly longer than two weeks but when a resupply chopper appeared in the sky one late hot than hell afternoon, Carl and I were ordered to report to Echo Company 51st Infantry, Americal Division, Long Range Patrol, for duty. And the rest, as they say, is history.

Respectfully submitted,
Sgt. Thomas “Dolly” Robison
United States Army Rangers (retired)



H/75 - E/52 LRP - 1ST CAV LRRP
Unit Director - Robert Ankony

Fellow Rangers,

I am saddened to report we lost one of our Rangers, James Forrest Ross. James was born and raised in Florida and passed away July 15 of natural causes in Orlando. He was 68. I did not serve with James but heard he was one of the most inspiring men. He was with our unit near the beginning, and was one of the few men to serve as a 19 year old team leader. I did have the pleasure of meeting Jim and his lovely wife, Ellen, at several reunions and have always appreciated how he helped advance the cause of the Rangers.

The Ranger Rendezvous and Best Ranger Competition are over as is this year’s 1st Cavalry Division LRRP / Ranger reunion. I was fortunate to attend the Best Ranger Competition at Fort Benning, Georgia, as a representative of the 75th Ranger Regiment Association. It is very inspiring to see the best of the best compete in the grueling Ranger Competition. After a decade of attendance I’ve got to know many current and former Rangers. And it is not unusual to speak to young Rangers who have served four, five, or six tours in Iraq or Afghanistan.

H/75 - E/52 LRP - 1ST CAV LRRP (Continued)

Today's Ranger training is exemplary. After Airborne School, each Ranger candidate must complete the five week Ranger Assessment and Selection Program (RASP). It is grueling test of physical and mental endurance, road marches with rucksacks, land navigation, and weapons training combined with sleep deprivation. If they complete that phase they are awarded the coveted black, red, and white Ranger scroll and are assigned to the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, or Special Troops Battalion of the 75th Ranger Regiment. Each battalion has four companies, Alpha, Bravo, Charlie, and Delta. From there they deploy with their battalion and later attend the 61 day Ranger School. If they pass that rigorous course they earn the prestigious black and gold Ranger tab.



I hope to make it to next year's 1st Cav's LRRP reunion in Las Vegas. In the interim I do a lot of work on Wikipedia trying to get the story of the LRRP / Rangers out and have contributed much to the following pages; *75th Ranger Regiment; US Army Rangers; Co E, 52nd Infantry (LRP) / H Company, 75th Infantry (Ranger); Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol; Operation Delaware, and the Battle of Signal Hill*. I also write many stories about LRRP / Rangers on my website: www.robertankony.com.

If you have anything you'd like to add or correct please contact me at robertankony@gmail.com
Till the next issue, all the best,
Dr. Robert Ankony
Rangers Lead the Way!

I/75 - F/52 LRP - 1ST DIV LRRP
Unit Director - Michel J. Sharp

Our article for submission to Patrolling Magazine is due in by May 15, so there won't be any news or pictures of our June reunion in this article. That stuff will be in my August submission.

Our reunion is at hand, a little over a month away and I hear that things are looking very good. By that, I mean lots of folks are coming! Just what we like. Our last few reunions, both official and unofficial have had great turnouts. The last few have had new face come and we hope to have that happen this June. So, I can't wait to see you all in June!!

May brings us Memorial Day, so I want to remind everyone of; National Moment of Remembrance. This is the time to remember all fallen soldiers, of all wars and conflicts, past and present. So, on Memorial Day, at 3 PM local time, give 1 minute of silence, to honor them. Thank you.

On a personal note, I am asking all you guys from the company to think back and if you were on the team that Arenas was on, please send me an e-mail or call me. I want to find out what team Ronnie served with and those guys he went to the field with. I know we switched around a lot, but we all started out working with one team. That's what I want to find out. I can't



believe that I don't know any of it. So, if you can help, I would appreciate it. Thanks.

It would be great if we could get our hands on the papers that show all that stuff. Where to look for this info in our company records is the mystery. So far we can't even find the company records; i.e. morning reports, after action reports, daily reports, etc.

In closing, if you have something you would like me to submit to Patrolling, written or pictures, send it to me. I would be glad to do it. See you all in June, stay healthy and stay in touch.

Dave Flores, Unit Director
I/75 - F/52 LRP - 1st DIV LRRP

Goshin team



I/75 - F/52 LRP - 1ST DIV LRRP (Continued)



Lester Doan



Gerard Coyle



Edwin Carson



Bob Roossien

Ronny O’Neal Luse

Most people who know me or my writings know that I’m very seldom at a loss for words. But at this time, words seem so meaningless, so empty, so inadequate, but I know I must try, no matter how feeble the end result may be.

Last night we had one of most powerful thunderstorms we’ve had in recent memory, this morning the clouds still hang heavily over the desert valley. It was during the height of this storm that I received the word of Ron’s passing from Gail – how appropriate!

In remembering Ron I’m reminded of the words of the philosopher Heraclitus;

“Out of every one hundred men, ten shouldn’t even be there, eighty are just targets, nine are the real fighters, and we are lucky to have them, for they make the battle. Ah, but the one, one is a warrior, and he will bring the others back.”

And as we know, a warrior Ron truly was, one of our very best without question! But he was more, far more; he was a husband, a father and warrior brother who never falter in his appetite for life and challenges that would make most men turn and run. Ron was an accomplished Logger, builder, pilot, hunter, fisherman, dragster builder and racer, a craftsman of rare talent who could bring life and beauty to a piece metal, leather or wood. Few men could ever accomplish a third of what he did in a whole life time, even fewer could become legends...he was and is.

Many of our LRRP/RANGERS brothers thought Ron and I didn’t care for each other very much, our fierce rivalry was well known by everyone (we work hard to foster it) but nothing could be farther from the truth. Yes, we pushed each other, but in a way for each of us to become better, I most often fell short, he never did. Most didn’t see the times we sat together discussing the lesson learned or concerns we shared about the men we led. I remember when Ron was force to leave our unit due to severe knee injuries; we just stood there looking at each other, not knowing what to say or what could be said, I saw the great pain in his eyes, not from his injuries but knowing that he had to leave us, but in the forty plus years since, he never really did.

For the past seven years I have had the great fortune of renewing our bond of brotherhood and a great fortune it truly has been. His concern and generosity for me and my family were never ending. Many of our brothers know this to be true and have shared in this generosity and brotherhood. There has rarely been a week that Ron and I haven’t spent hours on the phone sharing what’s happening in our lives. Ron giving me updates on his latest project which of course, were endless. Discussing our concerns for brothers and family and how we had to figure out a way to live closer to each other, but he wasn’t going to leave his beloved mountain nor was I going to leave the desert, a mistake I truly regret.

We did have the opportunity to get together with Ronnie Imel, Dave Hill, Dave Flores and Don Hildabrant for an extended camping trip and an opportunity to visit our younger Ranger brothers in the 2nd Ranger Battalion as well as visits to each other’s homes over the few years, but truly never enough.



Hill, Imel, Luse, Sharp

I cannot express in words the great sorrow I feel and for his son, daughter and Gail believe me I’ve tried..I’m sorry, I just can’t find them!

I will be forever thankful to God that he took Ron in peaceful sleep, he deserved that. I remember when Ron left the LRRP/RANGERS so long ago, things were just never the same nor will they be now...You are loved and missed my brother, but will always be remembered, I pledge to you that!

Michel J. Sharp



K/75 - E/58 LRP - 4TH DIV LRRP

Unit Director - Roger T. Crunk

Greetings Brothers,

The reunion has come and gone once again. Although the numbers were down because of the date change it was still a success.

Once again K-Co was the largest group in attendance and in the forefront when it came to getting things done. I don't think I can name everyone individually, I'm sure I would forget someone. There were the guys behind the desk helping Tom and I get everyone registered and their t-shirts, raffle tickets etc. It was a huge burden off our shoulders. It was our guys who made the drink and snack runs every day to keep the hospitality room stocked. I especially have to thank the ladies for making sure that those of us on the desk had something to drink, a snack or a meal. They are all true Sisters. And I have to mention that they also raised \$895.00 for the Benevolent (Family) Fund. A special Thanks to Sue Williams for getting that done. And thanks to Herb Riechel for the funds he raises from the Blue Bucket chapel. Can't forget Wayne Mitsch for helping with the money count and making the deposits. And there's Tom Sove who has worked tirelessly for K-Co and the Association for many years. Oh, and not to forget Dana McGrath for his very patient assistance in getting the name badge set up on my computer. Thanks to Peggy for not laughing too much in the background.

As the unit Director I couldn't be more proud, you guys show the rest how a band of Brothers and sisters should stand together. My most sincere thanks to all of you.



As an officer of the Association, and I admit I'm prejudice; I thank all of you for your efforts in making us a success. And this in no way takes anything away from the Brothers who banded together and formed this Association for the benefit of all Rangers and LRRPs in 1986.



At our unit meeting Colorado Springs was selected as the location for the next K-Co reunion in conjunction with the 4th Div. reunion. Jim Burke has volunteered to head this up for us. It will probably be in September of 2016. As soon as we get an exact date I'll get it out so you can make plans. For those who are not familiar there are several nice attractions in the area. It's the home of Ft. Carson, the Air Force Academy, Pikes Peak, Garden of the Gods, Cheyenne Mountain Zoo and much more.

Another thank you to Tom Sove for accompanying me on the long ride to Ft. Benning. I picked him up at Denver International Airport on June 17th and began the road trip arriving at Benning on the 21st. We stopped in Clarksville Tennessee and had an enjoyable visit with Bill Grimes and his wife Thanks Bill for your friendship and hospitality. A short ride down to Nashville on the 19th to the reunion hosted by the 1st Brigade LRRPS. It was great to see old and new friends from yesteryear.



Nashville Reunion



Old LRRPs in Nashville

K/75 - E/58 LRP - 4TH DIV LRRP (Continued)

Don't forget the Veterans Day gathering in Branson, Missouri.
4th Div. LRRP/Ranger Rally • Nov. 9-13 • Branson, MO.

Hotel: Savannah House Hotel Reservations -

Renee Contreras @ 800-335-2555

Rate 84.95 • Queen 89.95 • King

Be sure to ask for the K-Co rate

For more info contact Ken Nelson 715-213-3585/
home: 715-325-3076 or knelson94@gmail.com

ON A PERSONAL NOTE

At the unit meeting my brothers and sisters presented me with a lifetime achievement award for service to the K-Co. I am not convinced that I deserve such an honor but I am very humbled by your gesture of love. I hope you know that I feel the same about each of you. It took me back to August of 1969 when I was wounded. I was loaded into the ambulance for my ride to the flight line and a long flight back to the world. So many of my brothers filed through the ambulance to show their love and support. No words can describe how overwhelming that experience was. This award felt the same way. I think having left Vietnam with guilt for not completing the mission has driven me over the years to be of service to my Brothers in some small

way helps me in my goal to “complete the mission”. There are no words except thank you from the bottom of my heart.


On a lighter note, I was also voted in as lifetime unit director. You're kidding, RIGHT? RIGHT?! And then there is our own Doug Childers who won the raffle for the first limited edition LRRP Car-15. Congratulations Doug. The rest of us are jealous!

John (Festus) Gibson called today 7-9-15 to report that Rodger (Doc) Lamkin, 2nd Brigade LRRP passed away this morning. He was a true Brother and friend. Rest in Peace Doc.

Wayne reports today 7-10-15 that John Puzzo passed away also. Rest in Peace John.


Ken Nelson is recovering from esophageal surgery and is doing well. He will have further surgery to complete the job.

Our Brother Harry (Rock) Phair lost his battle with cancer on 7-19-15. A great loss to me personally. Thanks Harry, for always being there. Please remember his Wife Cindy, his Daughters Jennifer, Kathryn, and son-in-law Robbie.



N/75 - 74TH LRP - 173RD LRRP

Unit Director - Robert “Twin” Henriksen



Once again, as every two years, there was election of the position for unit director position. Emails were sent out before the Reunion to notify members as to who wanted to run or nominate. At the reunion company dinner, speaker David Cummings, ask for a volunteer for the position. No one offered to take the position so I volunteered again for the next two years.

My commo with members using the email system is full with about 442 messages in my inbox which I have read but need to go over to retrieve unit information and store it in the right location (folder) on my computer. Sometimes, I get over loaded with things to respond to or try locating information member wants. So, if you have requested information or need input from other members, I'll forward your message on to whom you want or all members.

Currently, we have 178 members listed on the current “Member Contact List”. If you have changes to your contact



information, get in touch with me. There are about 12 members on the list who have not contacted / responded to me for a long time and will be removed from list. Contact me if you want the list sent to you. Also, we have just over 700 names listed on our master list of who served in unit. I'll be sending names out to verify their service and to get correct spelling and any nicknames, as that is how most remember team members.

In June, we gathered together for the Ranger Rendezvous at Fort Benning, Columbus, GA. The reunion was rescheduled from August to June and that made everyone scramble to adjust their schedule or cancel trip. Even with the change is turned out pretty good. Many were able to adjust their trip plans to attend the event. We had 28 members and counting family members the

total was 44 representing 173rd Airborne Brigade Lrrp /Lrp / Ranger. That is about half of what we normally have there for the reunion, but we still had the most numbers in attendance as we do every reunion.

N/75 - 74TH LRP - 173RD LRRP (Continued)

**RANGER RENDEZVOUS
LIST OF WHO ATTENDED**

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Jim Fowler 69 | Joe & Ramona Marquez 70 |
| David Carmon 67-68 | Robert Henriksen 71 |
| Joe Keshlear 68-69 | Pat Tadina 66-70 |
| David & Sherill
Cummings 70-71 | Frank & Dorothy
Bonl villain 69-70 |
| Chris & Linda
Simmons 70-71 | Herbert & Judy Baugh 70-71 |
| Chuck Moseby 70-7 | Dick & Dee James 68-69 |
| Richard Baker 69-70 | Steve Joley & Stephenie
(daughter) 70-71 |
| Jeff Horne 70-71 | Bill Acebee 66 |
| Carl Millinder 70-71 | Butch Nery 70 |
| Mike & Jeanette
Swisley 69-70 | Roger & Linda Brown 66-70 |
| Tony & Hope Novello 70 | Mary (Mike 70-71) Hines |
| Bill & Shellie
Wilkinson 70-71 | Joyce (Roy 68-70) Boatman
& Linda (friend) |
| Bill & Easter Jang 68-69 | Jay Borman (Lrrp book
author) brother, Chris
& father Gary |
| Donald Auston 67-68 | |
| Ed Zezlina & Rose 71 | |

REUNION COMMENT

The 2015 Ranger Rendezvous Reunion held June 22-26 at Columbus / Fort Benning, Georgia was Fantastic!! My wife, Hope and I flew from El Pasco TX to Dallas and then onto Atlanta, GA.

We reserved a rental car and drove the remaining hour to Columbus. The hotel for the reunion was the Holiday Inn on Manchester Expressway. Good hotel with great customer service and a daily buffet breakfast. What my wife really enjoyed was witnessing Monday's Airborne Assault at the Fryar Drop Zone. The troops exiting out of the planes was AWESOME. True, the weather was hot but it was sure worth it. Love those paratroopers. On Tuesday, N Company gathered for the unit dinner. Robert Henriksen, again has stepped up to be the N Co Unit Director. Congratulation Robert and thank you for your leadership. On Wednesday, we attended the 23rd Annual Ranger Hall of Fame Induction. Hope said someone mentioned General Petraeus was in attendance, in fact a \$100 bet was taken and she won. Hope knew it was not Petraeus, it was General Stanley McChrystal who was there as one of the 2015 inductees. My wife and I always find the inductees speeches very interesting. Hope likes to hear about why they decided to become a Ranger, the action they saw, their mentors and those they thank for their past military service. After the ceremony was over a group of us walked over to The Ranger Memorial to view the pavers of buddies that paid the ultimate price, like Roberto Patino.

Our next stop was the picnic/barbecue at Ranger Brown's ranch. Lots of delicious food and drinks. It's a good thing we got there early and were able to eat before the rains ambushed us. We all just about had to eat and run. It was a bit frightening driving back to the hotel through the heavy rains and thunder. The majority of us met back at the hotel hospitality room and continued the party. On Thursday, the 75th RRA held their general meeting while the ladies gathered for their luncheon. That evening we attended the banquet in our fine attire. Pictures were taken, speeches were given, delicious food, drinks and lastly the raffles. Lucky us, we won two prizes. A good time was had by all. So glad we got together with old friends and some new friends. Robert Henriksen, Pat Tadina, Joe & Ramona Marquez, Bill & Easter Jang, Mike & Jeanette Swisley, Eddie & Rose Zezlina, Dave Carmon, Richard Baker, thank you for coming. We had a wonderful time.

by Tony and Hope Novello –
Echo Team 1970.



N 75th at Banquet



N 75th Ranger Family

N/75 - 74TH LRP - 173RD LRRP (Continued)

**1970
Tony
Novello,
Echo
Team**



**Tony &
Hope
Novello**

Through the Fire

Yesterday I read a post on Facebook about a comment made by Mayor Bloomberg saying that when he was nineteen he couldn't be trusted with a gun and none of his friends could be either. When I was nineteen, I had been in the airborne infantry almost a year with a line company. I thought that it would be interesting to extend for six months and stay on in sunny, humid, when not raining, Vietnam. After returning from a thirty day extension leave Stateside I looked for something to do. This eventually led to the TOC office on Ranger hill in LZ English. The man known as Top, First Sergeant Henry Caro was a former ARVN advisor. He seemed to be straight up in his dealings with this young buck Sergeant. Apparently references from C/1/503rd, my prior unit were acceptable.

So orders were cut assigning me to November Company, 75th Infantry, Ranger. After a break in mission as point man on a team, they made me team leader of Juliet. Some days later we were inserted into the enemy's backyard to find out where he was, and how he got from one place to another. While we were interested in finding out all we could about their numbers we didn't really care that our precise location come to their attention. So we took great pains to blend into the jungle undergrowth. As stealthily as we could, we moved over the mountainous terrain while clearing the grid we had been assigned. One evening we had settled into the night defensive position. It always tickled me that the claymore, an anti-personnel device formed of 700 ball bearings backed by pound or so of C-4 high explosive contained in a curved plastic box, had large letters written in English inscribed on the side that you were to point toward the foe, FACE TOWARD ENEMY.

I guess that was just in case we got confused. We ate our lrrps but lit no fires to warm the water for them. If short on water, we ate them dry. Then, just as dusk we moved to a secondary location to avoid being observed by enemy mortar crews, as they had a nasty habit of firing on you after dark. We slept in a tight circle, with our feet close touching in case of an emergency and to facilitate changing radio watch every two hours. As we were sitting there, we saw two flashlights moving

along a jungle trail up the mountain toward our general direction. Were there just two of them? Or were they just the point element of a larger force? We hoped that they would just keep moving along. We had a new man with us. He was a nice guy, did what he was told, observant and all. Unfortunately, as the enemy drew closer and closer to where we lay hidden he let out a loud nervous cough. Given the close proximity to the enemy, I immediately told the men to blow their claymores. This shattered the night silence and raked a path of destruction around us. In the dark we left the two enemy. We beat feet out of there. Attempting to move quickly, while heavily loaded with gear, we found ourselves with another problem. In the pitch dark, and not daring to use flashlights as our enemy had, we were beating our shins bloody trying to head towards the top of the mountain. After a few meters I called a halt and decided on a plan. Taking my map, I plotted a position for a parachute flare to be fired far enough away from our position so as to not easily seen but to give enough illumination for movement. It worked as planned, with one small wrinkle. Though we could now move, the prevailing wind dropped the flare on the far side of the mountain, the same one the enemy has also been climbing when we hit them. When we reached the top, the grass was two to three feet high, and dry. We hunkered down and waited awhile but the fire kept pushing us in the enemy's direction. We were compelled to relocate, but after doing that a couple times I made the decision that the next time we moved it would be through the fire. We moved fast and once beyond the band of flames we disappeared into the darkness, our friend, and moved to a place of safety. So we lived to run another day. The new man became a fine LRRP.

I have tried to learn a lesson from that night. The most important take away for me from the incident is to have the gumption to face what will expose you. The flare had helped us get out of the immediate area but the fire it started got closer, outlining and exposing us to the enemy. We traded a moment of fear while running through those flames in order to get ourselves out of danger. The safest place on that mountain was where the fire had already burned the grass.

So it is with men. Sooner or later we will face our Creator to give an answer for how we have lived the life He has loaned us. We can run, but we cannot hide.

The best decision I ever made was to take God at his word, and come to him through His Son of whom the Bible speaks, who took my place and tasted the fire of God's judgment for my misdeeds, so that I might never have to. That One welcomed me into a place of safety for all time and eternity.

by Joe Marquez - Juliet Team 70
Chaplain - National 173rd Airborne Brigade Assoc.

N/75 - 74TH LRP - 173RD LRRP (Continued)



**1970
Juliet
Team**



**1970 Joe Marquez,
Juliet Team**



**Joe Marquez, 173rd
Airborne Chaplain**

Why Does Tad Hate Me So Much?

It really wasn't my fault that we lost Tango somewhere in the Soui Cau Valley. It seemed a reasonable idea at the time; let's bring Tango on a mission with us. It seemed like a fun idea to me and Tango seemed like a nice dog and I really liked dogs so what could be the problem with our plan? Wingo was our experienced team leader who often had very interesting ideas. Lange, the team RTO didn't mind since he would be busy changing batteries and trying to talk to anyone in TOC, and Bell was happy-go-lucky and was willing to try anything. These were the good-old-days when a team included four Americans and two ARVNs. We didn't ask the ARVNs if it was a good idea to bring Tango on a combat mission because they didn't even speak English.

So we were walking through the Soui Cau Valley minding our own business when we bumped into a small party of VC. We opened up on them and the VC opened up on us, and then everything got very loud and confusing. Let me make a small point that when your six man team, including two ARVNs, makes contact it is the same as having a four man team because not everyone returns fire. We throw frags and break contact and Lange, the RTO using one of his fresh batteries, is telling TOC that we would really like to leave now. We are moving quickly towards the nearest LZ when I casually mention, "Has anyone seen Tango?" Holy shit, we lost Tango!

We are trying to signal the chopper circling overhead with orange panels and mirrors when finally we are spotted. The chopper swings around and pulls pitch as it glides into the LZ. From the corner of my eye I see a black streak and Tango is the first team member onto the chopper. We are saved.

That night we were celebrating our good luck at the club. Bagpipes is doing his usual excellent job as host and bartender. The club is busy with LRPS drinking and relaxing between missions. My team has a table pushed up against a wall of stacked sand bags at the back of the club. We are congratulating ourselves over another tactically brilliant mission when something odd happened. Sand begins leaking from the wall onto our table. I look at the wall of sandbags and see a hole appear and sand begins slowly trickling onto our table. "Hey guys, look at this." Now the entire team stares at the sandbags and suddenly another small hole appears and sand begins to leak onto the table. Wingo pushes his chair back and stares across the club, "Fuck you Tad, he yells. Tadina is sitting at a table on the other end of the club with a silenced .22 caliber Hi-Standard taking pot shots at the wall next to my head. We all give him the finger. Tadina just laughs. Do you think someone told Tadina about our tactically brilliant mission with Tango? I hope not.

by Richard Dudley 1968



**1968
Dudley,
Weyl,
Lange
(front)
unk,
Wingo,
unk**

**A SUCCESSFUL AMBUSH
BY TEAM HOTEL**

February 1971: After 3 days we walked in the morning at break of dawn. @ 1100 we looked for cooler area among the tropical forest instead of high grass. We descended high ground into a triple canopy where it was cool and shady. TL Kirk, an experienced combat professional, and ATL Kent Farrand, a combat professional as well, decided for lunch. We were tired anyway. We broke out some LRRPS dehydrated chili carne and rice, fired em up for food. Sitting there eating and whispering to each other, in the distance, we heard and smelt the NVA, enemy. Their conversations openly were

N/75 - 74TH LRP - 173RD LRRP (Continued)

getting louder as they approached our camp. We new they were equipped as we were. Quickly; and without hesitation, two claymore mines, Enemy Toward the Front, were placed into a small L. We held higher ground, among some large grey boulders looking down at the kill zone. We counted as they approached and when we counted eleven we initiated two of the claymores in unison. The ground exploded around all of us. Debris and concussion in the small area shook every one of us and for sure the gooks were screwed. Small arms fire ensued. Grenades were thrown in all directions as much for our safety as to kill more of them. Kirk and Blow sustained some injuries that required as medic dust off. We had captured 2 badly injured NVA. We had killed six. Body parts were every where. No legs arms partial heads. It was messy and scary. The smell of gunpowder and burning flesh and urine filled the air in the confined tropical surrounding. Confirmed by Team.

After Kirk and Blow (and a kit carson scout) were evacuated the four remaining members of Hotel Team waited for extraction. We were running low on food ammo and water anyway. Oh no, the powers to be decided for another team to come help us. No extraction for us. WE moved to a secluded area away from attack scene. After ATL Farrand directed an Apache helicopter to open fire with rockets into the fire zone and down to the jungle below, the new team arrived. Six more studs to the mix.

We were informed via radio (PRC 25) to HQ that Hotel Team had probably encountered a recon n force from NVA based on numbers and movement. Sergeant Farrand asked the newly arrived TL if he wanted to take over as he came with new intel. He deferred to my mission and me as now TL. I got a map out and found the highest most defensible and easily extraction area as I possibly could, I did not want to get ten guys killed. I was in charge. We took off late afternoon to the West. The sun was in our face and Hotel Team was burned and spent. This team of now ten men, moved hastily double time down a valley of ext high grass and at the of the mountain valley we had to swim thru a small creek that was not real wide but still over our heads. The rucksack had to be taken off and thrown forward to the other side for me.

I lead as always. I was designated point man and liked it. I moved slower and was more deliberate in assessing the ground terrain. I didn't want to get us blown up. But, was in a real hurry. After the river crossing we had to ascend a very high conical shaped mountain. If we could make it on top their before the division of NVA that were now looking for us because we killed a half dozen of their buddies, we stood a chance. We made it on top at night fall. A very long and stressful day. Safe on top. Logger position in 2 groups. Side by side but apart. We had a great angle looking down. To our back was a drop off of several hundred feet. They would have

a really difficult time attacking us from rear. We focused on the front. The next day by binocular we counted a hundred or more walking thru an open space in vegetation in forest on other side of our valley. One of the other team shot a single shot at them. I stopped that immediately. We were just trying to lay low. We made it. The next day we were extracted without incident. On our return the rest of Hotel Team was relieved to find out that Kirk and Blow would be fine.

by Kent Farrand – Team Hotel



**1971 –
Team
Hotel,
Kirk,
Ramsland,
Lyons,
Blow,
Palafas
(front)
Farrand**

“What it means to be a LRRP and to be part of the brave men who put them in and pulled them out at all cost.”

CASPER PILOT QUESTION ON LRP EXTRACTION

Hello, I had sent this to the president of your organization. After looking at the organization info on your web site, I realized that you guys in the N Company Rangers would be more likely to have the information on the guys we pulled out. I know it has been a long time but I thought I would still give it a try. Life goes by quickly doesn't it? I have a question and may not have enough information to get an answer but I would start here.

First, my name is Donald McKeough and I was flying a UH-1 Chopper on July 29, 1969 for Casper Platoon 173rd Airborne Brigade. The mission was to find a Long Range Patrol (LRP) team in the An Loa Valley, in the Bin Din providence Vietnam. We were operating out of LZ English as I believed the team was too. They had not had any contact from the team for most of the day and the weather was not good. They had been hit earlier in the day and all sustained some injuries and their radio was destroyed in the action. We did locate them and effected an extraction. We had a Sergeant from the Ranger company on board and with the assistance of the Sergeant and the door gunner, all members of the LRP team were pulled on to the huey helicopter and flown to LZ English, B-Med. Is there any way you know of, to locate any of these guys now? I know this may be difficult but if I could locate them, I would like to write up the door gunner for an award for his part in the

N/75 - 74TH LRP - 173RD LRRP (Continued)

pick up of those LRP team men. We took fire from his side of the helicopter and at great risk to himself, abandoned his M60 weapon to pull all the wounded guys on board. At that time, I did not even think of such things but there is a possibility that I can do this for him if I have witnesses to corroborate what I thought was some heroic action.

LRP MEMBER'S REPLY TO CASPER PILOT

The time was about the last week in July 1969 and the mission was as far West as any team had ever been to my recollection. We flew up the An Loa Valley, then at an area we referred to as the "Fish Hook" and headed west. In the far distance I thought I could see "Hong Kong Mountain". We would have to go through two Radio Relay teams to reach our command TOC.

68 TET had been a real surprise to the military command and so as TET 69 was coming, teams were sent out to find and track NVA movements. We were looking for the 22nd NVA Regiment on this mission.

Team Mike, made up at the time of: Team Leader Jim Samples, point man Jim Peterson, RTO Leonard "Pete" Peters, scout Jim Strassner, rear security Dick Davis.

Our insertion chopper went down just after in fielding us due to damage from blade strikes on trees during the infield. It pulled out and then did a controlled crash not far from us but we were told to CM (Continue Mission) and move on into our AO. (A recovery operation later pulled the Helo out that same day using a CH54 Skyhook and an infantry platoon for security). It took all day to get it out. It caused great commotion in the area and we wanted to get as far away from the activity as quickly as possible. I considered it our first compromise. It had to be drawing attention to the AO. I recall jumping onto a big rock and then down into the tall elephant grass while the blades were hitting the trees during the insertion, sounding like a 50 cal going off. I saw the bird lift off with pieces of blade flying through the air. It was amazing they got as far as they did before going down. During the course of the patrol, Peterson was convinced we were compromised, a second time now, and we reported it. Again told to CM. We later found some gardening tools and caves that same day. A couple days later we found a large manned base camp down on a river not far from a big waterfall. The NVA were washing clothes in the river during the day and at night generators were pulled from in-ground positions along the side of the mountain. The last night in on the mission, we were hiding because of enemy patrols looking for us. That night they walked within feet of us, on line, quietly and slow. You could smell them and I would have thought they could smell us.

The next morning we moved out for the extraction site. We held up short of the site and were making our standard every 3-hour commo checks (it was about 13:00 hours and the scheduled pick-up was for 14:00 hours this same day). (Mike Team had a record of never missing a commo check and this came into play later on). We held up short of the actual extraction site just in case we were followed. We did not want to compromise or give up the extraction site until the last moment. We established commo with the radio-relay team but never got the word that we were on a 24-hour delay due to bad weather conditions and all birds were grounded. We should have been told to "hold in place" and not do anything that could compromise us or cause contact or require an extraction. While in the commo check site and closing down the radio, we heard a tree branch break and then the sound of a "spoon" being released. A grenade came in and we all saw it come through the air. There was a chorus of "GRENADE".

In the first blast RTO Leonard "Pete" Peters was hit bad in the lower back, leg and head causing lack of vision and part of his intestine hanging out, Jim Peterson was hit in the left shoulder, the team leader Jim Samples hit in the head, Jim Strassner was hit in his ass and foot. I was hit in the right leg and under the right armpit. RTO Peters radio was knocked out by grenade fragmentation. We were then into a fire fight and frag throwing contest.

We had to go through radio-relay teams because we were so far out, 2-3 radio-relay teams as I recall. (This later caused a delay in a critical message we never received). Unknown to us at the time the weather was real bad back at LZ English and Col. Ron Franklin (Brig HQ, S-3) had grounded all Helos. We were put on a 24-hour delay but never got the message. Sooo...we waited, hung around the AO thinking we could hang on until 14:00 hours, 1 hour.

We finally made it away from the initial contact site, took care of wounds the best we could, consolidated our kit and moved to high ground. Jim Strassner and I took turns carrying Peters over our shoulder and up to the higher ground. Jim Strassner complained about his foot hurting, not knowing at the time he had a big chunk of frag stuck in it that went through his boot sole – well into his foot. I seem to recall most of his pants were gone too.

We reached the top, a small knoll and waited again. We tried our emergency radios but no joy. Found out later the crystals were set wrong and we were sending to a place nobody was listening to. We were out of ammo (only a few rounds in magazines left of each member), had one claymore between us, and had no more blood expander for Peters who was in a bad way. We could hear the enemy moving in the distance and what we thought was a gathering in the near wood line. It

N/75 - 74TH LRP - 173RD LRRP (Continued)

was still daytime and believe they were waiting to for us to call for chopper extraction so to inflict more casualties and down the chopper. About 20:00 hours (just starting to get dark out) a chopper came into our area of operation (AO). It has now been 7 hours of running and fighting. We signaled with a red star cluster to signify it was HOT and the bird came in fast and touched down hard.

All hell broke out from the near wood line and green tracers were flying in one door and out the other on the chopper. We dragged Peters on a poncho and threw him in. The bird took a lot of hits, particularly in the pilot's door. I think there were over 30 rounds in it.

SGT. Pete Campbell from our TOC was on board the chopper. It seems that Sgt. Campbell thought something was wrong because we never missed a commo check and he just wanted to make a commo check from the air. So Pete went down to the aviation guys and asked if someone would fly. They said they were grounded, but one said he was going home in three days and would do it any way, hell it was just a commo check anyway. "What are they going to do to me, send me to Vietnam". I was told he later got a Distinguished Flying Cross for the mission. I'd like to know who he was. The Chopper was shot up bad and was smoking all the way back to LZ English. We all made it out and were medevac'd to a Qui Nhon Mash unit from B-Med at LZ English. Later, Peters would be sent to Japan and then to a VA hospital, I was sent to the hospital in Cam Ranh Bay for 30 days. It was hit hard about 3 or 4 August by an estimated 30 sappers and 103 were wounded and sent to Japan that night.

By Dick Davis – Team Mike 69-70

MY TIME IN UNIT

As for my time with the unit, I arrived in November 1970. Gentry was the 1st Sergeant then, I am not sure when Frank "Top" Moore arrived to the scene. I came to the Ranger Hill with Joe Tompkins and he remembers "Top" Moore, but I just remember Gentry's sour puss on arrival. Wasn't there another "Top" who was wounded on a training mission? (*answer – it was 1st. Sergeant Henry "Big-Budda" Caro who was injured in rappelling accident*). I do not remember the name of the Company Commander then, I know he was a Captain. (*answer Captain Tanaka – Major Shippey replaced him and was the last CO of our unit*). I was briefly assigned to Golf Team under Team Leader Sgt. George Morgan, but was switched to Alpha Team under Sgt. Walter "Mad-Russian" Solgalow, where I ran my first mission. After Sgt. Solgalow, I think the progression of Team Leaders were Gary Curtin and Carl "Milli" Millinder, but don't really remember. I stayed on Alpha Team my entire tour on the Hill. I left country in August 1971 with the 173rd Airborne withdrawal, but I left the Ranger Hill a little before that, for

reason I still do not know. I eventually wound up at LZ English Airfield for my last assignment. I regretted not staying with our unit to the end. Do you know the date the Rangers left country? by Allen Lohmann – Team Alpha 70-71



1970
Wiston
Lambert,
Allen
Lohmann,
Unknown

MEMBER'S TIME IN UNIT

I arrived from Yokata AFB on May 4, 1970 to Bien Ho. After a couple days at the receiving center I flew a C-123 from Phu Cat to Lz English on May 12, 1970. I was then assigned to a security platoon where we were bunker guards. John Wisinski and I received our E-5 orders on August 25, 1970. John and myself volunteered for the Ranger Company acceptance course. Arrived at Ranger Hill for training August 30, 1970. (Farrand-Wisinski-Wild-Read-Showalter). Read and me were the only ones from this group who could rappel forward Australian style. On October 22, 1970 learned that my buddy John Wisinski was at the 67th EVAC hospital. His team set off a booby trap. General Ochs presented him with a purple heart in person, I saw the picture. November 11, 1970 I took R & R in Sydney, Australia. I became ATL on Hotel Team on November 28. Hotel Team at this time consisted of TL John Kirk, myself Kent Farrand, Mike Hines, Allen Daniels, Jack Ramsland, Daniel Jowers, and Norman Brunner. We called artillery for Kilo Team in the Soui Ca Valley and started a fire. We were mortared while leaving on December 10. Hotel Team on December 20, consisted of Kirk, Farrand, Chuck Lyons, Hines, Jesus Gonzales, Ramsland. December 25 spent in the bush. On the last day of the year 31st Mike Wilson, Richard Aldridge, Tony Pilafas and me tore down a building for some unknown reason. January 24, 1971 Hotel Team consisted of Kirk, Farrand, Lyons, Ramsland, Pilafis, and David Blow. January 29 Kirk left for R & R and I was named as Team Leader in his absence. My paycheck at this time was \$480 per month. February 19 got chewed out by PSG Gentry for something I did not do. He later apologized. February 21 Captain Richard Tanaka is out and Major Bill Shippey in as Company Commander. February 22 was my birthday and I asked our Platoon Sergeant, Patrick O'Brien, for a day off and he said ok. New man on the team Ronald Wooley. Black Berets were issued to us on March 16, 1971. March 22 had a pre-IG inspection and on April 7 I ETSd at Fort Lewis. End of story. By Kent Farrand – Team Hotel Team 70-71

N/75 - 74TH LRP - 173RD LRRP (Continued)

**1971.
Hotel
Team in
An Lao
Valley**

LRRP MISSION WITH TIME REPORTER ROBIN MADDOX

In early May 1967, LRRP Team 2 was directed by the Commander to bring a Time Magazine Reporter, Robin Maddox, on our next mission. I thought the reporter was crazy for going into Indian country on his own volition. Second, I was uncomfortable having an unknown person on our LRRP mission. Could we be compromised by his presence? Our mission was a reconnaissance of a suspected VC camp. It was problematic from the start. We dropped by helicopter at dusk and hustled to the wood line. Standard procedure was to move 50 meters in, stop, look and listen to determine if you were detected or being followed. We received a message from headquarters stating SSG Silby's team, also deployed that night, had just made contact with the enemy. Viet Cong (VC) were probably in our area. We waited our customary time then proceeded into the bush. A perimeter of claymore mines and trip wire hand grenades were set. Just as the light was fading, we began to see movement in the distance. We saw several shapes which resembled humans. At this point, we decided our position had been compromised. It was as black as night, but the Team Leader made a command decision to move to an alternate site. Our team was under a jungle canopy and the proverbial cliché "you could not see your hand in front of your face" was accurate! It was also true that we linked up like elephants one behind the other, holding on to whatever piece of back pack, strap or uniform of the trooper in front of us. As much as we tried to keep silent we could not help tripping on roots, rocks and wait a minute vines. Also our equipment would clink against our weapons, etc. I was sure we were detected.

Finally by starlight navigation, or dumb luck, we made it to a clearing that might serve as a landing zone (LZ). For the second time that night we set up a perimeter, and rotated shifts for standing guard. I recalled a clear and starry night when starting my shift, but sometime later I thought I heard a noise. All my senses perked to extreme "keen". Again I heard the noise. As I stood motionless I perceived the noise

to be animate and crawling ever so slowly in our direction. My breathing became controlled as it does in combat and I quietly switched my weapon from safe to semi-automatic. As the sound crept closer I could not make out whether it was Charlie (Viet Cong) or an animal. Tigers have been known to stalk patrols. My mind was processing the situation, and I was about to wake the other team members. In my state of "pucker factor", I applied a little too much pressure on my weapons trigger. No need to wake anybody, I had shot a round off into the clear sky. To make it worse, it was a tracer round (visibly displays bullet trajectory at night). In one second I had lit a neon sign and set GPS on our position! Besides shaking everyone to wide awake, the round whizzed within inches of Jasinski's ear. Everyone was shook up, but the noise retreated. We all thought we would be hit that night, so we kept 100% alert until dawn. At dawn we were directed by headquarters to rendezvous at another LZ for extraction. In route to the alternate LZ we took some sniper fire. We secured the LZ until the chopper arrived.

To this day, I am not sure whether the decision to move in the middle of the night under a jungle canopy was the best decision. The animate figures could have been primates (monkeys) or the VC. It would have been difficult to break contact with the VC so close. Would we have moved, if we did not have a Time reporter with us? Most of us were more concerned about having to report the loss of Robin Maddox from Time, rather than the enemy. Robin Maddox, the Time Reporter, did not have time to snap pictures during the mission, since we infiltrated at dusk and were extracted by dawn the next day. The photo for the magazine had to be taken at base camp. by Albert Ortiz – Lrrp Team 2 3/67-2/68



**Albert
Ortiz and
Clyde
Brown,
Time
magazine
photo**

CHAU KHAN

Of all the characters inhabiting our unit (70-71), a couple stand out for me that I think of from time to time. We had several Kit Carson Scouts in the company, ex-NVA POWs agreeing to work for Americans as interpreters and advisors in order to get out of jail. We allowed them a magazine for self-defense. But we kept our eye on them as we didn't trust

N/75 - 74TH LRP - 173RD LRRP (Continued)

them completely and didn't let them pull guard at night. There were two exceptions. One was Sam who, technically, wasn't a KC because he had never been sent to a POW camp. He had been there for some time before I came on board but the way I heard it he had been captured by Tad and, being a cooperative sort, had kind of just stayed with the Rangers. He could speak some English by then and was a relatively trusted team member in the field. He liked Americans and loved American movies. However he didn't like the ARVN and on missions would sometimes stop to reminisce at some spot and brag about how many ARVNs he had killed there when he was a senior NCO in the NVA. Highly experienced and savvy, he was sought after by teams. I know I always I felt safer having him around. The other was Chau Khan who also wasn't really a KC. Technically he was a Cambodian mercenary. He wanted to join the Americans to kill commies. He was from some warrior tribe that kept the nails on their little fingers long and sharpened as weapons, almost like a straight razor. He had grown up soldiering and probably would have been a Team Leader except for regulations. But there wasn't a TL in the company that didn't heed his advice in the field.



**Sam
hanging
out with
the guys**

So me and a couple of the boys are down at the EM club on LZ English one night. I was busily replacing those vital bodily fluids sweated out on a mission by gulping copious amounts of beer. I was in a suitable mood for the Korean country and western band playing there and had become quite infatuated with the girl singer "...stan.by.you man..." Also in attendance was a large group from the 173rd Engineers, and some of them were not as appreciative of the singing as I was. A couple of them were jeering and cat calling the girl, who I was quite taken with by now. So I rose, rather unsteadily, to demand they show some respect. "*Hey, she's doing alright, bet you assholes can't sing in Korean,*" seemed to be an appropriate response to get them to understand how rude they were being.

"*F.k You!*" Was the reply. I glared back, obviously they didn't understand who I was. Couldn't they see I was wearing cammies? That I was a romping stomping Airborne Ranger? Seeing we are greatly outnumbered my buddies are trying to pull me back in my seat but I am intent on protecting the honor of this beautiful young maiden. Suddenly an authoritative sounding voice rang out from somewhere, "*HEY! Take it outside or I'll call the MPs.*" This seemed an excellent suggestion and I invited the two offending soldiers to join me outside.

Once out the door I realized not only was I a bit unsteady on my feet but my vision was affected as I must be seeing double, no triple, no... I had been joined not only by the two I had called out but the entire group of a dozen Engineers who now circled around me. I was disappointed my fellow Rangers had not joined me, even though I had refused to leave with them and ignored their warning that after I got my ass beat, I would then have to deal with something worse, explaining the MP blotter report to Top Caro. It was then I came to the realization that this had not been a well thought out course of action. I put my hands up, "*OK, you guys win, I can't fight all of you.*" But they were not going to let me leave. An E-5, big guy, clear eyed and steady, came up to me. "*So you think you're a bad ass because you wear that Ranger patch huh?*" "*Well no, not at the moment.*" Somebody pushed me from behind into big Sarge and he shoved me back to that guy. This was going to hurt, I knew.

Suddenly a figure broke through the ring, it was Chau Khan. My buddies had E&Ed through the steakhouse end of the building where they found Chau Khan and told him what was going on. Chau Khan hung out around the steakhouse a lot where he was popular with the Vietnamese waitresses. As a mercenary he was being paid GI wages, a lot more than an ARVN made, which added to his popularity. He didn't mix with Americans much but he knew what was going on around there. He faced down big Sarge. "*Sergeant Edwards, I know you, you like to beat up drunk man all the time and brag, this man too drunk to fight. You fight me then, I not drunk.*" At that he put his hands up into a fighting position only with his long nailed little fingers sticking straight out. Big Sarge knew who he was and backed off. Then Chau Khan turned and grabbed me by the shirt and said very sternly, "*Cummings, you get back to hill, RIGHT NOW, or I kick you ass myself.*" "*YES SIR,*" I replied, and staggered, quickly as I could, down the long dusty road to Ranger Hill.

Dave Cummings 70-71



O/75 - 78TH LRP

Unit Director - Michael L. Feller

Photos O Co (Arctic Ranger) NC Sept 14. O Co At 4th of July in Wellston MI.



Group Picture Reunion 2014

Don't Forget the O Co. Arctic Ranger in The Big Easy Next September.

Later...Feller.

Heading next to F Co. in Las Vegas.



P/75 - 79TH LRP

Unit Director - Terry B. Roderick

We recently lost two beloved members of our Papa Company family with the passing of Carol Boatman and Bob Murphy. Though they both came in the back door, so to speak, they were both nonetheless loved and cherished by all of us. Carol for those who don't know is the daughter of Roy and Joyce Boatman. Roy served in N/75th, but has been an integral part of our post-Vietnam unit for years before his death a while back. Carol had been battling cancer for several years now and held it off for as long as she could. She was able to spend



Carol Boatman

her last days and hours at home with her Mom and family and she passed peacefully. Bob Murphy married into our company when he became the husband of husband of Mary Rossi just a few short years ago. They both knew Bob was sick but loved each other so much they decided to spend whatever time he had left together. I met Bob years ago and he and I hit it off right away though we were not close as he is to some of his 5th Corps LRP buddies. That was two real special people that we lost way too soon. They will both be sorely missed. May they both rest in peace and let's keep their memories alive.



Bob Murphy and Mary Rossi 2011



The 2015 Ranger Rendezvous/75th Ranger Regiment Association Reunion came and went in short fashion. Though the dates were changed to reflect the 75th Ranger Regiment's schedule to Monday, June 21 through the weekend, the Association activities ended with a banquet at the National Infantry Museum on Thursday night. To my knowledge, nothing was planned or scheduled after that other than individual unit activities. Wednesday and Thursday were the BIG days. The All Hands Barbeque was held at the new

terminal at Lawson Field and as Mary and Carney Walters, Ted Tilson, Dave Gates and myself walked in, I was met by Mike Conklin, CEO of the Sentinels of Freedom, an organization that does so much to help severely wounded warriors to return to a community and have their nearly every need met and that includes mentors to help with all facets of rehabilitation and return to society. He has a personal interest since he actually had 3 sons serving in the 75th Ranger Regiment at the same time a few years ago. A great man and a great family, through and through. Anyway, Mike asked me to come with him down a hallway to some doors and I told him I was with some others, so he said to get them and follow him. We did and who did he take us in to meet but...Charlie Daniels, who was providing the entertainment for the barbeque. I must say his hat is as big as a bushel basket but he was very personable and we all got to share some time with him without being rushed or having a large line behind us making us rush. It was a fairly private setting with several severely wounded Rangers being hosted by Mike Conklin

P/75 - 79TH LRP (Continued)

for the week and a few others from the band. Charlie helped me get the words to the Devil Went Down to Georgia straight as far as “the chicken in the bread pan picking out dough!!” I offered him a roll of quarters for his IRS problems if he needed it and he was quick to remind me that it was Willie Nelson, not him!! Ha! Ha! A truly memorable experience. As you might guess, Charlie rocked the house during his performance. Terry Bishop was also in attendance as was Duke DuShane. We all had a good time together. Pat Patterson arrived on Wednesday with about a dozen members of his family and they spent time visiting the Infantry Museum and some other places at Fort Benning. His family responsibilities prevented him from spending too much time with us but they all attended the banquet Thursday night. They had their own table and seemed to enjoy the evening as General David Grange was the Guest Speaker.



Dave Gates and Ted Tilson at the WWII Monument near the old Infantry Museum.

October 3, 2015 will be a special day. Besides being the 22nd anniversary of the Battle of Mogadishu in Somalia for B/3/75th, it will be a day that Nick Johnston and Allison Barley tie the knot. Not to each other however, but separately in two different places like Springville, NY and Jonesville, VA. Eddie and Kitten Johnston will hold Nick’s ceremony at their home in Jonesville, as will the Barleys in Springville, NY. Roy is a Past President of the 75th Ranger Regiment and he and his family were forced to join us years ago whether they liked it or not!! We wish both couples the best in their new adventures in life. Mary Rossi and Joyce Boatman, Duke DuShane, Sam Burnette, and myself and my daughter Cindy, will all be in attendance in Jonesville and we hope more of you will join us if you don’t have anything else to do that weekend. Rooms could be had at the Comfort Inn in Big Stone Gap. A little side story here for your enjoyment...Years ago around 1995-96 or so, I went to visit Eddie with both my daughters, Cindy and Brandy, with me and we spent the night with Eddie and his family. Eddie and I caught Nick and Mason divvying up my girls in a side room as to who would be sleeping with who and such. It was funny as hell at the time since my girls were several years older than his boys at the time, but cute anyway. Wondering if I should tell Nick’s new wife that my daughter was the first girl to sleep with her new husband!!



Bill Davis and Pat Patterson 2006

Color Guard was provided by the 75th Ranger Regiment as usual. I’d like to add that Pat provided t-shirts, hats, and scrolls for those in attendance and we had a few left over. Plenty of scrolls but not many shirts and hats left to be honest. It was a generous contribution and helped make the 2015 Rendezvous memorable for those of us who made it. Sure would be more fun with more of you.

Carney Walters, Ted Tilson, Terry Roderick, and Dave Gates with Charlie Daniels June 2015



Terry Roderick, Dave Gates, DJ DeJarnett, and Duke DuShane RR 2015 banquet.



Linda Davis with Duke DuShane, Ted Tilson and Terry Roderick 2015 RR banquet



Not sure where she’s at right now, but Mary Rossi Murphy is traveling all over the country before returning to Australia with Joyce in October after the wedding. She had lunch recently and visited with Rick Foringer and Clyde Tanner in NY. She is enjoying spending time with her biological family and plans to visit Grace Mayer in the near future. She plans to split her time between Australia and the USA in the near future. It’s always great to be in her company.

P/75 - 79TH LRP (Continued)



**Mary Rossi
Murphy and
Joyce Boatman
2015 RR
banquet**

A vote was taken by those in attendance that were available and Cherokee, NC was the choice again for our next Reunion in 2016. Dates will be announced as soon as some preliminary arrangements can be set, etc. Ted Tilson will again be our point man for the Reunion. Most like the area because of the number of things to do, weather, and quiet peacefulness that can be found there. Not much else to report for right now except the things I forgot. See you in Virginia in October !! As of this writing, two female West Point Officers are in the Florida Swamp phase of Ranger School and looking they will join the ranks of the tab holders. You gotta admire their grit. RLTW!! TR



D/151 LRP/RANGER

Unit Director - Tom Hughel

Even with the change of dates several members of Co D 151st Rangers made it to the 2015 Ranger Rendezvous. Those who were there: Larry Rhodes and Daryl Dassel (pictured),



Larry Rhodes and Daryl Dassel

Billy Waters, Billy Faulks, Jim Owens and his wife and Dan Hughes and his wife, On Monday they witnessed a parachute jump at Fryar Drop Zone.



On Wednesday they were treated to a BBQ and concert by the Charlie Daniels Band. While visiting the museum on Thursday they found that the picture of our own Ted Dunn was still hanging there. In the picture Ted is holding his son Nathan who served several years in the 75th Rangers.



Ted Dunn and son



WORLD WAR MEMORIAL UNIT DISPLAY DEDICATION

The day of the dedication arrived on Friday, June 12th, after almost a year of Planning. The day began with several of the attendees gathering over lunch at the Elbow Room. The skies were threatening rain, but it held off till everyone was inside the War Memorial.

The dedication ceremony began in the auditorium with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a prayer from our own chaplain, Jim Johnson. General Goodwin (Air Force

Ret'd) gave the opening speech about the unit, including training, medals and our time in Vietnam. Ron Himsel followed with a more intimate account of our time as a unit. He spoke emotionally of our men and the helicopter crew assigned to us who were lost there. He also spoke of the good times and our ability to stay close after returning. Upon completion of the speeches, we adjourned to the downstairs room where our display is located. We have a 16 foot case dedicated to Co. D/151 with artifacts on loan from various members of the unit or their families. There is also a Cobra helicopter on display in the center of the room. We provided them a CD of a contact with audio between a team on the ground and a helicopter which can be played to add more authenticity to the display.



Display Case

D/151 LRP/RANGER (Continued)

We wish to thank Ethan Wright, museum director, and Chase Brazel, museum specialist, and their staff for their work in completing this display honoring our unit.

After the dedication, several of our members again returned to the Elbow Room. Some had a late lunch, others drank, and all talked and shared more stories of the past and present.



Rangers Attending

Those who were unable to attend should make a point to see the display. It is located at the Indiana War Memorial, 431 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN 46204.

IN MEMORIAM

Walter Hasty

He passed away on March 31, 2015 from cancer. He was with Co D from its inception. He lived just north of Tampa, Florida with his wife.

Ed Mercer

He passed away on May 8, 2015 from a brain aneurysm. He joined Co D in September of 1969 and served as a member of Team 4-2. He lived in Topeka, Kansas with his wife.

Mike Bronnenberg

He passed away on May 18, 2015 after a long battle with cancer. He was with Co D from its inception. He lived in Fountaintown, Indiana with his wife.



ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ)

Unit Director - Bill Miller



Fellow Rangers and Co Vans:

IT'S A SMALL WORLD

By Bill Miller

I returned home the evening of February 25, 2014 to find a message on my answering machine. I listened to the message and the caller explained that he had found my phone number on the 301st Bomb Groups web site and was calling about his father. I returned the call and James Burns answered and immediately asked me if I know what this date was. It didn't immediately click and the he proceeded to inform me that it was the 70th anniversary of our fathers being shot down over Germany in their B17 Flying Fortress. It turns out that James's Father was the tail gunner on my father's B17 the "Screaming Eagle Two". James had been going through some of his father's belongings and just decided to see what he could find out on the net. I was able to give him information on the shoot down and two books that have information on this event.

The 301st Bomb Group (Heavy) consisted of the 32nd Squadron, the 419th Squadron and the 352 Squadron. Each Squadron having twelve planes each. On their way to Regensburg, Germany they were attacked by over 200 German fighters. They lost two engines and were falling behind the group and the fighters came in for the kill, but the crew lowered the



landing gear and the fighters left to resume the battle with the bomber formation. The pilot then brought up the landing gear and was able to make over the Italian Alps and ditch the plane of the Anzio beach head. They were picked up by the US Navy. All the crew survived and returned to their base to fight again.

As our conversation continued James asked me if I had service time and I replied I was the Unit Director of the US Army Rangers to the Biet Dong Quan as part of the 75th Ranger Regiment. He immediately asked if I knew Mike Martin. He said Mike was his 1st Sergeant

when he was in the 1st Battalion. I told him I spoke to Mike about twice a week. James is a retired 1st Sergeant and lives in Waverly, Tennessee. And Mike is a retired Command Sgt. Major and lives in Tullahoma, Tennessee. I hope we can get together sometime in the near future.

ARVN RANGERS MEET THE NVA

By Sp4 Howard Maniloff

On May 25, 1969, the 11th ARVN Ranger Battalion was heliborne to the tip of Hill 822, one of those 60-degree slopes overgrown with foliage and bamboo that cover the Dak To region of Kontum Province and make nature almost as much an enemy as the North Vietnamese Army

ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ) (Continued)

As they left the choppers, the Rangers started moving down the slopes on the hill to set up outposts. Their camouflaged uniforms nearly blended into the brush, they had gone about 200 meters down the eastern slope when they drew fire from the enemy. Thus began the 2nd Ranger Group's hardest victory.

Before the 11th Battalion move in, the 22nd and 23rd Battalions had been out for two weeks, fighting the 66th NVA Regiment. Other NVA troops had initiated contact on May 12, when they ambushed a convoy carrying Rangers of the 22nd Battalion just north of Dien Binh.

"They fired too soon, so we had time to get off the trucks and go after them," recalled Captain Ramon E. Moreland, Murray, Ky., Senior advisor to the battalion.

In the days following the ambush, both sides crawled and fought up and down the hills, gradually moving the focus of action westward, until it reached Hill 882, about 15 kilometers southwest of Dak To. Rangers from the 22nd Battalion had a particularly heavy contact on May 23rd and 24th, killing 146 enemy soldiers. The Ranger command decided to move the 22nd back to Group headquarters in Plaice for a few days rest and replace them with the 11th Battalion. The move would be made Sunday, the 25th.

When the first Rangers from the 11th Battalion made contact with the enemy on the afternoon of the 25th, they radioed back to Captain Ho-Khaki-Dam, the battalion commander, who was at the command post atop Hill 882. Told that the enemy was firing from the top of the ridge running off the east side of the main hill captain Dam sent two companies, one on the north side of the slope, one on the south. After conferring by radio with First Lieutenant Vuong-Mong Long, commander of the company on the south slope, he gave the word to assault the enemy position. Lieutenant Long and his men quickly fixed bayonets and charged up the hill, driving the enemy over the top, down the North Slope, and into the company of Rangers patiently waiting there. The enemy turned and pulled back to the northeast. Contact had lasted about two hours when F-4 Phantom jets came in and scattered many of the remaining enemy. With contact broken, Captain Dam told the company commander to pull back into night defensive positions.

Hill 882 was relatively calm the night of the 25th—the enemy fired only an occasional mortar. Early Tuesday morning, elements of the 11th moved out to sweep the area and count bodies and weapons. The Rangers once again headed east, and once again made contact with the enemy.

"The NVA had stayed in their bunkers, hugging our positions," recalled Staff Sergeant Terry K Walker, Pottsville, PA, heavy weapons advisor to the 11th.

With the enemy too close to call in Spooky, the Rangers asked for Cobra gun ships. The Cobras raked the enemy positions, and the Rangers started sweeping the area again. They had gone about 25 meters when the NVA rose and began firing small arms and B40 rockets. The battalion commander's request for heavier ordnance was answered with F-4s and artillery. The sequence of contact-gun ships-contact-jets was repeated continually until about 5 p.m. when contact broke and the Rangers finally got to search the area where they had fought for two days. They found 262 enemy soldiers killed by small arms, artillery, gun ships, and air strikes.

The wounded Rangers waited at the LZ atop Hill 882 for the medevac choppers to come in from Firebase 6, about 4,000 meters to the east. But for two days heavy mortar fire had prevented any helicopters from landing on Hill 882. Finally, on May 28, the barrage let up slightly and the choppers started bringing in supplies and carrying out wounded. Each time a chopper made it from Firebase 6 to the LZ, Lieutenant Colonel John S. Daniels, Knoxville, Tenn., senior American advisor to the 2d Ranger Group, was aboard. Warrant Officer 1 William T. Veal, Brooklyn, N.Y., 189th Assault Helicopter Company, was piloting a chopper called "Ghost Rider." He remembers looking over his shoulder and seeing Colonel Daniels on the left side of the craft, firing his M-16, as they came in low and quickly to the LZ. Colonel Daniels jumped out, unloaded the supplies, and helped the wounded aboard.

It all took only about 10 seconds, and then the chopper was rising. It was barely off the ground when two mortar shells crashed into the LZ. But the pilots and Colonel Daniels kept coming back to get the wounded.

Late in the afternoon of May 29, with elements of the 23d in the front and back, and the 11th in between, the Rangers moved out, heading northwest. They were hoping to push the NVA ahead of them into two ARVN infantry units set up in blocking positions. The steady rain soaking the steep hillsides beat a staccato on their steel pots. The Rangers stepped carefully, slipped, grabbed, regained balance, and slipped again down the western slope of 882 and then began the climb up Hill 843, an even steeper slope. The men had to grab vines and stumps to pull themselves up. They were heading down a ridge off the north side of 843, still slipping and sliding, trying to keep their weapons free of mud, when they got hit again.

ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ) (Continued)

The contact lasted an hour, with sporadic enemy fire continuing through the darkness and into the coming of daylight. The heavy mist that covers the hills in that region from dusk until mid-morning saved the enemy from air strikes, but not from ARVN and American artillery. By noon, the two Ranger battalions were ready to move out. The lead elements had gone only a short distance when they again drew heavy fire, this time from their right, the east. While the battalions were closing and starting to return the fire, Sergeant First Class Paul V. Attaya, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., acting senior advisor to the 11th Battalion, relayed Captain Dam's request for an air strike. The air strikes and artillery knocked out most of the resistance, but when the Rangers tried to move out again, a number of NVA started firing from fortified positions atop a knoll. They kept the Rangers pinned down until about 5:30 p.m., when Captain Vu Duc Chieu, commander of the 23d Battalion, took a force and assaulted the knoll, driving off the NVA and opening the way for the remaining Rangers to follow.

Following Captain Chieu, the Rangers moved out quickly at first, then more slowly as dusk passed into darkness. They split up into several columns to discourage other NVA units from following them. Making their way up and along slippery, steep terrain, the Rangers of the 11th and 23d Battalions became separated. At first only a few meters apart, they gradually drifted away from each other until there were two groups of Rangers, several hundred meters apart, each groping toward the northwest, where the ARVN infantry waited.

For the forward observers, the darkness proved especially difficult, recalled First Lieutenant Robert H. Putman, Jr., Laurens, S.C., Bravo Battery, 6/84th Artillery. "My team of F.O.'s and about 12 Rangers became separated from the main body. After about an hour, we found and joined the 11th Battalion."

The 11th, now accompanied by six American forward observers, its own three plus three from the 23d Battalion, made steady progress until about 2 a.m., May 31.

"We were moving along a small stream bed," remembered Captain Nguyen-Lan, executive officer of the battalion. "We crossed to a high point and saw three antennas. We knew it was an NVA CP, a battalion CP. We knew we must get out fast."

The battalion commander, Captain Dam, clearly recalls these few minutes: "I decided not to fight the NVA. We were already carrying our wounded. Even me, I was almost captured. We were moving through the CP quietly. There were NVA on both sides. They grabbed me on my arm and wanted to know who I am. 'Friendly,' I said. 'Let me go. Let me go'".

The point elements killed the sentries astride the Rangers' path, and "we just tippy-toed right on through," recalled Sergeant Walker.

The 11th went about 500 meters farther into trees and set up a night location.

The 23d Battalion, several hundred meters to the west, was having little trouble until it hit what Captain Chieu believes was a regimental CP.

"The CP was in a valley," said Captain Chieu. "You could see many ponchos, big pans for cooking, commo wire, antennas.

"Contact started. We threw grenades in the bunkers. At that time there was heavy contact right inside the CP. We fight to move out. We were too close for anything but bayonet and grenade fighting."

The 23d moved out, again heading for the blocking positions. "We were moving very slowly," recalled Captain Chieu. "We were carrying wounded. We moved all night, down a hill, across a stream, up a hill. In the morning, we arrived where the infantry had set up their blocking positions. It was about 9 a.m."

The 23d Battalion was now safe. It was May 31, and their wounded were being medevaced. But the 11th Battalion was still out there.

The men of the 11th had bedded down around 2 a.m. Their water supply low, many had stretched out their ponchos to catch the rainwater. Despite the steady downpour, the Rangers were sleeping the sound sleep of exhaustion when the word was passed at about 4 a.m.: "NVA on our trail. Get ready to move out."

Progress was slow in the wet darkness of the jungle. They had traveled only about 1,000 meters when dawn broke. Treading carefully down a slope into a valley, the lead elements drew fire from their left flank and a small hill to the right.

Rallying his troops, Captain Dam quickly led a charge up the hill to get his men out of the crossfire and atop the high terrain. Firing their M-16s, the Rangers assaulted, shouting, "Biet-Dong-Quan! Sat! Xung Phong!" ("Rangers! Kill! Assault!")

"We scared the hell out of Charlie," said First Lieutenant Charles E. Morrison, San Antonio, Texas. Lieutenant Morrison, of the 6/14th Artillery, was a forward observer. "I was screaming all sorts of stuff, 'Airborne, Ranger.' Everybody was running and shooting. Charlie just di di maued."

ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ) (Continued)

But not very far. Suddenly NVA troops were firing at the hilltop from all sides. While returning the fire, the Rangers hurriedly tried to dig for cover.

The forward observers were setting up mortars, plotting enemy positions, and calling for air and artillery support when a mortar shell came in, wounding two of them. The others carried them in ponchos to a bomb crater inside the perimeter where Vietnamese medics treated their wounds.

Machine gun rounds, B40s, and mortars pelted the Rangers' perimeter, about 75 meters in diameter. Most of the fire was coming from the south and the west, where Lieutenant Morrison began calling in artillery. Still the enemy barrage continued, slacking off a bit only now and then. F-4 Phantoms came in later in the day to pester the enemy positions. With the jets coming overhead, fire from the south and west stopped briefly, except for the firing of a 50-caliber machine gun at the jets. Meanwhile, fire from the north and east sides rose.

"I cannot say that there was any part of the ground in our area that did not receive the shell," recalled Captain Dam.

As Captain Dam turned his gaze from the enemy positions to his own perimeter he saw that many of his Rangers still had their heads down for protection from the incoming rounds. As Sergeant Attaya, who had been crouching next to him, watched in a mixture of admiration and shock, Captain Dam sprang to his feet and ran through the hail of fire from position to position to get all his men up and firing. But he warned them to fire with care. It was mid-afternoon, and with the enemy showing no signs of relenting, the Rangers were running low on ammunition. "Fire only on known targets" the captain told his men.

With his ammunition shortage critical and with the evening mist and fog that hinder Spooky strikes only a few hours off, Captain Dam knew it was only a matter of time before the NVA overran his position. He told Lieutenant Long to take some men and try a breakout to the west, where the air strikes had decreased the enemy volume of fire. Lieutenant Long, an intense, thin-faced young officer, gathered his troops and started down the hill. Captain Lan was waiting to follow with another group when suddenly the first element came under heavy B40 rocket and 57mm recoilless rifle fire. The breakout foiled, Lieutenant Long and his men scampered back up the hill.

"Then they made the attempt to wipe us out," recalled Sergeant Walker. "I estimate we took in 200 to 250 60mm and 82mm mortar rounds and 150 to 175 B40s in that hour, besides heavy automatic weapons fire. About 10 to 15 minutes before the barrage lifted, they threw a ground attack on us."

Lieutenant Long had barely resumed his defensive position when the onslaught began.

"The NVA were moving in three different lines," he later recalled. "The first was carrying B40s and B41s. The next had grenades and AK-47s. The last had bayonets and grenades. They got to within 5 to 10 meters, almost right on top of my hill. They got part of my defense on the northeast, and I had to send radio operators, nearly everybody to attack and take it back."

Captain Lan was watching the NVA move toward his position, on the northern side of the perimeter:

"There was a full company attacking on that side. Gun ships came in while the second line was advancing, and things got much better. But they still kept coming."

As more F-4s came in to bomb and strafe enemy positions, the enemy fire slowed. Finally, the NVA ground troops pulled back, but sporadic mortar and rocket fire still kept the Rangers pinned down.

Captain Dam had been busy on the radio all afternoon, requesting air strikes and more ammunition.

Now he watched as the helicopter started coming toward his hill, through the enemy fire, with a sling-load of ammunition. The chopper came in at high speed and dropped the ammunition—just outside the Rangers' perimeter.

The tempo of the enemy shelling increased. Fragments from one of the exploding mortars caught an American advisor in the back and arms, but he continued calling in artillery and air strikes until he felt himself losing consciousness. After handing the radio over to another U.S. advisor, he dragged himself to a small hole and passed out.

"I regained consciousness, but I have no idea of how much time had elapsed. I heard three mortar puffs, and then I heard two of them land. The third one was a dud and landed about six inches behind my head. I blacked out again."

When he awoke, darkness had fallen, and he could see Captain Dam moving through the perimeter toward the east, with a number of men. The usual mist was late tonight, so the battalion commander was able to use Spooky for cover in another breakout attempt. Specialist 4 Eugene J. White, Sante Fe, N.M., one of the F.O.'s was in the rear of Captain Dam's party as they hurried down the hill. Taking time out for some unfinished business, he moved toward the ammunition the had fallen outside the perimeter and lobbed a grenade

ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ) (Continued)

at it, exploding the mass to keep it out of NVA hands. As the Rangers continued moving east, into the valley and the jungle, he scurried by a busy NVA mortar pit and blew it up with another grenade. But now he had lost track of Captain Dam's party, and he faced a long night of moving stealthily through dark, unfriendly jungle, with little hope of finding the blocking positions. He listened for the sounds of Firebase 6's huge 155mm guns, and in a night filled with the many sounds of gun fire, hoped that he could find the ones that would lead him to safety.

The route that Captain Dam had planned would be followed by the Rangers and Americans left on the hill: head east and then curve around the NVA, back to the northwest, where friendly troops would be waiting.

The hill the Rangers held since dawn was hardly quiet. Lieutenant Long, about 20 Rangers, and five Americans were staying behind to hold the position and give the others time to move out. The last defenders were still fighting NVA.

"They were right at my position," recalled Lieutenant Long. "I threw a red grenade to mark my position for gunship strike. I still wonder why when I popped the grenade, the air strike started, and no one in my unit got hit. After five or 10 minutes, all was quiet."

Neither Lieutenant Long nor any of the Ranger advisors can explain today why none of the Rangers were hit by Spooky, but they know that Spooky did finish off the NVA.

By 9 p.m., the remaining Americans and Rangers had started preparing to move out. Many had already come back from the base of the hill, where they had retrieved new AK-47s and ammunition from the bodies of dead NVA soldiers. They would use these weapons now that their own ammunition was gone. Together the Americans and Rangers set out to destroy what they could not carry. They dismantled extra rifles, breaking and bending their parts; beat a recoilless rifle and mortar tube together until both were destroyed; ran radios and canned goods through with bayonets; and tore open bags of rice, strewing their contents along the ground.

Slowly, the friendlies moved out, with the lightly wounded carrying the more seriously wounded. They moved carefully, wary of any enemy troops that might be in the area. They had gone only about 400 meters when they ran into a squad of NVA.

"My friend, where are you going?" came the shout. Lieutenant Long quickly started talking with the NVA, passing the time of day, just as if he himself were an NVA soldier.

"As he did this," recalled Sergeant Attaya, "he moved some of his wounded Rangers to the flank, and they opened up." They killed two of the NVA, and the rest fled. After that, exhaustion, wounds, and Nature replaced the NVA as the Rangers' and Americans' prime enemies.

One U.S. advisor tried to keep walking, but the pain from his wounds forced him to his knees, and he crawled much of the way. Still, he constantly encouraged the Rangers to keep going, always in their own language.

The terrain was the same they had climbed and slipped through for days: steep and slick, covered with thorny trees and sharp bamboo that cut right through the skin when grasped for leverage. When the foliage became too thick to allow passage of litters, the seriously wounded were carried on the backs of others.

They all reached the blocking positions about 10 o'clock the next morning, Sunday, June 1. An hour later, Captain Dam and his men came in from the jungle.

As they reached their goal, the Rangers found their friends and asked for those who had not yet arrived. They began swapping stories of how they had reached safety. One Ranger told of nearly running into several North Vietnamese soldiers, barely stopping in time to let them pass. He noticed that they were traveling single file, carrying their wounded. The Ranger said it took the file of NVA two hours to carry all their wounded past his position.

Choppers came in and took the Rangers and advisors back to Pleiku—the wounded to a hospital, the others to their headquarters. Despite the week-long ordeal, their morale was high. Once in the hospital, the wounded chattered and smiled instead of groaning. They had lost some good friends and fine soldiers, but in one week they had killed more than 500 NVA.

Back at Ranger headquarters, the American advisors tried to analyze the fighting. Though greatly outnumbered, the Rangers had prevailed. It was Colonel Daniels who came up with the answer:

"They never quit...and you know, that's the way battles are won."

QUOTE

The fate of unborn millions will now depend, under God, on the courage and conduct of this army.

- General George Washington, July 2, 1776

ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ) (Continued)

IN MEMORIAM

John T. (Jack) Quinn, Brigadier General, US Army Retired

BG Quinn entered military service as a private in 1946, achieved the rank of sergeant and then earned an appointment to West Point. During his long and distinguished career, BG Quinn commanded units at company, battalion, and brigade levels with the 7th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, the 101st Airborne Division, and the 1st, the 4th and the 25th Infantry Divisions. His three combat tours in Vietnam included service as an advisor to the 20th Vietnamese Ranger Battalion, XO of the 2/28 Infantry (Black Lions), and commanding officer of the 1/14th Infantry (Golden Dragons). He also served as Assistant Division Commander of the 1st, 2nd, and 25th Infantry Divisions.



**Captain John Quinn,
Senior Advisor to the
Vietnamese 20th Special
(Ranger) Battalion,
November 1962, Kontum,
South Vietnam.
Captain Quinn is test
firing a Swedish “K” 9mm.**



**Vietnamese Rangers, 20th Special Battalion 1962 with
Ranger Advisor Captain John Quinn (second from left).
Commander, Captain Hanh (4th from left) was killed
near Ban Me Thuot as a Colonel, commanding the 44th
Special Tactical Zone in 1975. Obituary courtesy of
“Counterparts”. Photos courtesy of Mike Martin.**

AN HONOR

By Colonel Bob Reitz (US Army Retires)

19 May 2015, I had the privilege to stand in for 1st Sgt Harry Stewart (currently leading patrols for the “Big Ranger in the Sky.”) Stew’s granddaughter Angela May Dimattia was graduating from Columbus State University and had completed ROTC. She called me and asked if I would give her the Oath of Office during commissioning exercises. As man of you know, Stew and I served together in 1967-68 with the 35th Ranger Bn (ARVN), and I had met Angie in 2002 at Stew’s funeral. (He is buried just outside the old entrance to Fort Benning.) But, being old that I am, I didn’t know her. When she explained who she was, I felt extremely honored, which at my age has a lot of emotion, so, of course, I accepted the invitation. Now, you must understand that I an fit into my green, Class A, but as you know, the Army is now Blue (not to be different from the other services.) When I tried on my Blues, they had shrunk beyond use (couldn’t be any other reason.)

So, outfitted with new Blues looking like the “Sad Sack” in badly tailored trousers, I was able to tell those who assembled who I was, who Harry Stewart was and my connection to Angie—this, before the swearing in ceremony. What a thrill for an old warrior.

Who is this new Lt? Her degree is in Exercise Science and Military Leadership. To put money where her mouth is, she is an Iron Man competitor! But, that is not all, she is employed (until going on active duty with the 2rd Bge, 3rd ID) as an instructor with “Uncommon Athlete”. This is a company developed by CSM Dennis Smith which brings young men to the physical fitness standard suitable for Range School. He know Angie’s capabilities and reputation and asked her to join the company. Stew would be extremely proud! I am amazed! There’s still one more piece of information. Angie is dating Captain Allen M. Cooner, a VMI class of 2005 graduate (I’m VMI 61). This of course, makes him a fin fine man. Hi is a member of “Silver Wings” Army parachute team and currently serving as XO, 1st Bn, 507th Parachute Infantry Regiment, USAIS, and Ranger qualified. What can I say? She honored me! And I was thrilled to be among so many professionals. The Army is in good shape.

SIT REP

Fellow BDQ. This is to advise you that no firm plans have been made for the 2016 Reunion, but I am looking at possibly early September and I have several locations in mind. If anyone has any suggestions and would like to be the point man please let me know. I can always use the help.

ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ) (Continued)

Fellow Rangers this is to inform you that Ranger Karl Fee has been diagnosed with cancer and is currently undergoing treatment. Please send a card of encouragement to Karl at the following address. Ranger Karl Fee, 6234 Cemetery Rd, Ladysmith, WI 54848-9628: Karl served as the Sr. Advisor to the the 23rd Vietnamese Ranger Bn 70-71 RLTW Bill.

QUOTE

It is fatal to enter a war without the will to win it.
- General Douglas McArthur

Mu Nau
Bill Miller, Unit Director

**LRRP DETACHMENT-3RD ID**

Unit Director - Michael McClintock

BOOK REVIEW

THE FIRES OF BABYLON

Eagle Troop and the Battle of 73 Easting
By Mike Guardia

Reviewed by Mike "McGeek"
McClintock
3rd ID LRRP Detachment
Bad Kissingen, W. Germany
1962-64

Rangers are light infantry, right. So what interest might this book about an armored cavalry troop in Operation Desert Storm have for Rangers? Several things actually, including the fact that the then-commander of Eagle Troop, 2d Armored Cavalry Regiment, was a tabbed Ranger. The leadership skills that Capt. H.R. McMaster learned in Ranger School and imparted to his command were important factors leading up to the success of Eagle Troop in the Battle of 73 Easting on the first day of Operation Desert Storm on 26 February 1991. As the leading element of VII Corps' advance into Iraq, Eagle Troop encountered the Tawakalna Brigade of Saddam Hussein's elite Republican Guard. At the time it was believed that the Soviet military equipment used by the Republican Guard, including the T-72 main battle tank, was superior to the largely unproven U.S. M1A1 main battle tank. The Battle of 73 Easting completely disproved this myth. In less than a half-an-hour the twelve American tanks of Eagle troop destroyed more than 50 Iraqi vehicles, including the vaunted T-72, as they plowed a hole through the Iraqi frontline defenses. Author Mike Guardia not only carefully researched the



Battle of 73 Easting and Eagle Troop's role in decisively defeating the Iraqi enemy, but also tells the story of the men of Eagle Troop and their cohesiveness as a unit which he ascribes to Capt. McMaster's leadership and to the professionalism of the troop's officers and NCOs. Long before Eagle Troop deployed to the Persian Gulf, McMaster studied the history

of armored actions in the desert. From the experiences of field commanders from World War II he came to understand and believe that a successful fighting unit not only needs to be well trained, but also highly motivated. This training and motivation paid off when Eagle Troop surprised the enemy on the morning of 26 February. As McMaster recalled "*That surprise and the bold action and teamwork of the Troop's soldiers contributed to the rout that is now known as the Battle of 73 Easting...The true decisive factor, however, was the American soldier. He is the best at what he does and absolutely dedicated to serving his country...I am grateful that I had the opportunity to serve with them in this action.*"

I recommend this book for the insight it gives into what it takes to build a well-trained and cohesive unit, and how important good leadership is to unit morale and, ultimately, performance.

Casemate Publishers
Hardcover 248 pages
ISBN 978-1-61200-292-7
\$32.95
Also available on Kindle



Ranger Monger (1/75 '90-93) here with a sitrep. First I want to express my gratitude, admiration and respect to each of you – the Ranger standards, traditions and legacy you helped create continue to stand an example – as THE standard for the rest of the military to emulate.

We again have the opportunity to set the example for others to follow – and that is in helping our brothers transition from active duty to civilian lives filled with hope and purpose.

With the help of a number of Rangers who offered advice and leadership I founded GallantFew in 2010 to help Rangers transition from active duty. By the end of September 2014 we had provided 200 services to Ranger veterans this year – these services ranged from employment assistance (resume review, interview rehearsal, job referrals), financial counseling, small business ownership assistance, and in extreme cases preventing homelessness and even suicide.

The core of GallantFew lies in the Ranger buddy system. A Ranger leaving active duty to return home, attend school, go into business, needs a local hometown Ranger buddy. A Ranger that has previously successfully transitioned and is now established locally is perfectly placed to help the next Ranger go through that transition successfully.

Allow me to give a couple examples:

2nd Ranger Battalion veteran (post 9/11) is graduating with a degree in accounting, wants to work in a top ten firm. Recruiters tell him it is a ten year “prove yourself” process before that happens. One connection to another 2/75 veteran who is already a CPA in a large firm and two weeks later the new veteran flies to a job interview. He’s hired before he graduates.

Another Ranger veteran has become addicted to pain medications and the VA is not providing adequate psychological care. He delays reaching out because he’s a Ranger and Rangers deal with their own problems. Once he reaches out we surround him with Ranger buddies and get him access to several quality forms of treatment. The Ranger now has greatly reduced medications and has a future of purpose and hope.

I believe that transition is akin to night land navigation. Go off azimuth one degree for a hundred meters and you’re not too far off. Go off azimuth for 10 clicks and you’re lost. That hometown Ranger buddy helps the new Ranger veteran get and stay on azimuth and the sooner we connect, the more successful the transition.

Just as Abrahms Charter reformed the military through establishment of 1st and 2nd Ranger Battalions, we are reforming the veteran transition experience. Starting with Rangers, others will follow. I wrote earlier that we’ve helped Rangers 200 times this year – we’ve also helped other veterans 300 times. If it’s good enough for Rangers, the rest are eager to follow.

There’s a place for each of you – whether you transitioned two days or forty years ago – to set the example for others to follow. If you know a veteran transitioning – any branch of the service, perhaps your son, daughter, nephew, have them check us out at gallantfew.org. For those of you still fighting your transition battle, reach out and let us walk that patrol with you. For more information, www.gallantfew.org/darby

RLTW! Karl



Rangers Cory Smith (3/75), Mike Schlitz (RTB), Karl Monger (1/75) and Tim Abell (2/75)

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MERRILL'S MARAUDERS

It's been one year since all of you helped us have August 10 declared as National WW II Merrill's Marauder Day by governors of every state in the nation - except California. Thank you again for your tireless efforts. It wouldn't have happened without you.

To commemorate the **71st anniversary (August 10, 2015)** of Merrill's Marauders disbanding in Burma, you will find below a poignant "**Reflections on the North Burma Campaign of 1944**" written and approved for publication by retired LT. GEN Sam V. Wilson, 91, one of the first to volunteer for Merrill's Marauders. Please share where you think appropriate and please note related paragraphs below.

ONE OF FIVE RANGERS REACHING 100 YEARS OR MORE DIED AUG. 12, 2015

The August 12 death of a 101-year-old Merrill's Marauder prompted me to put together the information below about five Army Rangers who have reached 100 years old or more. Lynn Towne and Jerry Styles, Descendants of WW II Rangers helped me with information. Please share.

WW II Merrill's Marauder Everett W. Stanke, 101, died Aug. 12, 2015, at home in Edgerton, WI, with his children and wife of 74 years, Millie, by his side. Stanke, who would have turned 102 in November, began his military career in 1931 with the National Guard. Called to active duty in 1940, he served in Australia, New Guinea and Burma.

Stanke was one of five Army Rangers who have been confirmed as living to 100 years or more. It is believed that WW II Ranger Joseph H. Hilsman, who served with the 5th Ranger Battalion, is now the oldest Ranger at 101 years old. He lives in Tucker, GA, with his wife Vangie, and plans to attend this year's WW II Ranger reunion in Florida.

Merrill's Marauder John M. Jones, publisher of the "Greenville Sun" in Tennessee, turns 101 this December. He and his wife "Arne," also 100 years old, celebrated their 75th wedding anniversary this year. Jones kept a journal during the Burma campaign, which has been published as "The War Diary of the 5307th Composite Unit Provisional," and collaborated with the late Dr. E.T. Hopkins Jr. on the comprehensive Marauder history, "Spearhead."

Merrill's Marauder and Nisei warrior Roy Matsumoto died the evening of Easter Sunday 2014 about two weeks away from his 101st birthday at his home in Friday Harbor, WA. It was the 70th Easter Sunday anniversary of the 2nd Battalion being rescued by the 1st and 3rd Battalions after being surrounded for almost two weeks by the Japanese at the battle of Nphum ga.

Matsumoto played a key role in that rescue. He and the other Japanese Americans, Nisei, serving as interpreters with the Marauders are recipients of the Congressional Gold Medal.

Also in 2014, WW II Ranger James "Ike" Eikner died at 100 years old in Texas. Eikner was a D-Day survivor who climbed the cliffs at Pointe de Hoc as a "Rudder's Ranger." He also fought at the Battle of the Bulge. Eikner died in Texas. When President John F. Kennedy was assassinated, Eikner was Southern Bell's project manager who rushed facilities into the various Lyndon B. Johnson ranches scattered over several Texas counties.

The funeral of Merrill's Marauder Bernard "Marty" Martin, 93, who died July 31, 2015, in Pahrump, Nev., was planned by his wife, Beverly, for August 10 to commemorate National WW II Merrill's Marauder Day. Last year Martin was a guest of the Chinese government at the August 30 opening in Beijing, China of "National Memories - CBI images from United States National Archives," at the Military Museum of the Chinese People's Revolution. The collection of photographs focusing on Chinese - United States cooperation in WW II has also been shown in Washington, DC. They are part of the collection at the Yuezhong Museum of Historical Image Shenzhen City, Guangdong Province.

ON A RELATED NOTE...

John Jones Jr. wrote a lengthy story with photos in his family's Tennessee newspaper, the "Greenville Sun" to commemorate August 10 and the service of his father, John Jones Sr., who turns 101 in December, with Merrill's Marauders.

Merrill's Marauders Official Says Jones Is Unit's Oldest Surviving Original Member - The Greenville Sun: Local News.

The elder Jones and his wife, "Arne," also 100, recently celebrated their 75th wedding anniversary.

ON A RELATED NOTE...

Merrill's Marauder spokesperson, historian and long-time editor, until recently, of the "Burman News" Bob Passanisi, 91, informed us on August 10 that his wife of 72 years, Aileen, died peacefully August 9 surrounded by her loving family.

Jonnie Melillo Clasen

Daughter of Merrill's Marauder Vincent Melillo, 97

Merrill's Marauders Proud Descendants liaison officer

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MERRILL'S MARAUDERS

RETIRED LT. GEN. SAM WILSON REFLECTS ON 71ST ANNIVERSARY OF MERRILL'S MARAUDERS DISBANDING IN BURMA

August 10, 2015, is the 71st anniversary of WW II Merrill's Marauders, officially the 5307th Composite Unit Provisional, disbanding in Burma. Honored by today's 75th Ranger Regiment whose crest is the Merrill's Marauder patch, the all-volunteer unit defeated the Japanese 18th Imperial Division, which vastly outnumbered them, in five major battles and 30 minor engagements. Retired LT GEN Sam V. Wilson, 91, one of the first Marauders to volunteer for the secret "dangerous and hazardous" mission in 1943 and the last to retire from active military service in 1977, wrote the following editorial as a tribute to the almost 3,000 volunteers who fought in the China Burma India Theater. The Marauders were considered "expendable." No plan existed to provide replacements for battle casualties, according to Wilson. His many accomplishments range from serving as president of Virginia's Hampden-Sydney College to helping create Delta Force, the U.S. Army's premier counterterrorism unit. Wilson's last assignment was director of the Defense Intelligence Agency. He wrote his "reflections" last year in commemoration of the nation's governors proclaiming August 10 as National WW II Merrill's Marauder Day.

REFLECTIONS ON THE NORTH BURMA CAMPAIGN OF 1944

by Samuel Vaughan Wilson

These days I spend much of my sunlit mornings in a rocking chair on my front porch listening to birdsongs and watching the butterflies flit and careen around the shrubs and flowers. Down below in the small lake, largemouth bass leap after dragon flies. In boyhood we used to call them "snake doctors." Their random flight patterns remind me of helicopters. Often in the distance there is the wild sounding call of the pileated woodpecker, strangely similar to the cries of Gibbon monkeys that I listened to in faraway jungles seventy years ago. When the monkeys went quiet, we knew the enemy was near.

Battle scenes in jungled mountains are never far from my mind.

When we first went behind the Japanese lines in North Burma in early 1944, we were known as the "Galahad Force." Galahad was our radio call sign. Later, the news media dubbed us "Merrill's Marauders" after our commander, Brigadier General Frank D. Merrill. We were 3,000 volunteers who had responded to a presidential call to engage in a "dangerous and hazardous" mission. Some eight months and almost 1,000 zig-

zag miles after the first shots were fired, we had been whittled down to 200 soldiers still able to fight. The arithmetic itself tells the story.

The feeling I remember most from those harrowing days is fear—numbing, paralyzing, choking, dry-mouthed fear. We were deep behind the lines of a ferocious enemy who greatly outnumbered us. Danger was everywhere, 360 degrees, every minute of the day and night. Our umbilical cord to safety in India had been cut—we had cut it ourselves. Our only connection with the outside world was by air—and that link was a tenuous one, vulnerable to fickle weather conditions and to Japanese Zero's, superb fighter aircraft with veteran pilots. Yet our only means of sustenance and support hung up there in the air above us. It is a wonder that some of us could survive, let alone put up a good fight. But fight we did, and somehow we managed to succeed against the odds and at great cost.

It is at times like those that intangibles, things that you can't see or touch come into play. I shall never forget one such instance.

We were deep into our campaign. The going was tough, and our losses had been heavy. Then one day in an aerial resupply drop there came several pouches of mail. Letters from home. I had two personal letters, an overdue officers club bill and a small package. I took my treasures and went behind a clump of bamboo and sat there for a few minutes holding those precious items tightly in my hand. The return address on the small package read "Jamestown Presbyterian Church, Rice VA." For some reason, I opened it first.

It was a small autograph book, the kind that high schoolers exchange with sentimental inscriptions on graduation day. My little book was full of personal messages, prayerful inscriptions from members of the Jamestown congregation--family, neighbors, Sunday school mates, close boyhood pals, more distant kinfolk and people whom I hardly knew. The words varied, but the message was constant: "We love you and pray for your safe return."

Choking back a sob, I turned to the first inscription. It was from my mother.

"Sam, this verse brought you clearly before me. '...I will lift up mine eyes to the hills from whence cometh my help.' "May you ever keep looking up." (signed) Mom

I put both hands over my mouth. I didn't want my men to hear me cry.



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