

PATROLLING

FALL 2016

75TH RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.

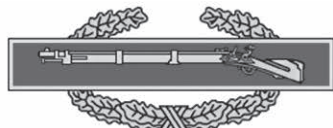
VOLUME 28 ISSUE III

Officers' Messages.....	1-9
General	10-21, 67-72
Unit Reports.....	22-66



U.S. DOD photo
public domain

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.



Unit Directors

HQ, 75th RANGER REGT & Special Troop Battalion

Richard (Rick) S. Barela
3612 Amick Way
Lexington, KY 40509
859.309.0905
509.440.1126
dabarelas@msn.com

1st BN, 75th RANGER RGT

Steve Cochran
912.877.5707
rgrbco175@gmail.com

2nd BN, 75th RANGER RGT

Kevin R. Ingraham
PO Box 1911
Binghamton, NY 13902-1911
607.771.0399
oldscroll275@gmail.com

3rd BN, 75th RANGER RGT

Scott Billingslea
Rangerinvictus@gmail.com
334.614.3691

A/75-D/17 LRP-V Corps LRRP

Stan Jones
Stan6542@yahoo.com
317.966.0645

B/75 – C/58 LRP – VII Corps LRRP

Marc L. Thompson
80 Rock Ridge Road
Morgantown, PA 19543
H: 610.913.8183
C: 610.763.2756
mthomp@ptd.net

C/75 – E/20 LRP

Delbert L. Ayers
2711 E. Pinchot Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85016
602.840.9676
bouncin4dollars@yahoo.com

D/75

Richard “Herd” Nelson
3302 Dragoon Place
Orlando, FL 32818
407.601.2801
rnelson134@cfl.rr.com

E/75 – E/50 LRP – 9th DIV LRRP

C. “Jeff” Webb, Jr.
56 Freshwater Lane
Wilton, CT 06897
917.975.4646
vcwebb@gmail.com

F/75 – F/50 – 25th DIV LRRP

John McGee
Irishlrp@tampabay.rr.com
352.346.2141

G/75 – E/51 LRP – 196th LRRP

Steve Johnson
10433 Juneberry Road, NW
Bemidji, MN 56601
218.333.1541
218.368.7984
towerg75th@yahoo.com

H/75 – E/52 LRP – 1st CAV LRRP

Robert Ankony
16852 Edgewater Lane
Huntington Beach, CA 92649
734.674.0927
robertankony@gmail.com

I/75 – F/52 LRP – 1st DIV LRRP

Michel J. Sharp
4558 Sodalite Street
San Tan Valley, AZ 85143
480.529-1280
sharpmj@centurylink.net

K/75 – E/58 LRP – 4th DIV LRRP

Roger T. Crunk
1159 19 Road
Fruita, CO 81521
H: 970.858.4579
970.640.3815
rogercrunk@msn.com

L/75 – F/58 LRP – 1/101st LRRP

Gary Linderer
1775 Cedar Ridge Way
Branson West, MO 65737
417.331.2834
lindlrp@yahoo.com

M/75 – 71st LRP – 199th LRRP

Lyle Webster
Lylwebster@aol.com
805.824.2113

N/75 – 74th LRP – 173rd LRRP

Robert “Twin” Henriksen
5715 Willow Springs Way
Ferndale, WA 98248
360.393.7790
novgrco@gmail.com

O/75 – 78th LRP

Michael L. Feller
16676 6th Street
Wellston, MI 49689
231.848.4948
michigami@kaltelnet.net

P/75 – 79th LRP

Terry B. Roderick
25 Carleton Drive
Cocoa, FL 32922-7003
321.631.3213
rgrrock@cfl.rr.com

ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ)

Bill Miller
1090 Brightwood Drive
Aiken, SC 29803
H: 803.641.9504
803.292.2571
bietdongquan@yahoo.com

LRRP DETACHMENT - 3rd ID

Mike McClintock
1411 Northview Court
Mount Vernon, WA 98274-8761
415.203.9097
oldlrp62@aol.com

D/151 LRP/RANGER

Tom Hughel
9667 Spruance Court
Indianapolis, IN 46256
317.577.4522
thughel46@comcast.net

F/51 LRP

Russell Dillon
39 Pearl Street
Wakeman, OH 44889
440.839.2607
russlrp51@gmail.com

The following individuals are appointed by the President of the 75th Ranger Regiment Association to their respective positions in order to facilitate the day-to-day operation of the Association.

Gold Star Family Advocates

Jill Stephenson
612.868.7446
iambenkoppsmother@gmail.com

Dianne Hammond
rgmom175@gmail.com
609.230.9511

Association Chaplain

Jeff Struecker
7556 Old Moon Road
Columbus, GA 70663
706.256.2344
dj@jeffstruecker.com

State Coordinator

Marshall Huckaby
699 Willow Dell Drive
Senoia, GA 30276
770.658.8159
nationalcoordinator@75thrra.com

Association VA Advocate

Dan Nate
408 Elm Avenue
Woodbury Heights, NJ 08097
856.848.9174
vaadvocate@75thrra.com

Association Artist

Dave Walker
In Memory

Media Staff (Patrolling)

Marc L. Thompson
80 Rock Ridge Road
Morgantown, PA 19543
610.913.8183
patrolling@75thrra.com

Media Staff (Website)

David Regenthal
197D Laurel Drive
Whiting, NJ 08759
732.232.7105
patrolling@75thrra.com

75th Ranger Regiment Association

PO Box 348360
 Sacramento, CA 95834-8360
www.75thrra.org

President

Richard S. Barela
 509.440.1126
president@75thrra.com

First Vice President

John Chester
 410.382.9344
1vp@75thrra.com

Second Vice President

David Regenthal
 732.232.7105
2vp@75thrra.com

Secretary

Tom Sove
 PO Box 348360
 Sacramento, CA 95834-8360
 C: 209.404.6394
 H: 209.575.2758
secretary@75thrra.com

Treasurer

Roger Crunk
 970.858.4579
rogercrunk@msn.com

Patrolling is published quarterly by the 75th Ranger Regiment Association, Inc., and is mailed third class postage, under postal permit #12, Indiana, PA.

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:
 Patrolling
 PO Box 348360
 Sacramento, CA 95834-8360

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

Dave Regenthal '68-69

**Our Website –
“If you don't go you're not going to know!”**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Richard S. Barela

Hooah Rangers, summer is over and here and hopefully you didn't drown with all the wet weather across the country. I have now been in office for just over a year and still trying to learn what the president covers more than I knew but still moving forward with objectives to make the association more active and viable.

I know the biggest concern has been the magazine and I know this has been a bone of contention and we are working to get four copies out each year. Part of the blame does lie with me as I requested that we input the results from the association audit which took longer than anyone expected. Some of the concerns with this aspect were the following:

1. We needed to contact each past officer and get the records consolidated and sent to a central location. With that completed The Secretary and Treasurer spent weeks putting them into some semblance of order. Once that was accomplished we needed to get them uploaded into the cloud for historical purposes and get a copy sent to the auditor. I want to thank Tome Sove and Roger Crunk for handling the records and Dave Regenthal for placing them into the cloud and getting them sent over the auditor (Ranger Nick Gabbone).
2. **Audit of Financial Records:** One of key points from the past association meeting was to have an audit of the financial records and show to the members of the association that we are keeping track of the funds in accordance with the by-laws. The financial records were sent to the auditor (Nick Gabbone). I have received the briefing on the audit. There were records that could not be located but overall we could account for what has transpired especially over the last four years, where the records were more centralized.

We had the nominations for Ranger Hall of Fame and submitted for MSG (Ret) Jesus D. Moncada of G Co 75th. The packet was submitted by the Unit Director Steven Johnson. I attended the RHOF voting on 3 May at the 75th Ranger Regiment HQs and I feel that MSG Moncada should be selected for membership into this great brotherhood of Rangers. He has my vote and should be a no-brainer for acceptance into the RHOF.

On a sad note during the RHOF voting I was also able to attend the celebration of the life of Ranger Aubry Batts who was a Ranger Hall of Fame member. This was a pretty large ceremony and was well attended by the ranger community.

We are still moving forward with our list of open actions and have completed a few.

1. **Consolidate all the Associations Records:** The consolidation of all the association records from the past officers is completed with the all records we could locate. They are now on the cloud for the future officers to have a working record of the association's financial and operational status. This will allow the officers but also members to review them and have access as needed.
2. **Ranger Hall of Fame Nominations:** We need to start getting the packets ready for the 2017 class of candidates. I feel we have quite a few very deserving candidates but they need to be nominated and the packets submitted so we can get them before in the initial review for acceptance. Unit Directors, get with your unit members and see who should be in. We have three slots each year and during the past we only submitted one or two packets that we can submit to the RHOF voting board.
3. **Communications:** I check my email at least once every 24 hours and try to respond back as quickly as possible. We need to keep open communications from top to bottom and vice versa.
4. **Quartermaster for the Association:** We are still looking for a Quartermaster sponsor for the association. This has been a vacant area for quite a few years.
5. **Sponsorship:** Let see about getting more sponsorship for the association to keep our costs down. Please beat the woods and get some of the companies who support us to purchase an ad in our magazine.
6. **New Officer Nominations:** We are just about one year away from the next ranger rendezvous Ranger Rendezvous 2017. We all need to be part of the association and need to see about running

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (Continued)

for one of the officer positions. There are 5 officer positions, President, 1st VP, 2nd VP, Secretary, and Treasurer; three of the positions are term limited; President, 1st Vice President, and 2nd Vice President. We need to select rangers who are will move the association forward. Let's start looking at who can best support the association and get them set up for running for these offices. Get with the current officer you are interested and find out what the job entails. As my term will end in 2017 I will sit the incoming president and brief him on what some of the key things he has a role in through his tour of office.

Events and Actions Since Last Rendezvous:

Dec 2015 – Passing of Ranger Vincent Melillo (Merrill's Marauders)

Vincent Melillo, the last original member of Merrill's Marauders from Georgia, dies at 97



3 May 2016 – Ranger Hall of Fame Voting – Ranger Moncada was voted for induction to the Ranger Hall of Fame.

30 May 2016 – Our association was selected as the Honoree Organization at the 2016 National Memorial Day Ceremony on Monday, 30 May 2016 which was held at the Marietta National Cemetery in Marietta, GA. The guest speaker was MG Scholes who had made the recommendation that we be chosen as the Honoree Organization. We did have quite a few rangers attend the ceremony. On the stage with in attendance were Ranger Bill Miller of BDQ and CSM Dave Gates of P Co 75th and his wife Sheryl and myself and my wife Barb. The event was something I will remember and those present represented the association on this day of remembrance.

27 Jun 2016 – 1st Bn, 75th Ranger Regiment Change of Command Ceremony where Col Brandon R. Tegtmeier relinquished command to LTC Todd Brown. Also the retirement ceremony of Ms. Shelia Bowen Dudley who served the 1st Bn for over 28 years.

13-16 Jul 2016 – United States Army Ranger Association (USARA) Annual Ranger Muster (ARM)

14 Jul 2016- Ranger Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony;

The following members from the association were inducted into the Hall of Fame:

CSM (Ret) James Gibson
CSM (Ret) Willie Snow
CSM (Ret) Jeff Mellinger
SGM (Ret) Ronald Hart
MSG (Ret) Jesus D. Moncada
SSG Robert Passanisi (Merrill's Marauders)
SGT Gary Linderer

26 Jun–30 Jun 2017 – Ranger Rendezvous 2017

The RANGER RENDEZVOUS 2017 dates have been set for 26-30 June 2017 at Fort Benning GA and will celebrate the 75 years of Rangers beginning with the establishment of 1st Ranger Battalion on 19 June 1942 during WWII. There will some big events to celebrate this major occasion in history.

SO FAR HALF THE ROOMS HAVE ALREADY BEEN BOOKED-PLEASE MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS AND GET YOUR ROOM BOOKED

Booking Link

https://secure3.hilton.com/en_US/dt/reservation/book.htm?inputModule=HOTEL&ctyhocn=CSGDTDT&spec_plan=CDTRRE&arrival=20170626&departure=20170701&cid=OM,WW,HILTONLINK,EN,DirectLink&fromId=HILTONLINKDIRECT

Hotel: DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Columbus
Tel: 1-800-222-8733

Group Name: Ranger Rendezvous 2017

Arrival Date: 26-Jun-2017

Departure Date: 01-Jul-2017

Please note, the entire URL must be copied and pasted for it to work properly for the DoubleTree.

Hotel: Fairfield Inn and Suites Columbus
Tel: 1-706-317-3600 (Veronica Williams)

Group Name: Ranger Rendezvous 2017

Arrival Date: 26-Jun-2017

Departure Date: 01-Jul-2017

The lines became open on 17 Aug 2016. We have 120 rooms at the DoubleTree and the rooms are 100% better than what we had at the Holiday Inn with working elevators, free breakfast, pool area. We also have access to a variety of restaurants. The DoubleTree is giving us a dedicated space for the Association Chapel.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (Continued)

One of the things we ask is that you contact your unit director today (or soon before its overlooked) to let them know if you will be attending, and the names of your family members or guests so that we can have the name tags ready for your arrival. Alternatively you can e-mail this information direct to rendezvous2017@75thrra.org.

Thank you all for your service and the work you have done to bring rangers together. Let's make the association grow, find those members who have left

and bring them back in. Let's get the rangers from the battalions involved. They will be carrying the ranger tradition forward when we leave to meet the big ranger in the sky.

Rangers Lead the Way – All the Way!!!



Richard (Rick) S. Barela, President
75th Ranger Regiment Assn., Inc.
(509) 440-1126



1ST VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By John Chester



John Chester

Well, it's March already, and I turned 72 in September. When did I get old? It kinda snuck up on me when I wasn't looking. I'm looking forward to my (4th or 5th?) retirement, now some 15 months away (at Ranger Rendezvous 2017).

I am in the midst of a campaign, to solicit advertisers for the magazine and website, but we are weeks, if not months, away from that coming to fruition. By the way, if you are aware of any individual or company that would have interest in placing an ad in *Patrolling*, give me a call, put them in touch with me, or direct them to the quartermaster page on the website.

I want to address an issue that I have become more & more aware of since I have been involved with this Association, and that is our old friend PTSD, (post-traumatic stress disorder). A significant percentage of our membership suffers from this malady, and time does nothing to mitigate or cure the condition. Given that a large number of our members have

been subject to the rigors and stress of combat operations, it is not surprising. I have often discussed PTSD in this magazine, and I think that we should maintain an awareness of this condition and its many repercussions. PTSD affects virtually every aspect of our daily lives, at work, at home, while we sleep and, most important in our relationships with other people especially with family and spouse. Mary Anne, (my wife) says it's like living with Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde. When Jekyll is home, all is well, but when Hyde shows up, all bets are off.

Some time ago, at one of the reunions, a number of us were discussing PTSD. This was caused by an incident that occurred the night before in the beer garden. An individual had taken on a few more libations than was good for him, and was acting out a bit. I and a few of our larger members went out to calm him down a bit. We were successful, and he duly departed for his room. A few moments after his departure, one of his friends came up to me, almost diffidently, and whispered in my ear, "I'm sorry about that, he has PTSD you know." As he looked at me with a baffled look on his face, I almost choked on my

1ST VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (Continued)

laughter. When I finally got it under control, I pointed to the crowd and said, "Look at those guys out there, nine out of ten have PTSD, and they're not making asses of themselves. The discussion turned to PTSD as an excuse for outrageous behavior. The consensus was that it most certainly IS NOT. Once you know that you have the condition, and become cognizant of the attendant symptoms, you have a duty and a responsibility to avoid the things that will push your buttons, and we all know what they are.

The talk turned to happiness. Does the presence of the condition preclude happiness? I was, (and am), of the opinion that it does not. How is happiness defined? Perhaps happiness is when you feel better than usual? That means it is not the usual or baseline state. If that is true, sadness or depression would be below the baseline state, and happiness would be above. One of my early doctors asked me what I wanted out of therapy. That's easy was my reply, "I want to be normal." He laughed and said, "Normal is a setting on the dryer, what you did in Vietnam was as far from normal as you can get." His statement would be true of every member of this organization, from Vietnam through all the conflicts and training in between and ending with Iraq and Afghanistan (so far). None of that was or is, normal. We need to give ourselves some credit. Going in harm's way, or being prepared to go in harm's way, 24/7/365, is stressful. So how do we manage this baseline? I can only speak for myself, somewhere along the last 48 years, I have figured out how to avoid the things that take me below

the baseline, and to accommodate the things that take me above it. When I get a call that one of our members or one of my friends is in trouble or has died, I still get that visceral churning I used to get in a firefight or just before I triggered an ambush. That takes me below that baseline, but you know, helping that person or his family, takes me way far above it as well. We simply need to try to view the world, our place in it and our relationships with others, especially our families with a positive rather than a negative perspective. It may be difficult, but with practice it's possible.

I have a number of Native American friends. I served with quite a few in Vietnam. I was told this story by one of them. A young man was talking to his grandfather, he was troubled at the conflicting emotions he was feeling, and was unable to deal with them. His grandfather replied, "In each of us reside two wolves. One is positive and nurturing, and is fond of knowledge and kindness. The other is negative and destructive, and wishes ill to everything. These wolves are in constant conflict with each other for your soul." The young man asked his grandfather, "Which one will win?" The elder replied, "Whichever one you feed."

This task is a constant task, a daily task. As you decide from moment to moment which wolf you wish to feed, I promise you that it will become, if not easier, at least tolerable. Positive thought and action will beget more positive thought and action. Try it, what have you got to lose?

2ND VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Dave Regenthal



Dave Regenthal

The Right Thing to Do

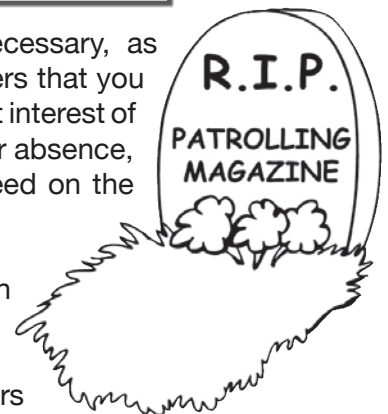
Catchy title, right? Truth be known, depending on the circumstances, ones' perception of the right thing to do can take on wildly different meaning. Last issue of the magazine we attempted to

start a conversation about the relationship between Patrolling Magazine and our bank account.

Our president, Ranger Barela, can verify that there was no shortage of suggestions regarding what to do and in some cases where we should put it (humor

intended). It's also necessary, as you have elected officers that you expect to act in the best interest of the membership in your absence, to bring you up to speed on the subject.

Between this edition and the last we have had casual discussion with most Unit Directors by phone with Ranger Regenthal and our editor, Ranger Thompson, e-mails, more phone and a couple of letters to each of the elected officers. It goes without saying that if you ask ten people for advice that you may end up with ten



2ND VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (Continued)

(mostly positive) suggestions. As you might guess the input from all parties is both useful and appreciated.

Notwithstanding the desire to go any particular direction which satisfy a majority of the membership, reality dictates we make responsible decisions that we can answer for to the members or during an audit. Bottom-line is our financial behavior and expense must be in sync with our available income. As a non-profit we are not in the business of making money (and no one would argue that having been a problem). We are permitted to raise funds to pay expenses.

I'll not go into detail on all possibilities but here's a couple I'd like to share: One suggestion was that we "pass the hat." You'd think maybe that works because it would be funded mostly by the guys that can afford to throw some extra bucks in, right? Problem being that if we continue to publish and mail quarterly we're looking at nearly \$16k annually so the hat trick would end up falling well short.

We could, as have many other organizations, go "paperless." In the years ahead that will be exactly what we do. Many of our modern Rangers get most of their publications that way (which I suspect would be really useful when deployed).

Some have said members should indicate a choice, "paper or plastic." The theory being that if we print fewer paper copies that our expense will decrease... And it will but, for example, going from the present printed number to, let's say half that, the cost does not come down proportionately. So that doesn't work either. What that means is that it cost more, per magazine, to print fewer copies.

Another idea (you can blame me for this one) is that we earmark money out of every annual dues as being dedicated specifically for Patrolling and ask all others to pay a subscription rate of \$10 or 15 annually to support the magazine. We'll not publish a list of who is and who isn't but whether it's this idea or a combination of others we're going to try to get and keep a printed version of the magazine going for a while longer.

What I do know is that we're going to continue to have the electronic version going regardless of whether or when we are able to print. Rangers with memberships that expired on June 30th of last year are still receiving Patrolling by mail. We are doing this because we feel that we may owe you a couple issues, and because we want everyone in the community to get the word.

TREASURER'S MESSAGE

By Roger Crunk



Roger Crunk

75th Ranger Regiment Association Statement of Financial Position As of June 30, 2016

ASSETS	Total	LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	Total
Current Assets		Liabilities	
Bank Accounts		Total Liabilities	
1000 Affinity/Operations	13,767.06	Equity	
1002 Affinity/Family Fund	19,478.57	3000 Net Assets -	
1030 Affinity/Savings	17,719.28	Unrestricted	119,923.45
1040 Benevolent Funds MM	17,572.89	Net Revenue	-13,514.93
1042 Life Funds MM	36,032.59	Total Equity	<u>\$106,408.52</u>
1050 Paypal funds	<u>1,838.13</u>	TOTAL LIABILITIES	
Total Bank Accounts	\$106,408.52	AND EQUITY	\$106,408.52
Accounts Receivable			
1100 Accounts Receivable	\$0.00		
Total Accounts Receivable	\$0.00		
Total Current Assets	<u>\$106,408.52</u>		
TOTAL ASSETS	\$106,408.52		

TREASURER'S MESSAGE (Continued)**75th Ranger Regiment Association****Statement of Financial Income and Expense January 1 through November 3, 2015**

Ordinary Income/Expense	<u>Jan 1 - Nov 3, 15</u>	<u>Jan 1 - Nov 3, 14</u>
Income		
Program income		
Membership dues	2,739.00	25,703.19
Life membership	290.00	2,384.65
Reunion income	7,988.00	220.00
Patrolling ads	150.00	100.00
Coin sales	817.30	135.90
Miscellaneous revenue	<u>87.99</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Total Program income	12,072.29	28,543.74
Member donations		
Family fund contributions	1,256.77	5,843.30
Member fund contributions	<u>14.00</u>	<u>5,130.00</u>
Total Member donations	1,270.77	10,973.30
Interest income	<u>195.42</u>	<u>155.46</u>
Total Income	13,538.48	39,672.50
Expense		
Program expenses		
Cash awards & grants - Battalions	10,294.25	7,500.00
Cash awards & grants - Goldstar	1,500.00	0.00
Cash awards & grants - Members	0.00	400.00
Coin expense	908.02	548.37
Membership cards	76.95	3,137.68
President's travel	920.54	1,081.31
Reunion supplies	434.00	0.00
Website maintenance	<u>1,650.00</u>	<u>2,483.34</u>
Total Program expenses	15,783.76	15,150.70
Patrolling expense		
Patrolling printing	5,311.56	11,208.17
Patrolling postage	1,600.00	3,544.31
Adobe subscription	<u>267.45</u>	<u>481.41</u>
Total Patrolling expense	7,179.01	15,233.89
Operations		
Bank and merchant fees	198.90	288.01
Business registration fees	30.00	30.00
Computer software	99.75	163.84
Computer maintenance	302.23	685.44
Insurance - D&O liability	475.00	737.00
Office supplies	47.99	165.48
Postage and mailing service	258.73	652.21
Printing and copying	<u>1,706.51</u>	<u>530.52</u>
Total Operations	3,119.11	3,252.50
Total Expense	26,081.88	33,637.09
Net Ordinary Income	<u>-12,543.40</u>	<u>6,035.41</u>
Net Income	-12,543.40	6,035.41

SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

By Tom Sove

A quick update on the data base we are now using, Filemaker. Dave Regenthal has just about every bug handled and it is working well. At least I am happy with it.

We are still getting new members from the Vietnam era, but about 75% of new members come from service in the Regiment. We are growing, and already into member number 3100. Even so, about 50% of applicants don't include verification of service.

The Unit Directors are helping significantly in this area, but it seems many ex-Rangers either forgot how to follow instructions or are phony wannabes. Our entry gate is still being manned.

From my perspective, after six months the transition in the officer change has gone very smoothly. Ya'll can congratulate yourselves on your voting insights.

Now an update on acquiring our secretarial records. From the Ranger Rendezvous (reunion) last June at Ft. Benning I drove out from Denver with Roger Crunk, and while at the Columbus Holiday Inn we took possession of all the records John Chester still had. We loaded Roger's vehicle and he drove home alone. In September my wife and I drove out to Colorado to attend Roger's daughter's wedding and we loaded the secretary stuff in my car; and now all those records reside in one place as requested by the membership. Still have to go through and scan them all for digital storage, but the process has been started.

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

By Marc L. Thompson

It's been a while... You will see references to the delays in getting new copies of Patrolling out to you in the elected officer's messages. We believe that those issues are now behind us, and you will, once again, be receiving Patrolling on a regular basis. Unit Director's will receive an email from me even before you see this hardcopy in your mailbox with the submission deadline for the next issue, and updated submission and publication information.

We would appreciate your feedback on the new fonts used in this issue... do you find the articles easier to read than in the past? Harder to read? No difference? Please let us know either through your Unit Director or an email to patrolling@75thrra.com.

The next issue will contain the proposed Bylaws changes from the elected officers, as well as the Reunion registration information tear-off sheets for next June's 75th Anniversary Reunion. RLTW.

ADVOCATES

Hello Fellow Gold Star Families,

I hope this finds all of you well as we have just passed Veterans Day and approach the holiday season. I know the holidays are a time when we especially miss the presence of our loved ones as our families gather. It's a time when we feel that empty space in our hearts as we look around and don't see their smiles in the room.

My son Ben was my only child. Many of the men that served with him have become my family and some even my "adopted" sons. They can't replace Ben and none have ever claimed to try, however, what they can do (and have done) is to add to the space in my heart that is dedicated to those whom I hold most dear. They are family that my Ben gifted to me the minute God called him Home. I have no doubt that all of you reading this have an understanding of what I am talking about. Since the passing of our loved ones, we have come to know that family no longer constitutes a blood relation. I have experienced this many times since July 2009 when Ben died, but three months ago I got a great big dose of Ranger family love.

It was Friday, July 24th, the morning of day one of the Ben Kopp Memorial Ride, a two day annual event I host in honor of my Ben to raise funds for local (MN, where I live) nonprofits that support our veterans and their families. At 6:20am my house was struck by lightning and a fire ensued. I had many silent auction items in my house which were part of the evening's event. Friends rallied to retrieve them once we were able to get back inside my house. They brought the items to the location the BKMR was being held and joined forces with some of my supporters to get everything cleaned up in time to help us raise funds from the silent auction. Who were these other supporters? They were members of the 75th Ranger Regiment who had come to be a part of the BKMR. This was the fifth BKMR, but the third at this location and the third that had been heavily supported by the men of all eras that had served in Regiment.

By the time the silent auction and dinner began, I had been hugged by just about every Ranger present. Many people commented that my fire could not have come at a worse time, but it didn't take long for me to see that it couldn't have come at a better time. When we experience a life changing adversity, (which can

be many different things) it can feel like such a lonely road as we are forced to walk where we have not walked before. On the day of my fire I was six years and six days in to surviving the worst thing any parent could imagine. The lightning didn't stand a chance in knocking me down and preventing the BKMR from happening. I never even gave it a thought to cancel. No way! Upon arriving at the dinner and silent auction, I was greeted by my family, not my blood relations, my Ranger family. By the time the night was over, twenty seven men that had served in the 75th had stood up to be counted and they ALL came to support Ben and me. Their support only increased when they learned of my fire. That support was also wrapped in a healthy dose of love; love for the mother of a brother. These men traveled from states near and far, some drove, but most rode motorcycles. They served one and two generations before Ben, some the same as Ben and some were currently active duty.

The second day of the BKMR is a 150 mile motorcycle ride. The love and energy from the Rangers only increased. We counted 175 motorcycles with Rangers Leading The Way behind the road guards. We rode together on a beautiful Minnesota summer day enjoying the sun, the wind and the huge smiles of a brotherhood joined together to honor one of their own.

I could have crumbled and fallen and cancelled everything, but my Ranger family held me up. Their presence reminded me of the timeless love, honor and respect that bond us together. My son never gave up and neither did any of them when faced with challenges that threaten to separate us from what matters most in life. Ben paid the ultimate price and these men survived. They survived and have reached through generations to be a beacon whose light never dims when it comes to the needs of their brothers and their families.

I survived my fire and will rebuild and restore my life, likely to a place better than where I was before. There was not one thing in my house that cannot be replaced, not one thing. It is our lives and those whom we love and love us that can't be replaced. I made it out of my house safely and got to experience an extraordinary amount of love from my Ranger family. They were already there for the BKMR, but as always, when called, lead the way to help a brother, or mother, in need. In addition to being present for the BKMR, a

ADVOCATES (Continued)

Go Fund Me page was started for me and I received a very generous donation to help me on the road to restoration and recovery from my fire.

As the holidays approach, please know that you are never alone. We, your Ranger family, already have in common a life changing "adversity" and understand the heartache felt when we miss our loved ones. I can attest in more ways than one that family is not always blood and there are many who stand in the gap ready, willing and able to be there for you if a call should come.

Wishing each of you a blessed holiday season and a new year filled with all that your heart's desire. Rangers Lead The Way! Jill Stephenson

Well Hello All:

It's been a crazy few months for me. After a great Memorial Day in DC with a great group of Gold Star Moms and quite a few Rangers I got an emergency call from my daughter - "baby coming early come quick!" Luckily I made the first flight to Savannah in time for the arrival of Carmella Anne AKA Bella Beans. So sorry I missed the fall issue but I would like to share a few pics from a golf event that we have for our Honoring Sandrino's Sacrifice Fund. All our proceeds go to assist various organizations that support Rangers. If you are interested in finding out more check our web page HonoringSandrinossacrificefund.com or our FB page. We have posted pictures and a letter detailing where the money goes. We hold this event on the first Friday of May This year it will be May 6, 2016.

These pictures happen to be of some of the Rangers who were there and my hometown's first K-9 named Ranger in honor of Sandrino. That is Bryan Jensen from 1/75 getting "attacked". Pictured with JD/Ethan/Mike and Jariko is Everett James Katzenberger, son of SSG Jeremy Katzenberger who was KIA 14 June 2011. He and his mom Colleen have been fixtures since the first outing in 2012. Chuck Fountain and Karl Monger were also there.

It is an all day affair with two separate shotgun starts one at 0800 and the other at 1300. This upcoming one will be our 5th year. Sign-ups open sometime in January 2016.



www.johnpavlovitz.com/2015/10/31/the-day-ill-finally-stop-grieving

Dianne Hammond

ADVOCATES (Continued)**HEALTH**

Submitted By Dan Nate, F/75

**LIFESTYLE CHANGES HELP
TREAT SILENT ISCHEMIA**

The very word “ischemia”, means “stopping blood.” If a stress test shows you have cardiac ischemia, blood flow to a part of your heart muscles is less than the heart muscle needs when you exercise, in any form. The most likely culprit is a coronary artery narrowed by cholesterol-laden plaque.

A bout of ischemia can happen when your heart is made to work harder, such as during walking or any form of exercise, as well as during anger or emotional stress. i.e. yelling or shouting. The resulting shortfall in oxygen rich blood to your heart muscle can cause the chest discomfort known as angina. This pain may spread to your shoulders, arms, neck or jaw. But here’s a little known fact: Sometimes the ischemia causes NO SYMPTOMS. You might not feel it at all, but it’s there. This so-called silent ischemia is surprisingly common. About 2% to 4 % of middle-aged men are estimated to have it. And about 10% of middle-aged U.S. men who have cardiac risk factors such as obesity, smoking, high cholesterol, and uncontrolled high blood pressure_ may have silent ischemia.

In people with diabetes, the risk may be higher. That’s because diabetes increases the risk of having heart disease, and because diabetes injures the nerves that feel heart pain, making it silent ischemia.

Dr. Peter Stone, director of vascular profiling at Brigham and Women’s Hospital says that people with heart disease may have five (5) to ten (10) times as many episodes of silent ischemia as angina. Silent ischemia is exactly like angina, except that you don’t feel the pain. Some people have only angina and others have only silent episodes. But most people with narrowed arteries have BOTH types. Having ischemia whether it’s painful or not makes you more prone to having a heart attack or to develop a dangerous heart rhythm that can cause sudden death. (Sudden death can occur without a heart attack, and many heart attacks do not lead to sudden death). That’s why it’s important to treat ischemia, even if you’re not experiencing symptoms. Your risk of heart attack or sudden death is particularly high if you have any of the other factors of heart disease. Treatment begins with a trip to your doctor, and with lifestyle changes. Follow the standard heart-protecting habits: eat right, get regular exercise, and maintain a healthy

weight. Also, keep blood pressure and cholesterol down, with medications if necessary. Key word here is NECESSARY. Ischemia may also be treated with drugs, including: BETA BLOCKERS, which lower the heart’s workload; CALCIUM-CHANNEL blockers and nitrates, which widen blood vessels; RANOLAZINE (RANEXA), a drug that appears to increase blood flow to areas of the heart affected by ischemia. IF YOUR ISCHEMIA IS SEVERE YOU MAY NEED AN ARTERY-OPENING PROCEDURE CALLED ANGIOPLASTY!!! Info gleaned from Harvard Medical School’s Dr. Komaroff.

**MAKING LIFESTYLE CHANGES
MAY LOWER BLOOD PRESSURE**

SO, you’re already on two (2) hypertension medications to keep your blood pressure under 140/80 milliliters of mercury. And here comes the Systolic Blood Pressure Intervention Trial, showing that systolic blood pressure must drop below 120 to reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease. WHAT NOW??? Three or more drugs along with fatigue and loss of stamina? The American Heart Association, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and other major health organizations recommend lifestyle changes as first-line treatment for high blood pressure. They advise eating more whole-plant foods, limiting salt intake and exercising to get closer to the 110/70 ideal.

The DASH diet often is prescribed. Its creator, Frank Sacks, says whole fruits and vegetables and other plant foods are the driving force in lowering blood pressure. Foods proven to reduce high blood pressure include the following: flaxseed, hibiscus tea, beets and beet juice and, YEP, watermelon, thank God; many other plant foods help boost nitric oxide in the blood, which makes blood vessels more elastic, thus reducing blood pressure.

TACKLING PAIN and STIFFNESS of ARTHRITIS

Although touching on both osteoarthritis and rheumatoid arthritis, in this first article we will concentrate on OSTEO problems. Simple question for yourself . . . “Do I have osteoarthritis if I have joint stiffness and pain”? Read on. Osteoarthritis is the most common form of arthritis, affecting 12.4 million adults age 65 and older in the U.S. As we age, the protective cartilage, lining, and ligaments in our joints wears down. The breakdown of tissue and lining often causes joint pain and sometimes leads to the inability to walk or move. Although osteoarthritis can affect any joint in the body, the most commonly affected areas are the hands, knees, hips and spine. Factors such as age, obesity, gender and genetics contribute to osteoarthritis, and women are more likely to develop the condition.

ADVOCATES (Continued)

Osteoarthritis symptoms can develop and worsen over time. Stiffness swelling, tenderness, loss of range of motion, and pain are among the more common symptoms. Schedule an appointment with your doctor as soon as possible if you experience these symptoms. Treatment of osteoarthritis is PATIENT-DEPENDENT. Doctors will consider your mainstay treatment options, including medications, physical therapy, complementary supplements and surgery. Your doctor will look at the causes and contributing factors to determine the best treatment plan for you. Physical therapy and anti-inflammatory and pain medications when indicated CAN help ease joint

stiffness, inflammation and pain. Surgery options such as joint replacement, resurfacing, and revision are among the last options to remedy the symptoms. Though there is no cure for osteoarthritis, staying active and maintaining a healthy weight may slow the progression of the disease, lessen the pain and improve joint function, but the key is in recognizing the first symptoms and getting to your doctor as soon and as young as possible. There will be more on these "elder-age pains" in future articles. Information for this article came from a Dr. Jeff Olson, D.O. at Mercy Primary care, Nazareth Hospital.

TAPS

Serving a National Coordinator for the State Coordinator Program is a job I do not relish, but it is an honorable one. I attempt to alert State Coordinators to assist the families of our fallen, when the service in their respective states.

Many times notice is received with a short time frame to fully notify our membership and in those cases I usually place a notice in the 75th RRA website, the World Wide Ranger Website and the US Army Ranger Association website. A call is made for members to attend services for the fallen if they are able. Many times a Family will request the "Once an Eagle" Ceremony to be performed, in which case a call for volunteers is made, and being the men that you are, there is never a shortage of positive responses. We have said good bye to a number of great soldiers this past year, three of which I'll identify.

I have been remiss in updating the State Coordinator Roster, but will rectify that, so if you have an interest in being a Coordinator for your State, please let me know. There have been cases where the service attendance would be small if not for the State Coordinator's assistance.

OLDEST MARAUDER

The oldest original Merrill's Marauder, John M. Jones III, died at age 101 Tuesday, July 26, 2016 in Greenville, Tennessee. His widow is also 101. What an amazing journey they have had. Please read the following: www.greenevillesun.com/news/local_news/merrill-s-marauders-official-says-jones-is-unit-s-oldest/article_5df1183e-2c5f-5951-bbb9-0381f30cf1e2.htm

Never shall we leave a Comrade on the field, and never should a Comrade's passing go unattended. Being a State Coordinator is a sacred and honorable duty and one worthy of your time.

Marshall Huckaby, National Coordinator
25th ID LRRP, 1966-1967



William "Bill" Brantley -
25th ID LRRP, 1966



Robert "Bobby" DeYoung -
F Company, 75th Inf (Rgr)



Daniel J. DeMara -
101st LRRPs

FEATURE ARTICLES

Beating P.T.S.D.

By Dennis Hagan

When I flew out of Bien Hoa for the last time I had mixed emotions. I was grateful to be getting out of there in one piece, although somehow I knew I hadn't. It didn't help that I had little faith in the Vietnamization program. I was barely twenty-one and a civilian again. The most important job I would ever have in my life was over. It was sobering. Having spent the previous two years as an R.T.O. in three different L.R.P./Ranger units was an impossible act to follow.

On that long flight home I weighed my options. I was single and had amassed over seven thousand dollars while in country. In March 1970 that was a good chunk of change. By the time I got to San Francisco I had a plan. I would buy that new Harley I wanted but couldn't afford back in high school. I would become a "freewheeler" in southern California. A few L.R.P./Ranger buddies lived in that area. I would look them up in the world. On day two of civilian life I walked into a Harley shop with a pocket full of hundred dollar bills. I picked out the bike I wanted and rode it out the back door.

The first order was to "chop" the bike to my specifications. After researching and designing I took it to a custom shop in Long Beach. One week later it was a beautiful chopped Sportster. I bummed around L.A. a few weeks waiting for Rusty Hawk to come home on leave. He was with November Company 75th at that time. We had talked about riding up and down the Pacific Coast Highway on new Harleys while in the jungle.

One afternoon out of nowhere Rusty came riding up on his new Harley where I was staying in L.A. We took off to his hometown of San Diego. We bummed around southern California for most of his thirty-day leave. For fun Rusty and I would round up two or three other Nam



vet bikers and ride over to B a l b o a park to raid the hippies a n d protesters who were h a v i n g



their "love ins". We would ride right through them causing them to scatter. Then we would perform the "quick throttle maneuver" to make the back tire spin and throw dirt and grass on them. We wore our Nam vet colors and although outnumbered no one ever dared to challenge us. It was a lot of fun and gave me much satisfaction.

When it was time for Rusty to head back to Nam I had mixed emotions again. In a way I wanted to go back with him, but knew my time there was over. He told me the Divisional Ranger units were not comparable to the "Field Force" units we were in together.

After Rusty went back to Nam I rode back to L.A. and started looking up other guys I had served with. I found Steve Johnson who was my team leader for three missions. He had treated me to a steak dinner at the Continental Palace in Saigon the day after I made E-5. I put him on the back of my bike and we rode over to Hollywood and partied up into the night. I was only able to find one other Ranger in the southern California area that I had served with. Rusty came back to San Diego after his six month extension and we bummed around for a few weeks until he took a job.

After two years of living the biker dream I realized it couldn't go on forever. I was finally ready to re-enter society. I took a career job, got married, and had three kids. I have been married 43 years and am now retired.

I am certain those two years on the Harley enabled me to re-adjust to civil society, while giving me a degree of adventure to replace the lost adventure of Vietnam. Nothing will ever come close to topping Vietnam. It was the greatest adventure a young man could ever dream for. I still think about it every day, but have been able to put it into proper perspective. I wouldn't change a thing, even if I could.

FEATURE ARTICLES (Continued)

Torching The Place

By Dennis Hagan



Before going to Vietnam I remember an iconic A.P. photo of a Marine lighting the overhang of a thatch hut with his Zippo lighter. That photo was on the front page of every newspaper in America and it caused the war protesters to go crazy. I had always carried a Zippo and thought "I'd like to do that". I didn't think I would ever get the chance.

In January of 1970 I was on patrol carrying the radio for the C.O. of Co. D (Ranger) 75th INF (ABN). It was day three of the mission and we were moving deeper into the jungle. The point man signaled something ahead and we proceeded with caution. It was an abandoned VC base camp. It was obvious the enemy had been there recently. The campsite consisted of a few thatch huts and some underground bunkers. The Major had me get on the radio and call in the ready reaction force to secure a perimeter and help destroy the place. We ordered explosives to blow the bunkers and diesel fuel to torch the huts. That is when I remembered the picture of that Marine and I got excited. As soon as they set those five gallon cans down I grabbed one and headed to the nearest hut. I already had trip flares. After sloshing it down I pulled out my Zippo and asked if anyone had a camera handy. I wanted to duplicate that famous picture before popping the first trip flare. No camera was available, damn it.

We burned those thatch huts to the ground and completely destroyed the bunkers. As we rode out of there on Hueys I smelled like a truck stop, but had a grin from ear to ear. Another thing checked off the bucket list.

Giving Back

By Marshall Huckaby

Many of you are involved in helping your fellow Veterans, doing community work, and paying honor to our Fallen Comrades. So the 75th RRA would like to recognize your efforts and perhaps encourage other 75th RRA members to become more involved. So if you are a Patriot Guard Rider, VA Volunteer, assist with memorial services, or perhaps do something to assist our young soldiers, please make it known.

An Example: On Saturday November 7th, 2015, 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment veterans held their Annual Ranger Events which included a fund raising golf tournament. A different Veteran/Soldier Support Organization benefits from the tournament each year. Many 75th RRA members support the event by participating in the tournament, but some of the more "Golf Challenged" members assist in other ways.

The Events Cooking Team shown below are: Terry Brooks (Old Scroll Ranger), Scott Fiorenzo (Old Scroll Ranger), Bob Deale (Vietnam Ranger/SF, USARA), Steve Murphy (Vietnam Ranger, Old Scroll Ranger), Sam Wright (25th ID LRRPs), Marshall Huckaby (25th ID LRRPs) and Joshua Allen Montgomery (1st Ranger Bn, 75th Ranger Regiment).



The Events Cook Team prepared Spare Ribs, Corn, potatoes, Chili, Wurst, Boudin, Hot Dogs, German Red Cabbage, Cole Slaw, and condiments for Tournament participants, thus saving Catering funds, which went back into the Fundraiser Totals.

So, let us share your stories of **Giving Back!**

FEATURE ARTICLES (Continued)

What a Veteran means to me



Grant McGarry, Director of The Darby Project gave these remarks at Georgia Power, A Southern Company on Veterans Day 2015. Grant served as a Team Leader in Second Platoon, Charlie Company, First Ranger Battalion, Seventy-Fifth Ranger Regiment. He is a recipient of the Bronze Star medal with V device.

What a veteran means to me: A few of the adjectives that stick out to me when I think about a veteran are:

Unique • Dependable • Innovative • Loyal

And the more I think about what a veteran is the more apparent it is that all veterans are cut from the same cloth. What defines a veteran starts at a young age, way before they join the military. A veteran is born with the desire to be the best they can be at anything they do. When I was young playing in BB gun wars against neighborhood friends, I was a veteran. I didn't know it yet, but when I was captain of my high school football team in the Georgia state playoffs, I was a veteran. And when I was a senior in high school on 9/11 when I watched the twin towers fall in my 2nd period Criminal Justice class. It impacted me and I was compelled to do something about it. So I went home that day and told my mom I was joining the military.

She gave me a look that said she was somewhat okay with my decision but asked that I go to college first. She followed up by saying, "After college you can do whatever you want." Unlike most of the decisions I made in my youth I actually listened to my mom and went to college. A few years later I was in my senior year at the University of Alabama when I realized that I was not happy and something was missing in my life.

As I was preparing to graduate and start a new chapter in my life with a business degree it became obvious to me that I had reached an interesting place in my life. I found myself in a situation that I didn't want to be in. As I started to process this information I had an outer body experience and I finally realized I was not living my own life. Immediately I took action and started to plan my next move. I didn't seek advice from anyone because I wanted take charge of my own destiny.

I had always thought about joining the military and knew I would be a great fit so I went about this thought quietly. I was very intrigued and inspired by Pat Tillman's story and coincidentally I knew of a guy attending Alabama who was also an Army Ranger. As I continued to think about joining the military I reached out to him with questions. I quickly noticed there was something about him that I envied. It was the way he stood and his self-confidence.

A few days later after staying up late studying for a Finance test I woke up early to get coffee on my way to the test. The coffee shop was called Bad Ass Coffee. As I waited for my order I watched the news and saw a quick shot of some action in Iraq with bombs and gun fire going on in an Iraqi city I'd never heard of. As I thought to myself about the military a feeling came over me that moved me. I realized I hadn't done anything for my country and that it was time to do what I wanted to do. With this feeling of freedom I decided right then and there that I was joining the military. I left the coffee shop and went to class and took my test and with the war in Iraq still on my mind I drove to the Army recruiting station and walked in and asked the recruiter for the hardest thing he's got. He said, "I have an Army Ranger contract or an SF contract". I said, "What's the difference"? He said, "If you want to be hardcore be an Army Ranger". I said, "Great! Sign me up".

The recruiter said, "Right now". I said, "Yea before I change my mind". Must have been that Bad Ass Coffee.

After starting the process to enlist in the Army I drove home and it felt as though a thousand pounds had been lifted off of my shoulders. I was finally doing what I wanted to do and it felt great. Before going home I stopped at a bookstore and bought a book called "To be an Army Ranger".

I went home and read the entire book that night. The next morning I woke up threw all my books in my back pack and ran to class. When I ran into friends they asked why I would do such a thing; especially right before I graduate. Some were saying don't do it and others were not surprised. Their comments were just noise to me. I didn't care what anyone had to say. I had a goal and it was to become an Army Ranger.

Despite my friends and family telling me not to join the military because it was dangerous and scary, I joined anyways. I didn't know it yet, but I was a veteran.

FEATURE ARTICLES (Continued)



The uncertainty of what might happen to a soldier, sailor, airmen, marine or coast guardian is definitely scary but a veteran does it anyways, and that is what is so unique about a veteran. The veteran understands

the true meaning of service and sacrifice. When an American veteran raises their hand to defend this country they unknowingly forfeit a life of freedom.

Even when the veteran is no longer in uniform he or she is dependable. Veterans will always stand on the wall to make sure our great nation has the ability to sustain a prosperous future for our grandchildren's grandchildren. Veterans not only defend but they innovate businesses and technologies for the advancement of life liberty and the pursuit of happiness. The veteran will always be loyal and will they will innovate new ways to serve their community because it is a part of their DNA.

The heroism that has been demonstrated by veterans from the American Revolution to the Global War on Terrorism is sometimes unnoticed by those of us who enjoy the security that their sacrifice has provided. This is not necessarily a bad thing. To me this could be a result of accomplishing the mission but what is even more interesting is this does not upset the veteran. The veteran understands that they were a part of a greater cause, to defend this country against all enemies foreign and domestic. Veterans do not like handouts. They have earned the right to be called a veteran. The most unique characteristic about a veteran is their commitment to loyalty, patriotism, and honor for their country. Veterans are unique people that walk with a sense of pride but like everyone else they just want to have an opportunity to live the American dream that they fought so hard to defend.

Veterans have defended our country in peacetimes and war times and provided us freedom through hard work. Which is why America is the greatest nation on earth. We must remember them. We must appreciate them. God bless our veterans and God bless America.

Thank you, Grant McGarry, Director, The Darby Project
(The Darby Project connects transitioning Rangers with Ranger veterans in their local community. For more information visit www.darbyproject.org)

Early Vietnam Adviser fine-tuned combat success

By Fred L. Borch and Robert F. Dorr

Just as soldiers serve today as military advisers in Afghan and Iraqi units, thousands of officers and noncommissioned officers advised the South Vietnamese Army during the war in Southeast Asia. One early advisor was Christopher Joseph O'Sullivan, who worked alongside South Vietnamese Soldiers from October 1964 to May 1965, and gave his life in the fight against the insurgents.

Born in New York City in 1936, O'Sullivan graduated from Fordham University in 1958. He was a distinguished military graduate in the school's Reserve Officer Training Corps program. Classmate Joe Hilly, 72, of Los Angeles, California, said in an interview that O'Sullivan was "always very military and always spit and polish; ... he was a natural soldier."

After being commissioned O'Sullivan entered on extended active duty and completed the Infantry Officer Basic Course, and Airborne and Ranger training at Fort Benning, Ga. He then served in New Jersey and Hawaii before reporting to Fort Bragg, N.C., in 1964 for a six-week counterinsurgency course at the Army's Special Warfare School.

O'Sullivan, then a Captain, arrived in South Vietnam in September 1964. At that time, the Army of the Republic of Vietnam had 250,000 men. There were 23,000 American advisers. O'Sullivan was assigned to the U. S Army Military Assistance Command, with duty as an adviser to the South Vietnamese 39th Ranger Battalion.

On April 19, 1965, O'Sullivan and his South Vietnamese unit were on a search and destroy operation. During that mission the Rangers, as the lead element of a northern force, moved west on one axis while a

FEATURE ARTICLES (Continued)

Battalion of South Vietnamese Marines and armored personnel carriers, which composed the southern force, moved west on another axis.

At about 5 p.m., the Marine battalion was attacked by a strong Viet Cong Force and withdrew toward O'Sullivan and the 39th Ranger Battalion. When the retreating marines reached O'Sullivan and the 39th Ranger Battalion, O'Sullivan, realizing the importance of command control, attempted to stop the withdrawing troops and establish a defensive line to hold back the attacking insurgents. Because of the withering fire from the Viet Cong, however, his attempt proved futile and all the friendly forces withdrew to another defensive position about 400 meters to the rear of the first line. But O'Sullivan finally succeeded in establishing a hasty defense and then, with complete disregard for personal safety, continuously exposed himself to hostile fire and moved from one position to another to bring effective fire on the advancing Viet Cong.

According to an official document, O'Sullivan personally killed 15 Viet Cong and, as a result of "dynamic leadership and heroic actions," 75 friendly troops that had been pinned down and trapped by the enemy were rescued. For his gallantry under fire that day, O'Sullivan was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, second only to the Medal of Honor.

About six weeks later O'Sullivan was in the 39th Ranger Battalion command post when it came under intense enemy mortar and small-arms fire. He immediately called for supporting aircraft and then directed airstrikes against the Viet Cong.

While operating his radio in the midst of the raging battle, O'Sullivan was mortally wounded. For his action that day, he was posthumously awarded the Silver Star and the Purple Heart.

(This was originally printed in the Nov. 4, 2008 issue of Army Times and is being reprinted with the authors permission.)

My US Army march began on the evening of December 2, 1969. You might remember that was when the first draft lottery began. Yep. My birthday, September 14th, was selected as No. 1. So, as I tell folks, I've won the lottery. When they asked how much I got I tell them an all expense paid trip halfway around the world with meals, lodging, and clothes as included. Uncle Sam

didn't waste time and I got my "Greetings" within a couple of weeks I was off to Ft. Ord on January 21, 1970. Foggy, cold, drill sergeants. Probably much like everyone else's experience. Except I somehow was appointed trainee platoon sergeant and lasted the cycle. I graduated as the "Outstanding Trainee" and was promoted to E2. Yeah! Down "the Hill" to infantry AIT. Orders to Germany at the end. Oops. Mistake. 4 days later changed to Vietnam. Don't you love the Army? Had to call the folks back with the new news. Made PFC out of AIT. But then everyone was promoted to PFC as soon as you hit Country. What was up with that? Arrived in country in the middle of June at Long Binh and then off via C-130 to Chu Lai and the Americal Combat Center. HOT and miserable!

During all of the orientations two guys from the Ranger company came to recruit. I remember one was Sgt. Windell. Most of us kicked back as joining the Rangers was probably not a good idea. But then they said they'd only lost one KIA in the last year and that there was additional training prior to going on missions. And it was all volunteers so if you wanted out you could get out. Jim Norris, Ed "Greg" Mathern, and I decided to check it out. We had all gone through Basic and AIT together. Jim Norris had been one of my trainee squad leaders in Basic. Of course, we had to pass muster with Top Williams. All I remember him saying was, "So you want to be Rangers?" In that intimidating way he had about him. Needless to say we were sufficiently intimidated. But we stuck it out. Our Recondo class started with about 25. We graduated 12 and 11 of us joined the company. SSG Quillette, the senior TAC, kept us very focused. Sgts. Tom Hardy and John Sausville were very good. We thought they knew their stuff. And then the other TAC was SSG Danny Jacks, "the Living Legend." Don't think I need to say anything more. Really though, they were a great group and we got a very good course of study and preparation for the company.



I remember I had the dubious distinction of being "Head Puke" for a day as most of us did. The worst part about being Head Puke was when you ran (like everywhere).

Since you had to carry your sandbag and weapon and equipment your hands were

FEATURE ARTICLES (Continued)

busy. That damn board would bounce up and clobber you in the face. I was glad to pass it on. One hot day it was decided that there would be races from the PT stand to the VC log and back. The winner would get an ice cold soda and sit on the hooch steps. I figured I wasn't going to be able to win the first race but if I held back and went all out the 2nd race I could win. Worked to perfection...except someone caught me at the last second and we tied. No ties! Had to run again and, of course, I was spent so never got close and never got that cold soda. Bummer. We never had a formal "third phase" recon mission or a formal graduation ceremony. Much of the Americal Division deployed to the old Special Forces Camp at Kham Duc out near the Laotian border and the Ranger company went, too. It was decided, however, that 6 guys would go to MACV Recondo School and the other 6 of us would go to Kham Duc. It would be the last time I saw Greg Mathern. He went with the first group to MACV. He was killed soon after returning and was our only direct action KIA that year. So my first mission was a walk off the perimeter. When I got back I spent about an hour at the medic station having them pick little tiny stickers out of my hands. The first letter to my Dad was a request of some black golf gloves which he promptly sent. Thanks, Dad. We were out at Kham Duc for a week or so I think and then came back to Chu Lai. I was assigned to Team Arkansas with SSG Tom Riley as the TL. When I walked in the hooch I was greeted by one of the guys throwing the M60 machine gun at me. I was a big guy so I got "the Pig." It was mine for the rest of the time I was operational.



But I liked it because I carried upwards of 500 rounds and everyone else carried at least a 100 round box for me. When I wasn't carrying the Pig I usually humped one of the radios. Soon, the rest of us 6 were sent to MACV

Recondo School in Nha Trang. I have to say that they served the best food I ever ate while I was in the Army. It was a gentlemen's course compared to the Americal Recondo School. The highlight was the morning I

beat the Koreans on the last morning run. I was told that nobody ever beat the Koreans. The Koreans all gathered around and congratulated me. I was "Numma Won" that day. Many missions and many stories to be only



told at reunions. I'll tell one. Our Platoon Leader, Lt. Epting, went on a heavy mission with us one time. We got extended three days and were running out of food and water. Fortunately it rained. We were stuck on a hill overlooking a village checking for sampans in a river at night. One day it was Epting's birthday so someone put a matchstick in a pound cake and we all whispered "Happy Birthday." Pretty cool. My hoochmate for most of the time was Steve Deever. He and I got along very well as we grew up a couple of miles from each other in Southern California. He in Bloomington and I in Pomona. We are still good friends to this day and get together to check out the local brew pubs in and around Norco, Calif.

I left the company before my scheduled DEROS as my mother fell ill with cancer and my folks requested a reassignment through the Red Cross. She passed away soon after I returned so I'm grateful to have had the last few weeks with her. I was sent to Ft. Ord. I thought I'd be assigned to Patrolling Committee or someplace where my skills might be valuable. Right! I was assigned as Roster Guide at Reception Center. What an easy job! Met some cool folks, though, and joined the Ft. Ord Parachute Club. Made quite a few jumps and had a lot of fun. So I feel better about the "Airborne" part of Airborne Ranger even though I didn't go to Jump School and never wore jump wings. Made Sgt - E5. Of course, typical Army. They decided they didn't want me anymore and I was discharged four months early. The Army was downsizing and letting many guys go early.

Got back to So. Cal and started college again. Eventually I graduated from UC Riverside with a teaching credential. Met my wife, Pam, in student teacher class and we've been married 38+ years

FEATURE ARTICLES (Continued)

now. I taught for 20 years and then was a school administrator for 14 years before retiring in 2009. I was a little more focused this time around but I still had the itch. The California Army National Guard came knocking in 1973 and talked me into going to the California Military Academy OCS. I signed up under the "Try One" program and retired 22 years later. After graduating in 1974 as the Distinguished Graduate (OCS was a piece of cake after Americal Recondo School) I served with the 40th Infantry Division (Mechanized), and Battalion XO, as a platoon leader, scout platoon leader, company XO and Commander, Battalion, Brigade, and Division Intell Officer, and Battalion XO. I was the Acting G1 of the Division at the LA Riots. And I taught at the OCS for

11 years on the tactical committee. This time I was in charge of the patrolling training. I currently serve as a volunteer admissions officer for West Point. All in all, I have to say that my Ranger time has served me well. Many of the lessons learned and the Ranger way stayed with me and became the way I've operated. Professionalism, meticulous planning, staying focused in the face of adversity, are all valuable traits to have in any profession. The Standing Orders for Roger's Rangers are still the best. No. 1 - "Don't forget nothing!" I will always value my time with G Company and the guys I served with.

George "Dwight" Merkel AKA - "Merk" Codename: "Lightning"

Co. P 75th Rangers

by Dick Moyer

I recently viewed the video I had purchased in Nashville back in 2012. The video showcased P Company 75th Rangers. I had placed it in the loose leaf binder that I had been filling over the years. Every time I added something to the binder, I would tell myself I needed to take the time and view it. Finally, I watched the video with some special friends. While watching the video I was reminded how difficult and dangerous it was to pull missions in the "Catchers Mitt" (the area we operated in as F Company 51st Long Range Patrol). How could anyplace else be any worse?! I would soon find out. The DMZ would be our new area that we would be pulling missions in as P Company 75th Rangers.

Upon arriving in Quang Tri Province, we were driven to our new home in the back of four 2 ½ ton trucks. As we were en route, we passed through a village also named Quang Tri, the villagers all came out yelling welcome to P Company Rangers, this was a little strange because we were told not to talk or write to anyone telling where we were going.

We spent the rest of that day and the next settling into our new "home". Early morning of the third day we were going to meet the commander of the Fifth Mechanized unit, the unit we were now assigned to.

His name was General Gibson. I don't remember how many stars were on his collar, but I'm pretty sure he went out and bought his next star as soon as he was notified he would be getting his own Ranger unit. In good airborne fashion, we double timed to his headquarters. As General Gibson welcomed us to his unit he had a gleam in his eyes as he said, "Welcome P Company 75th Rangers – Merrill's Marauders."

A day or two later, myself and another team leader were able to get a quick ride on a slick to get a glimpse at some of our area that we would be pulling missions in. We maintained high altitude because of the potential of ground fire. I remember the sight; the DMZ was nothing but crater upon crater upon crater for as far as you could see not much vegetation, no triple canopy. The missions would not only be in the DMZ, but northern fringe areas. That ride would be my last time on a slick. There were no choppers for insertion or extractions. The options were walk in, ride in a jeep or a 2 ½ ton trucks, or ride on backs of tanks and half-tracks. In my mind's eye was the image my father told me about tanks. My father was a medic in World War II. His first taste of war was the horrific battles of North Africa, tanks were rolling tin coffins. I didn't want to be within 100 miles of a tank and here I am with my team, wearing camo and painted faces, on the back of a tank. Of course no one noticed us slide off and slip into whatever cover there was. In two or three hours, the mechanized unit would move out back to a more secure area.

FEATURE ARTICLES (Continued)

The good news is that P Company did get slicks after I left Vietnam. In order for us to be the most effective, we needed the slick for stealth insertions and quick extractions.

We were assigned to the 1st Brigade, 5th Mechanized Infantry, but also collected intelligence for the 3rd Marine Division. The operations of both units were not always well coordinated as we would soon find out! Just for a size comparison, any given time P Company, had a max of 7 teams compared to the 28 teams that F Company was authorized to have. We were small in number but charged with a major task. There was a high level of anxiety and frustration because they had no clue what we were about, what we did, or how we did it.

It's now late March 1969 and in about 2 ½ months I would be leaving Vietnam. I requested an R&R to go to Australia since I probably would never be back in this part of the world. To my surprise a day or 2 later my request was approved and I was told to pack my bag for my R&R, the only catch was that they wanted me to seriously consider extending my tour.

I had a great time in Australia and was thinking maybe I would extend (mainly because I thought I might be able to get another R&R back in Australia). That thought quickly evaporated when I was picked up from my R&R. I don't remember who the driver was, but on the way back to the company area he wanted to show me something. We drove to a nearby river and there were some of the guys from P Company, paddling around in rubber rafts. The driver quickly realized by the look on my face that he needed to explain what was going on. He told me that the day before they had gone out and practiced using 90mm recoil-less rifles. They were training for a mission where they would float down the river at night with the 90mm's and take out some NVA tanks. We probably would be able to succeed, but my question was how would we be extracted? The sound of silence was deafening!!

I left Vietnam in late May 1969; I never had such mixed emotions. So happy to be leaving yet having a hollow burn in my stomach, leaving my little brothers in such a hell hole!

It would be 20 years before I would find out anything, or had any contact with the men I served with. One day my phone rang while I was at work. It was Dave Barfield; he said he was planning a reunion of our little core that had gone north. Dave asked me if I would be interested and I said, "Hell yes!! I will be there." That was when I learned that SSGT Carter had been killed about 2 months after I had left the country. When P Company moved farther west they named the new camp after SSGT Carter.

Two years later Speedy Gonzales put together a reunion in Austin, TX that was 1991. It was there that I had a chance to set down with First Sergeant Butts. He said, "Sit down Private Moyer." He never forgot the lousy haircut I gave him. He went on to tell me one of the hardest decisions he had to make while in the service was dividing up the company. He said he didn't think any of us sent north would survive. He was quite happy that most of his "little bastards" did indeed make it out of there.

I served with F Company 51st for 9 months and P Company 75th for 4 months. It is with great pride that I had the honor and privilege of serving with these elite units. Such good men.

I will close for I may have already written too much. Happy trails to you all until we meet again.

UNIT REPORTS



1ST BN, 75TH RANGER REGT

Unit Director - Steve Cochran



Steve Cochran

In June I attended the Ranger Rendezvous and Ranger Hall of Fame Ceremony. Roger and Linda Brown hosted their great picnic at their place out in Ellerslie, GA. The rain did NOT put a damper on the party. Thank you Roger and Linda.

Attended Ranger Ball in July. Ranger Punch was quickly consumed. Ranger Punch Ceremony was outstanding as always. Several Gold Star family members were in attendance. It is important that our Gold Star families know their loved ones will never be forgotten. You are part of our family. Several supporters from the local community were recognized for their support and dedication to the 1st Ranger Battalion.

Congratulations to CSM (R) Jeff Mellinger; presented the Doughboy Award in September; at Fort Benning. Each year; one enlisted, one officer and one civilian is presented this award. Each recipient is nominated and voted on by a committee and previous Doughboy Award recipients. It is one of the most prestigious awards an Infantryman can receive.

Sad to report we lost another original 1974 Ranger. Sergeant Efrain DeJesus (DJ) passed away on 8 September after a valiant fight against MS. Steve Murphy, Joe Caliguire and I attended the memorial service and internment.

Sua Sponte Foundation packed goody bags in October to be sent to deployed 1st Battalion Rangers. The SSF did this last year; and the bags were well received by "the boys". Plenty of Copenhagen and snacks were included. The items were donated by Ranger supporters. Thank you Sua Sponte Foundation.

On 22 October, Sergeant Ralph L. Williams Jr., who served in 1st Battalion in the 1980s, passed away.



November 7th will be the 4th Annual Ranger Appreciation Golf Tournament at the Westin Savannah Golf Resort. There will be a building dedication on 16 November at Fort Stewart, GA; to honor CSM (R) Bob Gallagher, a One of a Kind soldier and leader. He is missed by the entire Ranger Community and throughout the Army.

Congratulations to Shelia; 1st Ranger Battalion "do it all" person; awarded the Charles E. Pimble SODAC Lifetime Achievement Award, to be honored at the 2nd annual SODAC Award Ceremony on 3 December 2015, at Fort Bragg.

Ranger breakfasts being held everywhere. There is a Ranger Breakfast page on Facebook. Look it up; most of the breakfasts are posted monthly. They grow monthly and it is always a nice surprise to see new faces.

A big shout out to Mike Waldron, Roger Beck and "The Old Scroll Shop" for posting appropriate notices on the anniversary of each of 1st Battalion's fallen heroes. Another way for our Gold Star family members to know their loved ones are not forgotten! Thanks Mike and Roger!

The General Darby Legacy Project will have the General Darby Monument dedicated on 30 April 2016, at Cisterna Park, Fort Smith, Arkansas. There is a Facebook page dedicated to this.

Kevin Barry's Lounge on River Street just celebrated its 35th Anniversary on 1 November. In attendance; among others; was Bill (Doc) Donovan. Vic has always been a number one supporter of 1st Ranger Battalion.

Alejandro Villanueva (former 1st Battalion Ranger) now playing for Pittsburgh Steelers. Villanueva played football at United States Military Academy where he was a tight end, defensive end, offensive tackle and wide receiver. Worth mentioning: as a "wideout" he was listed at 6-9, 290 pounds. After college, Villanueva served three deployments in Afghanistan where he

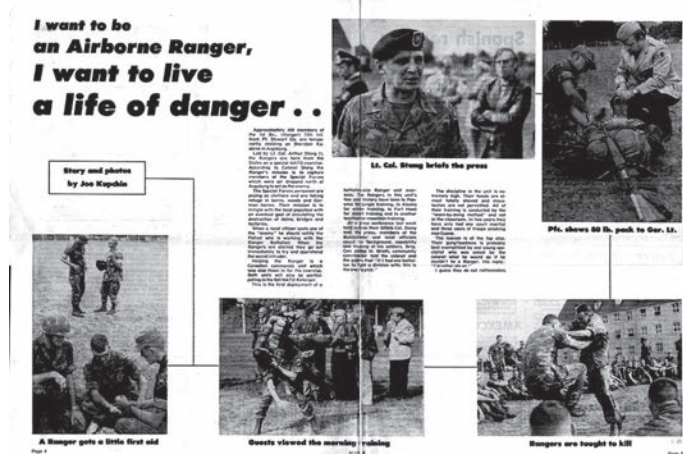
1ST BN, 75TH RANGER REGT (Continued)

was awarded a Bronze Star for rescuing wounded soldiers while facing enemy fire.

I have attached two newspaper articles from the "Early Days". Ranger 1 was presented to 1st Battalion from the Ranger Battalions of World War II. Ranger 1 will be remembered as the "Prize" to the losing company of Banner Day. Rangers fought hard on Banner Day to

keep from being the losing company. Many unaware Rangers found out that Ranger 1 was not only a pack mule; he knew Kung Fu. OUCH!

Until the next time; keep your head down, your hatchet sharp, your powder dry; and see you on the High Ground.



2ND BN, 75TH RANGER REGT

Unit Director - Kevin Ingraham

Rangers, pull up a rock and get comfy. Just a short update this quarter. First, you might have noticed the lack of an update last issue. Bottom line is, I just decided to take a break for an issue — I've happily been doing this since '07 so I decided to award myself one skipped deadline after one busy summer. On the upside, the new paint on the house is looking good.

Since war dogs became a regimental asset; fourteen dogs have been KIA. While tragic in itself, their sacrifice translates to many more rangers staying alive to unbalance the score in our favor.

Sick & Injured, Our Community Response To:

As a group, we usually take great care of our brothers when in distress. When I get the word from one of you, I'm usually quick to get the word out via my commo links to other 2/75 brothers and/or through



the Association about the situation, whether it's representation at a funeral or a hospitalized brother or just someone needing local knowledge. While in general this is a good thing, some things have come up that are worthy of consideration when we react to these situations.

Earlier this year, an active duty 2nd Batt Ranger was broadsided on his motorcycle, leaving him paralyzed. I notified my 2/75 circles and asked the authority figures over at Battalion for a sitrep and how we could help. Rangers from several generations stepped right up and provided support ranging from visits with brownies for the family or for links to ranger and biker-friendly attorneys. Now, this is well and good, but what of down the road? When these things happen, we step up and the hospital room is swarmed with considered brothers and the family is overwhelmed by the outpouring of support. But what happens is that they slide off

2ND BN, 75TH RANGER REGT (Continued)

of our screen and after a while...crickets. In many cases, the families of our rangers (I'm speaking of family beyond wives, especially the parents of the younger first-term rangers) have no familiarity or experience with the military, much less our little corner of the machine. The parents and siblings can be overwhelmed enough by the tragedy. They sit bedside with their loved one, trying to keep commo open with the medical staff, trying as well to figure out the parade of comrades from his platoon and leaders from battalion. They seldom have a clue of what they are going to need, especially in the long run, and it can be disconcerting to the family to see such strong response from the unit and brotherhood and disconcerting again when the battalion heads back to war and we return to our lives. I'm not sure what to say beyond this, but this perspective was spelled out for me by a ranking leader at Battalion who'd seen it many times before. I suppose I just want to get some other mental wheels spinning.

A few weeks ago, a former member of B Co, Josh Wheeler, was killed in action in Syria while assigned to a SMU. Once word got out that he was one of ours, social media lit up with RFIs for funeral info, welfare donations etc. etc. Not good. When it comes to those still serving, we need to restrain ourselves on open media like Facebook and maintain overwatch until the ranger's employers inform us about whatever arrangements they & the family wants us to know. MSG Wheeler's current unit and world events makes his and his family's PERSEC especially important. It seems that family and funeral details were shared to big media — I don't need to spell it out any further. I was as guilty as anyone in rushing to let the rest of us know the news. His COC had to damp down a lot of fires as a result of postings all over FB and news outlets. "Backchannel" commo is one thing, but we need to watch it on FB and other crowded spaces.

I'm interested in your thoughts on the issues.

Beware of scammers — there were at least two suspect "gofundme" accounts allegedly seeking donations for Josh's family. Patience, Rangers—vett any info first or await word from the "powers that be."

Other Stuff: While the wars have mutated and have wound down some for the rest of DoD, the Ranger Regiment maintains a high deployment tempo. The battalion's deployments continue but the where & how is evolving. After a decade of focusing on the wars, Regiment is returning to the joint exercise rotation. Last September-October, companies normally at home station participated in a joint/combined airborne rapid-reaction NATO drill involving airborne and commando units from at least nine nations, with missions ranging from airfield seizures to DA raids alongside allied paratroopers at locations ranging from Italy to Estonia. Looks like rangers are earning foreign jump wings again. Regiment will now be attending NTC rotations; after building working relationships with conventional units in shared battlespace over the years, the intent is to maintain our ability to "continue to coordinate conventional force operations coordination." Or to rephrase in English, so we can continue to play well with Big Army. That's how life in Battalion looks now, for months it resembles what 1980s & '90s rangers experienced with the continuing motivation provided by deployments to "pop up-shoot back" ranges back in the familiar sandboxes.

Who put that damned bear on the roof of B Co's barracks in 1976?

Help! Please submit something for Patrolling, be it a feature article or a tidbit for me to report or better, write up an article yourself—news, war story from the wars or RTA or downtown (provided the statute of limitations has expired)—if you don't like to write, do it anyway, I'll translate it into something readable. That's how I serve, to be the interface between Battalion and all of you. Have anything to pass back up to the CoC? Drop me a line—my POCs are on the inside front cover and on the website.

With many thanks to those of you who submit updates, to the CoC at battalion who keep us up to date and host us so well; and especially to 2d Batt alumni who live in the Pac Northwest who keep in touch with our serving brothers and who backstop them with their time and treasure in person.

Respectfully submitted,
Rangers Lead the Way!



3RD BN, 75TH RANGER REGT

Unit Director - Scott Billingslea



Rangers,

My name is Scott Billingslea and I have volunteered to fill the vacancy for the 3rd Ranger Battalion Unit Director. I have

Scott Billingslea volunteered with the Association on three previous occasions, twice as the UD for 3/75 and once as the 2nd Vice President. In addition to having some experience in this role, I also have the benefit of living near Fort Benning, which is very convenient in helping to represent the Association.

I had the distinct honor of serving in 3/75 from 1991-1995 and graduated Ranger School Class 10-93 (Straight Through!).



For a day job I work in Business Development and Sales for a small New England based company that works closely with Government Contractors and military organizations. One of the benefits of all the traveling I do is finding opportunities to linkup with Ranger buddies all over the Country.

In the next issue I will have a story about one of the early deployments from the GWOT as well as presenting an outstanding non-profit founded by 3/75 alumni called Three Rangers Foundation (makers of Three Rangers Whiskey).

I'm looking forward to taking on a more active role in the Association. My contact information is located on the RRA website; please don't hesitate to hit me up if I can be of service. RLTW



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

Unit Director - Rick Barela

Rangers of HQs 75th Ranger Regiment and the 75th Special Troop Battalion, I don't have a lot of current information to provide you on this edition, except for the input I have received from the PAO of the Regiment Maj. John Mayne. During a conversation we had that security is going to tighten up on things than can be sent to associations so our information loop will be less informative. What being stated it seems the Regiment is really in full mode again. Nothing unusual there concerning the op tempo, but looking at the news items over the last couple of weeks things may be picking up more over the next couple of months.

The latest copy of the Patrolling magazine is out and currently online. Take a look and get some insight on the things the Association is doing over the next couple of months. We have sent copies to each battalion and also the HQs and STB. If you can't find one go on line and read to your hearts content. The UD's from the Viet Nam era usually have some good stories. Remember this is your organization and the association is moving forward and you the rangers



of the 75th Ranger Regiment and the Special Troops Battalion are one of the building blocks to keep the association strong and moving forward into the future. The lineage of the 75th Ranger Regiment will never die as long as we continue to carry the torch forward.

On 15 September 2015 CSM Jeffrey Mellinger received the 2015 Doughboy Award at Fort Benning. The annual Doughboy Award recognizes Infantrymen for their outstanding contributions to the United States Army Infantry and is highest honor bestowed by the Chief of Infantry. The award is a symbolic chrome replica of the helmet worn by American Expeditionary Soldiers during World War I and the early days of World War II.

CSM Mellinger is a former 2/75 Ranger and also a former member of the original Ranger Reconnaissance Detachment (RDD). He was very instrumental in the establishment of standards that brought the RRD to the forefront on Ranger operations. Congratulations CSM Mellinger.

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

The holidays are upon us and we hope that each and every one of you can spend time with family and friends. Please remember those who still live in the barracks and can't get home for the holidays. Make sure they are covered. This is a hard time for a lot of us especially those who have now left active service as we think of those who have gone out of our lives but not our thoughts. This past week was Veterans

Day and we all want to thank you for your continued service in protecting this great nation of ours.

Remember all our fallen rangers and say a small prayer for their families. Those rangers who made the ultimate sacrifice and never came home to families – please remember them every day.

RANGERS LEAD THE WAY!!!

**A/75 - D/17 LRP - V CORPS LRRP**

Unit Director - Vacant

Before I joined the Army in 1972, my uncle told me to promise him two things. One, do not get in a tank. He had driven a tank up Omaha Beach a few years earlier. At 6'2" there was no danger in going Armored. Two, he said do not volunteer for anything. I wasn't drafted, so I volunteered for the Army. When I told him I had volunteered for the Airborne Rangers, he just shook his head. A few weeks ago, someone yelled out who wants a beer and I raised my hand. They said, we lied, no beer, just a new Unit Director.



So here I am, the new UD for A Co 75th, D/17 and V Corps LRRP. John Simmons has been the UD for the past few years and is having some health issues. When he gets back on his feet, I will gladly pass the baton back to him if he so desires.

Hopefully there will be some input from the rest of the group and they can delete my part. If not then you are stuck with my ramblings. If you have read some of the earlier postings, you might remember I joined the Army with Mark Ross and Rick 'Red' Herman. We all went to basic and on to A Co together. We were fortunate enough we all got to jump together at Camp Bullis before I went to Berlin and Mark went to Korea in August of 1974. Rick stayed and got in a few more jumps before closing out the company in December and going to Germany. Mark did three years, I did four and Red did 30 retiring as a SGM with the Rakkasans after a trip into Bora Bora in 2001. The worst part about leaving the Ranger Company, was that none of the three Indiana boys got their Ranger Tab. But we did live the life for two years under the Scroll and served with some of the finest NCO's and Officers the Army had ever put together.

A Co at that time was either Viet Nam vets or new guys like me right out of basic. My first formation, they were awarding medals to some that had finally caught up with them. If my memory is correct, an NCO got a Silver Star. There weren't a lot of tabbed Rangers at that time either. We had a lot of guys from SF. Duke Snyder was my platoon sergeant; he always had an Indian trick to teach us. Clyde Bayless and Alchin were his running buddies. Como platoon was led by another SF, SFC Keifer. He spent all week teaching us wave length propagation and antenna

design, and then walked over to a fence and with two alligator clips got Morse code commo with a friend of his in SF at Ft Bragg. Later I moved to 3rd platoon under the quiet guidance of Gary Carpenter, the first Regimental SGM. I don't ever remember him yelling, no matter how much we screwed up.

I served under three company commanders while there. Captain Clark who was later proved to be a fraud, but the FBI hired him anyway. Captain Doug Nolen took over from Clark and was the best CO in my four years in the Army. I have asked him to submit some stories of what it was like to keep a Ranger Company in check during non-combat time. He said he would try. He had good help with 1st Sgt Romo at his side. After Cpt. Nolen moved on we got Cpt. Ellis. After Cpt. Nolen, it probably would not have mattered to most of us who took over, but Cpt. Ellis didn't leave an impression on A Co. I have been told he went on to do great things at the Ranger Battalions and beyond.

During the summer of '74 they began to ask for volunteers to go help start up the new 1st Ranger Battalion. A lot went and had great success there and

A75 (Continued)

beyond. A lot of SGM's and a few rotorheads. Not sure if any of our officers ever got a star or not but several should have. Since I had did not have my tab and not planning on a career in the Army, I opted for Berlin. Fourteen months in Berlin, nine months on a Pershing missile site near Garmisch, 36 years at the Post Office and 7 grandkids later, here I am.

An update as far as I know about the rest of our group, I am leaving in a couple of days for the fall trip at Ranger Mark Carlisle's in Tennessee. Mike Fisher, Mike Cantrell, Bill Bowman and maybe a couple of others will show up for some shooting, four wheeling and adult beverages around the campfire. DJ DeJarnett is going hunting with his son home on leave from the Army, and EJ Alexander has a tag to fill also and will not make the trip this time. Mike Thiesen will be a no show for the fall trip for the first time in 8 years as his wife, Karen, is having some health issues and needs his support. We will miss the "Charcoal Boy" as he has affectionately become known on the hilltop.

I took Kyle, my youngest and his oldest son, Austan, to meet up with Mike Fisher at Lake Michigan in August and we went out on a fishing trip. We landed 18 lake trout and salmon with the largest weighing in at 18.5#. Picture attached, L-R Kyle, Jeff Finch (friend of Kyle's), me, Ken Zykowski (sp) (ship's captain and fellow dentist friend of Fisher), Fisher, Austan.



We have a few with some health issues, but doesn't everyone as we get older and get reminders of our past physical demands we put on our bodies when we were younger.

Not sure when this issue will hit the news stand, so everyone have a safe and Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

I encourage others from A Co, D/17 and V Corps to please send in some stories to prevent me from carrying on.

**B/75 - C/58 LRP - VII CORPS LRRP**

Unit Director - Marc L. Thompson

As I write this, Veteran's Day is fast approaching, and my hope that this finds you all in good health and, as Mike Moser would say, as ugly and gnarly as you always were.

Ranger Voyles sends his warmest regards to all you criminals, and says that you all owe him 20 for hanging around this long taking up space. His cancer treatments continue, as does his wife Jane's search for pain relief from her conditions. Call or email me if you want a contact number – and if you need contact information for anyone else, please let me know. If we don't have it already, we'll find it for you.



We previously notified all of you of the passing of Doc Wentzel, but in the tradition of continuing the Ranger lineage, his son Sam is now a member of our Facebook group (in addition to being a serving E7 in the 2nd Battalion, since where he's been 2002). I woulda inserted a comment about him not being able to get an assignment to a good Battalion, but am afraid I might get my ass whipped...

Richard Stutsman is still in Kansas, and I recently got in touch with Bill

Walter of 3rd platoon (after 40-plus years).

B/75 - C/58 LRP - VII CORPS LRRP (Continued)**Neil Lofgren and Beetle 1971****NEIL LOFGREN**

We received a photo from Neil Lofgren of him with his 1971 VW bug in the parking lot at Ft. Carson, taken in 1971. We have to assume that there was no additional hardware or software installed on the Beetle designed to fudge

emissions reports, but having owned a few vintage VW's I can almost guarantee there was no additional equipment of any kind installed on his or any others of that period (to include functional heater boxes for the rear seats!). In addition to the pocket patch on his greens, you can see the mess hall directly behind his head, and the third platoon barracks to the right? Or, I could be miss-oriented. Thanks Neil!

MAGAZINE, FUNDING, ETC.

Our continuing saga of funding for the magazine continues with this issue, as you will note from the shortened number of pages in this issue. You will not find an editor's message, in deference to including information from the elected officers, and in the interest of brevity. Please let me know your preferences about the funding, length of the magazine (this issue will be in the 40-page range), and so forth. We have had feedback from several life members who would like to contribute annually in order to keep the full-length partial-color format of the hardcopy of the magazine, and far fewer who would prefer an electronic-only version. Let us know, please.

Until next time, Marc L. Thompson, Unit Director
Email: mthomp@ptd.net
Richard Foster - VII Corps LRRP Association

Winter 2015 Report: Start making plans now to attend Operation Double Nickel, our "55 Years a LRRP" reunion at Ft Bragg, NC next year (2016). Many of you have intended to make one of our reunions, but for one reason or another, events have interfered. However, excuses only satisfy the ones who make them. Your loved ones probably need some quality time. Do them a favor and leave home for a few days – or just as good, bring them along. All are welcome, even grand kids. I don't have all the details yet, because I have not, as promised, gotten together with CSM Dave Clark yet, but I will. Dave is our point man for this meeting.

Operation Double Nickel: 55 Years a LRRP, is scheduled for Oct 13-17, 2016, at Ft Bragg. We're not getting any younger, so this will be a great time for you hook up with your old Komrads. I not even going to ask you to let me know – just show up.

On the bad news front, I've just received notice that BG Bob Disney has passed away. The funeral is over and internment at Arlington is being arranged. I don't know any of the details, but I think he's been in a care facility for some time, but he has been getting our e-mails. General Disney was our Company Commander in 1966. While many of you may not have known him, he did have an illustrious career, which really began as one of us, a LRRP.

Last I heard, Theo is on the mend after his cancer treatments and Lucy's loving care. I hope he appreciates Touchon's loving Ode to him in the last edition of Patrolling.

Also, Sam Rodriguez is continuing his courageous fight against cancers. His battle is so involved that I can't pass it on in this letter. With his permission, I'll forward his account of the details to you. Seems like if he didn't have bad luck, he'd have no luck at all. Hang in there, Sam and continue to fight the good fight! Keep me (us) updated. We care! I promised Morales and Avila we'd have our '17 reunion in San Antonio. We expect you to be there, as well as the rest of you West Coast hooligans.

One last point (or two): Your \$25 annual dues for 2016 are due to Tom Forde, 80 Carolina Dr, New City, NY 10956 in January. We're not in dire straits financially, but we don't want to run up a deficit like the government. Somebody has to Lead the Way; if not us, who?

One more thing: Please let me or Marc Thompson know how you feel and in what format you'd like to see our Patrolling magazine. Personally, I'm old school enough to want a copy in hand that I can carry to the coffee shop. It helps me escape and find out what the rest of the 75th RRA is doing. I'm committing \$20 a month to the effort to keep it coming. If you prefer the free on-line format, let us know. If you don't care, let us know, so we can improve it.

That's it, guys. I'm outta here. Remember: Operation Double Nickel, Oct 13-17 at Ft Bragg, NC. Auf wiedersehen. Rangers Lead the Way and The LRRPs show 'em.

Dick Foster, President, VII Corps LRRP Assoc
352-281-0983



C/75 - E/20 LRP

Unit Director - Del Ayers

The "off" year reunion will be held in San Antonio in August of 2016. Mac McFarland is at this time negotiating the Hotel rate. The hotel is downtown at the Riverwalk. By the time this edition is in your mailbox the dates, room rates and the itinerary will be set. If you haven't yet, check our site or the 75th RRA site for the event info or call me.

My wife and I hosted a Veteran's Day Dinner at Lonestar Steak House for 26 Veterans and their spouses. Army, Navy, Air Force and the Marine Corps



were all represented. We were much honored to have two lovely ladies join us for this dinner. Lonni "Mama" Dolan at 92 was the eldest attending. She indeed is a true Veteran as she took care of everything on the homefront so her husband could serve in World War II, Korea and Vietnam. Her son Gary Dolan served as a Ranger in Vietnam. We were also honored to welcome Ann Whiting to our dinner. Ann was a pioneer Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) treatment program advocate at the Carl Hayden VA Medical Center.



D/75

Unit Director - Richard "Herd" Nelson

Hello from sunny Florida, I only mention that because we have had the warmest start to the holiday season in recorded history here in Orlando, and when I talk to with you guys up north I forgot it is supposed to be cold and I get shocked when you tell me what temperatures are there. This is going to be a short article from me because I let the deadline for article submissions slip up on me. I got ahold of most of you and others I missed. In order to get an article in for this Issue I had to go with who I was able to talk with. I am sorry that I wasn't able to talk with all of you.

I'll get the sad news out of the way and then we can go on to the happier news. When I talked with Bruce Dembroski he told me he was doing ok, but Marie Donahue had passed away on October 2nd she was the mother of John Donahue who served with us in D Company, but he became a KIA when we transferred to L Company. She was in her 90's and she was buried next to John.

When I talked with Bill Fitzgerald he said he and Kathy were doing well although he is getting over a fall he



took while he and Kathy were out walking their dogs. He tripped on a root on the trail they were walking on. He got some bruises on that fall but is doing much better now. Several of you asked if he got his Bronze Star and the answer yes. His son-in-law presented it to him in September during their visit to New York for another one of Fitz and Kathy's daughters' weddings.

When I talked with Tom Delaney he and Jan were doing well. He did attend a Black Hat reunion at

Ft. Benning this year. He said it was a small affair and was only for a couple days, but he got to see some of the guys he served with as cadre at the Ft. Benning jump school. That is where he was transferred to after Vietnam and before he was transferred to the Golden Knights. When I talked with him he said they hadn't seen the sun in three weeks in Fayetteville as it had been raining every day during that period, and they had had some frost that week also.

Carl Norris said that he was doing well and had just come back from North Carolina where he went to see a friend from High School, they graduated together. His granddaughter Katie is getting married

D/75 (Continued)

on December 21st to a leg named Michael Barber. Both of her parents like him. He is serving with the Fourth Infantry Division, and they are scheduled to be deployed in the not too distant future. They knew each other in High School. That date is also her father Mikes birthday. She will remain in Nursing School and is scheduled to graduate in May. After her husband returns from deployment she will move to Colorado Springs where the 4th ID is headquartered.

Ken and Linda Dern are doing well up in Jacksonville FL, Linda's mother is staying with Linda's sister for a couple of months since they both decided that they would both take care of her. She will come back to Ken and Linda's in January. I told Ken that I would probably come up and spend a weekend with them, and we could go out and have a dinner on Saturday. I'm thinking that maybe we could go over to the poker room and do a little gambling.

I was able to talk with Wally Hawkins and he and Caroline are both doing well. They both have undergone surgery since my last update on them, and they both have recovered well and the surgeries were both successful. Caroline had heart surgery to fix a problem with her, and Wally had spinal surgery, which relieved the pain he was experiencing. Mike and Sharon Warren are doing well up in Kentucky as well. He didn't have any news to report for this article though.

Don Vic Viccarro and Mary Jane are doing well, he said that he was still continuing with his martial arts and has recently been promoted to a 3rd degree black belt. I also talked with Gary Olson and he and Alice are doing well but had nothing new for this article. Jim and Donna Owen are fine as well but they also had no new updates for us.

Psycho and Julie Christiansen are doing well up there in New York. Psycho has been getting his tree stand condo ready for the upcoming hunting season. Among the people I tried to get in touch with but was only able to leave a message was Bear Papp. Usually when I call him he calls me back and we might play answering machine tag, but since I waited until it was too late he wasn't able to get back to me. Sorry I missed him.

I was able to talk to Richard Lowes and he told me he had talked with Onecia Mercer a couple of times since Ed's passing and she is doing better, and their kids are doing fine. Richard said his son was graduating

this year. Billy Faulks was able to get back to me before I had to submit this article and he is getting excited about the trip he is going to take to Germany to visit his son who is in the Air Force and stationed there. One of the things he is really looking forward to is getting on the autobahn and hauling butt. One of Billy's son's friends has a Porsche and has told Billy he can use it for that purpose.

I just got off the phone with Maddog he was out bow hunting when I tried to call him earlier and he and Janice are doing well, he said the temperature was 24 degrees when he went out to go hunting. He is looking forward to the gun season and then ice fishing. He said his mother had passed away so now he is like the head of the family.

Steve Meade is doing well now he was poked in the eye last year and was going blind, but they did surgery and he can see better now. He will still have to have a couple more before it is all over. I think he also told me that Larry Pickle has had to go on Oxygen now.

When I talked Moe he said he and Cindy were doing well and said that some of the Guys from D Company 151 had come over for the Buffalo round-up this year and they stopped by for a visit. Moe and I have been discussing that maybe the get-together next year might be around that time to give us some new things to do when we are out there. Sounds good to me.

Mike Jaussuad was able to get back to me before I had to get this article submitted. He said that he and Vicky are doing well even though Vicky has started having some issues with Diabetes and is changing her diet to try and control it. He said that they are staying close to home to help take care of Vicky's mother. Vicky's mother is a falling risk which I can identify with right now.

As for me my foot has finally completely healed up and the VA gave me some new orthopedic shoes they aren't fancy but sure aren't as ugly as the shoes they used to give us. They are really comfortable and easy to get on. I am having some major problems with becoming disoriented and falling down. My old primary care Physician ordered several tests in September to try and track down the problem. I have met with a pharmacist to review my Medications to see if there were any that may be causing the problem and there weren't any but she recommended some changes because the VA has started using some newer ones

D/75 (Continued)

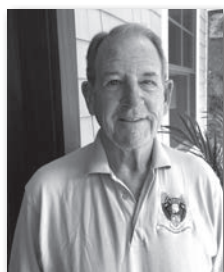
and in some cases are better than ones I have been on for years. I also was assigned a new Cardiologist and after having my first appointment with him, he said my heart functions have improved enough I could stop some of the Meds I have been on since 2005 when I was first admitted to the Hospital for my heart. He doesn't think my heart is the cause of the problem and has recommended a consult with a neurologist. So we have been able to eliminate some possible causes, since all of this started my old primary care physician has transferred to the women's clinic and they will not

let me follow her and I can't get in to see my new one to until January. I do have confidence that they will get it tracked down; it just may take some time. I personally think it is a disc problem in my cervical spine since some of the symptoms are the same as before I had a double spinal fusion back in the 1990's. Other than that I'm doing fine and plan on continuing fighting to be the unit director for D Company.

I am not going to go through all of my photos to find some to add to this article, I'm sorry, I'll do better next time.

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

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

Greetings fellow Rangers and Warrior Women

Jeff Webb

Allow me to introduce myself as your new unit director. My name is Jeff Webb and I served in RVN from November of 1969 till September of 1970. I was based in Tan An and served with Company E 75th INF from February '70 to September '70 on TEAM 2-4 until I DEROS'd/ETS'd in Oakland CA. I live in Wilton Ct. with my wife, Lynda, and between us we have five grandchildren with two more on the way!

I'm very proud and honored to assume the position as unit director and will strive to serve all of you well and continue the outstanding accomplishments of my predecessors. I encourage all of you to contact me if you need any information I might be able to provide or if you would like to have material submitted to Patrolling in future editions. I have created a new email address for this purpose: unitdirectore50e75@gmail.com or you can call me at any time 917-975-4646. I look forward to speaking with you.

Honoring Past Unit Director Duane (Poncho) Alire

I speak for all fellow Rangers in congratulating Poncho on an "exceptional" job well done as the past unit director. With all the deadlines, coordinating events and "sit reps" to the Ranger members, he achieved it



all with a calm and organized demeanor. Thanks Poncho for "leading the way"!

Reunion 2015 – September 21st - 27th - Newburgh NY

My first order of business is to provide the after action report by former unit director Duane (Poncho) Alire and Rick Stetson's report on the company's visit to West Point for our company KIA memorial service and tour.

A Recent Memory:

By Duane (Poncho) Alire

I am pleased to report that the 2015 E50/E75 National Reunion was a resounding success. Roy Barley, Tyrone Muse and Jeff Webb worked their itinerary flawlessly. Thanks to everyone who worked on, coordinated, attended, participated in, called to support, donated to, had fun with and did so without a discouraging word.

Some of us arrived early on Saturday; others arrived on Monday; while others arrived throughout the week. By Saturday we had a total of 60+ folks participating – some all week; others a day or two.

With the exception of our trip to New York City and the tour of West Point, which were by tour bus companies, our transportation needs were met by private or rental vehicles. Thank you to the folks who shuttled us around.

We had several very notable days: **Wednesday, September 23, 2015** – the day we travelled to New York City to visit the 911 Memorial and Museum and

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

the Statue of Liberty. The museum was remarkable, moving and a little bit over whelming. Seeing parts of the airplanes, the twisted I-beams and the assorted fire fighter equipment caused many of us to remember the Americans who were lost that day. The gallery where the initial news broadcasts were played flooded us with memories of where we were when we heard the news of the attack.

From the museum we walked to Bill's Bar & Burgers for lunch and then onto the ferry which took us to the Statue of Liberty.

Jeff Webb and his wife, Lynda, "reconned" the city prior to our visit to work out the details of how much time we would need to move 40+ people from one location to another. Their preplanning worked flawlessly. We boarded our tour bus at 07:00 hrs and we returned to the hotel at 18:30 hrs. I reported to Sharon Barley by text message, "All is good. 40 in and 40 out".

Thursday, September 24, 2015. Our morning began with a tour of West Point and our Unit Memorial Service in the Old Cadet Chapel. The staff at West Point provided a Color Guard, firing squad, a representative from the academy, a chaplain and a bugler. Roy Barley read the Unit history; Rick Stetson read the names of our KIAs. The ceremony was somber and appropriate and memorable for our KIAs and those present.

After our memorial service Rick Stetson and Brent Gulick gathered us at the grave of General Wayne Downing to lay a floral wreath. Brent read Clancy Matsuda's tribute to General Downing.

Friday, September 25, 2015 was a special day for some of the guys as they presented their documentation indicating they were recipients of the Purple Heart Medal to the staff of the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor. The staff added their names to the rosters and, in several cases, corrected the information that had been previously entered.

Special thanks to Mrs. Karen Pinder, sister of Sharon Barley, who spearheaded the effort go get our guys registered with the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor. She was an absolute delight to work with and an exceptional steward of the Hall of Honor.

Saturday morning began with the Unit Meeting at 09:00 hrs. I opened the meeting by reminding the guys of my three goals: (1) honor ourselves as veterans, (2)

preserve the memory of the men we lost in Vietnam and (3) celebrate those people who today volunteer for service in the armed forces. We pursued the three goals throughout the week.

Guys reported on the following subjects:

- 1. Treasurers report (Roy Barley):** We don't know exactly the balance in the account, but we will be solvent by the end of the reunion.
- 2. Our book, "Bonding of Warriors" (Bob Hernandez.):** We have not quite broken even yet. The book is available on LuLu.com.
- 3. Facebook and web sites (Sal Di Sciascio):** He continues to make adjustments to make them more user friendly.
- 4. Our cookbook, "A Recipe Guide: From LRRP Rations To Gourmet Dining (Sharon Barley):** We have sold between 50-60 books and they are still available. Contact Sharon Barley.
- 5. Recap of past reunions:** See report below.
- 6. Report on members (Clancy Matsuda, John M. Dixon and Hilan Jones):** We heard written and oral reports on these men.
- 7. Report on the status of our Ranger Hall of Fame applications (Bob Copeland):** We will continue to submit and refine our applications to the RHOF.
- 8. Lest We Forget:** We remembered the folks we lost since 2013: Jim Koenig, Steve Hull, Gene K. Lester, Kenneth Marze, Michael Pat Patrick and Houston Ledbetter. And we also remembered Gayle Walden, our "Company Grandmother" and Nguyen Van Kiet, a Vietnamese Ranger (PRU).
- 9. Next annual reunion:** We voted to hold our 2017 reunion in Las Vegas, NV. Bob Hernandez, Terry Lieshman and Tom Koontz volunteered to plan and coordinate the reunion. We had a lively discussion about the possibility of a mini-reunion in 2016.
- 10. Other discussion items:** We decided that in future reunions the sale of Tess's reunion "t" shirts will be handled differently. The option to purchase a shirt (as well as choose the color, size, etc.) will be available on the reunion registration form. This will help Tess by eliminating the possibility of him having excess shirts after the reunion. Essentially, if you want a reunion "t" shirt, you will have to order it via the reunion registration form.
- 11. Election of Unit Director:** After a day of discussion and caucusing, we elected Jeff Webb as our next Unit Director.

E/75 - E/50 LRP - 9TH DIV LRRP (Continued)**Report on Past Reunions:**

1993 - Baltimore, MD/ Nelson, Sartwell, Barley, Harter;
1995 - Las Vegas, NV/Rick Ehler; **1997** - Columbia, SC/Ed & Mary Garrison; **1999** - Dallas, TX/ Buster Bosarge; **2001** - Tacoma, WA/ Jessie & Jan Deleon;
2003 - Kalispell, MT/Terry & Dorothy Leishman;
2005 - Orlando, FL/Emory & Shirley Parrish; **2007** - Orlando, FL/Ken Mellick; **2009** - San Diego, CA/ Bob Hernandez & Ron Tessensohn; **2011** - Buffalo, NY / Roy, Sharon & Allison Barley; **2013** - Louisville, KY/ John Masick and **2015** - Newburgh, NY/ Roy Barley, Tyrone Muse, Jeff Webb

Saturday night's banquet was a fitting end to a great reunion. During the banquet we heard from Rick Stetson and Leon Patterson about their meeting in Fort Riley, KA and then again at Bear Cat, Vietnam. Those meetings resulted in a lifelong friendship. Leon, as our banquet speaker, shared his thought about getting acquainted with the LRRPs in Vietnam and how we differed from his unit, the 9th Military Intelligence detachment both before during the war and afterwards.

I presented my Unit Director's Service Award to the following Unit members:

Rick Stetson He is the recent, past Unit Director and an esteemed elder;

Roy Barley He is an esteemed elder, has coordinated several reunions, currently serves as the Unit Treasurer and "Grief Counselor" and was instrumental in finding many of the guys after the war;

Tyrone Muse He coordinated many of the memorial services at past reunions and arranged transportation for 2015 reunion. He was also honored by Tess for his service with a distinctive, handmade plaque;

Jeff Webb He coordinated the day long activities in NYC at the 2015 reunion and is the current Unit Director Elect;

Bob Hernandez & Ron Tessensohn Together they coordinated the San Diego and Houston reunions. Separately Bob wrote and published our book, "Bonding of Warriors" and Tess is our company artist. He has produced works of art in shirts, plaques and certificates; Dorothy Lieshman and the Warrior Women honored Tess with a custom, hand-made blanket made by Dorothy. At this time, I will not say much more about the presentation ceremony except to say that Tess was teary eyed at its conclusion. Maybe some photographs of the event will be posted; maybe not.

John Masick He coordinated the 2013 reunion in Louisville, KY; and

Terry Lieshman He as attended every reunion – 1993 to 2015.

A photograph of the Unit Director's Service Award is below. Tom Koontz was instrumental in the design and procurement of the award.



The Warrior Women, led by Sharon Green, Rebecca Myers and Bev Koontz, huddled everyone to honor one of their own – Sharon Barley. Sharon Barley has been involved with many of the past reunions. She was a powerful member of the reunion teams that coordinated the Buffalo, Baltimore and Newburgh reunions. Her extraordinary skills in organizing and managing the fund raising activities, transportation arrangements and controlling the activities in the hospitality room were put to the test during the 2015 reunion. Sharon was presented with a certificate of appreciation, a patriotic blanket and a box of chocolates by her compatriots. Their presentation ended with a group "Warrior Woman Salute" to Sharon Barley.

Under the stewardship of Sharon Barley, the following folks contributed items for the various fund raising activities: Bob Wallace, Tony Hanlon, Sharon Barley, Bob Newman, 5. Connie Matsuda, Bruce & Bobbie Lessig, Miles Woolley, Karen Pinder, Rick Stetson, John Masick & Mary Schneider, Jim & Mary Lou Godbolt, Tom & Bev Koontz, Allison Barley & Rob Kozak, Meem Hatala, Alan & Rebecca Myers, Roy Nelson, Dorothy Lieshman, the Barley's, Prescott Smith, Poncho, Tess, Bob Hernandez, Bill Christiansen, Bob & Kathy Copeland and Don & Sue Naughton.

During the evening, we remembered our KIAs and those members of our Unit and extended families who have passed away since our last national reunion in Louisville, KY by setting up a KIA table and acknowledging their passing.

We also recognized our "Special Mentions": 2015 Reunion Coordinators and their wives: Roy Barley (Sharon), Tyrone Muse (Ellen) and Jeff Webb (Lynda); the hospitality room crew: Bob Hernandez, Tess, Tyrone and Gerald Cody; Miles Woolley for attending his first reunion; Tess & Cody for travelling the farthest

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

distance to attend the reunion - LA to Newburgh; Tony Hanlon & Sharon Green for being the first to register and pay up and Darlene Fisher for being the most senior person in attendance.

Insomuch as 2015 falls within the 10-year long commemoration of the Vietnam War, and in keeping with my goals, we recognized our own and celebrated those who volunteered to serve in the armed forces of the United States. During the banquet we organized the guys by the year they served in Vietnam and/or those who are currently serving in the military. Beginning with the **Class of 1966**: Don Naughton, **Class of 1967**: Kirk Elder, John Berg, Doug MacCallum, Ed Kulcavage, Lonny Johnson, Elbert Walden, Rick Stetson, Tom Koontz, Tony Hanlon, Jim Godbolt, Bob Hernandez, Tyrone Muse, Roy Barley, Ed Chaffin and Steve Szabo. **Class of 1968**: Bruce Lessig, Kenneth McConkey, John Masick, Miles Woolley, Rene Rodriguez, Bill Christiansen, Gerald Cody, Duane L. Alire, **Class of 1969**: Alan Myers, Rebecca Myers (sister of Bryan, Robert L., KIA 07/13/70), Stew Koontz, Dennis Listine, Bob Copeland, Ron Tessensohn, Bob Wallace, Paul Newman, Terry Lieshman, Jeff Webb. **Class of 1970**: Brent Gulick and the **Class of 2015**: Ray Quesenberry (Currently serving on active duty).

The men were presented with commemorative 50th Anniversary challenge coins inscribed with these words, numbers and letters: E50-E75, 1967-1970, 2015 Reunion, Newburgh, NY.

Tony Hanlon gave the benediction and I closed the 2015 E50/E75 National Reunion by paraphrasing Joe Galloway, author of the book, "We Were Soldiers Once ... and Young", when he said, ***"On behalf of a country that so easily forgets the true cost of war ... and who pays the price ... I say, Thank You For Your Service. And on behalf of the people of our country who didn't have the good sense to separate the war they hated from the young warriors they sent to fight the war, I Apologize To You For Them. Americans owe us a debt of gratitude that they can never adequately repay."***

Passing the Torch

By Duane L. Alire (aka "Poncho") recently retired E50/E75 Unit Director

At our reunion in Newburgh, NY, September 22 – 27, 2015, the guys elected Jeff Webb as our next Unit Director.

During my tenure as Unit Director, I pursued three goals: (1) to preserve the memory of our men who fell on the battlefields in Vietnam and whose names are immortalized on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., (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 honor ourselves as veterans of the Vietnam War.

In Newburgh we focused on two of my three goals.

I will not burden you with any additional written comments about what a great time we had, but suffice it to say, WE HAD A WONDROUS AND JOYOUS TIME! However, I would like to share with you a few of the photographs I received from the guys that capture the essence of our reunion. Enjoy ...



E Company Rangers at Newburgh Reunion



Poncho (VN 1968), (recently retired Unit Director) presents a Unit Director's Award to Unit Director Jeff Webb (VN 1969) for his outstanding support of the 2015 Unit Reunion.



Poncho presents a Unit Director's Award to Tyrone Muse (VN 1967) for his long term service as Unit Chaplain.

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



Left: Miles Woolley (VN 1968), attended his first Unit reunion. Right: Terry Lieshman (VN 1969), has attended every Unit reunion since 1993.



Unit Director Jeff Webb (VN 1969) accepting a challenge coin honoring his VN service.



Robert Hernandez (VN 1967) receiving the Unit Director's Award for coordinating two past Unit reunions.



Tyrone Muse, former Unit Chaplain, receiving a personal plaque from Ron Tessensohn (VN 1969).



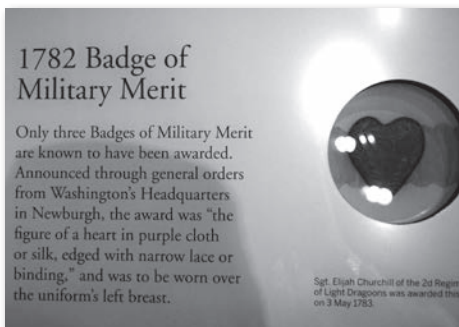
Terry Lieshman (VN 1969) receiving the Unit Director's Award for having attended all of the Unit's reunions since 1993



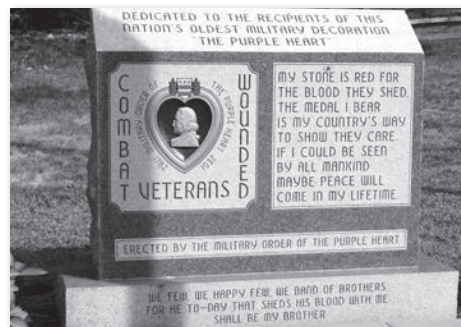
Rick Stetson (VN 1967), former Unit Director, receiving the Unit Director's Award for outstanding service to the Unit



Masick (VN 1968) receiving the Unit Director's Award for coordinating the Unit's 2013 reunion in Louisville, KY.



The predecessor of the modern Purple Heart medal.



If you are the recipient of a Purple Heart, the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor wants your story.



Wreath presented at General Wayne A. Downing's grave at West Point. The men of E50/E75 honored a request by former LRRP Company Commander Clancy Matsuda (VN 1967) to pay homage to his friend, General Downing, class of 1962.



Sharon Barley, wife of LRP Roy Barley (VN 1967), receiving a Certificate of Appreciation from the Unit's "Warrior Women" for her support of the Unit and for publishing our Cook Book.

E/75 - E/50 LRP - 9TH DIV LRRP (Continued)**REPORT ON E COMPANY VISIT
TO WEST POINT**

From: Rick Stetson

Clancy Matsuda asked if I would write up the memorial service conducted by E Company at West Point and my report follows below. Combined with what Poncho sent out earlier, it should give those of you who could not attend a sense of what took place at the reunion in New York. Of course, not everything could be put in writing, like what the Warrior Women did to Tess, or the appreciation we all felt to the reunion organizers: Roy and Sharon Barley, Tyrone Muse and Jeff Webb. What an outstanding job.

Historians say one of the reasons the American army prevailed in WWII was the leadership in our ranks. In the German and Japanese armies, the officers were in charge. If a German platoon leader got hit, his men would not know what to do. Same for the Japanese. But if an American platoon leader was killed, his platoon sergeant stepped right up and the mission continued. If the platoon sergeant got hit, a squad leader took charge and so on down the line. In Vietnam we had specialist fours leading patrols in the jungle responsible for the lives of four other soldiers. The leadership demonstrated by our Rangers is evident today in E Company. We no longer go by our ranks but when I decided it was time to step down as unit director, Poncho was right there to take charge. He said he would accept the position if I would run a marathon through the New Mexico desert. I finished the 26 miles so he took over and led us in the right direction. Poncho was a great lurp, an excellent unit leader and we all owe him our thanks. When Poncho decided it was time to step down, Jeff Webb was right there to take his place. Jeff played a big part in the success of our New York reunion by his thorough recon of the World Trade Center, the Battery and the Statue of Liberty. The fact that we all made it from Newburg to NYC and back with all present or accounted for was remarkable. We did have one Ranger take a separate ferry back to the Battery and one Ranger and a Ranger's spouse got off at Ellis Island when they were not supposed to, but all of that was beyond Jeff's control. Jeff will do a good job as our new unit leader and we need to give him the same support we gave Poncho.

We did not all serve at the same time in Vietnam, but over the years we have grown close and it is our reunions that have helped us do so. I can't tell you

how proud I was to see everyone walk down the isle of the Old Cadet Chapel and present a rose in honor of a fallen comrade. What follows is my impression of our day at West Point. RLTW.

E Company Salutes a Fellow Ranger

For many of the E Company veterans, it was their first visit to the United States Military Academy. It was a picture-perfect day to tour the famous campus with stops that included the Cadet Chapel with its beautiful stained glass windows with the words, duty, honor, country and plaques on the first pew with the names of all the past superintendents who had worshiped there. Of course, there had to be a stop at Trophy Point with its magnificent view of the mighty Hudson River flowing far below.

But the long range patrol veterans of E Company were not visiting West Point just to tour the school. They had come to honor their friends and comrades from E Company who had been killed in action while serving in Vietnam along with a fellow Ranger, General Wayne Downing, a soldier who was admired by all who knew him including Clancy Matsuda, a former commander of E Company.

The memorial service to honor the E Company KIA's was held in the Old Cadet Chapel at West Point, the first time such a service had ever been held there. The service was conducted, as it always is, by the men of E Company but the use of the chapel was made possible by SMAJ (Ret) David Brzywczy (pronounced "breezy") of the West Point public affairs office. He was a true friend and point of contact to Roy Barley who planned the visit to West Point. Roy knew the school well as both his father and his grandfather had worked there with Roy growing up almost next door to the campus, but Dave made things happen as only a sergeant major can.

When the E Company Rangers filed off the bus and lined up inside the chapel, they knew exactly where they were to sit and the order they were to be in. That is because at the motel the night before, Sharon Barley put the participants through a dry run. Sharon did not serve in the military although her mother worked in the finance office at West Point, but she is a retired school teacher and coach and knows how to keep order. She would have made a good first sergeant because she explained the importance of looking presentable and she did not want to see anyone at the memorial service wearing blue jeans, shorts or sandals that were favored by some of the men.

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

The Rangers all followed Sharon's instructions and it was a good-looking group that was greeted in the chapel by LTC (Ret) Sherman Fleek, the West Point historian. He asked the audience to rise for the presentation of colors. In marched four soldiers in perfect step wearing dress blues, two with flags and two with rifles. The colors were posted up front and then Fleek told some of the history behind the old chapel that had plaques on the walls going back to the Civil War battles where West Point graduates had fought. He then introduced the chaplain of the US Military Academy, MAJ Jonathan Knoedler who delivered the invocation. The chaplain, who has the Ranger tab, greeted everyone with the words, "Rangers lead the way."

Roy Barley was introduced and he gave a history of E Company. Rick Stetson then went forward to read the "roll call of our honored dead." As each name was called out, a Ranger at the back of the chapel sounded off with "Here sir" and then marched to the front carrying a single rose as Stetson read the soldier's age, hometown and date of his death. The rose was placed in a vase and then the Ranger rendered a slow hand salute in honor of the deceased. The memorial service is never an easy time for the Rangers and many walk forward representing a good friend who was lost in combat. The service at West Point was even more special because representing their brothers who were lost in combat were Rebecca Myers, escorted by her husband, Allen, and Joan Bellwood, escorted by her son, Erik. After the final name was called, a volley was fired by rifles from outside the chapel followed by Taps, sounded by a bugler, also outside the chapel. Chaplain Knoedler then delivered the benediction and the colors were retired by the sharp-looking young soldiers who made up the color guard.

As the Rangers filed out of the chapel, many had moist eyes but they had done what they wanted to do which was to honor their fallen comrades. However, there was one additional Ranger they had come to honor, a soldier whose name was familiar to many Americans, General Wayne Downing. The cemetery by the Old Cadet Chapel is filled with numerous graves of individuals connected to West Point. The first gravestone the Rangers passed was of Earl "Red" Blaik, the famous Army football coach. When the Rangers reached the general's grave, standing next to it was a beautiful wreath ordered by Tyrone Muse that had been inside the chapel for the memorial service and then moved to a place of honor beside the general's grave.

The group formed around the general's grave site and Roy Barley began the tribute by saying they were gathered by a simple headstone to honor an important man. Barley told of Downing's service in Vietnam where he received the Purple Heart with three oak leaf clusters and how he had been the commanding officer of the 75th Ranger Regiment at Fort Benning, the commanding general of the Joint Special Operations Command at Fort Bragg and the Commander in chief of the U.S. Special Operations Command, McDill AFB, Florida. Barley finished with a quote from Kipling saying that Downing "walked among kings but maintained the common touch."

Brent Gulick then continued the ceremony by telling the group how much Clancy Matsuda had wanted to be with them at West Point to help honor his friend. Brent pointed out that they were standing among heroes, many who had paid what JFK called, "the cost of freedom." Brent then read remarks that Clancy had prepared to be delivered at the grave of Wayne Downing. He told of an email that Clancy had received in 2007 from the general that began with "I still have a scar on my wrist reminding me of the importance of security."

Clancy then provided the "background story" to Wayne's comment by writing, "We were initially platoon leaders in the same company of the 503d Airborne Battle Group in Okinawa. In March 1963, the Battle Group was activated into the 173d Airborne Brigade. Wayne was then assigned as a platoon leader in Co B of the 1st Bn. I was assigned as the recon platoon leader of that battalion. During one of our combat airborne exercises, my platoon was the aggressors against the battalion. Wayne and I had the usual platoon leaders "competitive bantering" before the exercise. I told him I was going to infiltrate into his CP one night. His rebuttal: "No way!"

"I got into his CP and tent on the last night of the exercise. He was sound asleep. I straddled him. I had a knife in my hand and told him to wake up and 'play the game - he was dead.' Wayne came out of his sleeping bag like a wounded tiger. We wrestled. In the process he received a deep cut on his wrist. He needed stitches. He was put in his commander's jeep to go to the emergency room. There was no medivac chopper or ambulance. We were in the mountains. The hospital was a long distance away. It was a very long night for him. But he reminded me in our exchange of emails in 2007 that he was back with his platoon to lead them in the final assault at dawn. Wayne was a proud warrior.

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

In our interchange of emails in May of 2007, I apologized to him for my poor judgment in pulling out a knife. In retrospect, I should have painted his neck with lipstick to display that I had slit his throat. But I told him that I had said, 'Play the game Wayne. You're dead.' His response: 'I don't remember that statement. All I remember was an Oriental on top of me- his face painted black- with knife in his hand.'

Shortly after our last correspondence, Wayne went on a trip to Iraq with Ross Perot and Jim Kimsey. (Jim is a USMA classmate of 1962; he is an airborne ranger who had a combat tour in the Dominican Republic with the 82d Airborne Division like I did; he had two combat tours in VN. Jim Kimsey is the co-founder of AOL. Like Ross Perot, Jim is a very wealthy and powerful man.)

Wayne Downing was diagnosed with multiple myeloma and bacterial meningitis upon returning home from the trip to Iraq. He passed away on 18 July (my birth date) 2007.

Wayne retired from the Army in 1996 as the Commander of the Special Operations Command (4-star general). In 2001, he came out of retirement to coordinate the national campaign to detect, disrupt, and destroy global terrorist organizations. From 2003 until his death, he held the Distinguished Chair at the Combating Terrorism Center at West Point. He worked for NBC News as a military analyst.

The name of the Greater Peoria Regional Airport was changed to the 'General Wayne A. Downing Peoria International Airport.' Wayne was born and raised in Peoria, IL. A superb statue of Wayne has been erected at the airport. It was financed by Ross Perot."

Brent then mentioned that Clancy and his wife, Connie, had made a special trip to the airport in Peoria where they had taken a photo of the statue which was then sent to E Company. After Brent finished reading Clancy's remarks, Roy Barley called the group to attention and a hand salute was rendered. Ranger Vietnam veterans saluting a fellow Ranger combat veteran. The E Company vets made their way back to the bus as the wreath remained in place by the grave standing in silent tribute to a graduate of the US Military Academy who had served his country well.

2017 Reunion in La Vegas

While it's a tad early, prepare to meet fellow Rangers in the city of lucky 777's! I'm sure we'll have a host of sites and events as Las Vegas has it all. No dates have been set yet but I'm sure your reunion planners will choose a cooler month in the desert. Being closer to the west coast and near Central America I'm hoping for a large turnout and having the opportunity to meet some new and familiar faces – leave the war paint at home.

Webb over and out

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

Unit Director - Tim Walsh

Greetings from Michigan. It feels more and more like winter up here. But they say that it isn't supposed to be a severe winter because it's an "El Nino" year. Really? How do they come up with this stuff?

First the sad news. Two of our brothers have passed since the last Patrolling, Bobby DeYoung ('68-'69) passed in Sept of this year and Bill Brantley ('66-'67) passed in Jan., 2015. Our thoughts and prayers are with their families.



A word about upcoming reunions. Rick Ellison is putting together a "Co. F 50 year anniversary" reunion in Savannah, GA for April, 2016. Everybody from any year that Co. F was in existence (66-71) is welcome. Check the Co. F website (lrrp.com) for reunion details.

The next ¾ Cav reunion is scheduled for Aug. 3-7 in Harrisburg, PA. The reunion hotel is the Radisson. Call them directly at 717-763-7117. The ¾ Cav reunion rate is \$105 per night.

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

Be sure to mention ¾ Cav when reserving your room. Theresa & I have attended the past two ¾ Cav reunions and have enjoyed ourselves. They put on a great reunion. They have scheduled side trips to a Civil War museum and other venues. Please consider going to Harrisburg in Aug., you won't be disappointed. More info on the ¾ Cav website (3-4cav.org).

I know I've said this before, and I'll continue to offer it, but I urge everyone to send me things to put in the Patrolling magazine and our Pointman newsletter. I received a submittal from Fred Houghton that I feel is more appropriate to include in Pointman, so it won't

appear here. The next Pointman will look a little different from past newsletters. I'm going to include articles from Marshall Huckaby describing the newly formed Long Range Reconnaissance Association (LRRRA) and upcoming LRRRA reunions, from Bill Mrkvicka talking in more detail about the ¾ Cav reunion in Harrisburg, some more info from Rick Ellison about the 50 year anniversary reunion in Savannah and other Co. F info.

That's all for now. Look for a Pointman (if you haven't already received it).

Live long and prosper, Tim Walsh



G/75 - E/51 LRP - 196TH LRRP

Unit Director - Stephen Johnson



The 2015 Twin Cities reunion at the Country Inn & Suites Mall of America was "rocking" Friday evening to the Vietnam Veteran band of Lee Kenner on the steel guitar and Roger Johnson playing lead rhythm guitar country rock.



Roger Johnson & Lee Kenner

Saturday morning the association was escorted to the Ft Snelling National Cemetery for our annual memorial service with guest speaker Jill Stephenson who shared her thoughts with our members and guests emphasizing the fact they did not die in vain.

There were three Minnesotans from our unit that are buried in Minnesota: David Ohm who is buried in Alden, MN, and buried at Ft Snelling are Dan McLaughlin and Robert Pruden. At the ceremony representing David Ohm was Gary Newman, Alden, MN American Legion Post Commander; team mate and brother Dave McLaughlin represented Dan McLaughlin; and Robert Pruden was represented by his brother Larry Pruden.



**Midwest All Airborne Honor Guard
with Dave Moncada, Stephen Johnson,
Jill Stephenson**

The names of all of our fallen brothers were read by Tom Nash and Ralph Tildon. The Midwest All-Airborne Honor Guard presented arms and gave our fallen a three shot volley echoing through the area followed by their bugler with taps. After the ceremony, we went to nearby Ft Snelling and visited the traveling "Wall" exhibit before going back to the hotel where we were retold the story of Danny Jacks zip lining across the expanses of the Mall of America, much to everyone's amazement! That evening we had 72 members and guests who shared our banquet served by Famous Daves and was given an outstanding presentation by Jill Stephenson. four new first-time attendees: Bruce Johnson, Ron Olson, Jerry Wilhelmy, and Greg Dodson.

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

WOW! What a reunion. Steve and Pam Johnson out did themselves, it was a great time. The area was great and the Rangeretts all took advantage of the Mall of America, not to mention a bunch of the guys. I have seen some of the pictures posted on FB and there must be plenty of beer gardens/pubs in the mall to keep the men busy while the ladies shop.

Some points of interest for the association. We are way behind on our membership dues! If you have not sent your dues, PLEASE do so. Additionally, we need someone to step forward and take point for the 2017 reunion to be held on the east coast. Max how about east Tennessee? I would like for someone to take over as President of the association at the next reunion in California, due to personal problems I do not feel that I have the time to dedicate to the association that is needed.

We need to commend Tom Nash for a job well done. He has reached his goal to purchase a brick at the Ranger memorial at Fort Benning for all of our brothers that do not have one and have passed away after their return from Nam. Thank You Tom!!!

RLTW! Richard "Boot" Corkan, President G 75th



Auction

G/75 - E/51 LRP - 196TH LRRP (Continued)**Auction Quilt Cash Cow****TAPS****TIMOTHY F. GARVER VALPARAISO, IN**

Timothy F. Garver, age 70 of Valparaiso, passed away after a long battle with cancer and diabetes, August 21, 2015. He graduated from Horace Mann High School in 1962 and Parsons College in 1970, where he received degrees in business and aviation. Tim was employed by Burns Funeral Home, U.S. Steel, Garver & Son Fish Company, and Farmer Brothers Coffee and Tea. He also served for the U.S. Army as a L.R.R.P./Ranger during Vietnam. Tim was a member of the Sons of Erin and The American Legion. He was a very active member of the Boone Grove Christian Church. He enjoyed horseback riding, flying, boating, model railroading, and RVs, but mostly, spending time with his friends and family. He was preceded in death by his parents: Lyle and Agatha (nee Pawloske) Garver. Tim is survived by his loving wife of 45 years, Linda; children: Brian Garver and Susan (Jeff) Baldwin; grandchildren; Eric Garver and Garrett and Gavin Baldwin. Friends visited with Tim's family from 2:00-7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 25, 2015, at the Burns Funeral Home, 10101 Broadway, Crown Point, IN, with Tim's funeral service which was held at 7:00 p.m. With entombment at Sunset Cemetery, 3901 N Vermillion St Danville, IL held on Wednesday August 26, 2015 at 11:00a.m. Donations may be made to the Boone Grove Christian Church (property fund) or the Wounded Warrior Project.

MICHAEL DAVID EHRKE July 14, 2015 Ehrke, Michael David, July 3, 1945 - July 14, 2015. Rosary was held on Sunday, July 19th, 5 PM. Funeral Mass was Monday, July 20th, 11 AM. both St. Thomas

Aquinas Church. The most brilliant light that was Michael was extinguished Tuesday, July 14th, 2015. Michael's baritone voice, his musical talent, a diehard fan of blue jeans rock n' roll with the accent on the 2/4 beat is what defined him. Michael was a renowned local musician and a member of the Soule Survivors and Sawdust Charlie. With his brilliant mind, generous spirit, beautiful script, wicked sense of humor, love of Mexican food and all dogs, he will be remembered as a fiercely loyal son, brother, husband, father, grandfather and friend. He proudly served his country in the US Army 1966-1968, serving in Vietnam, LRRP Detachment of 196th LIB, Company E 51st Infantry LRP, member of Company G (Ranger) 75th Infantry Association. As a professional safety and health consultant in the roofing industry, Michael established and was Executive Director of "SHARP", the Safety and Health Agenda for Roofing Professionals (retired). He was preceded in death by his father, John F. Ehrke and numerous canine companions. Michael is survived by his beloved wife Mary; daughters Adrienne (John Hackwith-Great Falls, MT) and Camryn (Wichita, KS); sons John Aaron (Amy-Overland Park, KS) and Jordan (Wichita, KS); mother Sarah Patricia Ehrke (Sandy, UT); sisters Sheryl Ivey (Bob Cottonwood Heights, UT) and Jan Dixon (Greg-Olathe, KS); brother Kip (Cottonwood Heights, UT); grandsons Luke and Blake (Overland Park, KS); dogs Angel and Dexter; in-laws; nieces and nephews; countless friends. In lieu of flowers please consider a contribution to the Kansas Humane Society, 3313 N. Hillside St, Wichita, KS 67220 or Paws for Veterans, 1900 S. Harbor City Blvd., Ste 106, Melbourne, FL 32901. The world is greatly diminished with his leaving for another. In the end his huge loving heart failed him, leaving our hearts broke, but we find comfort in knowing that his soul survives. Downing & Lahey East Mortuary.

By Tom Nash

For the past two years, I have been pestering you to contribute to our Memorial Stone project, whereby we have been raising funds in order to purchase Memorial Stones at the Ranger Memorial at Fort Benning for all of our honored Fallen. I can now tell you that the mission has been accomplished. We have raised \$23,295 to purchase the 93 Memorial Stones for all those of our unit who have died since Vietnam. The completion of the project was made possible by the contributions

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

made by members of the Association, several other individuals, and several corporations and foundations, and especially a very large donation made by one benefactor. This means that every deceased member of our unit of whom we are aware either has a Memorial Stone placed at the Ranger Memorial or for whom a Memorial Stone will shortly be engraved. Our thanks and gratitude go out to all those who contributed to the project. A list of all contributors follows: Tom & Sharon Robison; Rod & Marilyn Congdon; Al Stewart; Chuck Thornton; Joe Meinike; Bob Clarke; Mickey Boothe; Tom & Dianne Nash; Dave McLaughlin; Tim & Tracey Shur; Tom & Candace Sagan; Ken & Patricia Fenton; Steve & Lori Crabtree; Justin Stay; Steve Franklin; Rick Collier; Wayne Diede; Peggy Keating; Lee Stacey; Larry and Carolyn Hogan; Jerry Howard; Bob Mitchell; Robert J. Myers (of Casey's General Stores); Karen

L. Zaramba; Mike Maar; Titan Industries; Dynetics; ParkerHannifin Corporation; Aflac; H. Ross Perot and the Perot Foundation.

Thank you all! TOM NASH

Our Bricks at the Ranger Memorial @ Ft Benning The National Ranger Memorial Foundation, Inc. is poised to achieve the goal of perpetual maintenance, but only through the constant support of donors can the other programs be sustained and broadened. The foundation was rated "Best in America" by the Independent Charities of America association because of the high standards, services, and professional management of the foundation compared to the low overhead costs. Please consider contributing to the foundation. All gifts are tax deductible.

**H/75 - E/52 LRP - 1ST CAV LRRP**

Unit Director - Robert Ankony

Fellow Rangers,

I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer and happy holidays to come. Veterans Day has passed and for that occasion Bill Carpenter and I have published a blog titled: "First Casualties: First Cav LRRPs." It's a harrowing story of valor and sacrifice by SGT John Simones' six-man team in April 1967 when our LRRP company was still being formed by Captain James D. James.

There's another story of valor and sacrifice by members of our unit titled: "One Name on the Wall: Robert Eugene Whitten." This and other stories can be found at www.robertankony.com



It's important we get our history out. To that extent there is a new website gearing up called Long Range Reconnaissance Association and it can be reached at: <http://longrangeassociation.com/>

I hope to see our fellow members at the Best Ranger Competition in Fort Benning in April, the 1st Cav reunion next June in Las Vegas, or the Ranger Rendezvous in Fort Benning in July.

If there is anything you would like posted please contact me at robertankony@gmail.com

Till then, thank you, and Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Rangers Lead the Way! Robert C. Ankony, PhD



I/75 - F/52 LRP - 1ST DIV LRRP

Unit Director - Michel J. Sharp



Reno Reunion 2015

Our official 1st Infantry Division LRRPs and Rangers reunion was held at the J.R. Nugget Casino Resort in Sparks, Nevada on June 17-20, 2015 with Dave and Loretta Hill and Dave Flores hosting. This was one of the most attended reunions the group has had to date. There were 22 veterans who brought 32 friends and family members to make a total of 54 participants.

Some of our brothers spanning the entire



to nearby sites and attractions and to continue enjoying each other's company.

Everyone met as they arrived at the hotel in the Poolside Terrace banquet room. It was a huge, yet intimate, meeting place where everyone could spread out and comfortably catch up with old friends and meet new faces. The room was adjacent to the huge swimming complex on the 5th floor that was convenient for those who wanted to swim or relax in the hot tub. The room was surrounded on three sides by floor to ceiling glass doors and windows

with access to the balcony, which overlooked the airport and snowcapped Sierra Nevada Mountains.

The accommodations at the resort were top notch with many amenities including phenomenal views and really comfortable beds. It is also a pet friendly hotel that was so nice for our two service dogs, Goldie and Abby. These two four-legged family members were such a fantastic addition to our reunion and to all our activities! Maybe next time we'll have even more furry friends.

Our days were filled with a variety of activities with some golfing, some shopping, some shooting at the range and others just chilling in the meeting room. In order to keep guilt at bay, some (ok, a few) chose to exercise in the Health Club. Believe it or not, there were quite a few who managed to make it down to the 24-hour casino to pull a few handles. Some won, some lost, but all had a great time.

Many chose to go to nearby Virginia City, which is a still "back-in-time" authentic western silver mining town with cowboys and live animals walking the streets. While there we visited the St. Mary's Catholic Church which was the earliest Catholic congregation in Nevada in 1886, the Fourth Ward School museum which is a beautiful four story wooden second-empire style school, and several saloons-The Bucket of Blood, Ponderosa, and Red Dog. We enjoyed delicious meals at several of the local eateries. Samuel Langhorne Clemens lived here about two years refining his writing style and choosing his famous penname- Mark Twain. Some of us were so taken with this lovely mining town that we went back a second day to see what we may have missed the day before.



era of our unit; from the LRRP detachment with D (Air) Troop, 1/4 Cavalry, LRRP Detachment, HHC, 1st Infantry Division, F Company, 52nd Infantry (LRP) and Company I (RANGER), 75th Infantry.

Many started arriving in Reno/Sparks a week in



The better half and families - it's very clear, we all married way above our station.

advance of the official reunion date to fellowship and visit some of the area sites. And see the sites we did. Some veterans and their families stayed several days after the event was over to continue traveling

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

Another day trip was made to Lake Tahoe, a huge 1,645 foot deep fresh water lake located at 6,254 feet in the Sierra Nevada Mountains along the border between Nevada and California. The views of the lake from the top of the mountains are astounding. Food was great, too. Of course, we had to eat.



Each evening we would all meet back up to make dinner and evening plans. We tried to see just how many restaurants we could hit while we were there. We ended each night back in the Poolside Terrace to continued catching up with friends.



Saturday we had the official business meeting where President Danny Wiggins welcomed everyone and presented plaques of appreciation to those who had contributed much time and energy to the Unit helping everything run smoothly and efficiently. Members who had never attended or had not attended recently were welcomed as were family members and friends. Matters of business were discussed and voted upon.

Election of New Unit Officers:

President: Dave Hill; Vice-President: Dave Flores;
Historian: Barry Crabtree; Treasurer: John Candiloro;
Unit Director (to 75th Ranger Regiment Assoc.):
Michel Sharp; Secretary: Richard Gamez.

Adaption of new, official unit combined-era patch, which now incorporates our two LRSD legacy Brother units: F Co. 52nd Inf. (LRSD) and D Co. 501st MI (LRSD) in the stack of unit scrolls. This action also officially recognized the aforementioned Big Red One LRSD units to be the latest of our 1st ID Special Operations legacy and lineage and the 75th Ranger Regiment Association has been notified of this changed heritage.

All of the aforementioned actions were supported by unanimous vote of our LRRP-Ranger unit membership.



The Missing Man presentation was made during which our fallen comrades were honored. This is a very solemn and sacred part of our reunion.

Saturday night we had our buffet dinner at the Nugget's Rotisserie Buffet Restaurant where we enjoyed wonderful food and great fellowship. We dined on international cuisine, which insured we were all satisfied and well fed. We ended the meal with an amazing dessert bar with an awesome selection of delicious pastries.

Sunday morning we all gathered to bid adieu to our friends who were leaving the reunion to go back to our homes with a renewed sense friendship and comradely. It was so great to be with our brothers and their families once again. We look forward to seeing everyone (and others) next year at our mini-reunion in Wheaton, Illinois at the 1st Infantry Division Museum (or in Lake Arthur, Louisiana. More info to follow.) We will be together again in 2017 at our reunion in Fort Benning, Georgia. Make plans now to attend.

We want to offer our sincere thanks to Dave and Loretta Hill and to Dave Flores for being our hosts and making everything so comfortable and so much fun!

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

I encourage you all to attend the Reunions and mini-reunions as often as you can, to reunite with these brothers, to again experience the bond of fellow warriors. I again, urge all of you to contact our brothers whom have yet not joined with us and welcome them home!

Michel J. Sharp, Unit Director
I/75th - F/52nd LRP - 1ID LRRP



Dave and Loretta Hill

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

Unit Director - Roger T. Crunk

Greetings To all:

It has been a very busy year at my house. Between our daughter Kaitlin's wedding, lots of travel, too much landscaping work. Too many doctors' appointments, etc., etc. I, for one, am looking forward to turning the calendar. Enough of complaining.

Most of you probably know that Ken Nelson had esophageal surgery last summer. He has had lots of complications since then and has had a long and difficult recovery. Please keep Ken and Linda in your thoughts and prayers.

At our unit meeting in June the members voted to have our next unit reunion (2016) in Colorado Springs in conjunction with the 4th Infantry Div. reunion. Since that time the 4th Div. moved their event to Knoxville, TN. Hot and humid again. They will go back to Colorado Springs in 2017 in conjunction with the 100th anniversary of the 4th Div.

We will go with our second choice (San Diego) for 2016. Ed Mateer is hosting and has the hotel and dates in place.



**2016 REUNION
K COMPANY 75th RANGER
REGIMENT ASSOCIATION**

**Date - September 5-8 2016
Hotel- Catamaran Resort & Spa.
3999 Mission Blvd.
San Diego, CA. 92109
The resort is on Mission Bay and
the ocean beach is one block
away.**

The room rate is \$119.00 +tax. The rate is usually over \$200.00 for holidays and weekends so I think we are getting a good deal. There are lots to see and do in San Diego. As more details are worked out I will post them in the next issue and our webpage, Facebook page, and the Association website. You can Google Catamaran Resort for a look at the facilities.

Originally, the hotel quoted rates of \$129 per night, but after learning we were a veteran's organization, they reduced the rate to \$119 per night plus city tax of approximately 13%. This is a super rate for this hotel. Rates before or after this reunion week would be at least \$100 more per night.

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

Check out the hotel on their web site www.catamaranresort.com. It is located on the bay, one block from the ocean. Restaurants, bars, shopping and other recreational activities are all within walking distance. A recon mission was inserted at the hotel with John Gibson, Jerry Mele, Rick Callahan, Mrs. Mele and Mrs. Mateer, who all gave their seal of approval.

Please call early to make reservations. Their telephone number is 800-422-8386 (toll free) or 858-488-1081 (hotel operator). Make your reservations under "Army

Rangers." Twenty rooms have been reserved and after these are taken additional rooms can be booked at the same rate only on a "space available basis". Call sooner rather than later.

Other activities will be planned and we will let you know at a later date.

If you have any questions, call Ed Mateer at 858-272-5226 or e-mail at edmateer@yahoo.com



Let me begin by apologizing for not submitting a column in the last issue of *Patrolling*. No excuses, just missed the deadline. I'll try not to let it happen again. Got a lot of info to share with all of my 101st LRRP/LRP/Ranger brothers, so let's get started.

I'm posting an article from Rey Martinez and Kenn Miller about the Ashton Prindle Memorial Run in 2014. It's late, but well worth reading.

On 26, April, 2014, accompanied by family and friends, eight former members of the LRRP/LRP/Ranger units of the 101st Airborne Division participated as a team in the tenth annual 4.2 kilometer *Pat Tillman Memorial Run* in Tempe, Arizona. Our participation in the run was to honor and pay tribute to Ranger Pat Tillman, and to Ashton Prindle, one of our own. April 23, 1968, the date of Ashton Prindle's death has been etched in our memories and was the reason that brought us all together.

Pat Tillman was killed by "friendly fire" on April 22, 2004 while serving with A Co., 2nd Platoon, 2nd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment in Afghanistan. The cause of Tillman's death was a breakdown in communication between to elements from the same platoon. On April 23, 1968, nearly 36 years to the day earlier, Ashton Hayward Prindle III was also killed by "friendly fire" while on a night ambush outside the perimeter of Camp Eagle, Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam. Eerily similar to Tillman's death,



Prindle's death was also the result of a breakdown in communication, this time between two elements of the same team. A team member had failed to pass the word down through the patrol that the recon element circling around to check out the ambush site would be rejoining the team from the rear to lead them into position. It was a fatal mistake that cost a good man his life. Prindle was killed while serving with F Co. 58th Inf. (LRP), 101st Airborne Division.

The members of Prindle's team came from diverse walks of life, all of them having served with various special operations units in Vietnam, some of them with distinguished spec ops careers after Vietnam, retiring honorably after long service to our nation. Some of us were painfully and intimately involved that night in April, 1968. It profoundly affected each of us throughout our lives. We came together in Robin, Idaho in late September, 2013 to do a "healing ceremony" in the tradition of the Lakota Kit Fox Warrior Society (Tokala). From the *inipi* (sweat lodge) it was decided that we needed and wanted to honor and memorialize our fallen comrade, Ashton Prindle, and that we would do so during the annual Pat Tillman Memorial Run. As a group we had always felt the need to do something in Prindle's memory. But it was Tony Tercero whose vision served as a catalyst to make it happen. Naturally, we all agreed that Tony would be our team leader on this mission to honor a fallen brother. He did an outstanding job of making this memorial run a reality, and all of us are grateful

L/75 - F/58 LRP - 1/101ST LRRP (Continued)

for his work and his leadership. We spent five days in reunion and celebration of Ashton Prindle's life. He would have liked that.

Among our group were three published authors who have written personal historical accounts of our Division's LRRP/LRP/Ranger units during the Vietnam War. Between them, they captured the transition from Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol, to Long Range Patrol, to Ranger in the evolution of special operations in Vietnam. They are as follows: Reynel Martinez, author of *Six Silent Men—Book I*, the story of the first LRRP unit activated in Vietnam, 1st Bde. LRRP, 101st Abn. Div.; Kenn Miller, author of *Six Silent Men—Book II*, covering operations of F Co., 58th Inf. (LRP), including the account of Prindle's death; and Alan G. Cornett, author of *"Gone Native"*, a personal account of a career soldier's seven tours in Vietnam running the gamut of SF Project Delta, to 101st Abn. LRRPs to the secretive Phoenix Project.

We came together in our mid- to late-60s to pay tribute to the memory of two great American Rangers who served our country with honor and unselfish commitment. It was our humble privilege to have been able to participate in this event and to pay our respects as only combat soldiers can do. The LRRP/Ranger veterans, their families and friends wore

special t-shirts with the Screaming Eagle insignia, our unit scrolls and a picture of Ashton Prindle. The aging 101st LRRP/Rangers ran, walked and limped their way through the 4.2K course to honor these two fallen Rangers.

The participants were: Alan "Lurch" Cornett, Ernest Airington, Allen "Teddybear" Gaskell, Rudy Lopez, Rey Martinez, Kenn Miller, Manuel Ortegon, Tony Tercero and numerous other brothers who were with us in spirit but unable to participate. We ended up raising more than \$2,000 for the Pat Tillman Foundation. Founded in 2004, the Pat Tillman Foundation invests in military veterans and their spouses through scholarships—building a diverse community of leaders committed to service to others. The scholars chosen show extraordinary academic and leadership potential, a true sense of vocation, and a deep commitment to create positive change through their work in the fields of medicine, law, business, education and the arts.

We had 32 brothers from 1st Bde. LRRP, F/58th LRP, 3/506th LRP and L/75th Ranger attend the company reunion in May here in Branson. Had one newcomer show up for the first time: Jim Donat, L Co. Ranger 1970-'71, drove down from northern Iowa to spend time with the rest of us. The brothers and their wives



L/75 - F/58 LRP - 1/101ST LRRP (Continued)

had a great time dining out, imbibing, sharing war stories and enjoying some beautiful weather, well... beautiful up until Sat. when the skies opened up and cancelled our cookout. It wasn't a major problem for us, however. We all moved the outing down to the Branson Landing and let the pros serve us at Famous Dave's Kansas City BBQ. Everyone had a great time.

Brother Chuck Reilly (L Co. Ranger, '70-'71) submitted a report on another L Co. get-together held in west-central Illinois last September. I'll let him tell it.



A gathering of Rangers from "L" Company took place in Moline, Illinois, on September 3rd through September 6th, 2015. The reunion was organized by John Perez who served with the company in 1970 and 1971. Most of those in attendance were from the same time frame. Attendees included Dale Hardy, Nick Gibbone, Jimmy Sheppard, Louie Distretti, Randy

White, Bob Gilbert, Billy Nix, Steve Barr, Charlie Reilly, Bobby Badeaux, Ron Vodden and his wife Siwi, Dave Rothwell, Ken Wells and his wife Summi, Herb Owens, Roy Aguero and his wife Diana, Danny Dominguez and his wife Vivian, Manley Dankin, Harold Kaiama along with his daughter Kelly Kaiama



Goodwin, Tom Long (all the way from Australia).

Moline was a great site for a reunion. It is a small city with a heavy emphasis on authentic Americana and the true spirit of patriotism. It even has an official "Heroes Street" that's dedicated to the fallen soldiers of the community in World War II and Korea. There's a John Deere Museum right across from the Radisson Hotel where most of the Rangers were staying. The hotel itself is situated only a few yards from the mighty Mississippi River. Activities included a Riverboat cruise and dinner, a walk down Heroes Street and a fantastic cookout at John Perez's home with enough food to feed a battalion.

All in all, it was an enjoyable experience and everyone seemed to have a great time reminiscing about the old days while catching up on the latest news regarding family and friends. John was a most gracious host and made everyone feel more than welcome at his home---and luckily his house and grounds were expansive enough to accommodate all the Rangers who came to the reunion. John's wife Carolyn also volunteered her services at the cookout and the food was outstanding. Afterwards, the Rangers posed for several group pictures while a drone flew overhead to record the occasion from an "airborne" angle.

On Sunday (September 6th), the Rangers parted ways once again, but not before a meeting was held to determine the next location for a reunion. Also, everyone was asked to make an effort to contact at least one more former Ranger buddy and urge them to attend when the time arises. It was decided that the next reunion would take place at Ft. Benning, Georgia in 2017. If we can accomplish that mission and bring more of our former mates into the fold, the next reunion will hopefully be as enjoyable and as successful as this one was.

Since no one has stepped forth and proposed a reunion for this year, let me invite all of you to attend the 2016 Long Range Recon Association Rally in Branson, Missouri June 2-5. For those of you who haven't yet heard of the LRRRA, let me fill you in on this great organization that was established at the 2015 Rally, also held in Branson last June. We had 126 vets and a good number of wives in attendance. Brothers from VN era LRRP/LRP/Ranger units joined with our younger brothers from many post-VN LRS units and had a royal blast. We had a number of vets

L/75 - F/58 LRP - 1/101ST LRRP (Continued)

arrive a day early to help set up our two hospitality rooms. We spent most of that evening making sure the bathtubs in both rooms were keeping the beer cold. They worked like a charm. Most of the attendees arrived on Thursday and enjoyed seeing

old friends and teammates and meeting new people from the many units represented. Friday was golf, shows, dining, and drinking and enjoying each other's company. Saturday was a day-long BBQ featuring brats, burgers and pork steaks, potato salad, slaw and baked beans. There was more than enough food for the 169 participants to enjoy. No one went hungry, I can guarantee that. Just about when everyone's appetites were satisfied, I was informed that the 32 cases of beer iced up in the hospitality room bathtubs was running pretty low, so I made another trip to our supplier on returned quickly with another 14 cases. Hard to believe that 46 cases of beer can totally fill a dumpster but I've got pictures if you don't believe me.

The day was capped off with a dynamite raffle of over fifty items collected by a number of vets who attended. These prizes ranged from SOG tomahawks and custom knives to beer glasses and bottles of Glenlivet Scotch and Makers Mark bourbon. The raffle raised nearly \$2000 to kick-off the new organization that the attendees voted to initiate — the LRRA (Long Range Recon Association). Officers were elected, dues were established and nearly everyone at the rally filled out application forms. Marshall Huckaby, a VN era 25th ID LRRP and the driving force behind this new association, was elected as our first President. Scott Rathgens, 9th ID LRS and F/51st LRS, was elected VP. Miguel "the Hilt" Wood, E/51st LRS and F/51st LRS, accepted the job of Sec./Treas. Carl Witkowski, E/51st LRS, was named Sergeant-at-Arms. Brian Halbrook, E.51st LRS, has accepted the role of Historian. And final, Capt. Charlie Shield, E/51st LRS, has agreed to be the Association Chaplain. Truly an excellent staff of officers to insure this new association gets off on the right foot. As of this writing we have well over 300 paid members and are growing by the day. The membership voted in September to hold the 2016 Rally in Branson again. This year we'll be adding

a chili/hot dog cook out on Friday, a firearms shoot at a nearby range, a golf tournament, a service at the State of Missouri VN War Memorial (the names of 18 LRRP/LRP/Rangers are posted at this site), an even bigger raffle than 2015, and on Saturday another all-day BBQ. We've booked two entire hotels to host the event and have ordered a 40' x 80' carnival tent with tables and chairs for the comfort of our participants. I promise you that there will be plenty of beer and hard stuff for those of you who plan on coming. There will be a \$60 registration fee for each vet which will include your wives and kids. The fee covers all drinks, and both cook-outs.

For those of you who have not yet attended one of these LRRA rallies, you're in for a real treat. It's camaraderie at its finest. It's a great feeling to see the



respect and honor we old war horses are given by the young warriors who followed in our footsteps.

If you're on Facebook, you can go to "LRRA basecamp" and request admission. Use my name as a sponsor to be allowed on the site. If you want to join the LRRA, you can download the application right on the "basecamp" site and send it in with \$25 for full membership. You'll receive a beautiful certificate, suitable for framing, along with a membership card and an embroidered association patch. Our quartermaster offers rally t-shirts, hats, decals, pins, and patches. For those of you who are not on Facebook, you can go to our website at <http://longrangeassociation.com> and sign up there. The organization is open to anyone who served in any LRRP, LRP, LRS or VN era lettered Ranger company, or its successor units. Membership in the LRRA is not a requirement to attend the Rally.

Several LRRP/LRP/LRS and VN Ranger companies have indicated that they will hold their unit reunions in conjunction with the LRRA Rally in 2016. I am recommending that we 101st long range patrollers do the same. Since the beginning of the LRRA, three of our members have died. Gentlemen, don't put off

L/75 - F/58 LRP - 1/101ST LRRP (Continued)

attending these events. Those of us who served in Vietnam are rapidly approaching the end of our tours. No one knows when he will be attending his final reunion or seeing a teammate for the last time. Our heritage is rich and storied. We are LRRPS, we are LRP's, we are Rangers. We left a proud legacy for the Rangers and LRS who have followed behind us. Let's share that legacy with our younger brothers while we still can.

There is already an effort being mounted for the 2017 reunion to be held in conjunction with the Ranger Rendezvous in the summer of 2017, so plan ahead to meet in Benning next year.

Information on the hotels is posted on the LRRP FB sites and on the LRRP website, or you can contact me at lindlrp@yahoo.com or 417-331-2834 for the details. Room rates are under \$50 per night. If anyone can't afford a room, we have eight comp rooms available



on a first come, first served basis. Contact me if you need one. Time is of the essence. We have just over 100 rooms available at the reunion site. We have two other hotels lined up for overflow but they are a half mile away. Hope to see you at the Rally in June.

Gary Linderer, Unit Director
417-331-2834 • lindlrp@yahoo.com

**M/75 - 71ST LLRP/M CO. 199TH LT. INF. BDE.**

Unit Director - Lyle Webster

I and several others didn't make the last Ranger Rendezvous due to the last minute date change, a prior commitment to attend the new LRRP in Branson made it impossible to do both. It was at the LRRP reunion that I got volunteered to be the new Unit Director. I plan on updating the Unit Roster and contacting all that I can so please be patient. If anyone has some news or just a story to tell send it to me and I will make sure that it gets posted.



I remember a time on November 8, 1969 we received a warning order for a mission. We were to be inserted on the 9th at 1700 hrs. we were going out as a heavy team (12 men) we were to locate a well used supply trail and set up an ambush. On November 11th (Veterans Day) we found a trail you could drive a 2 ½ ton truck down. Our team leader SSG Bob Oaks set us up in two three men positions and the main ambush body of six men. We set up our claymores and made ready. We didn't have to wait long, looked like about a squad size element of NVA walked into our kill zone all appeared to be well armed with AK-47's.

SSG Oaks initiated the ambush we all blew the claymores and opened up with M-16 and M-60 fire. Seemed like hours had passed but in reality only about two minutes had passed. In that moment of time the NVA had managed to get several shots off and threw a number of hand grenades. I was in one of the three men positions, and had taken some shrapnel in my left shoulder. SSG Oaks had been shot in the chest. We secured the area and called in

Medevac and air support. SSG Oaks had died from his wound, and at the same time air support arrived, they told us that we need to get out of the area because a battalion size element was sighted coming down the trail. We put SSG Oaks body in a poncho and started moving out of the area while the gunships went to work. We moved about two clicks and found a good hide site. The



Robert Larry Oaks
#353816

M/75 - 71ST LLRP/M CO. 199TH LT. INF. BDE. (Continued)

next day they brought in a Medevac and took me and SSG Oaks out. The rest of the team was married up with a Company of grunts and went hunting.

Every Veterans Day since I go to a VFW and have a beer and shot with my friend Robert Larry Oaks.

Anyone wanting to know more about the new LRRR contact me or Ron Piper or even Bob Samson. They are having a reunion next year in Branson, it is well worth the trip, the 199th is having their 50 year reunion at Benning, need more information contact me at lylwebster@aol.com or (805) 824-2113.

**N/75 - 74TH LRP - 173RD LRRP**

Unit Director - Robert "Twin" Henriksen



Hello to all members. We are now in another new year as you read this issue.

It's now been 44 years since our LRRP/Ranger Company at LZ English stood down in 1971. Some of you, older then those who left at the end of 1971, volunteered for the creation of the new Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol Platoon in early 1966. You established the standards for the operations of six man patrol teams.

Each Team Leader and Team members passed on their knowledge and lessons learned to the next group of members replacing them. In six years of operations thousands of high risk reconnaissance and combat patrols were conducted seeking out enemy (NVA/VC) intelligence information/ ambushes/ prisoner snatch/ reporting enemy movement/ base camp and POW camp locations/ bomb damage assessments (BDA)/ emplacing sensors (Duffle Bags)/ raids/ and other special mission ops. Sadly 27 members of our unit were Killed-In-Action and four died in-country of non-hostile actions while doing this very dangerous job. Many more were seriously injured. They are always in our daily thoughts and will always be remembered by their team members for their gallant service to our country. So, in this issue of Patrolling I've included three of those members who were KIA and will continue in following issues with others who gave the ultimate sacrifice to their country. Thanks to Irv "Bugs" Moran for the three tributes to KIA members: Holman, Waide and Trembley.



As of this November 2015 Patrolling Magazine submission there are 176 active members listed on the document called "Members Contact List". Some of those members listed have not been in contact with us for over a year and have been eliminated from the list. If you have not received email commo from me, then you need to contact me to be re-listed again as active. In all previous issues of this magazine, I have informed members that there are just over 700 names listed on our document called "List of Names Who Served in Unit". I am constantly updating the list and verifying those listed. Before you received this issue, you should have received the list and sent me any additional names and corrections. List has each member's full name, years/year, nicknames, awards above Bronze Star, if RHOF, KIA, and Deceased.

Since the last issue, I have requested assistance from members in getting our records correctly entered into computer files. For example, I had a story written by Bob Carrol called "Six Men Alone" he wrote for a magazine. That story was in my computer collection as three pages of jpeg (photos) so members assisted me in changing it to a continuous one page document. We also really need to correctly identify members in a lot of photos that I have collected / received from members. We want to be sure that all members are included and give year / team / members / location of each photo. I want to give a big Thank You to Jay Borman (LRRP book author) for assisting me with a lot of different problems I have had with organizing our company material on computer.

By Robert "Twin" Henriksen – N/75 Unit Director

N/75 - 74TH LRP - 173RD LRRP (Continued)**Colonel (Retired) John P. Lawton**

On September 3, 2015, John P. Lawton, COL (Ret.), former Commanding Officer of N Company Rangers, passed away at his home in Vienna, VA after fighting a two year battle with Pancreatic Cancer. After the transition from the 74th LRP Infantry Detachment to N Company Rangers, 75th Infantry (Airborne), 173rd Airborne Brigade, John became the second Company Commander of N Company taking over command from Captain Dick James in May 1969. He DEROSed in February 1970.

When John took command of N Company he was on his third tour in Vietnam. He previously served with the Vietnamese Rangers in the Delta and then with the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. While with the 1st Brigade, Lawton was severely wounded and spent over a year in the "Pit" at Walter Reed Medical Center. During the Vietnam War, the Pit was where the most seriously wounded ended up for a period of time. While John was in the Pit, he forged lifelong friendships with his wounded comrades. One of those was Max Cleland, a triple-amputee, who later became a US Senator for Georgia and subsequently the Secretary of Veterans Affairs under President Carter. Another was Barry McCaffrey who achieved the rank of a Four Star General and after retirement was appointed the Director of the Office National Drug Control Policy (Drug Czar). They continued to stay in touch for decades. The stories about the shenanigans they pulled while in the Pit are legendary, but to preserve the good reputations of former Senator Cleland and General McCaffrey I will not put them in writing, but I'm willing to share them at the next reunion.

John was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross and the Purple Heart for his actions with the 101st. Dick James, John, Rick Jones (who took over as the Operations Officer when I left) and I stayed in contact after we left N Company. We will all testify to the fact that John was incredibly proud of his time with the Company. I visited John a week before he passed and I noticed he still had the November Company sign from Vietnam, "Cpt. John P. Lawton, Company Commander" nailed to the back door of his house. After retiring from the Army (37 years) he took a senior position at the Department of Veterans Affairs. During that time, he used his knowledge and position to help several former Company members resolve issues they were having with VA. With Dick and me living not far from John in Northern Virginia, it was not uncommon for him to have us over when someone from the Company was in town. His wife Barbara was always incredibly helpful when John would call us over because Roy Boatman,

Kenny Perry and others were in the area. We would sit on his porch and tell the same stories we've always told – except they got more profane and a lot bigger and bolder as the years passed. At his induction into the Ranger Hall of Fame, I recall Barbara leaning over to me after his acceptance speech and saying, "That's not bad for John, he only used two shits, four damns, and one goddamn."

John was a devout Catholic and a devoted father. His five children – Andrew, Matthew, Kathleen, Michael, and Mary – will miss his love and attention. Andrew is in the technology business and has held positions with several large tech firms. Matthew is a West Point graduate and served with the 2nd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment. Kathleen is an RN who took leave from her position in New Mexico to help care for her dad. Michael and my son became friends and had good times when they would meet up at different clubs in college or in DC. The last I heard, Mary, the youngest and in my opinion the toughest having survived her four older siblings, was in NYC successfully working in the fashion industry.

In addition to the DSC, he was the recipient of two Silver Stars, two Bronze Stars for Valor, and four Purple Hearts. John will be buried at Arlington National Cemetery. When I find out the exact date I will let Robt know so he can pass that on to those on his email list. I want to thank Rick Jones and Dick James for their assistance.

RLTW, by Matt DeZee - Operations Officer -
N Co. Rangers, 3/69 to 12/69



**John Lawton – N Co.
Commander**



**1969 – Jim Samples,
John Lawton (CPT),
MSG John Shelton**



**2011 Reunion Joyce
Boatman and John
Lawton**

N/75 - 74TH LRP - 173RD LRRP (Continued)**In Memory of SPC Charles Holland**

I served with SFC Charles Holland in the 173rd Airborne Brigade's Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol (LRRP) Platoon prior to his death. I joined the platoon in June of 1967 as it was conducting extremely dangerous missions in the Dak To area of the Central Highlands. I was a "new guy" but being from New Jersey (Hopewell), SFC Charles Holland was extremely approachable and answered all questions I had concerning the current operations. Charles was very knowledgeable and professional, and could easily have been on a recruitment poster for airborne rangers. He was a respected Team Leader and well liked in the platoon.

Although I did not run a mission with him for the two months prior to his death, I knew from other platoon members that he conducted his missions with courage and aggressiveness. The Dak To area had thick jungle covered 3,000 foot mountains with steep ravines and few clearings for choppers to land. This area was where the borders of Cambodia, Laos and South Vietnam all came together and provided the trail networks for North Vietnamese troops to enter into Vietnam. The area was extremely active in the summer of 1967, and our missions were conducted to find these NVA units. On the day Charles was KIA (August 18, 1967) I had just returned from a mission and Charles team and other team were still out. Word went around quickly that Charles team was in extreme trouble with no radio contact. Eventually that day the team was located and extracted by chopper, but Charles was MIA. The team had been hit hard by a large NVA force and SFC Holland went back to the surveillance site to retrieve the team's radio. This action allowed the rest of the team to escape and be extracted without serious injuries.

The following day, team members accompanied by a reinforced infantry line company back to the site and located and returned SFC Charles Holland's remains. He had fought valiant to the end. At the time it was believed that Charles was going to be put in for an award of the Medal of Honor for his actions on that day. I learned later that he received the nation's second highest award for valor, the Distinguish Service Cross. He was a true American hero and everyone should read his medal citation. General James Gavin of the 82nd Airborne Division during WWII once stated "Show me a man who will jump out of an airplane and I show you a man who will fight."

By Irvin "Bug" Moran – 173rd Airborne Brigade LRRP, 1967-68



Sgt. Charles Holland (KIA) body retrieved from Dak To



1969 – Charles Holland (KIA)

YOUR NAME IS FOREVER – Charles Holland

Your tender touch opened a trembling heart
To the joy and sorrow of living
And loving soldier from the shy
I'm so proud to be your girl
Your name is forever

In eager response to our country's call
Joining The Herd, you leaped into the fray
Boldly setting the standard for courage
Daring to lead the way
All The Way!

Your name is forever
Decades later, reflecting in granite embrace
The image of your woman and your brother
Celebrating the beauty of your life
The glory of your sacrifice
Your name is forever, Skysoldier
Airborne!

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

Someday our brilliant sun will turn to ashes
 Finally silencing the melodies of the lark
 As the rivers turns to dust
 But your name is forever, Sweet Charles
 Welcome home

By Lona Maney Harris
 "I'm still your girl"
 "You're still the love of my life"

Dogs, enemy Dogs

There has been little written about the use of dogs against the American LRRP Teams that searched for NVA and Viet Cong forces. This is a short article that witnesses the use and the courses of action taken to evade the dogs sent in to locate the LRRP Teams. These accounts come from 74th Inf. Long Range Patrol and N Company 75th Airborne Rangers while operating in the II Corp AO out of LZ English. At least two teams ran into the problem, **Foxtrot Team** and later, **Mike Team**. The dates were around early spring 68 for Foxtrot and summer of 69 for Mike Team. Actual account witnesses were Don Sexton running with Fox Team and Dick Davis running with Mike Team.

Here are their accounts:

Fox Team:

I was a Scout on the team at the time. Gary Cupid may have been the team Leader at the time. The area I can't recall but the flight from LZ English was short, 20-30 minutes to our infiltration location. On the first day, shortly after the insertion, we heard dogs barking and coming closer and closer toward our direction. My first thought was, *"what in hell are we doing running from dogs?!"* It was determined the team had been compromised on infiltration and so a call was made to be extracted. There was a trail running up to higher ground toward our extraction point. We decided to take it as the game was up. Noise discipline went out the window and we took to the trail for speed.

The dogs kept coming so someone pissed on the ground and we put crushed-red peppers from our PIR rations on the urine so the dog would smell it and get the effect from the peppers. Didn't work. Then we put a trip wire across our newly left trail and had it hooked to a Claymore with a CS grenade attached. Hoping it would screw up the dogs' senses. We heard the explosion and then waited in the ready positions to see what was happening. Soon a bark then several barks! *"How the hell could they have survived that!"*? Didn't work.

We set another trip wire but this time used a smoke grenade attached to a Claymore. This one never went off. We went into a "DIP" position and waited for the extraction bird. No further contact was made, nor did we hear another "Peep" out of the dogs. What this did, was bring Team Leaders together to sort out what would be the best solution to defeat the dogs. This lead to many colorful team tent discussions' on how to fix the challenge. Everything from suppressed weapons (which we had), to rat poison, to varying degrees involving veterinary medicines and drugs. Some of which were difficult to build, like the meatballs laced with Cocaine.

Mike Team:

The mission was in the Tiger Mountains and very close to the coastline. Our vantage point was to be from the higher ground of the coastal mountain area looking east and focused on a small village located down on the actual coast its self. Rice paddies and farmland surrounded the village before the terrain started to slope up into the mountains. There was also a sniper mission tasked to the team but that is another story. NVA and VC troops would return to the village in the evening and depart in the early morning hours. Not every day but several days within a week's time. They set no schedule. After insertion, we moved through the mountain range to the last ridgeline to the east before seeing the below targeted village. We set up our vantage point and a watch location, where we would take turns on watch. It only took the first full day on site to see the enemy moving in small groups of 10-12, in file, moving along the rice paddy dikes into and out of the village.

The second night, well after dark, in our logger site we saw lights, many lights, moving in our direction from the base of the mountain up towards us. They appeared to be on line and covered about 250 meters wide. The lights seemed to move at remarkable speed and would flicker. These would later be found to be a flashlight fixed on the back or shoulder of each dog. They were fixed to rope harnesses tied around the dogs' torso area. The flashlights were still loose and tended to flop around while on the backs of the dogs as they moved. The appearance from our end looked like whoever was carrying the flashlights was running towards us. We still had no idea that dogs were employed. Our thoughts were, *"what kind of guys are these that they would run up hill, on line, with lights on giving away their positions?"* *Supermen!?* It

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

was an incredible situation and I can recall once we heard the dogs barking, thinking to my self, *this isn't fair! It simply never occurred to me I would have to do this mission or any other mission being concerned about dogs!*

If we opened up on the dogs the enemy would know where we were and move in all around us. If we did nothing then the dogs would sound off (different bark sound) all around us and the enemy would close ranks on us.

The team leader, Al Bird, decide to call in "Puff the Magic Dragon" to put down a line of fire on the mountainside. There were no real dog handlers to turn off the lights so the dogs were just running on search for a scent. They would be easy targets and could set up a natural lighted gun run for "Puff" to key on. Once Puff was on station, he made several runs and seemed to be right on the mark. He stayed until all his ammo was expended. Said good night and good luck and then departed the AO. We waited and listened. Soon, the lights reappeared. We never understood how that could be but they did.

Now what do we do? Al decided to reset the Claymores and put them out a little further and on more of a line facing on the approaching dogs. We would blow them once the dogs started to get close. Then we would run back up over the mountaintop and to the other side for a night extraction. It was at that point when we looked west up the mountain, that we saw the second set of lights, on line, moving down from the top of the mountain towards us. It was going to be *game-on* shortly. They had us bracketed.

When the dogs got close, we blew the Claymores and ran until we started making contact. At that point, we were in the **Australian Peel** mode (Contact SOP actions/Immediate Action Drills) with each contact made. Avoiding a 180-degree direction out of the contact, but rather trying to bend our direction always back up the mountainside.

We all made it to the top and had an extraction bird pick us up. It took awhile for us to gather our selves and figure out what happened. It meant new tactics and defeat measures had to be tried and tested from then on for all missions Mike Team did after that. That is another story...

By Dick Davis – N/CO Rangers on Mike Team 69

A Tribute To An American

Don Waide and I served together in the 173rd Airborne Brigade Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol Platoon



Lrrp Don Waide, mission ready, 1967



1968 – Donald Waide, KIA 5-7-68

form the summer of 1967 to April of 1968. Don and I had been assigned to the Military Police Platoon of the 173rd Airborne Brigade prior to volunteering for the LRRP's. I was accepted into the LRRP Platoon in late June of 1967 and Don followed shortly thereafter. A total of five of us from the Military Police Platoon went to the LRRP's and three were subsequently killed in action. Don was an extremely close friend of mine; I served as his Assistance Team Leader from December 1967 until I returned home in April of 1968. Don was an excellent Team Leader who possessed all the necessary skills to conduct the extremely dangerous long range reconnaissance patrols and return his team safely. He was aggressive in his patrols, yet he had the leadership qualities that instilled confidence in the patrol members. Don appeared totally at ease in the jungle environment and always maintained a calming presence in tough situations. I never questioned his decisions or abilities. I left the LRRP Platoon in early April of 1968, returning home after a 3 year tour with the Army. Don was looking forward to returning home within a few months after that, and the last letter I received from him before his death reflected his desires to return home. I was devastated to receive word from fellow platoon members that Don was Killed In Action on May 7, 1968. I still have guilt feeling that if I had still been with him this would not have happened. I often think about him and the other members of the platoon who gave their lives. Whenever I am in Washington DC I visit the memorial with their names. Don and I had planned to keep in touch after Vietnam, and I know that would have happened. He was a friend and fellow warrior I will never forget. I have numerous photographs of Don from our days together, and I still enjoy the memories, good and bad. He will always be a part of my memories.

by Irvin "Bugs" Moran – 173rd LRRP Platoon 6/67-4/68

N/75 - 74TH LRP - 173RD LRRP (Continued)**Song Fest Ends as Rangers Kill 4 NVA, Capture 5 AK's**

Four NVA regulars sang their way to death as a 173rd Airborne Brigade Ranger Team shattered their musical notes with small arms fire and captured five AK-47 rifles. The team was operating nine miles Northwest of Landing Zone English, located near the coast 300 miles northeast of Saigon. Team Bravo, Company N, 75th Infantry (Rangers), observed lights and heard shots and voices at the base of a mountain during the night. "The next morning we headed down a finger toward the area where we saw the light" explained Sgt. Darryl J. Paul, Monrovia, Calif., a scout with the team. "We moved about 500 meters and came across a trail". The Rangers followed the trail until it branched out into a fork. Assistant Team Leader, Spec.4 Jimmy D. Grey, Porterville, Calif., said, "Two of us dropped our rucksacks and continued on the trail leading off to the right. After following it for about 50 meters, we found ourselves on top of a small hill used as an observation position. We heard people singing on the other side of the hill". The two paratroopers rejoined the other scouts who also heard the voices. Spec. 4 Leslie D. Egel, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, the radio operator, requested Huey gunships. "I informed our rear area that we located a possible base camp and people were in it," he said.



Team Bravo, Leonard Norwood, Henry Banks, Jimmy Grey

The team leader, Sgt. Scotty L. Norwood, Meridian, Miss., briefed his team. "We moved real slow because of the loose rocks and stones in the area. We made the least noise possible." After advancing 20 meters the pointman, Spec. 4 John R. Knaus, Newark, NJ, saw two enemy soldiers standing among some boulders near caves. "I signaled the team that I saw the soldiers, and we got into position."

Firing their weapons and tossing hand grenades, the Rangers charged the enemy. "We caught them by surprise," commented PFC Donald F. Bizadi, Chile, Arizona. "The ones that were fortunate enough to escape will never forget that song fest." Following the 45 minute fire fight, the team collected 10 chicom hand grenades, six rucksacks, 10 pith helmets and five pounds of documents.

Article from Firebase 173 – the 173rd Abn Bde's newspaper, 1970.

Long Range Patrol (LRP) Hill

Probably about June, 1968, LZ English got mortared a few times on consecutive nights. (If you were there then, you'll recall bagpipes standing on the slit trench playing the bagpipes as the mortars came in.) Word came down that the 173rd CG was to have none of that. At some point, someone made the decision to send out a patrol to attempt to find the VC mortar launching site or to set up an ambush somewhere towards the base of the hills west southwest of English to discourage further VC activity.

A warning order was issued for a LRP team to conduct a patrol outside the wire. John Thompson's (deceased, 1976) team was selected for this cluster **** and John was none to happy that a LRP team was being wasted on something that a couple of line company squads could have done. John and I (I was ATL) decided (with an appropriate amount of sarcasm) that a LRP team had been selected because of its ability to slip, undetected, into the target area, pick up the scent of VC and mortars and hone in on the exact location. We would insert by foot, humping west from English via the garbage dump below LRP hill.

As we prepared for the "mission", we had to draw ammo. Along with the rest of the ordinance was a case of dynamite, not something normally carried by a LRP team, John directed to take half dozen sticks or so with us. It was unclear to me at the moment why he thought this would be necessary but John had been around much longer than I and I did not question it. What I did notice was a grin on his face and an irreverent smile in his eyes. John was a team leader who pushed the edges of the envelope so it was not a great surprise to me. We departed the perimeter probably about 1300. As we moved, we came to the river. It was slow, meandering, and about 75 to 100 meters across, depth unknown when we came upon

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

it. On the bank on our side of the river were several fishing boats and we quickly determined them to be local fisherman/VC boats. The decision was made to toss a stick of dynamite in each of them. The boats were rendered matchsticks. As we contemplated our success, we began thinking of the best way to cross the river since stealth was no longer an advantage (Dynamite is really loud). We soon realized that we'd just blown up our river crossing vehicles. Tome Roubideaux was on point and volunteered to attempt to cross and, if successful, set up security on the far bank so the rest of us could follow. Tome went under at several spots, I swear, all I could see was his rifle above his head and his nose above the water. However, he made it and the rest of us followed at the appropriate interval for a wide river crossing.

Looking at it from afar (like Brigade HQ), one could have argued that this LRP team was not taking the mission very seriously. However, John's explanation was that it would be difficult to find the exact location of the mortar position that had launched rounds too close to the CG's air conditioned trailer. It was more expedient to bring the VC to us. Shortly after crossing the blue line, we emerged from the tree line into a dried up rice paddy area. To the right of the trail we were on at about 20 -30 meters was a lot of undergrowth. To our front, perhaps 100 meters, the same. To our left were several hundred meters of dried up rice paddy and to our rear, the tree line from which we'd just emerged. We were stretched out with a good 15 meters between patrol members and I was a bit farther back covering the rear. We were in the wide open. Suddenly, a shot cracked off from the undergrowth to my right. It sounded like a firecracker going off next to my ear. It took me that millisecond to recognize it as incoming and I yelled, "IN-COMING!" All team members hit the dirt at the same time we received an automatic weapon burst from the undergrowth to our front. The automatic weapon was perfectly set up for enfilade fire and Tome was face to face with it. The sniper to my right rounded out the perfect L shaped ambush. The outgoing firing started immediately. I emptied a magazine into the undergrowth to my right where the first shot had originated. The guys up front were emptying magazines to the front and probably in all directions but I'm not sure as I was focused on the sniper and to the rear. At some point in the first 5 or 10 seconds, I glanced toward the point and clearly saw a VC with an RPD stand up and run to his right (our left) and quickly disappear into the undergrowth to our front. He just stood up and ran away.

Gunships had been requested and found targets at our 1 o'clock to 3 o'clock and began working out. We egressed the same way we'd ingressed but with Tome now the rear security and I on point. There was no more contact and we got back to English right at sunset without injury. We had found the VC within about 3 hours. Between our gaining fire superiority in the "ambush" and the gunship blowing up the area, the local VC no doubt got a bit more than they had bargained for and we didn't need to spend the night on an ambush.

Lessons learned: When your team leader determines that it is easier to bring the local VC to you rather than trying to track him down, listen to him – he's absolutely right. If you blow up a local VC's boat, it will piss him off enough to stage a hasty ambush. Unlike the NVA and Main Force VC, the local VC are not very good at hasty ambushes and are not very good marksmen. I am here to tell you that. If you fire a few bursts at a local VC he will run away, even if he has you dead to rights with an RPD. Conducting this sort of mission will absolutely stop the mortars. There was no more incoming in subsequent weeks. Most important, with some forethought and guts, LRPs/Rangers can create their own successes.

In memory of John Thompson, a smart and gutsy LRP team leader and friend.

CHOPPERS PLUCK PATROL FROM VC

Bien Hoa, Vietnam (IO) - Dressed in camouflaged fatigues and floppy hats, with camouflage paint staining their faces and hands, the two paratroopers sat absolutely still in a clump of bamboo as 34 Viet Cong walked by on the footpath less than 15 feet away. "My heart began to do flip-flops as they kept coming down the trail" said SP5 Charles R. Cundiff. When they started setting up camp only 15 yards down the trail, I hardly dared to breath."

The two paratroopers, Cundiff and SP4 Lawrence S. Cole, were on their first mission with the 173rd Airborne Brigade Long Reconnaissance Patrol (LRRP) in an area 30 miles from Saigon. "It was strictly an observation and intelligence mission" SSgt. John Jakovenko, the LRRP Team Leader, said. "We were watching the trail and recording the number of people using the trail, their sex, arms, clothing, equipment, etc., for brigade intelligence. The mission had begun the evening before, the same way a hundred missions

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

had in the past, with a fast, efficient helilift onto a quiet, dusk-darkened landing zone somewhere in the jungles near Saigon. Before the rapidly departing helicopters were gone, the fast-moving six-man team was off the landing zone and into the jungle.

Aware of the many dangers of moving through the jungle at night, the six men hacked their way to a good defensive position about 100 yards from the landing zone. There they spent the long night, alert to the slightest sound or movement in the Viet Cong controlled jungle around them. In the morning, the paratroopers started through the jungle looking for the known trail. At 9:30 they reached the footpath and found a bend in it where they set up their observation post, hidden by thick bamboo. Cundiff and Cole took up their positions only five feet from the trail. Minutes later, the first group of the day moved by the LRRP's position, three men and a woman. "Larry and I were so close to them, we could have struck out our legs and tripped them", Cundiff said. "After they were gone we moved further into the bamboo. Five feet was just too close."

For the rest of the day the six-men lay concealed and noted everyone who passed down the busy path. Then near 5 o'clock in the afternoon, three squads of VC came down the path and began to bivouac next to the LRRP's position.

"They were a well armed group, with automatic weapons and a couple of light machine guns" Jakovenko said. "We could hear them talking and rattling pots as they set up, their camp. Ten we say two of them move away from the camping area with one of the machine guns, apparently to set up an observation post outside their perimeter."

At this point, Jakovenko decided that it was time for the LRRP to make themselves scarce. As the six men moved cautiously away from the Viet Cong, they called for a helicopter extraction using their radio. Suddenly all noise from the VC encampment ceased. The LRRP had been heard. "We really began to step out then," Jakovenko said. "We hurried to the farthest corner of the landing zone from the trail. There we hid in the high grass, waiting for the choppers."

The Viet Cong had apparently found the team's observation position because they began a systematic search of the surrounding area. For nearly an hour the LRRP waited for the helicopters as they listened to the VC looking for them.

Soon the six men were watching as the VC were sweeping the landing zone for them. "They were coming almost straight at us." Said Cole, "Although they could not have known we were there." Then, when it seemed the VC would stumble onto them, the helicopters arrived. "Even then our troubles weren't over," said Jakovenko. "The men in the helicopter couldn't see the small markers on our hats. So, I stood up and threw a smoke grenade to mark our position. Then, as I turned around, I saw two VC about 20 feet away about the same time as they spotted me. I was faster, though. They went down like empty sacks."

In one swooping dive, the extraction helicopter landed next to the LRRP, the machine gunners firing a steady suppressing fire to cover the six men. As the loaded helicopter took off, two armed helicopters dove at the VC on the landing zone with machine guns and rockets going full blast. "Those boys from the 335th Aviation Company of the 173rd are our best friends," Jakovenko said. "They have pulled us out of many, many tight situations." When the team returned to the Brigade base, they assessed their casualties. "We had one man with a cut on his chin, which he received when he clipped the door of the helicopter in his hurry to get aboard," said Jakovenko.



335th Aviation Company

Members on the team: Vladimir "Jake" Jakovenko, Reed Cundiff, Larry "Red" Cole, Roger Bumgardner, Manual "Pancho" Moya and a medic (who never went out on another mission).

Article from Pacific Stars & Stripes - Wednesday, Jan. 4, 1967. Article provided by a crewman of the extraction bird.

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

Comments from extraction chopper - door-gunner:
I'm glad that you will be able to share this article with some of the men involved in the actual mission written in this story. I have often wondered about them and felt they would like to have a copy for themselves. As I mentioned when we last talked. My small role in that extraction was as the Crew Chief / Door Gunner riding the left seat behind the pilot of the extraction aircraft. To this day I can still see the looks on the faces of those men when we lifted from the LZ and were in the air (you LRRP's were either nuts or crazy, maybe a little of both). I say that with all the respect and admiration for the job you had to do.

Best wishes from a fellow "Sky Soldier," Richard Billings 335th Aviation Company.

Sent in by: Carl Vencill - 173rd Airborne LRRP Platoon Lieutenant 11/66-3/67

Tribute To A True Hero

Alain Tremblay Killed In Action on July 7, 1968.



1968 - Alain "Sgt. Rock" Tremblay, Irv "Bugs" Moran

I served with Alain Tremblay in 1967-68. We were members of the 173rd Airborne Brigade Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol Platoon. This unit was comprised of extremely proficient and heroic paratroopers, and Alain was among the best. He was a little older than most of us and had experienced more in life, including study to become a Trappist

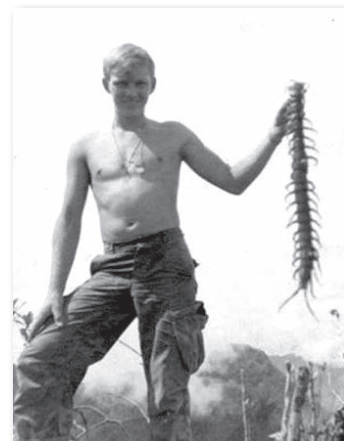
Monk prior to entering the service. On missions, he was an absolute warrior, yet during any down time he would always look for things to do to help the South Vietnam people. His huge heart, combined with his absolute courage, was truly unique. His loss today is as tragic as it was when it happened. In any war, we always lose our very best. He and the others we lost will always be in our thoughts.

by Irv "Bugs" Moran - 173rd LRRP 67/68

Critters

by Dave Cummings

Remember those centipedes in the mountains that crawled under your poncho ground cover at night for warmth? If I had run into one this big I would have surrendered to it.



Centipede



**Some days you get the cat, some days the cat...
Millinder, Baugh, Acuna, others. 1971**



O/75 - 78TH LRP

Unit Director - Michael L. Feller

Hello all finally the old fart is getting on the ball and sending in an article and with luck I'll send it to the correct place.

Old news: O Co actually presented an entry in the Wellston annual 4th of July parade, any one wishing to take part next 4th just let me know and stop by. There are also Fireworks that evening, nice show and draws guests from all over, as well as events all day. The good part... I live less than 1/2 mile from the lake where the doins is held so parking is not a hassle.

Attended the F Co. Reunion and had a great time in Las Vegas. Thanks Dick Moyer.



Speaking of reunions Larry Lee, with the aid of Doug Phelps has been working hard on the O Co reunion plans for 2016. Had a good time at the last one. I find the next site exciting as I have never been to New Orleans and intend on riding my bike there, with a few stops nearby. Any and all are welcome to join me on the trip and naturally at the reunion.

REUNION DETAILS:

Holiday Inn Downtown - Superdome
330 Loyola Ave New Orleans, La. 70112

To reserve a room call 800-535-7830 or 504-581-1600 and request the group Company O 75th Rangers to get the special rate for sleeping rooms of \$129.00 plus 14.75% tax plus \$1.00 should be a total of \$149.03 per night. This rate is based on a 2 night minimum stay. There is a block of 30 saved for us, all events will be in the Jazz/Dixieland Rooms.



- Friday Sept 30th 2016 Casual Meet and Greet 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm W/ Buffet Dinner.
- Saturday October 1st 2016 Main Event 11:00 am to 4:00 pm W/ Buffet Lunch
- Sunday October 2nd 2016 say your "Goodbye's" from 8:00 am to 12:00 noon w/ Buffet Breakfast

Your cost for the reunion will be \$120.00 per person attending all 3 events please send a check to me at your convince but preferably ASAP. Once I receive your check I will send

you a message that I got it and add you to the paid list. In the event that you won't be able to attend I will be able to make refunds up to August 30th 2016. I will put all checks in the Co O savings account until the money is needed. If you can't attend all of the events your cost will be reduced accordingly. Parking at the hotel is \$10.00 per 24 hours.

Doug Phelps and Alan Pietre's (Deceased) Wife Nell Guidrey have volunteered to do a free shuttle to and from the Airport. Regular cost for a shuttle is \$25.00 per person or \$36.00 for 2 people for a taxi each way.

My Address is Larry Lee
240 S. Riverview Drive
Leavenworth, IN 47137

I Hope To see Everyone There.
Michael Feller



P/75 - 79TH LRP

Unit Director - Terry B. Roderick

It's my unfortunate duty to report that we have lost one of the iconic figures that served in the Papa Company Rangers. Ranger Richard Auten passed away on September 8th, 2015 due to health issues. His service in Co. P (RANGER) 75th Inf. was preceded by his service in Co. F/51st Inf. (LRP)(ABN) before his move with several other F/51st LRP company members to Quang Tri with the arrival of D/151st LRP's in Vietnam in December 1968. A group of men from F/51st were sent up to Quang Tri to form the P/75th Ranger company at the same time a similar group was sent to the 3rd Brigade of the 82nd Airborne to start O/75th Ranger in Vietnam. The remaining members of F/51st LRP were absorbed by D/151st LRP when F/51st was deactivated.



Rick Auten 1970

Rick Auten was a SP/4 when he moved up to the 5th Mech compound at Camp Red Devil. Already he had shown a knack for engaging the enemy and had shown leadership skills that he would put to good use in a short period. Rick was the sort of Ranger who led from the front and never asked anyone to do anything he wouldn't do. Problem was...there wasn't much he wouldn't do for the most part.

He was a respected and fearless Team Leader in Papa Company and was always looking for ways for our teams to be more effective and to protect ourselves better. I believe he had already been promoted to Sgt. when I arrived and had his team for a while. After a couple of early missions I was assigned to his team as the RTO as I was a floater at the time and new to the company. I noticed everyone on the team carrying three Claymores instead of what I thought were the usual two when we were packing for the mission. Rick had 4-5 of them in his rucksack too and it looked enormous to me. He was in great physical shape and had shoulders as wide as axe handles. And he was every bit that strong too. His rucksack must have weighed a ton. Since everyone else was packing three



Claymores, I did too. Even with the radio I felt like I needed to make sure things didn't fall off because of my appearance on the scene. After leaving his team to go to Team 15, with SGT. K, I don't think I ever carried three Claymores on a mission again. If those of you there with us remember, Rick had built a wooden tray like apparatus to put all the "clickers" for the Claymores in and he rubber banded them together and had another long wooden stick that he'd use to push all the "clickers" at the same time so back blasts wouldn't sever the cords from an adjoining Claymore. We'd have up to 18 Claymores on a trail for an ambush with WP grenades camouflaged in front of some to keep their heads down after blowing an ambush. He received a Soldier's Medal in Vietnam for saving the life of a drowning teammate who panicked underwater when he stepped off, fully loaded, into a deep hole while crossing a stream.

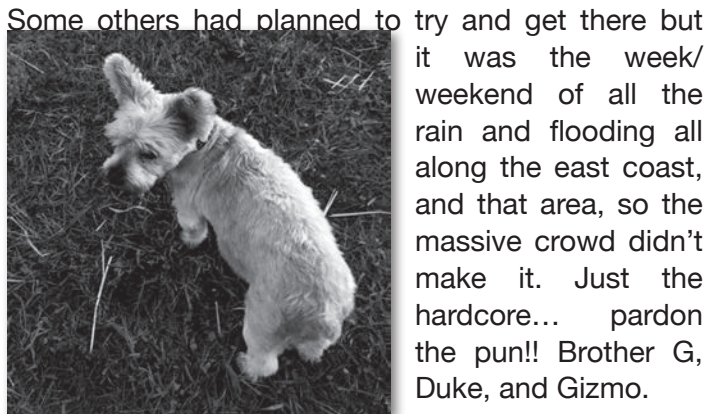
This is one of the military's highest awards that are not necessarily given in wartime or combat situations. It's a life saving award. He was TL on the team that killed Nguyen Quyet, at the time the most wanted Viet Cong in Quang Tri Province in 1969. He was on another extended tour when I got there and it wasn't his first extension. For me personally, if anyone was made for that life we were leading at the time, it was Rick Auten. Not everyone agreed with his aggressive style, but he was highly effective as a Team Leader and I would have followed him anywhere he wanted to take me. For me, that's the highest compliment I can offer. Fortunately, he wasn't the only Team Leader in P/75th that I felt that way about either. In retrospect, I think we were very fortunate to have the skilled men who shouldered this responsibility in all of our units. He will be missed by all who knew him, but especially his wife, Sherrie, who cared for him for a long time. Thanks to David Barfield, Rick's longtime friend, and Clyde Tanner for attending the service for Rick that followed shortly after his passing. REST IN PEACE, RANGER AUTEN...you were one of a kind!



Mike Rossi and Rick Auten

P/75 - 79TH LRP (Continued)**Eddie, Nick and Nicolette**

On a more positive note, Nick Johnston, Eddie and Kitten's oldest son, was married at their home on October 3, 2015. The same day Allison Barley, the daughter of Sharon and Roy Barley was married in Springville, NY at their home. Some new beginnings to help make up for our losses as we move forward. I'm not sure if I should go into some of what I suspected were sordid details at the Johnston wedding but you know me, I'm going to spill the beans anyway. I was mostly looking out for Kitten and her many assistants and their hard work leading up to the affair. Didn't want them to have to go back and do it again and I'll explain why? Attending the wedding from Papa Company, for the record, were Duke DuShane, Sam "Brother G" Burnette, my oldest daughter, Cindy, my hound, Gizmo, and myself.

**Gizmo**

Some others had planned to try and get there but it was the week/weekend of all the rain and flooding all along the east coast, and that area, so the massive crowd didn't make it. Just the hardcore... pardon the pun!! Brother G, Duke, and Gizmo.

Well, I get there and I get wind that Eddie is going to marry his son to a sweet girl named, Nicolette. What?? He's no Preacher and Brother G is there and he is!! What is up? I asked the Reverend Burnette, "What is going on here?" How can this heathen, Eddie "Hardcore" Johnston, be marrying his son and it still be legal? I was informed that Virginia, the state that is "for lovers", has some sort of law or ordinance that allows a somewhat regular/normal person to become like a preacher for a day to marry their kids off. The title I saw was "Officiant"!! Who ever

heard of such a thing? Not me. Now, I had to do what Femiano did a while back to get the true results of the Fishing Tournament in Cherokee, where valuable prizes were at stake. I had to cozy up to the Reverend Burnette and ask him straight up, as a pastor, is this really true and legal?? He can't bullcrap us when we play the "Preacher Card!!" He said it was, so I had to cancel my planned protest during the wedding ceremony and let it go on as they had planned it. My biggest concern was that all the lovely, beautiful, and memorable crafts and preparations done by Kitten and her sisters and friends would have to be done again because Eddie was just messing around. In truth, I hope it turns out it was a sham and they have to do it again. We all had a wonderful time despite less than perfect weather. Eddie assures me that there won't be a Do-Over. He would have to sell a grandchild if that happened. I'd be remiss if I didn't tell you all that it was like an old fashioned country wedding, but with just fantastic decorations, gifts for all, and food, drink, etc. A good crowd in a laid-back atmosphere and it just couldn't have been any better. They have a gorgeous home on a mountain top in western Virginia that has breath taking views on all sides. Shows me what hard work and being smart with your resources can allow you to enjoy later. So happy for a hard working family.

**Wedding Info board****Three Amigos Terry Roderick, Sam Brother G Burnette, and Duke DuShane**

P/75 - 79TH LRP (Continued)

Next summer's reunion will be in the Cherokee, NC area. We just have not set the dates yet. Wish I could give you a better report, but will have it posted on the Association website and also I'll e-mail to everyone I can ASAP. For those members of the 75th Ranger Regiment Association and/or those who receive Patrolling, you probably have your Fall 2015 issue by now. If so, you can see there are changes coming down the line. I'd ask that you give the new leadership time to actually do some things to cure some of the ills. Some of the damage unfortunately is water over the dam. There are some good and caring fellows working for us now and they want to get Patrolling back on board.

The Business Meeting this summer revealed that only about 50-60 members actually voted on the ballots provided prior to the meeting. Per the by-laws, the motions passed or were denied by about 55 people who actually took part in the process and weren't necessarily present at any meeting to vote. Is that how you members want your Association run? It's not often that we're asked to do a little something to protect and direct this wonderful organization that has given us so much in return for our meager contributions. I was guilty of not getting a ballot in and voting myself and I'm a Past President of the whole shooting match. So it's not just you guys individually. I dropped the ball a bit but it will not happen again. I'll admit I got a bit disillusioned about some things within the Association over the past years, but I never stopped supporting it until I didn't vote.

Not much else to add but that Mary Murphy and Joyce Boatman are somewhere in Oz having fun. Sure would like to be a fly on the wall when those two get together. Attended a Veterans Day program in Cary, NC last Friday. I have a niece, Laura Balan, who is in a choir at her school and they were supporting the program that day and she asked me about a month ago if I would come? She had never shown much interest in my military service before but after short deliberation, I told her I'd be honored to come. It was a wonderful program put on by the city of Cary and we got a free lunch of fried chicken, green beans, potatoes and cake for dessert and of course, sweet tea. There were several hundred veterans and friends and family there that day.

The highlight for me was a WWII bugler, who was past his prime, but had been doing this program playing "Taps" for many, many years, and his haunting rendition. It was done in bits and pieces, short of wind in places, notes flying like hummingbirds at times, but it was very recognizable and I could tell the immense effort that this veteran was putting into his performance. He left us hanging for several seconds a couple of times, but he'd fight back and pick up where he left off. I made sure to "award" him a Papa Company Ranger coin as I exited the building after the program.

He showed the effort and perseverance I saw from so many of you in Vietnam. I remain honored to serve as your Unit Director until one of you will bail me out... Jay Borman told me he's receiving orders for his book, "LRRP", from Europe and Japan these days. The interest is high on our experiences, Boys!! It's a great gift for your family, but it's not cheap. Worth the price though. Currently working with a Professor in Indiana who is a member of the military Chemical Hall of Fame who inquired about the mission on June 6, 1970, where the bunkers blew prematurely and Sgt. Melvin Davis, and SP/4 Stutes were lost. Getting a lot of assistance from so many who were there that day...Lutz, Polski, Dominguez, Cassidy, Lindauer, Cornelius, Gates, and others not here with us now like Bill Davis and Dave "Mac" McNulty. I'll be sure to share this information as it develops with you all.

Until next time...

RLTW!! In Ranger brotherhood, Rock



ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ)

Unit Director - Bill Miller



Fellow Rangers and Co Vans:

Well, it looks like Patrolling is getting back on track with the latest issue (Fall 2016). I have been assured that the winter issue will be on time. Of course we need the cooperation of all the unit directors to send their submittals when required. I still need your articles and photos. I know you guys have photos so why not make a copy and email or snail mail them to me. Photos are always liked and appreciated. If you don't respond then I will not have much to send in for publication. I know that many of you like and wait for the patrolling magazine to arrive, and there have been problems, but I believe that is a great magazine and we need to continue this publication. I can't support you if you don't support me! Please help!



With the deepest respect, on behalf of the entire Vietnamese Community here in Arizona, I would like to express our sincere gratitude towards the sacrifices the US Veterans have devoted to sustain freedom in South Vietnam for 20 years until April 30, 1975. We are also grateful for the generosity of the American people who have accepted our presence and embraced our culture over the past 41 years. Thank you for allowing us to be part of your lives, and giving us a chance to call this place our second home.

2016 Vietnam Remembrance Day Phoenix, AZ

The following is the speech given by Mr. Ngan Le on Sunday April 24, 2016.

Good Morning Ladies and Gentlemen:

Welcome to the 2016 Annual Vietnam Remembrance Day. First and foremost, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for attending one of the Vietnamese Community's most meaningful events. In addition, I would also like to extend a further work of welcome to the US Veterans who are present at today's event. Also, a very special thank you to the staff and volunteers from "In Country Group" for organizing this event.

We gather here today at the Bolin Park to honor all the Vietnamese and American Veterans who had served and fought courageously in Vietnam and to remember the chapter full of sorrow and darkness in the Vietnamese history-Fall of Saigon on April 30th, 1975. Representing the Vietnamese Community, I am honored to be one of the speakers for this important occasion.

Ladies and Gentlemen, 41 years ago, I was among thousands of South Vietnamese who fled the country when Saigon fell under the communist troops. For those of us who fled the country, escaped from the communist regime, April 30th is a day full of sorrow and despair. The darkest days in Vietnam history and in my life forever stays in my mind and my heart. Forty one years have gone by, and Vietnam is still considered as a poor country by United Nations standards. The country is poorly governed by Communism, and under the dictatorship, 90 million Vietnamese who are living in Vietnam are prohibited to adopt the core values of true freedom, the meaning and benefits of a democratic society. Living in a free society, we all realized that a prosperous country can only exist where the Vietnamese citizens has the possibility to enjoy human dignity with a for equality, democracy, and freedom to express his/her opinion without fear. With that said the primary focus for all of Vietnamese who are living abroad, our task is to transform the existing Communist Vietnam into a Democratic Vietnam, where both Human Rights, and Freedom are guaranteed for all of its citizens. It is a very difficult task, however, for the future of young Vietnamese generations in Vietnam and abroad, I myself and other South Vietnamese Veterans will continue to work with the young generation to achieve our goals. We will continue to fight for freedom and democracy in Vietnam to ensure the loss of 58,000 US men and women in the Vietnam War are meaningful sacrifices.

ARVN RANGER ADV, (BDQ) (Continued)**Rouges Gallery**

**David Williams 42nd
Bn and Chanh (Rank
Unknown)**



**Tex and Ichiko Wandke
prior to Banquet**



**Roy "Buck" Allen and
Major Huy at Banquet**



**Captain Lam Bui
and Chanh**

Quote

"The most persistent sound which reverberates through history is the beating of war drums."
Arthur Koestler

Mu Nau
Bill Miller, Unit Director

An Honor

By: Bob Reitz

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 you know, Stew and I served together in 1967-68 with the 35th ARVN Ranger Battalion, and I had met Angie in 2002 at Stew's funeral. (Stew is buried just outside the old entrance to Fort Benning). But, being old that I am, I really did not 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 can fit into my Green Class A uniform, but as you know the Army is now Blue (not to be different for 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 work was in Exercise Science and Military Leadership. To put money where here mouth is, she is an Iron Man Competitor! But, that is not all; She is employed (until going on active duty with the 3rd Bde, 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 Ranger school. He knew Angie's capabilities and reputation, and asked her to join the company. Stew would be extremely proud! I am amazed! There is still one more piece of information—Angie is dating Captain Allen M. Cooner, a VMI class of 2005 graduate (I am VMI 61). This of course makes him a fine man and he is a member of the "Silver Wings" Army parachute team, and currently, serving as XO, 1st Battalion, 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 hands.

Sitrep

Gentlemen, I am currently working on revising the list of known Officers and Enlisted men who served as advisors to the BDQ. I would like to ask you to think long and hard about who served on your team during your tour. I would like Rank, Name, Battalion or Group, position held and year/years. Please forward any information you can provide and I will match it against what I have and make corrections and additions as needed. I would like this information ASAP and you can email me at bietdongquan@yahoo.com or snail mail me at 1090 Brightwood Drive, Aiken, SC 29803. I really appreciate anything you can provide.

Quote

"A vote is like a rifle: Its usefulness depends on the character of the user." Theodore Roosevelt



D/151 LRP/RANGER

Unit Director - Tom Hughel

Robinson's Whitewater River Campground

For the second time in the last three years the Association had a mini reunion at Robinson's Whitewater Campground in Connorsville, Indiana on September 17th through the 20th. If you've never been there you don't know what a great camping adventure you're missing. We had several of our members who golfed on Thursday and Friday – Doug Hagan, Billy Waters, Ted Dunn, Tom Hughel, Dennis Engi, Jim Stover, Ken Brody and Mike Slabaugh. Unfortunately the golfers were not photographers, and there are no pictures to show.



There were three pitch-in meals, Friday dinner, and Saturday breakfast and dinner. If you weren't there you missed out on a lot of good food. Saturday's evening meal was followed by an auction. Doug Hagan did another great job of conducting the auction and it brought in over \$4,000 for the Association. There were puzzles decorated and signed by Pappy Hayes and many popular items with the company logo. After the

auction Doug sang a few songs, some played cards and many memories were relived before everyone retired for the evening.



RANGERGOTURBACK.COM

We offer high quality long or short sleeve button down collar shirts in light blue denim, and white, black or light blue cotton. Each shirt includes your name and the 75th Ranger Regiment Association logo embroidered on the right side chest of the shirt.

Badges (Prcht wings, CIB, CMB) can be added to the left side for an additional cost.

PRICES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Light blue denim, S-XL	\$52.00 + \$10.00 S&H
Light blue denim, 2X-3X	\$57.00 + \$10.00 S&H
Cotton, white, black or lt. blue, S-XL	\$57.00 + \$10.00 S&H
Cotton, white, black or lt. blue, 2X-3X	\$60.00 + \$10.00 S&H

The following badges may be embroidered on the right side of any shirt ordered.

THE FOLLOWING BADGES ARE AVAILABLE:

Combat Infantry Badge (1st & 2nd award); Combat Medic Badge (1st & 2nd award); Vietnam BDQ Badge; Parachute Badge (Basic, Senior & Master).

The cost to embroider each badge is \$8.00.

TO ORDER: Go to the above web site, or e-mail order@rangergoturback.com. Please include type of shirt, name and address, any badges desired and method of payment. You can also print the order form and mail to:

Rangergoturback
PO Box 783
Altoona, PA 16603



NEW ASSOCIATION PATCH

This is our new association patch, It measures approximately 4x4” and looks outstanding on the breast pocket of a black blazer. They are currently available on the Quartermaster page of our website.



The card ads on these pages allow the Association to bring you a quality product (the magazine) at a cost that is sustainable by the Association. These card ads are a great deal, the cost is only \$100.00 for four issues. That's a years worth of advertising. If the advertiser has a web site, we will provide a link from our web site (75thrra.org) for an additional \$50.00, so for \$150.00 you will have a years worth of exposure as well as a link to your web site, for a total of \$150.00. We mail around 2,200 copies of the magazine each issue. The copies that go to the 3 Battalions and to the RTB are seen by many more people than the number of copies would indicate. That's a lot of exposure for a minimum cost.

As members, we should make an effort to patronize our advertisers. Most of us would prefer to deal with one of our own given the opportunity. Give it a chance, it helps the Association bring you a quality product at a reasonable price. Thanks to everyone that has signed up.

75TH RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION, INC. CHALLENGE COINS ARE NOW AVAILABLE IN SOLID SILVER AND IN BRONZE

COIN PRICES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Bronze coins are \$20.00 each

Silver coins are \$50.00 each

Shipping is based on the number of coins.
(the quartermaster page will calculate this
for you automatically, on our website).
We accept Visa, Master Card & PayPal.
You can order online, by mail, or call the
secretary. if you are unsure or have questions,
call Tom Sove (209) 404-6394
or e-mail secretary@75thrra.com.



ORDER ONLINE: www.75thrra.org/qm75

JENSEN BEACH SIGN COMPANY

Tyrone V. Woods
P.O. Box 1700
Jensen Beach, FL 34958

Jensen Beach Sign Company HAND LETTERED SIGNS



**BOAT LETTERING
TRUCKS • GRAPHICS**

Signs & Things
by Tyrone
Orange Ave., RIO

NEW ANTIQUE CHALLENGE COIN

We have added bumper stickers, some beautiful new challenge coins, and an association patch to the quartermaster page of our website. And, as always, you can renew your dues there if you are an annual payer or wish to make a contribution to the family fund. We'll try to add a direct pay button in an upcoming constant contact message. Thanks for your attention.

This is the approved coin for the 75th anniversary of the ranger activation (1942-2017). The coins are to be made available sometime prior to the rendezvous. The cost will be about \$10.00 per coin. The coin is a simple design which brings forward the true meaning of the Ranger from past to present.

More information to come as it made available to me. I will get this out to you. Rick



To the
75th Ranger Regiment Association
With Regards and Best Wishes



Special Operations
Memorial Foundation

**Your
advertisement
could be
here!**

ADVERTISE IN PATROLLING!

IF YOU OR YOUR FIRM OFFERS GOODS OR SERVICES THAT WOULD APPEAL TO MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY COMMUNITY AND/OR RANGERS, LRP'S OR LRRP'S IN PARTICULAR, OR KNOW SOMEONE THAT DOES, YOU HAVE A CAPTIVE AUDIENCE THAT READS PATROLLING MAGAZINE. CONSIDER PLACING AN AD IN OUR MAGAZINE, PRICES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

SIZE	COST
Business card	\$150.00
¼ Page	\$200.00
½ Page	\$350.00
Full Page	\$500.00
Inside back cover (full color)	\$750.00

All of the above prices are for ads for four (4) issues and include a subscription to the magazine for those four issues, as well as a link from the 75thRRA web site to yours. Payment can be made by PayPal, credit card or by check. Contact Tom Sove at secretary@75thrra.com or at (209) 404-6394 or mail to:

75th Ranger Regiment Association, Inc.
Attn: Patrolling Ads
PO Box 348360
Sacramento, CA 95834-8360

YOU CAN NOW ORDER ONLINE! www.75thrra.org/qm75

RECONDO SCHOOL COIN

\$25 Includes mailing.

Marshall Huckaby
699 Willow Dell Drive
Senoia, GA 30276
rvnlrrp@aol.com

**Your
advertisement
could be
here!**



VIETNAM LRRP CHALLENGE COIN

Bronze in Lucite case: \$20
Contact: rvnlrrp@aol.com

Vietnam LRRP Coin in Bronze.

Send \$20 (includes shipping) Cash/Check to:
Marshall Huckaby
699 Willow Dell Drive
Senoia, GA 30276



MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

To prevent lapses in your memberships please send dues and any ADDRESS CHANGES to:

75th RRA
PO Box 348360
Sacramento, CA 95834-8360

The Association makes donations to each of the four Ranger battalions for the benefit of the young rangers and their families. We have also established a Gold Star fund to support our Gold Star families program. If you wish to help out, anytime is the right time—especially right now. If you wish to pay with one check for any combination of dues and funds, please specify how much is to go to each. Thank you!



75th Ranger Regiment Association, Inc.
PO Box 348360
Sacramento, CA 95834-8360

Membership Application Form
Annual dues: \$30.00
Annual subscription: \$30.00
Checks Payable to:
75th Ranger Regiment Assoc.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP
Up to 39--\$510.00
40-44---\$470.00
45-49---\$440.00
50-54---\$410.00
55-59---\$370.00
60-64---\$330.00
65-69---\$290.00
70&up--\$260.00

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MI	DATE
STREET ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP PLUS
AREA CODE/BEST PHONE	AREA CODE/ALT PHONE	E-MAIL ADDRESS	

UNITS SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

FROM (DATE)	TO (DATE)	UNIT (Company or Battalion)	NAMES OR ORDERS
FROM (DATE)	TO (DATE)	UNIT (Company or Battalion)	NAMES OR ORDERS
FROM (DATE)	TO (DATE)	UNIT (Company or Battalion)	NAMES OR ORDERS

REMARKS: _____

VISA or MASTERCARD # _____ EXP. DATE _____ 3 DIG SEC CODE _____

CHECK ONE: ☐ NEW APPLICATION ☐ RENEWAL ☐ SUBSCRIPTION MEMBER



5307th
LRRP
LRP
RANGER
BDQ
LRS

75TH RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

PO Box 348360
Sacramento, CA 95834-8360

PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage

PAID

Indiana, PA
Permit #12



**Thousand Yard
Stare: Ranger
Ron Tessenshon
(E/75) 1969.**

*Photo courtesy of
Ron Tessenshon.*
