

PATROLLING

March 2020 75th Ranger Regiment Association, INC. Volume 32 Issue I



*Photo: Sgt. Jaerett Engeseth
75th Regiment Combat Camera
Documentation Specialist*



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Editor's Corner

By Stephen Odin Johnson—Editor

Page 10— Jonnie Clasen's endeavors of having The Merrill's Marauders awarded the Congressional Gold Medal HR 906 involves a lot of hard work and help.

Page 11- This feature article provided by Tracy Bailey is an informative piece on life saving procedures now being used by Ranger combat medics that increase the odds of survival when a Ranger is wounded. Read about this technique that saves lives. I remember using serum albumin in Vietnam. We've come a long ways since then!

Page 13— Rangers are provided a "feeder" system that is helping bolster the Army with future leaders and establishing a template for lessons learned. An Army Ranger incorporates the Ranger Creed in motivating his ROTC students in competition at the University of North Dakota.

Pages 15-17— Gold Star Advocates for the 75th Ranger Regiment Association, Dianne Hammond and Jill Stephenson share some thoughts. Anyone remember what you did for your 13th birthday?

Page 18— Harrison Jack has his sixth article relating to your health. *Introduction to the Practice of Meditation*, a useful topic on mindfulness that is another effective method to keep in your health toolbox and patrolling your health.

Page 20— Unit Reports begin on this page and another example of sharing what is going on inside your organization. All kinds of information within.

Page 39— *Team One Zulu* is a well written article that is best explained by Pete Dencker. "My thanks go out to Pat and his wife Anita for getting the recollection of this contact and Team One Zulu down in writing. I'm aware of the pain and stress that re-living a mission like this creates – but I believe it's important for Pat and his family to have an awareness of the sacrifices Pat made for his Country. These stories are also an integral part of the legacy of H Company and the 75th Ranger Regiment and should not be forgotten."

Next Issue-

The 2020 Best Ranger Competition will be covered by Patrolling with photos and stories about some amazing Ranger teams. You can always count on the old cliché, "The thrill of victory and the agony of defeat!"

The Critter Cookout and Open House hosted at Camp Merrill in Dahlonega, GA is always a gala of varied foods and companionship. Ranger demonstrations and the like will be photographed with descriptions of this event. We will try and create a Patrolling page "rub scent" for the Critter Cookout, smelling like Marshall Huckaby's alligator jumbalaya!

Pete Dencker and his company employees sponsored a luncheon in Tennessee for the widows of Veterans. We will share this with you in June's issue.

Any suggestions for Patrolling magazine please let me know.

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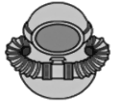
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The Officers and the Editor reserve the right to edit submissions for clarity and space constraints. Every precaution will be taken to preserve the intent and scope of the author. The Officers and Editor reserve the right to refuse any submission that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

Deadlines are the 15th of February, May, August, and November for the four yearly issues of March, June, September, and December respectively.

POSTMASTER

Send address corrections to:
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CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

BY JOE MARQUEZ

Greetings Rangers,

The Ranger motto is taken from Isaiah 6:8,

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"

The immediate context of this statement in the Bible is after Isaiah had seen a vision of the Lord God on his throne. As a result he recognized both his and his people's desperate need of cleansing. An angel touches Isaiah's lips with a glowing coal from the altar and so a touch of Divine fire makes Isaiah fit to answer the call, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" Such a responsibility is applied to all who serve in our nation's military. But much more to those of us who volunteer to serve well knowing that it may cost us our lives. But the interesting thing is that in Isaiah's writing, Messiah, the long hoped for Sent One, is revealed as the One whom God the Father, and the Holy Spirit sends to represent them on the earth. He responds to the other members of the Godhead, "Here am I, send me! We see this in Isaiah. While the whole chapter blends the first and second comings of Christ there are statements of the character of the Messenger.

Isaiah 42:1 says "Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him, and he will bring justice to the nations. Verse 6,7 continues, "I, the LORD, have called you in righteousness; I will take hold of your hand. I will keep you and will make you to be a covenant for the people and a light for the Gentiles, to open eyes that are blind, to free captives from prison and to release from the dungeon those who sit in darkness.

Isaiah 48: 16 also reiterates the fact of who was sending him. ⁶ Come ye near unto me, hear ye this; I have not spoken in secret from the beginning; from the time that it was, there am I: and now the Lord God, and his Spirit, hath sent me.

Isaiah 61:1 contains the commission which is substantially repeated in Luke's Gospel, at the start of the Lord Jesus public ministry, "The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound;

Luke 4:18 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of

sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,...

This Messenger was to speak to a people who were willful, so instead of hearing of the power of the Lord Jesus to save, whatever the need might be, they would rather continue in their spiritual poverty, broken heartedness, captivity to sin, spiritual blindness and bandage. The Jewish nation rejected Isaiah as he spoke and when Messiah Jesus came, they rejected Him as well. So why would they volunteer? Because it was their duty. So a Ranger is not to judge his service on whether or not it is appreciated by those to whom he is sent. But rather, does he do his duty towards those who sent Him?

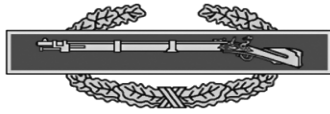
Again in Isaiah 49:1-3 we read of this Servant of God testifying of his call, his words, and his mission to glorify his God. Then responding to the apparent failure of His mission in verse 4.5

"Then I said I have labored in vain. I have spent my strength for nothing, and in vain; yet surely my judgment is with the LORD and my work is with my God. And now says the LORD who formed me from the womb to be His servant, to bring Jacob again to him, Though Israel be not gathered, yet shall I be glorious in the eyes of the LORD, and my God shall be my strength." Jesus waited for the LORD to vindicate him. So in response to His expectation we read in verse 6. "And He (the LORD) said, it is a light thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved of Israel; I also will give you for a light to the Gentiles (non-Jewish nations), that you may be my salvation unto the end of the earth."

In these verses I see the responsibility of warriors to be true to their mission. To serve and to protect to their ability, their nation. And to trust that the One who is above all will show who was faithful, regardless of the immediate outcome. Everyone loves a winner. But in life the winner is not always known by instant victories. And sometimes apparent victories are later seen to be profound losses. A man or woman of faith does what it is their duty to do and leaves judgment to the One who always judges justly.

Many are called, but few are chosen. Might we be among those who will respond both to the call of our nation and to that of our God, "Here am I, send me."

Joe Marquez, C/1/503rd, '69 N/75th, Juliet, '70 A/2/503rd, '70 Chaplain: the 75th Ranger Regiment Association. Serving those who served. 864-467-0424 Cell 864-525-6941 Our lives are but for a moment, while what we do or leave undone will echo down through eternity.



WHO WE ARE: The 75th Ranger Regiment Association, Inc., is a registered 501©19 corporation, registered in the state of Georgia. We were founded in 1986 by a group of veterans of F Co 58th, (LRP) and L Co 75 (Ranger) Inf. The first meeting was held on June 7, 1986, at Ft. Campbell, KY.

OUR MISSION:

1. To identify and offer membership to all eligible members of the 75th Infantry Rangers and those who served in the Long-Range Reconnaissance Patrol (LRRP) Companies, Long-Range Patrol (LRP) Companies and Detachments, Vietnamese Ranger Advisors of the Biet Dong Quan (BDQ). Also eligible are those 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 members of the 75th Ranger Regiment.

2. To sustain the Association. To promote and establish *fel- lowship of the Special Operations ranger community by re- cruitment and encouragement of active duty and recently separated Rangers to become members. The association pro- vides a special "No Cost Membership" to all personnel while assigned to the 75th Ranger Regiment.*

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, 3rd, STB, and MIB Ranger Battalions, succes- sor units, or any additions that are activated and assigned to the 75th Ranger Regiment.

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.

Section 4: 75th Infantry Ranger Companies

- Co F (LRP) 52nd Infantry
- Co C (LRP) 58th Infantry
- Co E (LRP) 58th Infantry
- Co F (LRP) 58th Infantry
- 70th Infantry DET (LRP)
- 71st Infantry DET (LRP)
- 74th Infantry DET (LRP)
- 78th Infantry DET (LRP)
- 79th Infantry DET (LRP)
- Co. D (LRP) 151st Infantry
- 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.

WHAT WE DO: The 75th Ranger Regiment Association participants in a variety of events that support our members and the active duty regiment. Each event is reviewed by the Board of Officers for merit and how it will promote the Association. Our current projects include; awarding scholarships (to qualified individuals) through our coordination and with the support of the National Ranger Memorial Scholarship Foundation. We also provide support to the Best Ranger Competition and any other events the officers regard as beneficial to the associa- tion ethos.

We hold biennial reunions (in conjunction with the 75th Rang- er Regiment Rendezvous) and business meetings. The associ- ation officers, (President, 1st & 2nd Vice Presidents, Secre- tary, and Treasurer), are elected at the biennial association business meeting. This reunion is held at Columbus/Fort Benning, GA
Subordinate units hold off-year reunions at various locations across the United States per their unit schedule

Presidents

| | |
|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| 1986-1988 | Bob Gilbert |
| 1988-1990 | Billy Nix |
| 1990-1992 | Bob Gilbert |
| 1992-1994 | Roy Nelson (resigned) |
| | Milton Lockett (resigned) |
| | Duke Dushane (selected by Directors) |
| 1994-1996 | Roy Barley |
| 1996-1998 | Rick Ehrler |
| 1998-2000 | Terry Roderick |
| 2000-2002 | Emmett Hiltibrand |
| 2002-2004 | Dana McGrath |
| 2004-2005 | Emmet Hiltibrand |
| 2005-2007 | Stephen Crabtree |
| 2007-2009 | William Bullen |
| 2009-2011 | John Chester |
| 2011-2013 | Joe Little |
| 2013-2015 | Bill Anton |
| 2015-2019 | Richard Barela |
| 2019- | Stephen Johnson |

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 Regiment HHC Company, activated in 1984
- 75th Ranger Special Troops Battalion, activated in 2007
- 75th Ranger Military Intelligence Battalion, activated in 2017

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 de- ployed to Vietnam as listed in section 2, 3, or 4.



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Vacant

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FREE MEMBERSHIP- NOT A RENEWAL OFFER

NEW MEMBERS FREE OFFER*

The 75th Ranger Regiment Association, Inc. is embarking on a membership drive specifically aimed at veterans of the 75th Ranger Regiment. The 75thRRA is offering free one-year memberships to those who qualify as a Regular Member as defined in Article VIII-Section 2 of our By-Laws, and only to those who served in a qualifying unit as defined by Article V-Sections 6 & 7. Our goal is to acquire 500 new Regiment members, and the offer will expire only when that goal is reached. *

ARTICLE VIII-SECTION 2: Regular membership

Regular membership is afforded to any individual who served honorably in any of the predecessor or successor units, or who is presently serving in a current or successor unit listed in ARTICLE V of these Bylaws. Regular active members enjoy the full rights and privileges of membership, to include the responsibility and the right to vote on all issues and matters presented to the membership, which include elections of all Executive Board Officers of the Association and changes to these Bylaws. Only members afforded Regular membership status may hold National level Association office of Executive Board of Officers. Applications for Regular membership, along with the prescribed supporting documentation, shall be submitted to the Association Secretary.

ARTICLE V-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 Regiment HHC Company, activated in 1984
- 75th Ranger Special Troops Battalion, activated in 2007
- 75th Ranger Military Intelligence Battalion, activated in 2017



COMPLETE ALL FORMS AND SEND TO:

**75th RRA
PO Box 2200
Orangevale, CA 95662**

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 of Article V of our by-laws

| | | |
|----------------|-----------------|-----|
| LAST NAME | FIRST NAME | MI |
| STREET ADDRESS | | |
| CITY | STATE | ZIP |
| PRIMARY PHONE | SECONDARY PHONE | |
| EMAIL ADDRESS | | |

SIGNATURE _____

UNITS

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

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

REMARKS _____

MEMBERSHIP CONTINGENT UPON PROOF OF SERVICE AS REQUIRED BY OUR BYLAWS: orders, or have two current members provide testimony of your service in an eligible unit as designated by our Bylaws. We are not just a Vietnam era veteran's organization. Service in all units of the 75th Ranger Regiment is eligible for membership.

Greeting, Brothers, and the Greater Ranger Community.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY STEPHEN O. JOHNSON

Wellness:

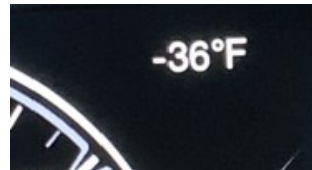
We wish Bill Acebes a speedy recovery after surgery and he has a request for 1st Battalion members in his report on page 20. Several UD's have reported the passing of our Brothers. Tony Mayne in his 3rd Battalion report has information of two soldiers who were recently KIA in Afghanistan. May all these warriors Rest in Peace!



myself, I travel nearly a 6 hour roundtrip to Fargo. Last month it was a little cold venturing for breakfast. I have also attended several others in the region and other parts of the country when visiting. I urge those of you who have not attended a breakfast to connect with fellow Rangers and enjoy a leisurely breakfast free of politics and war stories. Enjoy! RLTW!!

Webpage:

A special thanks to Dave Regenthal for decades of contributing as the webmaster for www.75thrra.org that he has established and maintained throughout the years. The new webmaster Justin Stay, is being assisted with a transition in place that Dave continues to help with. Again, Dave, a job well done and Thanks! Justin's contact information is on page 4.



I feel sorry for all of you who live in southern climates. This is the car temperature gauge on my way to breakfast in Fargo this last month. It was a three dog night!

Association Logo:

At this last summer's general membership meeting, Ron Rucker made a suggestion that we include the Armed Forces Expeditionary and Global War On Terrorism ribbons below our present logo for a more inclusionary look that would have a better connection to the younger Ranger generation. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously passed. The first printing of the new logo can be seen on the back, outside jacket of Patrolling.



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Upcoming Events:

This next month in April we have several events taking place that you would enjoy including the Best Ranger Competition in Ft Benning and Critter Cookout and Ranger Open House in Dahlongega. In July on the 15th, the Ranger Hall of Fame Ceremony will take place. Individual unit reunions you can find out from your UD. Information is posted within this issue of Patrolling and I hope to see you there!

2021 RHOF Packets:

UD's, it's never too early to start on individual packets of candidates for the 2021 Ranger Hall of Fame. I have talked with several Unit Directors about the importance of the criteria the selection committee will be looking for. One of the most important things to take into consideration as you pick guys from your unit is: what has the candidate done for the greater Ranger community? Without meeting that criteria, (oxymoron) you are going nowhere fast! Period. My advice is to get your UD selection process started now. I have the Nominee PDF packet, RHOF bylaws, and Method of Instruction that I can email to you. Any questions about this, please contact me. This year's RHOF Selection Committee will be meeting on April 24. So right afterwards, I'll be travelling to the Critter Cookout. Save a plate, please!

Blue Bucket Chapel: Herb Reichel deserves recognition from Patrolling for the monetary proceeds that were given to our Benevolent Fund. Herb offers communion at the chapel tent with different sources of alcohol including wine to appease all those present. Again, we thank you, Herb, for your continued contribution during our Rendezvous!



Arizona Ranger Breakfast 16 February: meets 3rd Saturday. We had one new Ranger in attendance.

1st VP MESSAGE

ROY BARLEY

These last few months E/50 and E/75 have lost a couple of members, one was an original member of the 9th Div. LRRP having signed up in the States, going through Jungle School in Panama on his way to Vietnam. Ed Kulcavage was an original, who never wavered from a mission and served his full 12 months with the company. He was a very brave individual and certainly did his fair share and then some. He will be missed.

The second member to pass away in less than a month was James Thayer. I remember the day he came into our company in Dong Tam as I was told that we had gotten a couple of new guys' so I headed to our Company HQ to see who we got. Usually our TL's were quite busy in getting these new people up to speed, so I always pitched in, having spent some time on light duty due to an injury teaching in our school. I remember one time when my Basic Training Sgt showed up in the area and he was assigned to a good friend of mine's team Vaughn (KIA May 68) asked me to check him out and get him up to speed as they had a mission to run that night. I went over his gear and insured that everything was taped and secured. One thing I saw he had missed, and I asked him if he knew what it was, and he had no clue. I then showed him how to bend the pins on his grenades. He was grateful for the tip and I explained it was not only for his safety but the team's safety.



Getting back to when Jim showed up in our area.

When I found out that his name was Thayer I told him that we might be related as my mother's maiden was Thayer. We often kidded about this and it turned out that we were related. So I headed home after a little time with my Cuz. Jim turned out to be one hell of a team leader, an outstanding leader and a great man. Jim was decorated for bravery and his exploits have been finally put on

paper with a book he wrote called Tango 11. Jim died before he would see his book printed. You can preorder his book thru Amazon and I would urge all to do so. Jim led a life of contributing as a police chief, etc.

We took a couple of heavy hits in the past couple months. Two guys who led outstanding lives and contributed to their country, State and Community and asked little in return. Two American heroes who gave of themselves to our way of life.

I cannot wonder why the press made such a big deal about Kobe. What did he contribute to this nation? He was a gifted athlete who was paid millions for playing a game that kids play for free. He was no hero and maybe someday that will be recognized. Real heroes wear dog tags.

Roy Barley
RLTH!

GRIPKNIFE

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TREASURER'S REPORT

ROGER CRUNK

75th Ranger Regiment Association

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY

October - December, 2019

| | TOTAL |
|--|---------------------|
| Revenue | |
| 4000 Program income - DNP | 96.02 |
| 4002 Membership dues | 935.00 |
| 4010 Coin sales | |
| 4012 Bronze | 287.00 |
| 4013 Nickel Silver | 53.90 |
| 4014 Silver coins | 113.00 |
| Total 4010 Coin sales | 453.90 |
| 4020 Miscellaneous revenue | |
| Association Patch | 17.85 |
| Association Sticker | 47.60 |
| Legacy Transfer | 1,200.00 |
| Total 4020 Miscellaneous revenue | 1,265.45 |
| Assoc. Pin | 60.00 |
| Total 4000 Program income - DNP | 2,810.37 |
| 4100 Member donations - DNP | |
| 4102 Family fund contributions | 410.00 |
| 4104 Goldstar contributions | 60.00 |
| 4110 Operations contributions | 450.00 |
| Legacy Walkway | 2,575.00 |
| Scholarship | 50.00 |
| Total 4100 Member donations - DNP | 3,545.00 |
| 4900 Interest income | 143.13 |
| Total Revenue | \$6,498.50 |
| GROSS PROFIT | \$6,498.50 |
| Expenditures | |
| 6000 Program expenses - DNP | |
| 6006 Cash awards & grants - Members | 499.00 |
| 6008 Association patch | 211.98 |
| 6009 Association lapel pin | -10.00 |
| 6020 Website maintenance | 750.00 |
| Eig/Powerweb Subscription | |
| Constant Contact | 56.98 |
| Total Eig/Powerweb Subscription | 56.98 |
| Total 6020 Website maintenance | 806.98 |
| 6022 Intuit Subscription | 40.00 |
| ACH GoPayment | 40.00 |
| Quickbooks Online | 100.00 |
| Total 6022 Intuit Subscription | 180.00 |
| Total 6000 Program expenses - DNP | 1,687.96 |
| TOTAL | |
| 6100 Patrolling expense - DNP | |
| 6102 Patrolling printing | 2,643.59 |
| 6104 Patrolling postage | 895.90 |
| 6106 Adobe subscription | 169.50 |
| Total 6100 Patrolling expense - DNP | 3,708.99 |
| 6500 Operations - DNP | |
| 6502 Bank and merchant fees | 83.76 |
| 6514 Office supplies | 1,260.76 |
| 6516 Postage and mailing service | 410.00 |
| Family Fund Transfer | 1,570.00 |
| PayPal Refund | 111.30 |
| Postage-Secretary | 195.58 |
| Promotions | 100.00 |
| Treasurer Supplies | 40.17 |
| Treasurer Postage | 28.86 |
| Total 6500 Operations - DNP | 3,800.43 |
| Total Expenditures | \$9,197.38 |
| NET OPERATING REVENUE | \$ -2,698.88 |
| NET REVENUE | \$ -2,698.88 |

75th Ranger Regiment Association

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As of December 31, 2019

| | TOTAL |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| ASSETS | |
| Current Assets | |
| Bank Accounts | |
| 1000 Affinity / Operations | 25,216.45 |
| 1002 Affinity / Family fund | 12,166.36 |
| 1030 Affinity / Savings | 35,505.28 |
| 1040 Benevolent funds MM | 40,169.82 |
| 1041 Legacy funds MM | 3,162.90 |
| 1042 Life funds MM | 38,732.60 |
| 1050 Paypal funds | 5,847.23 |
| Total Bank Accounts | \$160,800.64 |
| Total Current Assets | \$160,800.64 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | \$160,800.64 |
| LIABILITIES AND EQUITY | |
| Liabilities | |



Rangers of the 75th Ranger Regiment Association

I am sending this out as the Liaison officer for the proposed 75th Ranger Regiment Memorial Walkway and requesting your support for the project.

We know how supportive you have been to our country military especially that of your service and those now serving our Special Operations Forces for these highly trained and specially selected soldiers who have been in combat now for over 20 years to keep us safe at home and abroad.

We are requesting your assistance from all members of the 75th Ranger Regiment Association. As a former president of the 75th RRA and a former member of the 75th Ranger Regiment, I have a very special place in my heart for these warriors, past and present. We are trying to obtain funding for this long overdue and well-deserved project that will be located at the Headquarters of the 75th Ranger Regiment that is located at Fort Benning, Georgia.

The Memorial Walkway will show the history of our Rangers, from World War II to present. This space will highlight key Ranger history milestones from World War II through the present day GWOT Rangers. It will not be a representation but show the contribution the Rangers have made to this great nation.

This will also serve as an educational area, a walk-through historical site, and a lesson in sacrifice. This space will highlight key Ranger history milestones from World War II through the present-day Rangers, i.e. Merrill's Marauders in the Burma Theater, where our lineage is derived. We will show the activation of the original 1st Ranger Battalion better known as Darby's Rangers and the Ranger Battalions who served in the European and Pacific Theater. We do not stop there; our historical tour will demonstrate the actions of the Airborne Ranger Companies who served in the Korean Conflict. We will provide a true history and the exploits of the Long-Range Patrol (LRP), Long-Range Reconnaissance Patrol (LRRP), Ranger Companies to include those of the Viet Nam Ranger Advisors, the BDQ (Biet Dong Quan) companies who served in Viet Nam. We will add our modern-day Rangers who have given so much to the safety of our great country. Additionally, this Memorial will commemorate an era marked by the rebirth of the Ranger Battalions and subsequent 75th Ranger Regiment and finally to the Gold Star Families and the sacrifices they have made in the last 50 years.

As former member of all three Ranger Battalions and the Regimental HQs, I feel very honored to be part of the project. To date we have the designs from a very talented Architect, Tracy Ward, and his friend, Surveyor, Brian King, who have donated their services, pro bono. Mr. Alan Cottrill, the artist who did the sculptures for the Global War on Terror (GWOT) Memorial at Fort Benning, has agreed to do our sculptures.

I am enclosing a brief synopsis and drawings of this project. We were informed this past month we need to have half the amount (\$500,000) pledged or collected to have final approval by the Secretary of the Army.

The outcome on this endeavor is dependent upon your support and donation to this worthwhile project. We look forward to providing more information, as needed. We have opened a special bank account in coordination with the 75th Ranger Regiment Association, which is a 501c19 registered nonprofit organization for military organizations. The information is listed below.

All checks should be made out to "Legacy Walkway" at following address:

75th Ranger Regiment Association, Inc.
Attn: Legacy Walkway
PO Box 2200
Orangevale, CA 95662

Direct ACH deposit should be sent to the following bank account:

Infinity Bank
400 Galleria Pkwy
Suite 900
Attn.: Legacy Walkway Account
Atlanta GA 30339
Account #: 3007189
Bank Routing #: 061020197

Or you can go on-line and donate through the 75th RRA website.

We hope you will be able to assist us in making the Memorial Walkway Project come to fruition. Again, thank you for your consideration and your donations in our endeavors to bring this project to life.

Rangers Lead the Way

Richard (Rick) S. Barela
MSG, (Ret)
Co-Chairman, 75th Memorial Walkway Project

Email: walkway@75thrra.org



MERRILL'S MARAUDERS



Merrill's Marauders February DC visit increases support for Congressional Gold Medal bill H.R. 906

Support for Congressional Gold Medal bill H.R. 906 shot up after Merrill's Marauders Bob Passanisi (Top-R) and Gilbert Howland (Top-L) visited the House of Representatives Feb. 5, 2020. The companion bill, S. 743, has already passed in the Senate. Congressman Peter King (Top-Center) has introduced the House bill through three congressional sessions, beginning in 2016. Some of the 14 representatives who attended a Feb. 5th reception to meet Marauders Howland and Passanisi are seen on this page.

LEFT COLUMN (Top to bottom)

- ❖ Congressman Sanford Bishop from Georgia has been the major cosponsor of H.R. 906 through three congressional sessions.
- ❖ Retired LTG Paul Mikolashek, former 61st Inspector General of the Army, represented the Association of the United States Army (AUSA.)
- ❖ Congressman Scott Perry, who retired as a brigadier general from the Pennsylvania National Guard in 2019, shared stories with the men.
- ❖ Congressman Brad Wenstrup (Left photo) from Ohio is a H.R. 906 cosponsor. He served as a U.S. Army Reserve combat surgeon in Iraq.
- ❖ Congressman Jim Baird (Right photo) from Indiana, a decorated 1971 Vietnam veteran of Operation Lam Son, spoke with the Marauders.
- ❖ Congressman Trent Kelly, (Left photo) promoted to brigadier general by the Mississippi National Guard in 2018, visited with Howland.
- ❖ Joshua Rand-Castillo, deputy national commander - Combat Infantrymen's Association, from North Carolina meets Passanisi (Right photo.)

BELOW

Seven Marauder descendants served on teams seeking H.R. 906 support. Seen (L-R) are Tammy Dixon, daughter of James Junkins from Ohio; Susan Anton, granddaughter of John "Jack" Benfield Jr. from South Carolina; Sylvia Williamson, daughter of John L. Tyre from Georgia; (In front of Sylvia) Carole Ortenzo, niece of Russell Hamler, 95, from Pennsylvania; Hilary Voelkel, great-granddaughter of Maurice R. Adams from Texas; Jonnie Clasen, daughter of Vincent Melillo from Georgia, and Bob Howland, son of Gilbert Howland, 96, from New Jersey.



created by Jonnie Melillo Clasen, photos by Marauder descendants

"I will never leave a fallen comrade ..." fifth stanza of the Ranger Creed.

On a hot, dark night in Wardak province, Afghanistan last summer, a special operations Ranger raid force conducted a helicopter insertion, beginning what would become a historical night. The routine Ranger task of capturing or killing high value enemy targets would tonight include cutting edge lifesaving procedures never done in combat, with the stakes of life or death hanging in the balance.

While clearing through the objective, the assault force began receiving accurate Ak-47, machine gun (PKM), and other small arms fire from multiple enemy fighters near the target compound.

The Ranger assault force returned fire on the enemy positions, utilizing their M4 carbines and squad automatic weapons along with shoulder fired rockets and grenade projectiles. They attempted to do what few men and women would ever choose to do. Close with and destroy the enemy.

As the assault force maneuvered on a shooter who barricaded himself into a fighting position, they were rocked by a large explosion near the breach of the target compound. When the debris landed and the dust settled, three Rangers were wounded in action and the fight for their lives began.

Leading that fight were two Ranger Combat Medics, Staff Sgt. Charles Bowen and Sgt. Ty Able, from Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment. They saved six lives that night.

As the explosions and bullets riddled the area around Bowen and Able, they made careful calculations and risked their own lives for their brothers. Maneuvering within meters of the barricaded enemy shooter, they surged to evacuate the wounded from the midst of the battle raging around them.

Bowen and Able quickly assessed the two wounded casualties and directed Advanced-Ranger First Responders certified teammates, the 75th Ranger Regiment's equivalent to Emergency Medical Technicians, on how to continue medical treatment.

"The first casualty yelled out 'I'm hit, I'm hit!' I looked at his leg and did not see any blood so I told him to go outside of the building and have someone evaluate his wounds," Bowen said. "At the same time, the second casualty yelled out 'Doc, I'm real messed up!'"

A Ranger, an Afghan partner force soldier, and Bowen made their way through the dusty corridor to the courtyard where they saw the second casualty laying on the ground. He was conscious but contorted in an alarming manner.

Without hesitation, Bowen identified the critically wounded casualty and rapidly pulled him behind the only nearby cover from the enemy gunfire, a small lump of earth no more than one meter high.

Through the chaos of the enemy fire, Bowen determined the

second casualty was critically wounded and began crucial lifesaving interventions.

"We began dragging the second casualty toward a safer location through the corridor and out of the breach," Bowen said. "After getting the casualty out of the breach, I began to treat him with the help of others around me."

Bowen quickly placed a tourniquet on the man's right arm and leg and a junctional tourniquet around his pelvis.

"I asked the second casualty if he could hear me and he responded with 'Yeah, it really hurts, Doc,'" Bowen said.

Bowen cut off the man's body armor to get a visual of his wounds, exposing a gaping hole on the right side of his chest.

"I went to my (medical) aid belt and pulled out a needle chest decompression, an intravenous kit and one gram of pre-drawn Tranexamic Acid (TXA, a medication for trauma patients that reduces death due to bleeding)," Bowen said.

After checking his back for additional wounds, Bowen began an IV and administered the TXA and found that the man's radial pulse was rapid and weak. After this find, Bowen felt the casualty's chest and found that the left side was not inflating.

While Bowen performed lifesaving advanced resuscitation efforts on the man's bleeding limbs, he directed Able and a Ranger assaulter to manage the critical chest wounds.

At this point, the casualty had received two units of cold stored whole blood, the stock every Ranger medic carries into combat with them.

Bowen and his team then hastily moved the casualty to the casualty collection point.

When they arrived, Bowen reassessed the man's wounds while Able checked on the other two casualties from the initial blast.

As this was occurring, the casualty collection point was taking effective enemy machine gun fire and even received a fragmentation grenade from as close as 15 meters away.

During the melee, the strike force platoon sergeant told Bowen there was yet another casualty.

Within a minute of this report, the new casualty came from the wood-line, stumbling in Bowen's direction with blood gushing from a wound on the left side of his neck.

"As he fell into me with his multi-purpose canine still attached to his belt, I told him to put pressure on the wound. He replied, 'I'm trying!'" Bowen said.

With blood pouring from the neck of the new casualty, Bowen placed his middle finger into the hole in his neck to stop the bleeding.

Still applying pressure to the neck wound, Bowen established a second casualty collection point *Continued on the next page*

manage the two critically wounded casualties (the second and third casualties). While under direct enemy fire, Bowen and Able assessed the neck wound while lying on the ground to avoid further harm to themselves and other casualties.

Bowen identified the massive hemorrhage in the neck of the new casualty, which was causing an obstructed airway. Laying in the dirt, under enemy fire directly hitting their position of cover and concealment, Bowen and Able performed an advanced surgical technique known as a cricothyroidotomy to allow the wounded Ranger to breathe.

A cricothyroidotomy is an incision made through the skin and cricothyroid membrane to establish a patent airway during certain life-threatening situations.

“While we were taking both enemy machine gun and accurate mortar fire, I retrieved additional medical equipment to control the bleeding,” Bowen added.

“Once I had the bleeding under control, I made a pressure dressing over the entry wound of the left side of the neck.”

The Ranger with the neck wound was temporarily under control. However, the other previous casualty was bleeding out rapidly due to the multiple limb and chest wounds. With all the available whole blood units already administered to the casualties, Bowen and Able determined the critically wounded man would die from blood loss if they didn’t take action. They would need to exercise the Ranger O-Low Titre protocol.

“ROLO is a novel protocol created in the 75th Ranger Regiment that is transforming how we treat battlefield casualties,” Lt. Col. Ryan Knight, M.D., 75th Ranger Regiment Command Surgeon said. “We now always have blood on the battlefield and do not rely on other IV fluids.”

The ROLO Program allows one Soldier to transfer his or her blood to a wounded Soldier in just a few minutes on the battlefield. The program relies on relatively simple medical procedures and administrative tracking of a unit’s universal donor (group O blood) volunteers, providing huge quantities of whole blood when a situation requires it.

When called upon, a blood donor volunteer moves to the casualty and pulls out their issued blood donor pack. Either the unit’s combat medic or a trained non-medic Ranger draws the blood from the volunteer. The volunteer then returns to combat and the blood is immediately administered to the casualty. The whole process takes about 10 minutes.

Bowen, Able, and an Advanced-Ranger First Responder did this protocol three times, under direct enemy fire to save the lives of

two critically wounded casualties.

“To provide this level of care, Bowen and Able, had to ignore their own survival instincts and concentrate on their patients. They displayed the highest levels of courage as they repeatedly placed their patients’ survival above their own safety,” Knight said. “They will say they were just doing what they are trained to do, and in some ways they are right.”

“However, although we simulate incoming fire and force medics to treat in the prone position during training there is no way to accurately reflect the reality of combat,” Knight added.

While the medics were conducting lifesaving medical treatment, the assault force was reengaged by the enemy from three buildings in the adjacent village approximately 80 meters away from the casualty collection point.



Due to the volume of direct fire, both Bowen and Able covered their patients with their bodies in order to prevent further injury or possibly even death.

“As all of the treatments and movements while under enemy fire were occurring, danger close fire missions with hellfire missiles, 30mm rounds, and 105mm rounds were being executed as close as 30 meters from our position,” Bowen said. “As this was happening, Sgt. Able and

I did our best to shield our casualties from harm and covered their ears during impact of the large munitions.”

During nearly 30 minutes of sustained direct fire enemy contact, Bowen and Able facilitated the ROLO protocol once again, drawing two more units of fresh whole blood to aid in the treatment of both critically wounded casualties.

Even as two MH-47s came in for exfiltration, the assault force again came under heavy enemy fire. Able began to engage the enemy with small arms, providing the necessary cover for his teammates to load the casualties onto the helicopter. Once the casualties were loaded, Able then maneuvered to the aircraft for exfiltration. He continued firing at the enemy until the helicopter had taken off.

“Sgt. Able’s treatment of casualties, superb medical treatment recommendations, and overall calm demeanor while within accurate small arms and fragmentation grenade range, undoubtedly saved the lives of his fellow Rangers,” Cpt. Edmund J. Carazo, Bravo Company Commander, 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment said. “His disregard for his own safety while performing life-saving care is exemplary and serves as an example for all Rangers to follow.”

Continued on the next page

Bowen and Able treated a fatal hemorrhage, triaged two additional casualties, and successfully packaged the critically wounded in 13 minutes, before movement to the casualty collection point.

“Staff Sgt. Bowen’s actions during this operation are some of the most impressive feats I’ve ever witnessed,” Carazo said. “Not only did his actions save the lives of his fellow Rangers, but he performed a staggering display of technically superior field medicine while under fire for more than 90 minutes. His blatant disregard for his own safety was evident throughout.”

From the first explosion that wounded three Rangers until the casualties were evacuated to the next level of medical care, was approximately two hours.

Two hours under heavy enemy fire, danger close, with two of the casualties critically wounded, Bowen and Able’s leadership, courage under direct enemy fire and the ability to administer life-saving aid, was without a doubt the reason three Rangers came home from this deployment.

“Every link in the system worked that night to save these lives. Rangers train casualty care every day, leaders train to handle casualties, and our medics take pride in being the world experts in tactical combat casualty care,” Knight said. “While this is an amazing display of personal courage, medical expertise, and the most incredible saves I’ve ever heard of, it’s also Rangers living the Ranger Creed and is what we expect every day from the 75th Ranger Regiment.”

The 75th Ranger Regiment’s leaders are hopeful that their recent success administering whole blood and executing the ROLO program in combat will inspire units across the Department of Defense to adopt the relatively simple programs, greatly improving medical options for units on the battlefield.

The ROLO program can be implemented at any unit. It is the fusion of administrative focus and adequate medical training. For further, detailed information contact the 75th Ranger Regiment Medical Section at 75rgrho@socom.mil.

MSG Edwinli Figueroa

Ranger Creed for future Army leaders: University of North Dakota and Ranger Challenge

Tired, sweating, and straining under the weight of their rucks, nine young Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) cadets from the University of North Dakota (UND) ran over the rolling terrain surrounding the Black Hills of West Camp Rapid, South Dakota. From 18-19 October 2019, the UND cadets competed in the Task Force Ripley Ranger Challenge against seven other ROTC teams from the Dakotas and Minnesota. Though UND has enjoyed Ranger Challenge victories in the past, the UND program struggled to produce a win in the past seven years. However, this year the UND cadets secured three individual achievement streamers (more than any other team) and tied for first place with Saint John’s University. What differentiated this year’s UND training programs from the past was the clear and present incorporation of the Ranger Creed as a foundational and inspirational philosophy. UND’s vast improvement was due to their training regimen that emphasized the third, fourth, and sixth stanzas of the Ranger Creed to inspire physical fitness, discipline, and mental resiliency within the team of nine cadets.

Ranger Challenge is an annual military competition designed to test cadets’ knowledge of basic Soldier tasks, challenge cadets mentally, and push all members in the nine-person teams to their physical limits. Each team hopes to progress to the next qualifying challenge to eventually earn the opportunity to compete in the annual Sandhurst competition at the United States Military Academy, in West Point, New York. The 2019 Task Force Ripley Ranger Challenge in South Dakota consisted of 11 events: Tactical Knowledge Test, Ruck March, PCC/PCI lane, Medical Challenge, Hand Grenade Assault Course, Weapons Lane (M249, M240, M4), Call For Fire Lane, One-Rope Bridge, Obstacle Course, and two Mystery Events. UND began preparing in August

by quickly assessing 36 cadets to constitute the nine person team. The UND ROTC military instructors, active duty NCOs and Officers, focused on the physical and mental toughness of each candidate, and how well they could work with others. Once nine cadets were selected, training began in earnest for the October competition.

The priority for the UND instructors was preparing the team, both physically and mentally, for the competition. From the start, the UND ROTC instructors emphasized the third stanza of the Ranger Creed as a foundational philosophy for how the cadets were to approach training. “Never shall I fail my comrades” was used as a mantra to ensure that the nine cadets work together as a team – individual excellence wasn’t enough. To reinforce this, the cadets conducted their morning physical exercises together as a team, often requiring them to complete task that required cooperation and reliance upon one another. For example, the one-rope bridge required them to depend on each other to accomplish a complex task requiring synchronization and teamwork. Each member had specific tasks and the team’s success was dependent on all members having attention to detail in their role, one miss step could be the difference from finishing first to last. Fitness and teamwork extended beyond morning training, as the cadets were reminded to remain “mentally alert, physically strong, and morally straight” during their time away from practice. If any cadet lagged in their academic performance or engaged in inappropriate conduct, they risked the reputation of the UND ROTC program and the Ranger Challenge team’s viability. During the competition, the UND team’s hard work paid dividends as they were confronted with challenging physical events that required them to perform individually and as a team.

The nine cadets took the third stanza to heart, maintained impeccable conduct, and put forth an outstanding performance at the regional competition. →

Part of the UND team's ability to maintain such a high level of physical and mental performance was the discipline in their actions and constant awareness of how their performance represented the UND ROTC program. The fourth stanza of the Ranger Creed emphasizes setting "the example for others to follow."

The UND Ranger Challenge team set the example for their fellow cadets in physical fitness, military knowledge, and leadership. During the train up for the Ranger Challenge, these nine cadets showed up an hour earlier than expected to every training event and pushed themselves harder than their peers during physical fitness. They also spent hours after classes going over Ranger Challenge skills and volunteered their personal time to ensure they were able to beat the competition. This heightened sense of dedication was emulated by the underclass cadets who desired to achieve that high level of commitment. The UND ROTC instructors took care to impart on the Ranger Challenge team an understanding that their performance wasn't just for the competition – they were to make themselves better future leaders. The growth that the cadets experienced over three months of training and competition prepared them to lead their fellow ROTC cadets for the remainder of the academic year and eventually commission as Second Lieutenants in the U.S. Army. Using the Ranger Creed as a leadership philosophy for young leaders will pay dividends for the Army, regardless of what branch of the Army the UND cadets will serve in. Wherever the future officers from UND go in the Army, they have already learned to "set the example for others to follow."

The final link to the Ranger Creed that UND relied on to prepare for the Ranger Challenge was the sixth stanza to emphasize the importance of "intestinal fortitude." The UND cadets' determination to not give up on themselves or their teammates was crucial to their performance. During the competition, the cadets underwent a grueling series of events where they relied on both their training and one another's encouragement to persevere. The 10km road march event pushed the team to their limit, in part, because of the differences in terrain and weather between Grand Forks North Dakota and the Black Hills of South Dakota. Even when a cadet hurt his shoulder while carrying an additional



Photo: Tanner Aho

40 LB sandbag, the team was able to push one another. The team's performance throughout the competition earned UND three individual streamers – one for the military tactics test, another for 200-meter tire flip mystery event, and another in the weapons lane. The UND ROTC team earned more individual streamers than any other team. The competition concluded with a tie between UND and Saint John's University (SJU), of Collegeville, Minnesota.

To break the tie, the UND and SJU competed head-to-head in a call for fire test. Hard efforts from both teams resulted in another tie and necessitated a second tie-breaker event. All of the lane OIC's and NCOIC's voted for best performance in their lane but this also result in a tie. It wasn't until the third tie-breaker event, adding all the individual event times, that SJU narrowly defeated UND. Despite their strong efforts, the UND cadets were defeated by the narrowest margin. They pushed themselves to new performance heights and adopted the tough, disciplined mindset that is reflected in the Ranger Creed. UND's ROTC cadets learned a state of mind that can inform their future leadership roles in the Army, to the benefit of the Soldiers they will lead.

MSG Edwinli Figueroa
Senior Military Advisor
University of North Dakota

Editor's Note: I met Ranger Figueroa at a Ranger Breakfast in Fargo late this last fall. He had mentioned that Dana Williams had written an article about the UND ROTC participating in a competition. He stated that he would like to totally rewrite this article by drawing from the ethos of the famed Ranger Creed in their endeavors while a ROTC student and to "own" the Ranger Creed as a soldier. Well done, Ranger!

RLTW!!

GOLD STAR MOM—DIANNE HAMMOND

When Sandrino was killed, to say the least my world collapsed. Then my gold sister Jill Stephenson, told me about Wreaths Across America and the escort convoy from Columbia Falls, ME to Arlington National Cemetery. I took a leap of faith and joined the convoy in 2015. It was amazing and I encourage all Gold Stars to go, it will sooth your troubled heart and rejuvenate your tortured soul. I could go on forever about the organization and the Worcester family who conceived the idea of placing a wreath on every veteran's grave wherever they may rest, I encourage all to google the site and read their message. REMEMBER, HONOR, TEACH- Remember our Veterans, Honor those Serving and Teach your children the value of freedom.

I travelled with the escort 2015/16/17/18 but last year I decided to go join the Wreaths Across America Overseas contingent and flew to Luxembourg where wreaths were placed on the American Cemetery there. Ranger Steve Berry (Chappy) and his wife Vanessa were there. I also met Dan Wolf and Randy Lewer. Both are dedicated to Wreaths Across America in Arlington and Overseas. It was a very emotional experience, almost 5000 graves marked with beautiful white marble crosses or Stars of David. General Patton is buried there. One woman is buried there. Rangers from the 5th Ranger Battalion are buried there. I had the honor of placing a wreath on the grave of one, Ranger John B Gibbon from Massachusetts. There are no words to explain my emotion or tears when I placed a wreath on a grave marked "Unknown but to God".

The next day we placed wreaths at Margraten American Cemetery in The Netherlands. Again, white marble crosses and Stars of David. The whole town came out. Some not sure why we were there, because it is their cemetery. The care for the graves of Americans who helped free them from the Nazi control is truly remarkable and that care of the graves has been passed down in the families.

Their love and admiration for the Americans who saved their country is amazing. "If not for these men, we would not be here, speaking Dutch" many remarked.

There were many "God Winks" those few days, including me meeting the gentleman who was the Commander of the Dover Mortuary the day Sandrino came home.



I marveled at the true honor and respect the locals gave our fallen and the beauty of the cemeteries.

I understand why my son was so at home with his Ranger Family, (fulling knowing the hazards of his chosen profession) because they have also embraced me. RLW



On a completely other track, I went to the final night of Kevin Barry's. The week before that final night was a gathering for Rangers from near and far. Some stocking up on tee shirts, others remembering the good times, having shots with buddies and of course paying respects and remembering those on the "Wall" making sure all their glasses were full too!

For me it was a chance to have last shot with my son, because I felt him there. My Ranger son-in-law Bryan Jensen and my daughter came with my 3 grandbabies. The two older ones Brayden and Carmella think that Kevin Barry is where they could visit Uncle Drino and have a soda with cherries and they will miss it. Gabriella missed out on that feeling because she was only 8 months, but our family will miss Kevin Barry's. Thank you, Vic Powers, for all you have done for the Rangers.



GOLD STAR MOM—JILL STEPHENSON

At 3:02 am on January 20th, 1988, my son Ben was born dead. I had been given morphine to offset the pain of labor as I was prepped for an unplanned cesarean section. As soon as it hit my bloodstream, it was in Ben's too. His heart rate immediately bottomed out and separating the two of us became an emergency. When the delivering doctor handed him to the nurse, he was blue. This all took place after enduring 72-hours of labor as a very young mother. To add fuel to the fire, the moon became full while I was laboring, which overflowed the entire labor and delivery wing AND one of those really awful, crippling blizzards was happening outside making the driving conditions for anyone to be there absolutely treacherous. Remember, it was also three o'clock in the morning!

After delivering Ben, I didn't arrive to my own room until two hours later. I asked my nurse to please let me rest for a while and when I woke up I would come and get my baby. Well, a shift change took place and my request was lost, so, two (micro) hours later, a nurse barged into my room with baby Ben. He was perfect, with his bright ocean blue eyes and was wearing a hat almost the same color. His mouth was opening and closing like a baby bird begging for food. The 72 hours of labor I had endured followed by major surgery, with almost no food and zero rest went out the window. I forgot all about it the minute I looked into his eyes and held him for the first time.

I knew that Ben reacted to the morphine I was given, but I didn't know it literally took the life out of him until two days later when the delivering doctor came to check on him. I had no clue and my reaction to his account of what happened made it obvious that no one had told me. When the doctor removed Ben from me, there was a sheet partitioned between me and the surgical staff. I had also vomited on the way to the operating room (morphine effects) and was horribly nauseous and exhausted, so I did not see his tiny unbreathing, blue body.

To say Ben's "birth"- day was memorable is the understatement of the century. It was unforgettable in every sense of the word, yet only gave me more cause to love him.

His first birthday only produced one picture of half of his face because the film didn't process correctly in my 110 camera (aging me and those of you who know what I am talking about). His fifth birthday brought an ice storm that turned every flat surface in our metropolitan area into a skating rink, which cancelled his party. In the midst of



this, my great grandmother died, yes, on his birthday. We improvised and plopped a

candle into a cupcake and my mom and I sang

to him. I did manage to capture an adorable picture of him sporting cowboy boots and a buzz cut while blowing out the candle.

I believe birthdays need to be celebrated and I always did so with Ben. No matter what day of the week it fell on, Ben's birthday was made special. Even though he hated having a winter birthday, it often fell on Martin Luther King Day so he got the day off from school. If I didn't make him his favorite meal, we would go out. Call me a bad mom, but I started bringing him to Hooters when he was thirteen. He loved it. I am pretty sure we were there for birthdays 13, 14 and 15! It was his day and he was worth celebrating however he wanted.



Ben only got twenty-one birthdays here on earth, but that hasn't kept me from celebrating him and doing something special in his honor on this day. Since his death, the day he was shot, the day he was removed from life support or the day of his funeral are not the hardest days, it's his birthday. None of those other days had meaning before 2009. January 20th did for twenty-one years, it still does. I have done fun things and had some amusing things happen that I feel Ben orchestrated and laughed at as he watched them play out.

Continued on the next page



JILL STEPHENSON CONT'D

There was the year that Jenny (one of his best girls) and me wanted to release balloons for

him. We went to Freedom Park, a place Ben and I had gone together often. It sits high on a bluff above the confluence of the Mississippi and St. Croix Rivers on the Minnesota and Wisconsin border. It was a cold and blustery day. Twice we released the balloons and twice they got caught up in the brush below where we were standing.

Twice Jenny climbed below and untangled them only to have them get caught on something else. We gave up and settled for taking a selfie of us with the balloons in the trees behind us. Our fingers were frozen as we fumbled to push the buttons on my phone. We were able to snap off a handful of shots but when we turned around the balloons were gone! We did a

double take! They were nowhere in sight. We looked at the pictures and there, before our eyes and unbeknownst as we were taking the pictures, Ben's balloons untangled themselves and were captured in our pictures, but blew out of sight before we turned around. What we had attempted, he apparently wanted to do himself. I swear we could hear him laughing from the Heavens.

The next year, I went back to Freedom Park, but this time with no balloons. The park has a short walking path around it, so I thought I would enjoy a walk and asked Ben to show me a sign that he was there with me. I had paused near the overlook where Jenny and I danced with the balloons the year before in hopes of seeing a bald eagle or a hawk. Nothing. I continued on and was almost to the end and thought to myself that the day was young and there was still plenty of time for him to give me a sign.

As I am doing this, I was walking backwards looking to the sky still hoping for a sign from Ben. Nothing. When I turned around I almost hit my nose on one of those stand-alone community book-sharing libraries. I had never seen this here before. It was

new. I took a step back to go around it and smiled from ear to ear when I read the name-

plate on the box. It said, "Benjamin's Books." There's my sign!!! I reached for my phone to take a picture and that very moment, one of Ben's Ranger brothers sent me a text that said, "I love you, Mom."

I laughed out of sheer joy and swear I could hear Ben laughing with me again.

This year is Ben's tenth birthday in Heaven. Since shortly after he died, I have been wearing a memorial bracelet in his honor. It has not been off my wrist for longer than a minute or two in these ten years. It was black when I put it on. It is now silver from wear and tear and the inscriptions are fading. I decided it's time to take it off and keepsake it while the words are still



legible. I can't just leave my wrist naked, so I am getting a tattoo to replace it. I have been pondering this for more than two years. I was feeling drawn towards a Phoenix, a mythological bird that symbolizes resurrection or a life transformed or born anew. It is often associated with meaning a "rising from the ashes." The first time I googled "phoenix tattoo", I about fell over in my chair when a simple drawing of a phoenix came up with "KOP", "Est 2009" in its center. There it is! Decision made! I had to look up what that meant and found "Krewe of Phoenix", established in 2009 as an organization from Alabama that celebrates Mardi Gras in their own unique way. My mind was made up.

I have put off doing this for more than a year. It's time to honor Ben in a way I haven't before; with a permanent reminder that "Still I Rise", as the Phoenix does. It is a symbol of being born anew and resurrected to new life. Ben's birth and death have transformed me as I never imagined I could be. I will honor his day of birth til I celebrate my last. The birthdays without him are only physical, he celebrates with me and I hear his encouragement often to rise from the ashes and keep going. Happy Heavenly Birthday, Benjamin. I love you! ~ Mom

PATROLLING YOUR HEALTH

As defined by the dictionary, meditation is 1. “deep continuing thought 2. solemn reflection on sacred matters as a

devotional act 3. oral or written material, as a sermon, based on meditation.” Meditation, as defined by those who practice it for health and wellness purposes is almost the opposite - it is the lack of doing anything of an external nature. A person merely sits in an erect and balanced position, closes his eyes and then allows the mind to settle down while being aware of his breath. A person’s focus moves from the outside world of stimulation, thoughts & feelings, to that of inner calm. It is this realm of deepening inner calm which has attendant healing benefits attached to it which is the purpose of this article.

So, what is it that’s happening during meditation that has been able to be scientifically measured, recorded and examined by the science gurus (sorry). The most obvious results have been a consistent reduction in blood pressure, a reduction in heart rate, altered brain wave activity, a reduction in stress related hormones like cortisol and adrenaline and an increase in immune system indicators as well as joyful related hormones like endorphins. If a person can maintain a constant level of breathing which will alter brain wave activity, he will sense a calmness come over him and will tend to actually be more productive, accepting and balanced overall, able to accept the outside world with much less stress to his life. As mentioned in previous articles, stress is responsible for an estimated 75% of pain, disease and dysfunction in our lives. Improved cellular regeneration has been noted to take place at the deeper levels of brain wave activity. Some folks have related that these deeper levels allow for true bliss and happiness as well as improved mental functions where no problem is too great to be solved – the realm of so called genius. So, as an individual becomes more adept at meditation, he apparently can access deeper and deeper levels of mind that result in improved health as well as expanded mental abilities, all positive in nature. Ask yourself if any of these elements are a focus of either concern or interest in your life. If they are, then the rest of this article may be of interest.

Mind appears to be a new and real frontier. The more we study and investigate the universe, the more we move towards common denominators between man and his external world. Science is also just beginning to see correlation between mental and emotional activity and life experience. What we think or feel, we seem to manifest in our lives. Personally, I feel that when an individual reaches the point of recognizing that he can control what he feels and thinks, he GROWS UP. Until then, he usually plays the victim role and offers excuses of every type imaginable for why his life sucks. How many Rangers do you know who have “excusitis”, not many. Once they process their military experience, they usually become highly productive and contributing members of society. We all had to manage our minds amidst chaos, and survive. That same discipline and understanding becomes one of the key ingredients to successful meditation, only we don’t have to do anything this time – just allow it to happen, naturally. Easier said than done.

This rather simple approach of not “doing” anything is one of

the biggest obstacles to successful meditation practice. Doing nothing, as some people see it, is unacceptable since

they are not actively producing or physically doing something. And BEING still is a major challenge to most people because they become very uncomfortable not being stimulated; the quiet zone is actually threatening. This is only a phase of meditation and must be worked through individually and one of the reasons that training is necessary from a qualified practitioner if one chooses to pursue meditation seriously. This is a new realm for most Westerners and we are simply unprepared to deal with it – a guide becomes very helpful.

Let’s take a closer look at what meditation accomplishes and how it works. It may seem backward but doing apparently nothing may be doing more for oneself than all the “busi-ness” that takes up every day living trying to succeed or fulfilling role expectations. If the medical world has finally acknowledged that stress is so detrimental to a person’s health, then what is the natural solution? – UNSTRESS. Our inclination may be to drink, do drugs, sex, or stay busy with enjoyable hobbies. Or, the medical solution may be to take a prescription drug when we seek its advice. If one looks at the core cause of stress, it usually boils down to mentally/physically/emotionally trying to do more than we are capable of handling in a given period of time or being out of control of circumstances. If on occasion we experience this overload condition, we can usually handle it naturally with a good night’s sleep. When it becomes a routine happening and we need daily relief, however, we have reached the tipping point and it starts taking its toll. Why not give the body a chance to decompress naturally with an induced form of “sleep” that can be more effective than actually sleeping. It doesn’t cost anything; it doesn’t require any particular skills; it doesn’t require a third party and it can be done almost anywhere at any time. Meditation seems to meet this need in ways that most of us have little knowledge of.

Some other benefits to a routine of meditation include the following: A person seems to find more of his true self, an inner knowledge of who he truly is. Instead of being influenced by external values, marketing expectations or other people, self-assurance and self-determination results. An inner self seems to emerge which provides a much stronger self-image. Guilt diminishes, mental chatter settles into composure and one comes to glimpse another form of joyful living and happiness – one that come from within, not without. Self doubt, self-criticism and a lack of self-esteem just seem to fade away. One begins to sense a connection with something greater than self, much like the AA experience offers. The dark pit of depression and loneliness give way to the light of “I’m not alone”. One begins to create life experiences rather than react to them; true control of oneself begins to emerge and a new way of living evolves.

I recently had the Sacramento area regional coordinator for Transcendental Meditation, commonly referred to as TM, attend one of our Veteran Council meetings as a guest speaker to address its effectiveness in dealing with trauma, PTSD/MST. P 13-

I asked him what made TM so special, how does it work and why do people get better results from it than other types of meditation. He related the following to me: 1) The “mantra”, a word/sound without meaning, that is mentally repeated during meditation, is assigned to the individual by a certified TM practitioner who is trained to do such. 2) TM offers life-long support anywhere in the world so an individual can check in and ensure he is meditating correctly 3) TM offers a series of four lessons over four days of instruction to ensure that any unique challenges the individual confronts are dealt with effectively. 4) It is taught the same way everywhere in the world. He then related that the proper practice of “TM results in a natural state of mental balance and stillness that allows the body to heal itself and for the individual to regain control of himself” without revisiting the trauma and reinforcing it as other treatment modalities may do. He said the body has a natural tendency to establish balance, harmony and health if allowed to do so. TM simply allows the body to follow its natural path, understanding the nature of mind and how the brain operates. As the mind settles into a state of rest, the body follows, allowing for a reduced heart rate, lowered blood pressure and a shallower rate of breathing which results in reduced stress and an enhanced immune/healing bodily system. He cited over 600 published studies, some even by DoD, attesting to these results. He also displayed a chart showing how TM is approximately 33% more effective than other forms of meditation which were studied as well.

I took an Inter-theatre Transfer (ITT) to Berlin directly from Vietnam. Within a couple of months I knew something was wrong with me but had no idea what it was. I even went in to see a shrink, the kiss of death for an officer, but she said there was nothing wrong with me. I was drinking heavily, had anger issues and was a lousy husband and father. I took a TM course and things began to settle down for me. I didn’t understand at the time what was happening, I just knew I was feeling better and my life was beginning to turn around. A by-product of regular meditation was something I hadn’t expected - improved sports performance; I was relaxed, focused and could perform competitively at a much higher level.

So, if you want to give meditation a go, here is a very simple but good introductory series of steps that can be followed:

Find a quiet place where you can sit erectly, preferably a chair with a straight back. Your spine should be straight, head erect/chin up, do not lean against the chair back. Place your hands on your thighs, feet flat on the floor, eyes closed.

Begin to breathe naturally and fairly deeply – a three count in and a three count out is good. “Watch” your breathe, it is the key to effectiveness.

Let your mind and emotions flow; don’t try to control any aspect of them, just let them happen. If you notice that you have stopped breathing in the same rhythmic manner, start again.

Do this first for five (5) minutes, then ten (10), fifteen (15) and finally twenty (20) over a period of a month, increasing the time spent by five minutes each week.

You may experience the following: A bit of tension, discomfort or frustration; rambling thoughts; tightness in your chest; old feelings coming up. Whatever comes up is natural, let it flow. You are changing a way of being by not doing anything but sitting and breathing. Keep a journal of your experiences – quick notes on what happened during each session. Review them after each week and then finally at the end of the month. I guarantee you a significant life experience. Most importantly, it then becomes a skill that you own and can practice whenever needed. Call me with results or questions. Enjoy the Moment!

So, with TM being proven effective as a trauma treatment modality, why hasn’t the VA adopted it? It just hasn’t passed the VA’s litmus test yet. There is a one-time cost, administered on a sliding scale based upon income, of approximately \$750 for TM instruction. That fee allows for an individual to receive the initial four day block of instruction and future TM assistance for free as often as needed anywhere in the world that TM is offered. Compared to VA treatment cost for Veteran trauma treatment of approximately \$8,300, it would seem to be a very cost effective alternative. There are a number of us throughout the country that are actively pursuing incorporation of it into the meditation treatment modalities already accepted and approved by the VA.



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1st BN, 75TH RANGER REGT

UNIT DIRECTOR—BILL ACEBES

PFC Christopher Dona Memorial Award; awarded by Project New Hope Inc., Non-Profit Veteran Organization, Worcester, MA.

Command Sgt. Major Joe Davis relinquished responsibility of 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment to Command Sgt. Major James Spencer in a ceremony November 15. He assumed responsibility of 1/75 November 2017. CSM Spencer entered the U.S. Army in April 1999 and has deployed multiple times in direct support of the Global War on Terrorism.

Visited SMA (R) and Karen Morrell in December. He sends his best wishes to all.

Kevin Barry's closed 31 December – Has been a staple of many Rangers for MANY years. Gonna miss you Vic. Thanks for the "Hall of Heroes"

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF EAGLE CLAW: Details are as follows:

1st stage Conduct a covert link up at the Holiday Inn Express lobby in Niceville FL. the afternoon of 24APR from 1600 local until complete. This gathering of fellow Rangers is to break the ice that has built up over the many years and to reestablish the lost brotherhood of the famous "HARDROCK" Company.

2nd Stage will be the main gathering at the famous 6th RTB Gator lounge on 25APR2020 from around 1200 local until complete. The Gathering will be to further build and reestablish the lost brotherhood of the "HARDROCK" company along with breaking bread later in the afternoon (BBQ Dinner).

(a) Holiday Inn Express & Suites, contact information for rooms: Holiday Inn Express & Suites Niceville 410 John Sims Pkwy W, Niceville, FL 32578 Phone: 850-842-2500 Fax: 850-842-2440 They are providing 60 rooms (30ea. Day 15 double and 15 Single) for each night at \$169. The breakfast buffet is included. (This is the location for the ice - breaker)



(b) Best Western contact information for rooms: Best Western Niceville 106 Bayshore Drive, Niceville, FL 32578 Phone: 850-678-9131 Fax: 850-678-9272 They are providing 60 rooms (30ea. Day 15 double and 15 Single) for each night at \$149. The breakfast buffet is included

(c) Dress for the reunion is CASUAL no formal events are planned.

CONTACTS: The POCs are Ranger Keith Morrow / Roger Beck/ and Gene Peters: Please contact one of them to let them know if you will be attending!

Emails: klja99@yahoo.com rogerbeck@comcast.net pettersgene60@yahoo.com

I have been ill and haven't been on the computer or out and about very much. If there is someone that would like to become the Unit Coordinator for 1st Battalion, please let me or Steve Johnson (President) know.

Ranger Breakfasts everywhere – If there is not one where you are, start one.

Until the next time; keep your head down; your powder dry; your hatchet sharp and see you on the high ground.



From Ron Brook's Facebook Post



2nd BN, 75TH RANGER REGT

UNIT DIRECTOR—KEVIN INGRAHAM

Jan 10, 2020

By Ranger Mark T. Lisi, COL (Ret)

rgrlisi@gmail.com

Reno – Ten months ago the original members (plankholders) of Company B, 2D (Ranger) 75th Infantry descended on Reno, Nevada for their first reunion in 45 years. 70 Rangers showed up at the Silver Legacy in Reno on 21 March 2019. This number represents more than 50 percent of the original fill of the Company after accounting for Rangers who have simply disappeared, passed away and/or who have otherwise been accounted for.

Attendees included the officers, NCOs and individual Rangers who reported to the old WWII barracks on North Fort Lewis between Oct 1974 and Jun 1975. Many of the attendees deployed to Ft Benning for Cadre Training early in 1975, while many of us were finishing AIT, Airborne School and Ranger School.

This was and continues to be a singularly special group of Rangers. Looking at the manning over the first two years, B Co., 2/75 produced six Flag Officers, three Colonels, several LTCs and CW5s and squads of CSMs, lawyers, a Judge, a Fire Captain, pilots, teachers, police officers, senior government officials and a MOH awardee. Lined up, this group of men embody the Ranger Creed. The event included a tour of the Comstock Region of Nevada and a formal “sit-down dinner; but the real task was to sip good hooch, smoke a good stogie and tell lies about our youth.



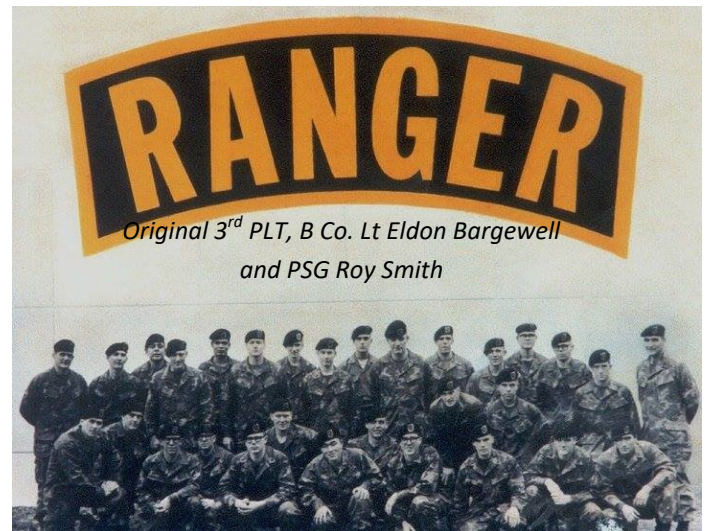
B/2/75 'Plankholders'

This group represented several hundred years of active, continuous service; much of which occurred in the world we all know today as Special Operations. There was limping, hobbling, and complaints of pain during the entire affair. There might have



even been a fat guy or two. Many of these Rangers, if questioned, would tell you that the time they spent in B Co. defined who they became as adults and professionals. We were trained and mentored by the very best the Army had to offer, and the leadership that was modeled for us was superb, but more importantly, it was priceless. None among us young Rangers could be exposed to Bo Baker, Lawson Magruder, Jim Dubik, El-

don Bargewell, Bill Block, Roy Smith and the cadre of other veteran senior NCO's, without becoming a better man and leader, both in and out of the military. It was loud, make no mistake about that.



These were the Rangers who jumped into Dugway Proving Ground Dec 13, 1975 and validated the 2D Ranger Battalion. It was dark, it was cold, and it was snowing, and we were wearing jungle boots. Seven of the 13 C-130s actually got to Dugway, and the boys pulled it off, returned to Ft Lewis and went to the backyard and completed a 7-15 “Light Infantry ARTEP”. Nothing was easy. If it was easy, the planners found a way to make it hard. It seemed our mantra was, “The value is in the suffering!” Being cold, wet, tired and hungry was our badge of honor – the thought was to make us immune to weather, so we could concentrate on accomplishing the mission.

Continued on the next page

Rangers Brasher, Hardy and Kleibacker below photo



The event was wife friendly and many of the ladies got to meet men just like their husbands, which cleared a lot of behavior up for them. "He is just like you!" was a very common refrain. "There I was" was a common refrain in this Patrol Base. Always followed by "I was there with you, and now I will tell you what really happened." A Power Point (yes there was a Power Point presentation) was built of photos from back in the day. Handsome, raw face boys looking like flinty-eyed killers exposed to wives and in some cases adult children. Photos that have not seen the light of day for over 40 years.



Photo to the left:

CW5 (Ret) Shaun Driscoll and MSG (Ret) Tom Gould
Two very "special" Special Operators

70 bottles of "Plankholder's Custom Blend hooch was procured for the occasion and sold to 'ourselves,' along with two commemorative, etched highball glasses. We donated 100% of the net proceeds, \$3000, to the Ranger Scholarship Fund in the name of the late LTG Eldon Bargewell Scholarship. Ranger's Lisi and Block were present and made the award to Katherine Newcomb. A proud moment for us all. This is resulting in a permanent LTG Eldon Bargewell Scholarship funded entirely by former B Co. Rangers. Feel free to reach out to Mark Lisi if you would like to donate. Our desire is to keep the memory and legion of 'LTB' alive for future generations of patriots.



The Hooch



But perhaps the most poignant moment was when we hoisted a bottle of our custom hooch at the "absent Rangers" table setting and made a toast "to those who gave the last full measure of devotion." As is my way, I could not speak without long pauses, what with the tears and all, but I am who I am. Plans were hatched for the next meeting of these warriors. Word is that it will be at Ft Benning in 2021 and John

Brasher is the POC. If you're a B Co. plankholder from that era and would like to attend the reunion next year, reach out to us and let us know. Thanks, must be offered to LTG (r) Magruder for planting the idea for this event and pinning the rose to me. It was a labor of love, and I have some experience with being a staff officer at that level. If your group has not done this, the recommendation is to get after it. Life is short and time is relentless. From the original boys of B Co. – RLTW!



Above Photo: COL (Ret) Mark Lisi and 1SG (Ret) Bill Block Awarding Katherine Newcomb, the LTG Eldon Bargewell Scholarship



3rd BN, 75TH RANGER REGT

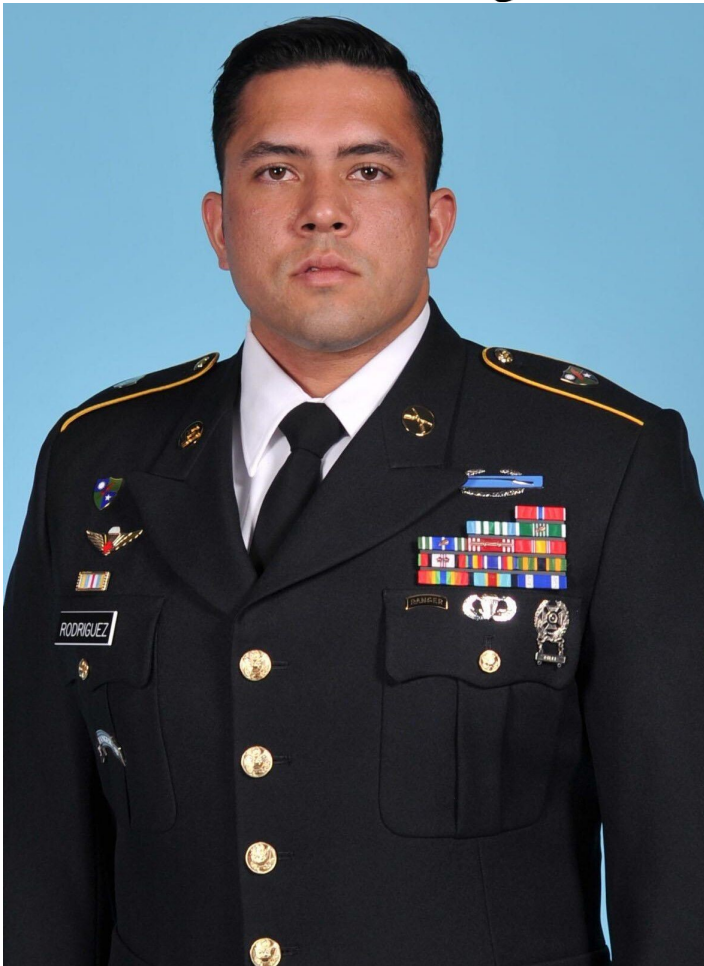
UNIT DIRECTOR—TONY MAYNE

3d Ranger Battalion is currently deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Please keep the Rangers and their families in your prayers until their safe return home.



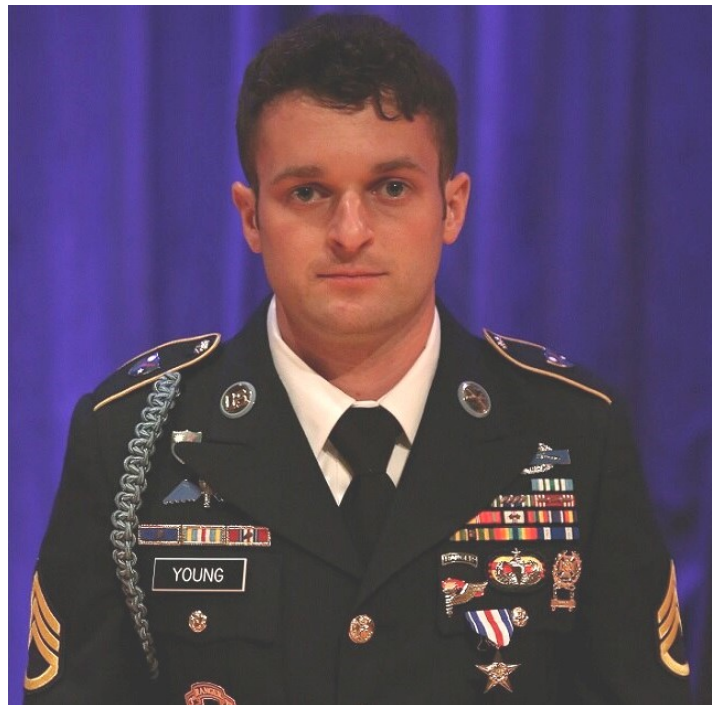
Charlie Company's Staff Sgt. Michael Young was honored on March 10, 2020 as the Army Special Operations Command's representative at the 38th Annual USO Metro awards ceremony saluting the contributions of the U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) at the Ritz-Carlton in Washing-

ton, D.C. He was unable to attend due to 3d Ranger Battalion's deployment. Staff Sgt. Young was awarded the Silver Star for actions on his fifth deployment resulting in saving the lives of 22 Rangers in a "terrifyingly chaotic" firefight in Nangarhar Province, Afghanistan in April 2017. Read the full story of Staff Sgt. Young's heroics at <https://www.armytimes.com/news/your-army/2018/04/13/rangers-heroic-actions-saved-dozens-led-to-silver-star-medal/>.



Above photo: Sgt. 1st Class Antonio Rodriguez was mortally wounded on his tenth combat tour

Sgt. 1st Class Antonio Rey Rodriguez of 7th Special Force Group was killed on February 8, 2020 during combat operations in Nangarhar Province, Afghanistan. Sgt. 1st Class Rodriguez first duty assignment was 3d Ranger Battalion. He deployed with the Ranger Regiment eight times. He was deployed for the second time with Special Forces at the time of his death. Sgt. 1st Class Rodriguez leaves behind his wife Ronaleen Rodriguez. Also, mortally wounded on the same mission was Sgt. 1st Class Javier Jaguar Guterrez of 3rd Special Forces Group.



Above photo: Staff Sgt. Michael Young was recognized by the USO at their largest annual awards ceremony in Washington, D.C. in March

Upcoming Events

Mogadishu Mile 5K set for Saturday, Oct. 3, 2020. Downtown Columbus, Ga. will once again host the annual Mogadishu Mile 5K on the anniversary date of the event.

Continued on the next page



Rangers did from Urgent Fury [Grenada invasion] to me and current Rangers are doing from Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria,” retired Sgt.Maj. Joe Clark said. “Train as you fight is truly the Ranger standard.” Read about the reunion and recollections of the participants in the US-SOCOM Tip of the Spear at <https://www.dvidshub.net/publication/issues/51824>.

Above Photo: This year’s Mogadishu Mile 5K will fall on the anniversary date of the Battle of Black Sea, Oct. 3.

Registration will open in the spring at <https://runsignup.com/Race/GA/Columbus/MogadishuMile>. For those unable to participate in Columbus, registration provides a virtual option with all proceeds benefiting Three Rangers Foundation.

Event Highlights

Operation JUST CAUSE veterans gathered last December in Panama for fellowship and to honor the fallen 30 years after the Regiment launched its first and only Regiment-sized airborne assault. “As I look back on OJC, we gained many lessons learned that we passed on to Rangers for many years to come -- just as

Connect

3d Ranger Battalion’s official Facebook page is <https://www.facebook.com/3dRangerBattalion/>

3d Ranger Battalion’s official Instagram account is @3d_ranger_battalion

3d Ranger Battalion alumni group Facebook page is <https://www.facebook.com/groups/112604044797/>

Constant Contact Update

For those of you who have a new email address and want to be included on up-to-date affairs that affect the Greater Ranger Community and its members, stop what you are doing now and shoot an email to our secretary Tom Sove:

Secretary@75thrra.org

OR

Secretary@75thrra.net





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

UNIT DIRECTOR—STAN JONES

First, I must start off by apologizing for inappropriately naming Sgt. Olson in the picture with Bain Smith in the last article. The picture was actually Sgt. Wiley Nobles. I have struggled with and nearly completed one push-up for my transgression.

I would also like to thank the 75th RRA and the Patrolling Magazine staff on producing a first class magazine. I know it costs a lot of money to produce, but I am still old fashioned and like having a magazine or newspaper in my hand.

Next up, I would like to thank Ranger Pete Parker (2nd Batt) for setting up our new list server. It is similar to the old one, only Google would not support the old style any longer. There are still a few bugs to work out, but Pete is working on it as he has time. To request access to the list send an email to a75-request@airborne-ranger.com The regular email address is a75@airborne-ranger.com Also want to remind everyone that we have our own Facebook page, Co A 75th Infantry Airborne Rangers. That is open to anyone to post on, just keep it sociable and friendly. I set it up under that name but all the Company lineage is welcome.

A personal story and then I'll move on. Over the last 2 years, my wife's brother, Bruce, has been living with us off and on as he fights the Big C. First in 2017 with trachea cancer. While in remission, he made a trip to the hilltop in Tennessee. I believe it was the fall trip in 2018. I didn't know until later how much he thoroughly enjoyed himself. I had been after him for years but he never had time to go. In early 2019, they found spots on his lung and treated him once again. In late August early September, they found multiple tumors on his brain and did a hard radiation treatment on just his skull to "buy him some time". He moved in with us again. At an oncology appointment in mid-October the doctor said you have a couple of weeks to a month. If you could do anything, what would it be? He said go to Tennessee with my brother-in-law one more time. I don't have to tell you how hard that was to hear. I knew he had had a good time, but didn't realize the impact that a few Rangers had made on him. I started making phone calls and got the trip set for the first week in November. His mom and dad agreed to rent an RV so he could travel comfortably and stay warm. Hospice came in on Thursday night and gave him some fluids to "help" his last wish come true. The nurse said this was the 1st time she had



ever done that. On Friday, Nov. 1st myself, Bruce, his son Mikel and Bruce's brother Dave set off towards Tennessee in our 28ft. Class C RV. By the time we made it to southern Indiana, the generator on the RV quit and it was keeping Bruce's O2 generator going. We had gotten enough O2 from Hospice to last the trip but were counting on the generator to keep the furnace running at night. Driving through Louisville, we had a flat tire on the trailer towing a Gator that we had borrowed, because Bruce would not be able to ride on my ATV. Fortunately, Mike had decided to drive too in case an extra vehicle was needed, so he and Dave set off to get a spare, since we forgot to bring one. But as we started enroute again, the generator started cooperating again.

Below photo: Bruce and Dave



We arrived late in the day but were able to get set up and enjoy the evening with Mike Fisher, EJ Alexander and Mike Cantrell. The generator had quit running again so we were able to hook up Fisher's generator and run both the RV and Cantrell's Cpap machine. I'm not sure how many rounds Bruce fired but it's safe to say well over 200. Keep in mind when Bruce was healthy, he topped out at 275, he was now in the neighborhood of 150. I know he shot his lever action 30/30 at least 50 rounds. I have had a shoulder replacement and wouldn't touch it. Cooked burgers that night and sat in the comfort and warmth of the RV, a first for me on the hilltop. 26 degrees both mornings and I slept under a poncho liner. Sunday took Bruce back up to the firing line for another couple of hours before he said he had had enough. It was a quick trip and I thank all who helped make it possible.

Continued on the next page

Bruce passed away at 3:42am on Wednesday, November 27th. I know the time because I was up with him. He had made one final request and that was for no one to dress up at his funeral. He wanted all in attendance to wear flannel shirts and blue jeans. Even the Funeral Director and Minister wore flannel. Bruce was a US Navy Veteran, serving on a machine repair ship from 1972-76. I have included a couple of pictures of the trip. He was buried with full military honors in his hometown of Sheridan, IN.



From Jim Savell: I had retired from active duty & was teaching JROTC at Rider H S in Wichita Falls, TX. This happened in the late 1990's. We wore the class "B" uniform as instructors. I was walking down the hall at school heading for the cafeteria. A substitute teacher was hall monitoring. He asked me why I was in uniform, & I explained it was required. He was an older man & I asked if he had been in the military. He said he was in WW2 with a unit called the 5307th. I immediately stopped & said, "You were with Merrill's Marauders?" He was surprised I knew the unit. He immediately said he wasn't with them when they took the Myitkyina airfield. He was a replacement. We talked a little & he said he was there for a week & his name was Jack Snow. That night I contacted friends on line that I knew were with Merrill. "How do I know if he is real", I asked? Was told to ask him what company he was in. The 5307th had colors for their Companies. The next day I met him & asked what company he was in, "I was in Khaki Company", he said. The 5307th had: Red, White, Blue, Green, Orange & Khaki Companies

From Sgt Olson: Here are two about Brizendine. I guess everyone knows Brizendine broke his "Leg-Ranger" neck, in Jump School, when the black hat released him, at the most inopportune time (of course), but that's not funny. What is funny is the black hat makes him double time, with his head bouncing and rolling around, to the medic truck/ambulance- lol. Then in early '74 (I think) Brizendine, myself, and someone else from the com-

pany (possibly an FNG) thought we would check-out the new Rec-Center. We entered the Center and noticed a coffee pot- yes we walked over to drink our share (and everyone else's also). Brizendine had his cup and he was dumping in sugar & creamer, when a leg came over to the coffee table and started talking the typical leg BS, "You Rangers think you are tough, but I don't think so...." That is where the leg stopped talking because Brizendine opened his fly, and started stirring his coffee with his pee-pee thingie while saying "No, not at all. We don't think we are tough. You guys think you are tough?...." and for some reason the leg left – lol. (Cannot confirm nor deny the story, but where Briz was involved??).



From 1st Sgt Robert Allchin (ret.) In response to your request for an article in the next issue of Patrolling, I have a factual story, stay with me. One event most Rangers should remember. It was a tac-op at Camp Bullis near San Antonio on Labor Day 1973. I had a mid-air collision with Mike Diegel. It did not end well. Thanks to Cpt Nolen's quick response, he got the same chopper to land to take me to Brooke Army Hospital. The Cpt and 1SG Romo and our senior medic SSG Brown's actions saved my life. My fellow Rangers quickly unharnessed my gear, Staff Sergeant Brown held my head in traction until we reached the emergency room. This operation required taking bones from my hip and splicing these bones into my fractured neck. So I cannot be accused of having my head in my ass because I have my ass in my head. After recovery, the Army wanted to medically discharge me, Cpt Nolen asked me if I wanted to stay in the Army. He offered a job in the S2 office with SFC Gavin. I accepted. My new job was to type and prepare security clearances for fellow Rangers. Many, many fellow Rangers I remember. Duke Snyder, Gary Carpenter, Ed Thurman, 1sg Romo, Mike Thiesen, Bayless (RIP), Danny Olsen, Dickey Welch, etc, etc, etc.. Ain't No Drop Zone Too Long: Ain't No Drop Zone Too Short. Robert Allchin (1SG RET) robert.allchin@yahoo.com *Cont'd next page*

Bill Bohte asked me to repost this article from when he was Unit Director: I joined the Association in 1999 after retiring from a career in telecommunication of 32 years. It was kind of strange the way it started. My wife gave me a book for Christmas about Rangers and LRRP units and it had mention of the 3779 LRRP Company. That got me interested so I did a search on the internet for Ranger and got the 75th RRA page. I perused the site and left a comment in the guestbook. The next day I received an email from Bob Murphy who was in Australia. Then Chet Smith popped up only five miles away from where I lived. Everything snowballed from that point on. I found as I attended the 75th RRA reunions, that the Association performed a number of worthwhile functions. The first being the reunification of men who shared a common bond in a younger part of their lives, serving in units that required close association, team work and a degree of dedication. The second being an opportunity to heal as many of those units placed those young men in situations that haunted them long after they left the unit. Then there was the ongoing support the Association provides of the young men and their families that continue to serve in those units and those situations. I find the long lineage of A Co. 75th Inf. to be interesting in that it started in Germany as one of the first LRRP units organized by the Army and continued through the changes in mission and unit structure until the companies were finally disbanded in favor of Ranger Battalions. I find that the men who served in those stages of change, as the years progressed, are of the same character, dedication and courage as the guys that I

served with. I will extend every effort to support this unit to the best of my ability as Unit director. I will need help from all of you in this endeavor as I have very tough shoes to fill from the directors before me. And I will be pushing for a large turn out from the unit at the reunion this August.

Roy and Robin Bissey met up with Bill Bohte and his wife Sandy at the Antelope Hills Golf Club restaurant in Prescott, AZ on 03 January. Bill is keeping busy working with the local search and rescue team. He says he is one of the few members who uses a map and compass on a regular basis, the rest rely on modern gadgetry. Sandy spends a lot of time looking after grandchildren in the Dallas, TX area.

By the time this comes out the spring trip to the hilltop will be in the books. Fisher, Cantrell, EJ and probably myself and who knows who else might show up. Looking at March 21-27. Hilltop is open to anyone from A Co or its long heritage or any other Ranger if you just happen to be passing by. The beer is always cold, the fire hot and the B.S. hotter

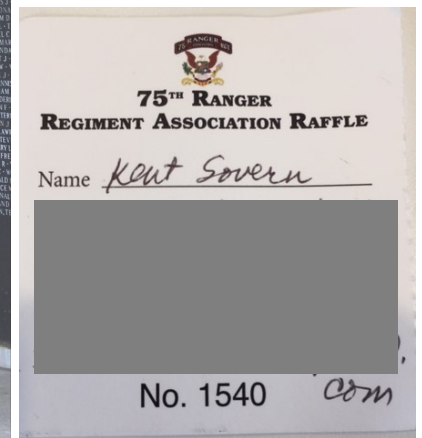
Until next time, stay safe and keep the stories coming. And always remember Rangers Lead The Way

Stan



2019 Harley-Davidson

Winner In Iowa





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

UNIT DIRECTOR—MARC L. THOMPSON

Greetings and Salutations:

Hello again, fellow Rangers, LRRPs, and Jayhawks!

I will admit right off the bat that this will contain less than the usual amount of information...

I have checked the Facebook groups and checked in with a few of you, and there does not seem to be any drastic news that I have to apprise you of.

My personal schedule has been somewhat disrupted for the past few months since I have been undergoing treatment and radiation therapy for non-Hodgkins lymphoma. Daily radiation treatments and all the associated medical appointments tend to cut into your available time for other obligations. The bad news is that I have non-Hodgkins lymphoma (somewhat more serious than the skin cancer for which they sliced and diced my nose a few years ago).

The good news is that the VA sent me to the wonderful doctors and staff at the Penn State Cancer Center, and that the prognosis is that I will make a full recovery (99.999% chance of cure).

Dick Foster also submitted info for our fellow criminals from VII Corps LRRP's, despite the fact that he has been dealing with medical issues of his own.

I will gather more information prior to the next issue, and therefore subject you all to my normal ramblings, whether you deserve that mistreatment, or not!

FORT LEWIS ARTICLE FROM 1973

So...

I got an email from Chris Maxfield, and he sent me something I had never seen before (or do not remember seeing at the time). It was an original copy of a clipping from the official Fort Lewis newspaper from 1973, as B/75 moved from Carson to Lewis, and sent an advance detail to conduct Recondo training for the ROTC Cadets that summer.

Ranger Maxfield says:

"Chris Maxfield here. I was in Co. B 75th from September 1972 to July 1973 working directly for 1SG Jack Schmidt in the Company HQ Section. I arrived as a SP/4 from the 82nd, went to Ranger School in late November and graduated in February 1973, promoted to SGT. You may or may not remember me; I left in mid-July 1973 to go to West Point Prep School at Ft. Belvoir and subsequently to West Point."

If you want to get in touch with Ranger Maxfield, get in touch



with me, and I will provide you with his contact information (as a policy, I do not include email addresses or phone numbers in the clear).

I included a photo of the clipping and the accompanying photo of yours truly (of course, they misspelled my name, as well as referring to Don Bruce as "David Bruce", and misspelled Dale Stannard's name, but what the hey)...

The text of the article follows (along with the photo he sent).



FORT . LEWIS, WASH.

June 14, 1973

Vol. 24, No. 24

Who's that tall handsome stranger?

A not so lone Ranger, M'am

75th Ranger Co. "Black Berets" report for duty here.

by Spec. 4 JOHN BLUCK

The "Black Berets" are here.

Who?

Black Berets - the soldiers with the unfamiliar patches and flat hats who have been arousing curiosity around the post all week.

These stranger's are Rangers, members of a special reconnaissance unit which has been training at Ft. Carson, and has sent a team to Fort Lewis to support ROTC summer camp training.

The unit - Co B, (Ranger) 75th Infantry (Airborne) is attached to the 9th Infantry Division.

Continued on the next page

Monday, a hundred or so more of the Rangers [UNREADABLE], bringing company strength to 147 enlisted men and eight officers.

The advance group is conducting "RECONDO" training for the cadets. RECONDO course includes a "slide for life" on a rope strung from a tower across a lake, rappelling, river crossing and long range patrolling.

Says 1st Lt. Robert Parker: "Our primary mission is reconnaissance for nuclear targets and monitoring the effects of special weapons attacks."

Sgt. Mark [sic] Thompson added that a typical wartime mission would be dropping from C-141 aircraft at about 500-foot altitude, perhaps as much as 300 miles behind enemy lines.

Another mission might be raids or "prisoner snatches" aimed at finding out what sort of equipment and how many men the enemy has in an area.

"We could conduct soil analysis for the engineers, find out where all local trails lead, how the weather is, and what kind of vegetation there is. We would leave the area by aircraft, or on foot," Sgt. Thompson said.

"Many of the men aren't 11-Bravos (Infantryman) by MOS. We have men with Engineer experience and guys who were medics, for example. Many of them were with Special Forces."

Each platoon has eight six-man patrols, usually led by a Staff Sergeant. There is an assistant platoon patrol leader, a radio operator, senior scout and two junior scouts [sic: misquoted: should be: Patrol leader and assistant patrol leader, radio operator, senior scout and two junior scouts].

Sgt. David [sic: Don] Bruce said that at Ft. Carson the 75th Rangers trained with the 4th Mechanized Division.

"We would rather work with a 'Straight Leg' division," he said. "We adapt to them better because we're ground troops. Also, the 3d of the 5th Cavalry is here, and they have a lot of helicopters. There weren't many choppers at Carson," he said.

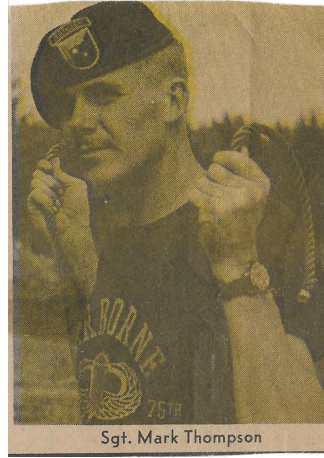
Nearby McChord AFB enables the men to practice their jumping, and some plan to learn scuba diving in Puget Sound.

Sgt. Bruce said the company training catalogue includes patrolling, pathfinding, communications, rappelling, mountain climbing, foreign weapons, photography, first aid and skiing.

"If you do it right, it's a lot of fun," declared Sgt. Thompson.

"Eighty per cent of our people reenlist. Our company is the best Ranger Company in the Army. That's come out in all the evaluations we've had."

Commented Sgt. Dale Standard [sic: Stannard]: "I really dig it. We've got higher esprit de corps than most units. You work more closely with your superiors. They don't just tell you to do something, and you do it without knowing why. You have a real understanding of what's going on."



Sgt. Mark Thompson



B75 POCKET PATCHES

Leo Starkey had originally made a run of the pocket patches we used to wear on our dress greens. Now the Mossy Threads website (Ranger-owned and run) has taken over production and has them stocked on their website. These are reproductions in full color: B Company Color Pocket Patch, 75th Ranger. Size: 3 7/8 inch x 3 1/8 inch.

Here is a screenshot of the MossyThreads.com pocket patch. He only charges \$5.75 each which is half of what Leo would have to charge if he was still doing that himself.

<https://mossythreads.com/shop?olsPage=products/b-company-pocket-patch-color>

B/75 & VII CORPS COINS - LEO STARKEY

Leo Starkey has, once again, had a run of B75 and VII Corps coins made, just like the outstanding coins which he produced two years ago. I think we all owe Leo a debt of gratitude for undertaking to produce the coins and pocket patches... Attaboy, Leo...!!! He says: Here are the ordering details. The cost per coin is \$17.50. If there is enough interest I will order another 50 coins. I am only ordering 50 at a time so I do not have to eat or lose that much. Mail a check or cash send payment to:

Leo Starkey
802 W Main St.
Yorktown, TX 78164

(Please contact the unit director if you need Leo's telephone number... I don't want to post it in the clear here). I enclosed a photo of the coins from the last run...

I will ensure that I am more proactive for the next issue. My apologies.

Until next time...

Respectfully,

Marc L. Thompson

Unit Director

VII Corps LRRPs on the next page

Buenos Dias, mi Hermanos LRRPs

I hope this finds you all well and in good spirits. I have a few topics for your undivided attention, so listen up or give me a hundred when we fall out!

2020 LRRP Reunion:

We will be mustering for our annual reunion at Fayetteville, NC, Veterans' Day week of Nov. 9-12. I have reserved 6 double bed rooms (one of which will be reserved as a Day Room) at the Comfort Inn near Ft Bragg. The address is 1922 Skibo Rd (910-867-1777). Call that number to reserve one of those rooms or make your own in the event that you're bringing your main squeeze or guests. Tell them you want one of the rooms allocated to LRRPs or my name. Since 2 have already been spoken for, you need to call and reserve yours. Any rooms unclaimed by Friday Nov 6 will be cancelled and you'll be on your own. Check in is 3 PM and out is 12 PM. Call for early check in. The cost per night will be appx \$76-\$80 (+ taxes and other ripoff fees) per night. You may need to establish your shelter halves sooner rather than later since it is a holiday week. If you know of any real reason why we should NOT stay there, let me know ASAP.

Anon, we will have our banquet at Das Bavarian Haus, 3500 Murchinson Rd, Fayetteville, on Veterans' Day, time TBD. We are renting a 15 person van for transportation the 3 days. I will try to get there on the 8th in case anyone needs pickup at Raleigh-Durham airport.

That's about it, I think, regarding reunion details. If I've forgotten something, I'll be in touch as soon as you let me know. Verstehen sie das?

As many of you know, I underwent open-heart surgery 2 months ago (valve replacement, thoracic aneurysm repair, and double bypass), and am working to return to normalcy, however you choose to define that. If I'm half as strong as you guys that have been through sundry and assorted mishaps (Lake, Vanasse, Clark, Kennedy, Rodriguez, Evaro. Jackson. Yarbrough, Forde, Mathiak, 2chon, Morales, Chetwynd and, especially Sam Storey - shit, damn near all of you, Fat Back and I will be ready for a 3 mile airborne shuffle to show the youngsters what bad asses we are (or were)!

Chetwynd has emailed me with the good news that Lt General Jerry Boykin, one of the first to be a part of Special Forces Delta force may be attendance. The General has worked closely with CSM Clark and Delta CSM "Country" Grimes, once a Patrol Leader with us and SOG. Joe is still in commo with the General's assistant. I'll try and keep you up to date, if Joe doesn't.

Sick Call:

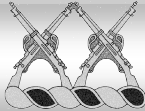
I received notice through our private FaceBook account that Freddie "Beetle" Bailey has probably passed away by now. The last I heard from his Son over a month ago, he was near death in a Veterans' nursing home in south Florida. "Beetle" was a member of the 101st Airborne Division's (327 ABG) original provisional Tiger Force (before they became recognized) in Vietnam. He came to one of our 75th Ranger reunions at Benning and made no secret that he was pissed off that the 75th RRA did not recognize his TF Brothers as members in good standing in the Association and the Ranger tradition. Suffice it to say, he never came to another reunion. If he truly has passed away, may God bless him with peaceful abode. RIP Brother "Beetle" Bailey!

Tom Forde has recovered successfully from his bout with prostate cancer and, so far, is doing well with his new knee. Bob Vanasse had to return to the hospital for something other than that previous shit he was afflicted with; so that is good news. I don't remember what it was because I got the news second hand from Mathiak. So, all in all, having heard from no one else, I'll assume we're all relatively well. Key word ---relatively.

So guys, that's it for now. As always, I close with my usual caveat --- I've probably forgotten somebody or something, so please forward this to all concerned on your email list. AIRBORNE!
BROTHER LRRPs. OUT

Pfc (E-10) Dick Foster, President

USA LRRP, VII Corps, ASSOC.



C/75 - E/20 LRP

UNIT DIRECTOR—JOE HAYES

I encourage folks to submit a memory, or a story to this publication. They are read by young and old – vets and active duty; certainly by those who have a deep interest in these Ranger Units, and probably by those few who could just as well be content reading something else. For whatever reason, the articles are read because at whatever level, people are interested. I have come to realize this over the last two and a half years as a unit rep. I never would have thought that I would have gotten so many calls or e-mails from so many folks. One was young guy asking about LRP's and about his Uncle Emil. Another was a young lady – I think either from, or living in Germany with her boyfriend. He was going to get rid of his Dad's army stuff. She sent me a picture of his dress uniform and asked me what all the medals meant. Some are guys who drop a name of a guy they served with in the unit and want to find him. Some wanted to know if they're listed as being in the unit. On December 21, 2018, Robert Collins e-mailed and wanted to know how to nominate his Father in Law, Colonel Dandridge Malone, to the Ranger Hall of Fame. I was both stunned and sad to discover that he was not already inducted. I did my best to put him on the right path. I hope to see Col. Malone in the Hall someday. And then there are some guys who are just looking to recover a memory that they may have lost, or, are in the process of losing – maybe forever. They don't want to forget, but more importantly, they don't want to be forgotten.

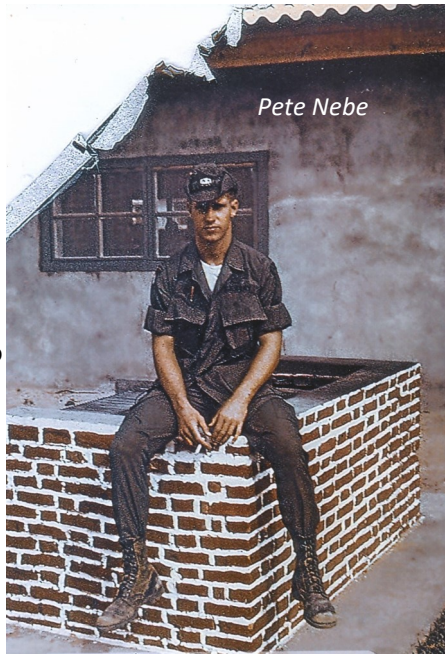
Like you, I wear the POW MIA patch. When I started to wear it, way back when my youngest boy, who was seven or eight and working on his first Cub Scout badge, asked me what it meant. He came to recognize it as the Vietnam patch. And that is probably the way most people see it to this day. In retrospect, I didn't realize back then, that this patch would come to transcend that decade of turbulence, which has come to be known as the Vietnam Era.

On this past New Year's Eve, Jim Regan called. Jim had read the last article and wanted to get a hold of Tom Bragg, who he thought he knew from the early 60's. I had never met Jim, but we talked a good while. Jim had been the unit rep of H Rangers. He had a long Army career, which included three years as Command Sergeant Major in the White House Communications Agency. If I remember correctly, Jim served in that position from 1983 to 1986. To say the least, it was very interesting to listen to him. We got to talk about how happy we were that now, the vets are



treated a little better than we were, and that they are thanked for their service. Jim didn't hesitate to say, "Thanks to Reagan." I have to say that I agree with him. I remember seeing President Reagan on TV on Veteran's Day 1988. He was at the Vietnam Wall to deliver a speech. "And what can I say," he said "to our Vietnam veterans but – Welcome Home." I love to hear that from a fellow Vietnam Vet to this day. Now, we often hear "Thank you for your service." My response is, "You are welcome." However, probably just like you, in silence I am thinking; "this country doesn't owe me anything." It was nice talking to you Jim.

A few days after Jim's call, I received a manila envelope inside of which, were some pictures and a short letter. It was from Pete Nebe, who lives in Lantana, Florida. The letter started, "Greetings Joe, I don't know if you remember me, but I was one of the originals in the unit (from 2nd, 502nd, 101st)." I had never met Pete, but I remembered that months before, he had e-mailed asking if I remembered some names in E-20. He recalled the night scope incident. I e-mailed back and gave him some of the names of the E-20 guys who I had met at the reunions and mentioned Oscar Carraway who was on the night scope team. I never expected to get pictures, (a few of which I am submitting with this article), and a letter asking if anyone might "recognize me", meaning Pete. So I called Pete and we had a good conversation. . I sent him the night scope story from the Spring,



2012 Patrolling issue and gave him a couple of names. I went to Bob Stein's book and Pete was listed in the 4th plt. I told Pete that too. I wish that I could have helped him more but in 1967 – 68, I told him that I was in the tenth grade and watching you guys on the nightly news. Well, he thanked me very much for the call and the time. I hope to see Pete at a reunion someday.

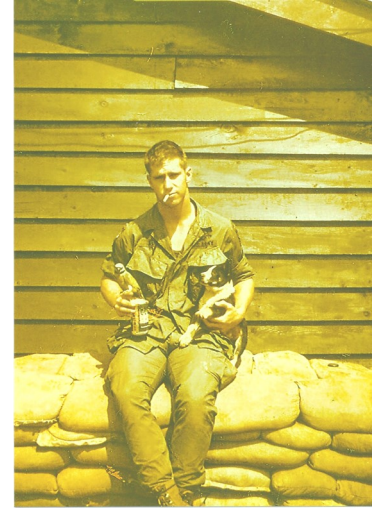
The era of Vietnam is five decades past. The image that came to symbolize that era, in many places, flies beneath our beloved American flag. The patch is proudly worn by thousands of brothers and sisters for the purpose of honoring and remembering those patriots who were killed, who suffered as a prisoner, or who are still missing in Vietnam. *Continued on the next page*

But it would be hard to argue that this black and white image has become a unique symbol of the Vietnam Vet; one which we proudly wear. I think that it is transcendent in yet another way. Now, when I look at this symbol, – almost fifty years after Vietnam and some 33 years after the POW MIA flag first flew, I reflect on the caption at the bottom; " You Are Not Forgotten".

Photos Left to Right: E-20 4th plt hooch; Pete and pets

So to you, Pete, and hundreds if not thousands of Vietnam and other Vets out there who may be thinking that you may not be remembered: **YOU ARE NOT FORGOTTEN – NEVER!**

See you in May – Joe Hayes



D/151st/LRP/LRS

Unit Director Bob McIntire

End of an Era

I must jump right in here with some bad news. William Francis " Pappy " Hayes passed away last week. The word to me is that he fell and broke his back. Pappy was 92 years young and still going strong. He suffered with it for a time then went to the Doctor where he learned of his condition. It was decided that the operation would more than likely render him paralyzed due to his age and his frailty. Steve Justus and I went to see him in the hospital and found him in good spirits. He periodically displayed a lot of pain, but for the most part he was lucid and talkative. We passed the time talking about old times and the men we served with in Vietnam and we joked about present times and the things our guys had done that were not strictly by the book. We had been told not to stay long as he got tired rapidly. Pappy had had breakfast and was ready for lunch. His nurse was there to take his order. Using that as our cue we hugged and said our goodbyes, not realizing that we were in fact really saying our goodbyes. About a week after our visit "Pappy" was transferred to Hospice he where he passed on. There were probably 50 or more of his boys at the funeral which is some sort of indication of how we felt about him. We were extremely lucky to have him with us as long as we did. I won't get into all the particulars nor will I type up a list of attendees. If you were there you know who you were



and if you were not there it is your loss. I'll miss you old man. It marks the end of an era for Co. D.

On the up side we have had two holidays get-togethers over lunches. The first one was at MCL in Castleton (North side of Indianapolis) and the second one was two weeks later at the VFW in Evansville. Both were very well attended: I was lucky enough to attend both of them so I can tell you first hand that the Evansville attendees were: Doug Hagan, Ron Himsel (our XO, CO and XO in that order). Larry Rhodes, Dave Bowling and his



Pappy Hayes

wonderful wife Teri, (the bravest wife there and unfortunately the only wife there which not only speaks to her bravery but also to her health), Loran Dixon, one of my Team Leader, Gary Williams, Ray Herr, Mike Jaussaud, our Assoc. President, Bill Riggins, Ben Vanderlindner, Vince Turner, Gary Tichner (a golfer's golfer par excellence), Dave Cates, all the way up from Florida were he now resides, Daryl Dassel of fast cars and motorcycles fame, Steve Justus my brother from a different mother, Steve Knapp and Steve Steckler, don't always get to see them at these functions but it's better when they can make it, Dave Waters a true leader and Commander of Evansville's VFW, our lunch location, Jerry Arnold aka Cletus Bleeker, an extraordinarily poor code sender and receiver, that our coding instructor,

Continued on next page

was never able to locate, Jim Rose, Mike Hart a quiet relation to aka Cletus, Ken Briody and Scott Strouse two young men I unfortunately do not know well enough to pick on (maybe that's a good thing).

In addition to our crew we had two young men, David Hohiemer aka Ho Ho, and Stephen Williams. These two men represented a volunteer group tasked with mediating between activated National Guard and Army Reserve. My understanding which is basic and may lack accuracy is that when an activated reservist returns from active duty and has been replaced they work with the reservist and his civilian employer to establish a return to his old job, a new and equal job or a better job. I know from talking to Bill Riggins that his son had occasion to use this service when he returned from active duty and as I understand it he was eventually placed in a higher paying position. If I am correct in my information these two gentlemen serve a very worthwhile cause, both for the soldier and his or her family. Hooah!

Group pictures were taken, Lots of war stories were exchanged and argued about. Some friendships were renewed. All in all we all had a good time as a true Band of Brothers. For all the brothers that could not make it I am heartily sorry that you were not here to celebrate our commemoration of friendship and support.

You missed a great time with good friends, good food, good stories and lots of humor. Please try to make it this coming December if it is at all possible.

The Indianapolis area event was not as well attended, but was a very nice get together for our men and some of their families, but because of an error in my filing system (I have no filing system, that's the error) I can't find my list of attendees at the Indianapolis get-together. I could come very close to listing them off the top of my head, but I know I would unintentionally leave someone off and that might not upset them but it would me. The list will turn up as soon as I send this to the magazine. All in all it has been a roster reducing year. I read an article in the Reader's Digest that

was about how to help people grieve. It was interesting and I might go over it in the next issue. Although there are several items I should talk about: reunion this year, memorial service changes, the State and Federal governments recognition of our Indiana Rangers and other things our guys have asked me to cover I must sacrifice and save them for the next installment.



This is taken at the State Capital prior to the vote and passage of our resolutions, both in the House and the Senate. It is a great honor for Co. D 151 INF. AIRBORNE RANGER.

Team 2-1 out.

Bob McIntire



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

UNIT DIRECTOR—ROBERT HERNANDEZ

Gentlemen and members of our extended family:

On December 23, 2019, Ed Kulcavage passed away from complications of mesothelioma. A memorial service for Ed will be held on June 4, 2020 at 10: am at Michaels Church in Garden City, South Carolina. In lieu of flowers a \$100 donation was made by the unit in Ed's name to the " Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization". A brief remembrance service will be held at the LRRP mini reunion in Branson with a presentation of a floral wreath.

Ed's passing was followed by the passing of Jim Thayer on January 25, 2020. Jim was laid to rest on January 29, 2020 at Blackwell Cemetery in Bee Branch, Arkansas. Several members of E Company attended Jim's funeral, including, Dan Stouffer, Joe Moehle (Joe is Dan's son in-law), Don Booth, Robert Hill, Chuck Watson, C.R. Mathis and Dave Stone. Dee Bee Copper and Tim Speece represented the LRRP Association. LRRP will have an appropriate floral wreath at Jim's remembrance service in Branson. On behalf of the unit I sent letters of condolence to Ed's wife, Shirley, and to Jim's wife, Maria. Jim wrote a book titled "Tango 1-1 The 9th Division LRRPs in Vietnam Delta". The book is scheduled for release on February 26, 2020. You can pre-order the book now on Amazon.com.

With the passing of these two warriors I am reminded of the need to record the memories of our experiences in Vietnam. Please send me your pictures, stories, poems, newspaper articles, magazine clippings and anything else that will preserve our place in military history. It is important for our families and important for our legacy as most people have never heard of a LRRP or the role Rangers played in the Vietnam War.

Bob Wallace has just announced the release of a new book he co-authored with intelligence historian H. Keith Melton. The book is entitled "Spy sites of New York: A Guide to the Region's Secret History". If you happen to be in New York the first week of March, they would be honored to greet you in person at the book talk at the KGB museum.



Recently I was asked to look into any new benefits for veterans. I found that as of January 1, 2020, the Veterans Administration (VA) and Department of Defense have implemented a program to let veterans that have been awarded a Purple Heart; a former POW or a veteran with any VA rated service connected disability shop at base commissaries and exchanges. This new program also includes caregivers who are registered with the VA's Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregiver program. The previous program only allowed veterans rated at 100% to shop at the commissaries and exchange stores.

You will need the proper ID card, which is the Veterans Health Identification Card, (VHIC). This is different from the new Veterans card, (VIC), which came out in 2018. To have a VHIC you must be enrolled in VA Health Care and the card must show your eligibility status, such as Purple Heart, Service-Connected Disability or former POW.

For veterans honorably discharged, you have the ability to shop online through the Veterans Online Shopping Benefit. You can set up an account for any of the military exchange websites. You can then shop online at all branches of the military along with the VA's Canteen Service.

Disabled veterans rated 100% can now fly free on space available flights in the continental United States (CONUS) or directly between CONUS and Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam and America Samoa.

Most terminals now allow remote sign up, which allows you to put your name on a list for up to 60 days, so you don't have to wait in line, just be sure to keep you plans flexible.

A new law was has been signed that requires the adjacent display of the POW/MIA flag whenever an American flag flies from a federal building. The new law now ensures that the POW / MIA flag will be displayed every day at federal locations, including every post office building.

Continued on the next page

Doug MacCallum has invited anyone interested to join him in Maine to eat fresh lobster and tour the New England coast and mountains in New Hampshire. The dates will be May 12-19, 2020. He has made arrangements at the Ramada Inn at Exit 48. Their phone number is 207-774-5861. The rates will be \$72 for Monday –Thursday and \$110 a night Friday and Saturday. Reservations are due by April 20. You can fly to Boston and drive about 2 hours or fly direct to Portland. If driving, be sure to stop at the State Store on I-95 for cheap liquor.

At some point you will be driving to the top of Mt. Washington in New Hampshire where the highest temperature is 72 F and winds have reached 231 mph. The mountain is only 6,288 feet high! Dress warmly! There may be snow on the ground.

You get a bumper sticker that says, “This car climbed Mt. Washington” at the ranger station.

LL Bean is a short drive up the coast and worth a stop. Farther up the coast is Bar Harbor and Acadia National Park, which merits a couple of days to see (at least!).

Then there are boat trips, which Doug is still working on. There is the Oxford Casino not too far for anybody interested- (maybe a rainy day). There's so much more that Doug suggests getting a bunch of travel brochures to look at and decide what other things you would like to do. For more information you can email Doug at maclrrp@cooper.net.

The Maine trip sounds very interesting but like many of you, once we voted in Kalispell to meet in Branson for our mini reunion, I made my reservations and purchased my plane tickets. I am expecting a large turnout of at least 25 to 30 E company Rangers plus wives and family members. With 3 hotels full of LRRPs and Rangers it should be a very interesting event. I am looking forward to seeing you all soon.

By the time this article comes out I will have been to Minnesota for the great mini "Ice Fishing" reunion, hosted by Dennis Lastine, John Henry Berg and Ken McConkey. Unfortunately a few guys had to cancel at the last minute due to the flu and prior engagements. Joining me on this trip will be Tyrone Muse and Lon Johnson. I have never been on a frozen lake but I am looking forward to the experience. I am also looking forward to being treated for my PTSD by the company psychologist, John Henry Berg. I am sure that being treated for 48 hours with John will help me overcome my many issues. After all he convinced me to fly out to a frozen lake in the middle of winter when I could be home in 70-degree weather. I'm sure I will have plenty to report on in the next issue of Patrolling.

Respectfully Bob Hernandez

E 50 / E75 Unit Director



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

UNIT DIRECTOR—JOHN MCGEE

It is early February as I write this article, which means for you who live in Northern Climates you are starting to think about coming out of the deep freeze. I hope everyone has survived the winter and is in good spirits as you look forward to the coming warm weather. There is not much to report on the news front. Phil Davis has taken on the task of trying to investigate an off-year company reunion in Las Vegas. The reunion would be at the Mandalay Bay Hotel sometime around the September of this year's time frame. I will post any new information on our Facebook page and send out e-mail blasts once Phil gives me an update.

Additionally, the members of our unit have been invited to attend the 3 / 4 Cavalry Associations Reunion in Washington DC. September 23-



27, 2020. The hotel they will be using is the Hilton Washington Dulles Airport, 13869 Park Center Road, Herndon, Virginia, 20171. The room rate is \$122.08 per night, inclusive of taxes, more information and registration forms are available on their website. One of the planned events to attend is a visit to the newly opened Museum of the United States Army at Fort Belvoir, VA.

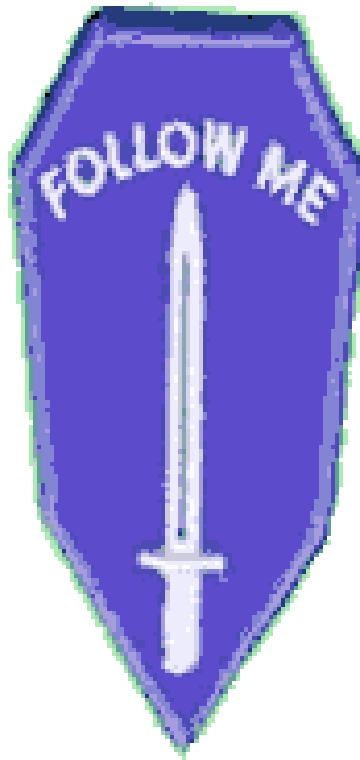
On a personal note I happened to attend a Vietnam Veterans function here in my hometown in Florida and during a discussion another Army Veteran mentioned the term “Shake and Bakes” NCO. Some of the Marine and Air Force guys wanted to know what the hell was a “Shake and Bake”. The Veteran that mentioned the term said that he did not think very highly of *Continued on the next page*

"Shake and Bakes" and didn't know why the Army created them in the first place.

Well I was a "Shake and Bake", you know an "Instant NCO" and all the other derogatory names we were called. I informed the all the veterans in the discussion that I had done a research paper while I was attending the Infantry Officers Advanced Course on why the Army created the Non-Commissioned Officers Candidate School. So here is a little history on the subject.

During the early stages of the Vietnam war the Army realized that there was rapidly developing a severe shortage of junior NCOs. In order to meet these unprecedented requirements for NCO leaders the Army developed a solution called Skilled Development Base (SDB) Program on the proven Officer Candidate Course where an enlisted man could attend basic and advanced training, and if recommended or applied for, filled out an application and attended OCS. The thought by some was that the same could be done for NCOs. If a carefully selected soldier can be given 23 weeks of intensive training that would qualify him to lead a platoon, then others can be trained to lead squads and fire teams in the same amount of time. Some of the qualifications to be selected were as follows: Security clearance of Confidential, Infantry score of 100 or higher, demonstrated leadership potential, Selected by unit commander. Individuals having received accelerated promotions to E-2 were given special consideration.

The Army started tracking potential candidates in basic training based on leadership potential reports from their Drill Instructor Cadre. The individual soldier had no idea he was being tracked and I can insure that most of the soldiers selected were surprised as hell to get off a bus at Harmony Church at Fort Benning and find out they were going to attend another school for six months.



FT. BENNING 1967 - 1972

The course involved an initial 12-week training program at Fort Benning, GA with minimum classroom instruction. The emphasis was on practical training in the field, approximately one-third of which was at night. At the end of 12 weeks at an NCOC training center, the new NCO's were assigned to Vietnam-oriented training centers for 9 weeks of on-the-job training. During on-the-job training, the NCOs performed in responsible leadership positions such as assistant TAC NCOs. Following the on the job training they were sent their unit assignments in Vietnam. During my research I found out that a very large proportion of NCOC graduates were assigned to LRP units.

Despite some of the early resentment of soldiers who were already in country when the "Shake and Bakes" started to arrive. The reports from unit commanders in the field were impressed with the quality of leadership the NCOC graduates provided. The Army considered the NCOC program very successful and in fact they used the basic formula to develop the Basic NCO Course (BNOC) and Advanced NCO Course (ANOC) that are taught today.

I for one am proud and glad to have attended NCOC. The skills I was taught there served me well through my entire military career. Some of my F company "Shake and Bake" brothers include: Tom Besser, Tom Dent, Bobby Ethridge, Ralph Perrin just to name a few. One last bit of information, I don't think any of us volunteered to be "Shake and Bakes." It was not our idea to be promoted faster than guys who were already in the field. THE BIG GREEN MACHINE

made that decision for us, and the last time I checked THE MACHINE never took anyone's personal feeling into consideration!

John McGee



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

UNIT DIRECTOR—AL STEWART



Once again, I begin my homework assignment of writing an article for PATROLLING. I always hope to have some inspiration for my article and if not, I begin to panic when Steve sends out his 30 day warning order. I had no inspiration and also had some travel scheduled that caused me some concern knowing my time frame for “inspiration” would be limited by my travels. Fortunately, I received a call from an old WWII veteran I have known for 20 plus years. Al Rocca is in his mid-90’s and served with the 100th Bomb Group during WWII as a radioman and gunner on a B-17 Flying Fortress. He is one of a number of WWII and Korean Vets I have gotten to know and worked with in building several Veterans Memorials over the past 20 years. I was fortunate to be asked to get involved with these Memorial efforts, not because I had any expertise or experience in fund-raising, but simply because I was one of the few Vietnam Vets these guys knew and they wanted a RVN Vet for representation from the Vietnam War.....they certainly could have done better.

Al Rocca was excited when he called me. He had just been advised that he would be receiving the Order of National Legion of Honor from the French Government for his service in WWII. This award by the French has been given to a number of WWII Vets over the years and I was familiar with it because my father-in-law, Charlie DiMaria, received the award in 2014. Charlie, son of Italian immigrants with little education was quite a character. Drafted in the spring of 1941 before the war started, Charlie was in an anti-aircraft unit. He made the North Africa invasion in September of 1942, two landings in Sicily, one in Italy, France a couple of weeks after D-Day and finally, made the run to Bastogne with Patton’s 3rd Army to relieve the 101st Airborne during the Battle of the Bulge. Maybe I’ll write about Charlie in a future article.

Anyway, I knew about the French award as the result of Charlie having received it. The award is bestowed to Americans who fought in France during WWII and is a wonderful way to recognize and honor these heroes who are now far and few between. The event for Al (and Charlie) was dignified and well attended. A member of the French consulate made the presentation of the award, complete with medal and citation. I believe the French accent mesmerized the crowd during his speech and after presenting the citation and pinning the award, he concluded with the French tradition of a kiss on each cheek. Al Rocca was grin-



ning from ear to ear after the event. What a wonderful thing for the French Government to do for our old heroes. It was a classy event and all who attended had to be proud of Al and thankful to the French for recognizing his service. Now, I could take this opportunity to beat up on the French and fill a few paragraphs in doing so. Instead, I am taking the high road and congratulating the French Government for what they did for Al, Charlie and countless other WWII Vets who certainly deserved and enjoyed the recognition. I commend the French in their efforts and I will say well-done. It would not be the proper thing to enjoy the event and then say negative things about them in the same paragraph.

My point is, the French Government is doing and has done for a number of years what we should be doing at every opportunity with our Veterans, young and old, recognizing them and saying thanks. I will never forget the smile on my Father-in-law’s face or that of Al Rocca after their ceremonies. While I still know a few WWII and Korean Vets, I see Vets every week, young and old, who I don’t know. Vets wearing their unit ball caps and driving vehicles with stickers or tags indicating their service. A thanks or a wave of acknowledgement goes a long way even to strangers. As Vets we are a minority group and if you have gazed into the mirror lately, you will be reminded that you are now one of the old Vets you used to see. We can’t do anything about getting old but that does not mean we have to act old. Remember to not let the old man in.

While I still know a few WWII and Korean Vets and a fair number of RVN Vets, those I don’t know are also important and just as worthy of recognition.

That said, I also served with heroes who should be thanked. Officers and enlisted men who were mentors to me; guys who were commanders or team leaders or peers who showed me what to do or not to do and helped me get home; “Golf” Company heroes and others with whom I served or have met through our E/51st-G/75th Association. People who I still see or talk with on occasion who I consider heroes are great examples of who we all should be. We all served at different times and with different people but for me it was guys like Ted Maxis, Jr, John Gillette, George Beach, Clem Lemke and Frank Svensson who really made a positive impact on me.

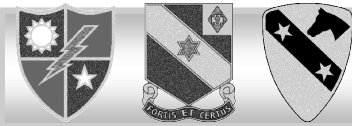
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Men who not only excelled in Vietnam but did great and honorable things after their time in RVN and continue to do so to this day that are just as important as what they did many years ago. It is not just the medal winners who are important to us but also those who guided or touched our lives in positive and meaningful ways. I am thankful to them and others just as I am to the French for recognizing our WWII Vets.

So, let me thank you all; those who I know as well as others I am not familiar with and let me say that I appreciate your service.

Let me also ask that you join me in thanking others, friends and strangers, volunteers and draftees, for their honorable service. And let me thank those who give of their time and talents to keep our Association running and solvent. We are now the generation of senior Veterans and it is up to us continue to honor those who served and those now serving our country.

Al Stewart
RLTW!!



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

UNIT DIRECTOR—BENNIE GENTRY



Pete Dencker-Writer

This will most likely be the last issue of Patrolling you will see prior to the June reunion so I wanted to remind all H Company brothers to check the latest Company newsletter for details. If you haven't seen

that yet here are some of the specifics – the dates are 10-14 June in Louisville, KY. The Company hotel is the Crowne Plaza Louisville where we have guaranteed room rates and no charge for parking ((888-233-9527). The main event will be the Saturday night “complimentary” riverboat cruise and dinner. Complimentary as a result of the generosity of Joe Dilger – Thank you Joe! Please see the newsletter or contact Bill Carpenter for additional info. **Reader Discretion Advised**

For this issue, I would like to honor 2 brothers who were KIA on May 8th, 1968 (Gerald W McConnel, and Robert E Whitten) while on a mission with Team One Zulu. Patrick Lyon's (Team One Zulu's ATL) recollection of that mission will follow.

Bob Whitten & Montagnard Scout at LZ English



Air Patrol. He loved to hunt and fish, but mostly just loved to have fun. In 1967, he was drafted into the Army. He completed



basic and served one year in Germany and then volunteered for Vietnam. He served with the 1st Cavalry Div (Air Mobile), E Company, 52nd Infantry, Long Range Recon. On May 8, 1968, he gave his life for our Country in Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam as a member of Team One Zulu. He was awarded the Silver Star, Bronze Star, Combat Infantryman Badge, Purple Heart, Air Medal, National Defense, Vietnam Service and Vietnam Campaign Medals.

Gerald Wayne “Red” McConnel Jr was born on April 24, 1947. According to records the State of Washington was his home or enlistment state. Grant County was included within the archival record with Moses Lake listed as the city. He had enlisted in the Army and entered via the Regular Military. He served during the Vietnam War beginning his tour on December 12, 1966. He had the rank of Specialist Four. Service number was 19871532. He served with 1st Cavalry Division, E Company, 52nd Infantry Long Range Recon.

“Red” McConnel

McConnel gave his life for our Country on May 8, 1968 as a member of Team One Zulu. Recorded circumstances attributed his death to: "hostile action, small arms fire". Incident location: South Vietnam, Quang Tri province.

Red's awards include the Combat Infantryman Badge, Purple Heart, Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry among others.



Continued on the next page

Team One Zulu

Written by Patrick Lyons with help from Anita Lyons

All stories edited by Pete Dencker)

Following an extended Company mission on Signal Hill and their subsequent return to Camp Evans Team One Zulu was formed along with 2 additional teams to search specific AO's for the movement of NVA troops and equipment. A signal corps type at MACV had somehow tapped into NVA radio transmissions that indicated plans for a coordinated attack and it was important that the Teams determine where the enemy traffic was coming from and where it was going. Division wanted the teams to deploy and monitor a ridge south of Camp Evans known for heavy enemy traffic. One Team was scheduled to go North, One to the South and Team One Zulu would be in the middle.

The Team members were Bob Whitten – TL, Patrick Lyons – ATL, Randy Kimes – RTO, Red McConnel – Medic, Al Voelkel – Front Scout, and Bob Teagle - Rear Scout. Some of the Team members had worked together previously but Whitten, Voelkel and McConnel were new to Lyons.

After the briefing at Headquarters, Whitten and Lyons went on an overflight of the proposed AO. The area that presented the best and most promising opportunity for the Team to locate the enemy was a “saddle” on the ridge in the proposed AO. Upon completing the overflight Whitten and Lyons went to get approval of the proposed AO by higher up. Once approved, they headed back to brief the rest of the Team and prepare for the mission. Since this was a newly formed Team with little time together in the field, preparations took much longer than usual – but because of the critical nature of the situation it was important that everything was checked and re-checked.

ATL Lyons recounts the mission.

The next morning, the Team left the firebase and was inserted into the AO. We moved about 100 meters and waited to make sure the insertion was not compromised. We continued walking in very heavy jungle listening for any signs of activity. Finally, we saw a clearing in the direction of the saddle we had observed during our over flight. We moved to the edge of the clearing and set up for a comms check. Unfortunately, we found that Randy's radio was dead. We changed the battery but still could not get it working. I was carrying the backup radio, which we found was working and I was able to get a signal and we were able to call in our morning sitrep. At the time we were taking a break at the edge of the open area. Whitten and I looked at each other and knew immediately that we had to move. Things had gotten way

too quiet. We could see a line of short bushes and a larger tree about 75 meters below the saddle we were headed for, so we moved in that direction. As we reached the tree, I noticed an old, hand dug area at the base of the tree that could have been used for shooting up the hill or as a mortar position for shooting toward Camp Evans. It appeared however, that it had not been used in quite a while. From this position, I could see Red and the other Team members next to him. Red was in the most open area and approximately 10 feet from my position. Without any warning the silence was broken by several shots coming from the area of the saddle we had planned to observe. A number of the shots hit Red. I immediately returned fire and emptied a clip – firing toward the area where the shots were coming from. I also pulled out a grenade and threw that out in front of my position into an area that sloped downward. I couldn't see the bottom from where I was on the ground but wanted to play it safe.

I immediately got on the radio and called in the contact – requesting medivac, air cover and possible extraction. I could see the rest of the team moving Red down the ridge and then lost sight of them. Medivac arrived on station but started taking fire and was hit. Medivac could see the rest of the Team and threw out a stretcher as I provided cover fire toward the saddle. At that point there was a very loud explosion and I could feel pain in my right arm and right thigh. I saw my shirt and pants turning red, but I had to find a way to work through the pain.

I fired 2 clips at the tree line where I thought the fire was coming from and threw another grenade into the depression in front of me. I got back on the radio but felt something warm on my hand – my blood was dripping on the handset.

Whitten came out of nowhere and asked if I had called in the contact and asked for Medivac. I answered in the affirmative and told him that medivac was hit after they threw out a stretcher. I also told him that a gun ship was on the way and that I had to pop smoke to guide him in. Whitten said that he wanted to use the strobe light to better mark our position. I was talking to the gun ship so they could identify the strobe when Whitten moved around me to get in a better position. He turned on the strobe... and it seemed with each flash of the strobe Bob was hit by a sniper. I knocked the light from his hand and pulled him closer to my position and out of the line of fire. I tried to stop the bleeding.....but it was too late.

The gunship needed information – they asked where the strobe went. As I looked up I saw movement near the saddle - moving in our direction. I told the gunship that I had popped smoke and to please identify. He did....and then an incredible noise from the mini-guns and the rockets started all at once. One of the rockets from the gunship hit the tree above me with such impact that I bounded up into the air.

Continued on the next page

I saw and felt warm blood all over me – on my foot and leg and both my upper and lower back. The pilot came back with great hesitation in his voice and asked if I was all right. I told him I was alive and to make another run. He told me that he now knew where I was and would make the adjustment. He came back around and fired again, and for a while the VC were shooting back at him rather than us. Then everything went quiet. Whitten had passed away next to me and I could hear nothing from the rest of the team.

I got back on the radio in an attempt to give directions to several people who were trying to get to the Team's location. There was a group of about 15 men who were about 200 meters to my right trying to get to the team's location. At the time I had no idea who they were but it was clear they were taking casualties. (I learned later from a recording of the transmissions from the helicopters after the records of the Vietnam War were unsealed. Three gunships came back after expending their loads to pick up the 15 brave soldiers that tried to help)

The next group that deserves credit for their attempt to rescue us was 2nd Platoon, B Company, 196th Infantry Brigade from Camp Evans (see *Twenty Days in May*, by John Mansfield, Pg 54). They had set up about 200 meters away to look for Team One Zulu. At this time I thought I was the only one still alive from our team. A soldier crawled up to me and said he was going to take me down the hill. Just then there was a loud explosion and he got up and ran back down the hill. (I took a phone call from this man several years ago that said he was the one who left Whitten and me on that hill. He said that he had been looking for me for over 35 years so he could apologize for leaving us up there and asked for forgiveness. He said when he got to us all he saw was blood everywhere when I told him to take Whitten first. He said he looked at Whitten and knew that he was dead but that I insisted that he take him first. I also told him that we were just doing what we were trained to do and that no apology was necessary.

Some time after that explosion, another soldier crawled up the hill and told me he would help me get back to the platoon area. He struggled to find a place on my body that was not wounded but finally grabbed one arm that appeared good and started dragging me down the hill. At this point I passed out but understand that at some point he picked me up and carried me the rest of the way down the hill under intense gunfire. I later learned that this soldier was Eddie Kent of the 196th. Eddie was

138 pounds while I was 225 – not sure how he was able to carry me that far under fire but without his heroic efforts I do not think I would be here today. Note: I'm not sure that Eddie Kent ever got the recognition he deserved for this selfless act.

Once Eddie got me to the platoon area, I was able to help the Platoon RTO and FO who said the pilot was dropping flares on top of us and lighting up our position. They figured since I was a LRRP I would know how to adjust the directions. I discovered that that the RTO had been giving azimuth directions and since he was talking to a fixed wing pilot he needed to give compass locations with the number of meters that would move the flares away from our position – but not too far out which would allow the enemy to get too close to us. It was sometime during this timeframe that I passed out

When I woke up, there was sunlight and chopper noise all around me. Two soldiers lifted me onto a stretcher to take me to one of the choppers. One of the soldiers said that his Lieutenant was on his way to thank me for the help I had provided. Just as he walked up to me, he was

hit by a sniper round and fell dead at my feet. I was quickly loaded onto the chopper and flown back to Camp Evans. As I was being evaluated at the aid station there, I saw Teagle with his arm in a sling, He told me that Kimes and Voelkel had been extracted safely. Medics at Camp Evans decided they could not provide the necessary care, so I was flown to Da Nang where I was stabilized then sent to Tripler Army Medical Hospital in Hawaii. From there I was sent to Walter Reed.

My thanks go out to Pat and his wife Anita for getting the recollection of this contact and Team One Zulu down in writing. I'm aware of the pain and stress that re-living a mission like this creates – but I believe it's important for Pat and his family to have an awareness of the sacrifices Pat made for his Country. These stores are also an integral part of the legacy of H Company and the 75th Ranger Regiment and should not be forgotten.

RLTW

Best – Pete

"For those who've fought for it, life has a flavor the protected will never know"



Patrick Lyons in the middle



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

UNIT DIRECTOR—DAVID A. CHRISTIAN



Mini-Reunion time is here for Ranger/LRRPs

Yes, it is that time of year again to make and review schedules and prepare for our Mini Reunion of Company I, 75th Rangers/ F Co 52nd LRRP. Harry "Frenchy" Suire (our personal "Ragin Cajun") has informed my Executive Assistant Diane Reitz that we are full steam ahead with hotel and a fun packed itinerary for enjoyment and relaxation.

The specifics of the mini reunion are as follows :

Hampton Inn and Suites
310 Fred Ruth Zigler Memorial Drive
Jennings, Louisiana 70546
Telephone - 337 824 2699
Room rate is \$99. Per night - note - there is a block of rooms under Company I 75th Rangers

Itinerary -

Wednesday 4/15 Gumbo at hotel or at Frenchy's house

Thursday - Barbecue at the house

Friday - Crawfish/Shrimp - at Lodge

Saturday - Mexican food and leftovers on a boat ride

Sunday - Visiting Casino - boat rides in the Louisiana Marsh and firing guns

Monday 4/20 - Clean up at Friends lodge

Ranger Friends are traveling POV and Air . However, I have been informed that you may not have a DIRECT flight into Jennings, Louisiana. Some people have recommended that we fly into New Orleans, La and rent a car while other members suggest that we fly into Houston, Texas and rent a car. If you choose New Orleans or Houston airport then Frenchy says you have a 3 to 4 hour ride to Jennings hotel location. Enjoy the ride because we know we will enjoy the camaraderie of friends and families.

Finally, Frenchy suggests that you SHOULD try to fly into Lake Charles or Lafayette Regional airports both of which traditionally require a connecting flight but those airports are about 30 minutes from Jennings Hampton Inn and Suites.

President Dave Flores Reports-Reunion That he is looking forward to seeing everyone at the Mini-Reunion to be held in April in Jennings, Louisiana. Come and enjoy for whatever amount of time that you can, we just want to see you again ! Nuf said. Dave



Legislative Reports Ronnie Imel- taken from social media - Ronnie is working hard on many VA issues to include Blue Water Navy and Agent Orange, VA time waiting for treatment, Employment of Veterans in executive levels of the Veterans Administration, reviewing treatment of Capital Hill staffer being discredited for reporting sexual harassment, active duty and Veteran suicide rates. And also being reported via FaceBook Ronnie is working hard with American Legion Chapter 53 on Veteran and community activities.

"Good On You Ronnie" to use his words. Great accomplishments in highlighting the needs of active military and Veterans.

Secretary Reports - Tom has also asked all that can attend from our Ranger Family to please join us at the mini-reunion in Jennings, Louisiana in April 2020. Second, after the reunion Tom hopes to have a visit to West Point with Chief and Unit Director Dave and grandchildren.



Danny & Brenda Wiggins

Health and Welfare of Members: Danny & Brenda Wiggins, Washington's Crossing 2019 Reunion

Daniel Ray Wiggins - LRRP/Ranger of 1st Infantry Division- Vietnam.

We are with heavy hearts as we report that Danny Wiggins has passed to the Big Ranger Unit in the Sky. During the last report we noted that Danny was on sick call and prayers were appreciated. He made his last "roll call" in December of 2019. His funeral was attended by many members of our unit and his wife Brenda was happy with our respect and recognition of our Ranger Buddy. (12 Ranger Buddies from the Unit attended)

LRRP Frenchy reports that Danny's funeral was one of the largest he has seen in his life. He estimates that approximately 10,000 people attended the funeral - "it seems that everybody in the County came", Frenchy exclaimed. Danny Wiggins was one of my best friends and we often visited each other every year.

Danny Wiggins will be truly missed. His smile lit up every room that he walked into. Our prayers are with Danny's wife of 44 years, Brenda and she will forever be part of our Ranger Family.

Continued on the next page

Danny's wife Brenda wanted to "personally thank our Ranger/LRRP unit for all their support, love and respect shown to her and Danny and Family". She concluded that "I will see the Ranger/LRRP members at the Mini-Reunion in Louisiana".

Note - Information on the status of a Unit Ranger loved one can be shared with his friends if you submit information to the Unit Director and will be published in the immediate edition of Patrolling magazine after received by Unit Director.

Tom McMahon our Unit Secretary is undergoing surgery for a double hernia operation in February. He states that his present health condition is related to a terrible automobile accident he had where he had severe injuries (broken neck, etc).

David A. Christian - Unit Director - After writing this article and submitting it to Patrolling Magazine he will be traveling to Mid East and Greece for work. He has recently been appointed to an Executive position with the South Carolina Guard. He also looks forward to attending the mini reunion at the Hampton Inn Suites in Jennings, Louisiana.



Dave Hill, Danny & Brenda Wiggins, National Constitution Center, Philadelphia Ranger Reunion 2019



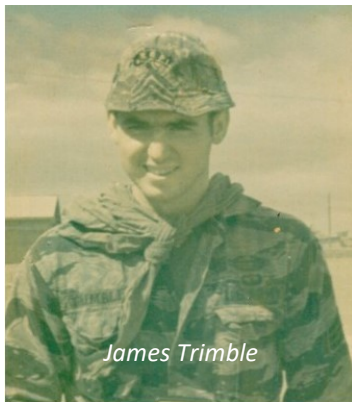
K/75 - E58 LRP - 4TH DIV LRRP

UNIT DIRECTOR—ROGER CRUNK

Greetings my Brothers

It is with sadness that I have to report the loss of another Brother.

James Trimble of Pahrump, Nevada who served as a 2nd Brigade LRRP in 1967-1968 passed away December 17, 2019. His Family held a memorial service Feb. 2, 2020.



James Trimble

Condolences may be sent to his Daughter, Tenna Santos: 3309 E. 3100s, St. George, UT 84790 or christeena.ts71@gmail.com. K-Co made a donation to the Gary Sinise Foundation in his memory.

Camp Kilo update:

In the previous edition I talked about MSG Kevin Padilla who is in charge of the Pre Ranger course of the 4th Inf. Div. at Ft. Carson. Co. Our own David Bristol will be attending the graduation ceremony next week to talk about our unbreakable Brotherhood, our legacy, and the early LRRP units who started it all. Tom Sove and I will attend a Leadership Certification event in April. We hope to attend future events as time and schedules



permit. Anyone else who is interested in being involved just let me know. MSG Padilla would also like to do something with those who attend the reunion in June so that is still in the planning stage. Thanks to MSG Padilla for reaching out to us and making this relationship happen.

The following (*Article is on next page*) is an Ivy Leaf article from July of 1969 about Malvin Jones, 1st Brigade LRRP who received the Distinguished Service Cross for his actions on Feb. 7, 1969. I hope it is readable as many of the old articles from Ivy Leaf do not print out

well. His actions that day are a true testament to the unbreakable bond of our Brotherhood. We would like very much to find Malvin so our research team aka, Chuck Harubin will attempt to do so. If any of you were on that team or know about the story please let me know. It may help in the search.

As the reunion in June moves ever closer, those who have procrastinated (and that includes me) need to get our registrations in and reservations made.

Hotel Elegante- 2886 S Circle Drive Colorado Springs, Co. 80906 Phone# 719-576-5900. Mention 4th Infantry Div. reunion, Group #2373169

You can go to the 4th ID website: (www.4thinf.org) to copy or download the registration form. If you need me to send you a hard copy or need more info just let me know.

Continued on the next page

Two Division Soldiers Receive DSC

By PFC Edward Carroll

CAMP ENARI—In ceremonies at the basecamp theater, two Famous Fighting Fourth Division soldiers received the Distinguished Service Cross (DSC) in recognition of their extraordinary courage and gallantry in action.

General Creighton Abrams, commanding general of the Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, presented the awards to Specialist 4 Melvin E. Jones, a member of a patrol from Headquarters Company, 1st Brigade and Platoon Sergeant James M. McBea of 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry who had received a Silver Star during a previous tour in Vietnam.

Specialist Jones received the DSC for his actions on February 7 in "VC Valley." In the encounter, three members of his team were wounded by enemy fire and it was up to Specialist Jones to hold off the hostile force and remove his injured comrades to safety.

After firing several well-aimed volleys at the enemy, Specialist Jones administered first aid and radioed for help. He then directed gunships on the enemy positions and finally made three trips through withering hostile fire to carry his wounded comrades to a rescue helicopter 100 meters away.

Specialist Jones, 25, was born in London, England, but was adopted by Mr. and Mrs. James Holland of Kansas City, Mo., when he was seven years old. Since then, Kansas City has been his home. The soldier's wife of seven years, Betty, also lives in Kansas City with their four children who range in age from 18 months to six years.

The father of four doesn't hesitate to admit he was frightened during the action in VC Valley, but there were more important things on his mind at the time.

"There were two men with severe wounds," he recalled. "I was scared, I know, but I didn't really think about it. I just thought about getting those men out."



L-R Front: Siglow, Mariano, Fraser/Back: Buckner, Noble

Thanks for the memories guys. Remember, we all need a pick-me-up now and again so pick up the phone, e-mail, or text a Brother to let them know you are thinking of them.

Roger Crunk K-Co Unit Director



N/75 - 74TH LRP - 173RD LRRP

UNIT DIRECTOR—CSM (RET) JEFF HORNE



Below photo-L-R: Larry Cole, Sid Smith, and Mike Potter; 173d LRRP PLT "They Who Dared". The earliest of LRRPs in RVN



He is the example as to how the brave face the unknown and how to weather the storm. God bless you Sid and we will see you in the Tall Grass.

Mike Potter relates his service and reunion after the war with Sid...

"In June of '65 right out of Jump School I volunteered for the 173rd and got orders 3 weeks later. I reported to the 173rd in Aug of '65. I was sent immediately to C/S&T. I was a tractor and trailer Driver in the Corps for a few years. After about 6 months I heard rumblings about a Long-Range Recon Platoon being formed. I had been in a Recon Co in the Corps. I went down to the Cav area and found their hootches. Doc Holliday, PSG at the time, said they weren't taking anyone at that time.

In late April-early May, the LRRP's were conducting interviews for possible transfer into the newly formed platoon. I snuck down to the Cav area to try to get interviewed and made it!

Holidays afforded all a chance to gather with family, friends, and those who served with us in our LRRP, LRP, Ranger Brotherhood. As of this writing many of us have spent the last two months praying for our brother Sid Smith. It is noteworthy how many telephone calls, visits, and donations he has received while he

As most of you know, it's hard to meet everyone in a unit like that when Teams are out and teams are in. I met Sid Smith in Nam, but we never became bosom buddies over there. We knew each other and spoke occasionally when we were both in the rear area.

Continue on the next page

My team was on a mission the Xuan Loc area and I got shot on 10 Dec 66. Aside from the Team coming to see me at the 93rd Med-Evac, that is the last I saw of anyone in the Platoon, other than Tony Cordero who was in the Psych Ward in Letterman General in San Francisco. I saw him once.

Moving on, in March of 79 I took over the job of Chief Instructor of the Basic NCO Course for the 7th Division at Fort Ord, CA. While serving there, I met Steve "Doc" Gove. He was challenged at putting his Jeep into reverse at the time. We formed a fast and lasting friendship. We did a lot of riding and hoisted more than a few adult beverages. I retired from the Army 31 July 1981 and Doc was transferred to Ft. Leaveworth.

We stayed in touch and saw them again after the birth of our daughter when Doc and his wife Victoria visited for a few days while on their way to Hawaii in 1986.

Fast Forward. I had not had any contact with anyone I served with since I retired except Doc. In April of 2011 I visited the Vietnam Travelling Wall at Wickham Park in Melbourne, FL. I was looking over a couple of Recondo School books in Wilkie Wilkinson's GP Medium tent – he had a 173rd memorabilia. Someone behind me starts talking to me and after a couple of minutes, he told me that my mannerisms and voice reminded him of someone he served with at Ft. Ord. Turns out it was me. It was a great reunion in a small world. It was Doc Gove. We talked and walked outside and started reminiscing about the 75th RRA. As we're talking, who the hell is standing outside the Tent? Sid Smith – the same Sid Smith I had met in Viet Nam but didn't know very well. We started talking and soon realized that we knew each other in a land far-away.

Sid asked me if I belonged to the 75th RRA. I replied I had never been a Ranger to which he responded, "No problem, you're grandfathered in". Sid was instrumental in me becoming a member of the 75th RRA. I wouldn't be without Sid's assistance.

I went to my first Ranger Rendezvous in 2011 and haven't missed one since. Sid and I joined the LRRP together; we're both Charter members. We have attended the 173rd reunions when possible.

I found out later that Sid was fighting A/O related Cancer. I have never met a more positive person in my life. Through all his last 14 years, I have never heard Sid utter a negative comment, even when he's at his worst. As I'm attempting to write this article, Sid has days left. When my phone rings, I hesitate to look and see who is calling for fear it's his wife with bad news.

Sid has made an impact on a lot of people in his life and I can't even start to list everything he has done for them. There is a place for people like Sid and the folks who served with him, it's called Valhalla. Save me a spot Sid!

For those of you who knew him and those of you who didn't have the honor, I ask that you raise a glass and salute one of our finest. He will be missed."

WHY SP4 HORNE WAS FORBIDDEN TO USE THE JULIET TEAM PRC-25.

First of all, I'm no Jack London nor O. Henry...that being said, I thought I'd write up the truth regarding why Brigadier General Jack MacFarlane ordered that "Horne is not to use the radio on any 173rd ABN BDE Net unless he is the last man alive on his team". I've always contended that was pretty mean spirited for a General to say since all I did was tell him "this is Juliet, unless you are in contact or a dust-off, get the fuck off my Net". Sooo here is the rest of the story.

We had been inserted on a last-minute mission into the Suoi Ca Valley just before dark and amidst heavy rain and fog. After exiting the Huey and setting up security in some nearby brush thicket we sat and listened as the helicopter made several false insertions further up into the mountains. We made our radio check and night lagged there.

At first light we heard several voices speaking Vietnamese and observed a platoon size (+) element moving on a trail 20 meters away. They appeared to be a heavy weapons element as they carried a 51 Caliber, ammunition crates, and Mortars. They continued down towards the blue line. We sat tight and noted the time at 0710 (as I remember). Our TL, Bill Wilkinson decided we would sit tight and see how "target rich" our little hideout would become. Later that afternoon the same Platoon retraced their route back by us and up into the hillside. We stayed put for two days and this Platoon of NVA were on-time each morning on their route.

Our team devised a plan of attack coupled with a Evac route to a LZ for extraction and for a line Company to be inserted if needed to assume the fight. We had all our typical arms, my M14E2, Grenades, lots of DET Cord, claymores, and a homemade bomb that consisted of a large coffee can packed with C4, .45 CAL rounds, nails, and a WP grenade duct taped to the top. These would be daisy chained and placed alongside 30 meters of the trail while we laid in a linear ambush. I coordinated with our TOC to have a reaction force (PLT or CO size) ready to launch at 0700 the following morning. We had no US Artillery support (outside their range fans), but we had a liaison with an ARVN Artillery element...I requested three named DTs and kept them simple; naming them "A", "B", and "C". The plan was; At 0710 when the main force occupied the Kill Zone (1) Blow all claymores, (2) Toss 2 grenades to your front (3) Shoot 2 magazines at any NVA...see what develops. Well, the plan was good and the NVA Platoon Leader made it even easier as he stopped his element right in the kill zone so he could take his morning bowl movement. He chose my homemade bomb as his latrine, so we put our heads down and hit the clacker three times sharply. His hand flew over one of my teammates and the ambush initiated. I called in "CONTACT", requested the reaction force, and then a lot more NVA started showing up and it was time to execute Fire Support plan. The ambush site was DT-Alpha, so I called in fire for effect on "A" as we maneuvered (ran) to DT-B (a creek bed). There was a C&C bird flying above us that arrived, but no reaction force. I was talking with the LNO as we arrived at DT-B simultaneously with the ARVN artillery rounds that SHOULD HAVE BEEN landing on DT-A. "The best laid plans of mice, men, and ARVN LNOs". Sooo...I was shouting on the radio to "check fire, cease fire, tell those little fucking people to check fire." *Continued on next page*



Juliet Team, N Company 75th INF RGR, 173d ABN BDE (SEP)



SGM Rudy Teodosio who was @N Company TOC and overheard radio traffic

ny for a reaction force. It seems our ambush site was about 500 meters from a sizable basecamp that was irritated that breakfast was interrupted by loud noises. Our team was extracted back to LZ English as the Line Company took over the fight. First Sergeant Frank Moore and either the XO or CO met us on the crap table. We thought we were getting our backs patted....well everyone did and I got a special message delivered by 1SG while I was standing at attention, from the Commanding General of the 173rd; "SP4 Horne, you are not to use the radio on any 173rd ABN BDE Net unless you are the last man alive on your

Then suddenly the "6" element in the C&C bird (whose call-sign I didn't know), breaks in and says "Do not use profanity on this net, stop your profane rant" or words to that effect. I simply replied, "this is Juliet, unless you are in contact or a dust-off, get the fuck off my Net". So the artillery adjusted to the right DT, Gunships arrived along with Close Air Support F4s, and a Compa-

team". Then we went to debrief and clean our gear and rearm/refit.

That's the best I remember, and Carl Millinder, Rudy Teodosio, and Bill Wilkinson all concur. I thought "good, time to break in a new RTO...Wilkie disagreed and preferred that I alter my voice with a southern accent.



P/75 - 79TH LRP

UNIT DIRECTOR—TERRY B. RODERICK

The Papa Company Rangers are gearing up for the upcoming Ranger season which starts in April with the Best Ranger Competition at Fort Benning, April 17-19, with the Award Ceremony on the 20th. Two weeks later the annual Critter Cookout and the Ranger 5th Training Battalion Open House in Dahlonge at Camp Merrill follows, April 24-25th. On Friday the 24th, the annual Fish Fry starts off the festivities with the Open House and Critter Cookout and Memorial Service on Saturday, the 25th of April. You're all invited to both of these fun events and if you do attend, you won't be disappointed. You won't be asked to do any of the events at Best Ranger but you'll be amazed by the soldiers that do compete here and it will leave you wondering if you could have done these things when you were a younger man. I leave that thought there as I get tired just thinking about what these outstanding Rangers do over a 2-3 days period with little rest and food. These Rangers who compete come from all over the world and commands to find out who has the best two man team every year. This year will be 37th year they've held this competition. Come and join us.



The Critter Cookout is one of my favorite Ranger events every year and I'll have 15 family members and friends attending this year with me. My oldest daughter, Cindy, has rented a home up in the Dahlenega area that sleeps 15 people and it's going to be full. There was a similar group last year and it included my ex-wife, Julie, and my husband-in-law, Rick, and the entire family wants to make this event an annual vacation now. I'm hoping we have our usual nice turnout of Papa Company Rangers again this year, so if you're not busy that weekend, come on down and enjoy the mountains and the clean, cool

air in northern Georgia.

June 3-7 will find us holding our Reunion with the Long Range Reconnaissance Association in Branson, Missouri, where we've been invited with open arms to piggyback off their annual Rally there. In just a few short years this Association started by Marshall Huckaby has grown into a formidable group with a large membership and doing some great things for the LRP, LRS, and LRSU world.

Continued on the next page

As most of you know, almost every Ranger Company in the 75th Ranger Regiment Association was at one time a LRRP/LRP unit and we have a lineage with these younger soldiers who followed in our footsteps. Most of you are eligible to become members of this outstanding Association and I'd ask you to join and support it also, along with our own 75th Ranger Regiment Association. They have an outstanding leadership group and I attended their Rally last year and had a great time. These youngsters welcome us oldsters with open arms and respect and care about their history and love to hear about the old days when we were serving in a similar capacity as they did. I can't say enough good things about this group and their current leader, President Tim Speece. If you're in the area, come join us during that time period.

I recently had some commo with Michael Rice. Michael is the cousin to one of our KIA's, Vernon Riley, of Massillion, Ohio. While he is younger and only has memories of Vernon, he has a company that makes a combat knife that attaches to a weapon such as an AR-15 as a foregrip. The knife is spring loaded into the foregrip handle and attached to the weapon and something I thought was pretty cool. Michael graciously and generously sent me one but I didn't have an AR to attach it to. What do you think I did then? Right!! I ordered an AR-15 from a dealer in Arizona where I found the best price and am now in the process of putting rails on it to attach the knife. Next item are some optics for it and I'll have another nice toy to play with. His company is called GRIPKNIFE and you can visit him at www.gripknife.com if you're interested in something "trick" for your AR-15. I did tell Michael that if you ever had to really use it that it meant you're out of ammo and about to get into hand to hand fighting!! Ha! Ha! That's when I'd rather have another full magazine but like he said and I agreed, "you just never know!!" He also sent me three nice t-shirts that I look forward to wearing and hope you get to see me in them at some point.

For those of you who didn't know Vernon Ray Riley, he was one of the most popular guys in the company in the later 1969 through April 1970 timeframe. We all knew he was married with two sons at home and when he was killed he had maybe two weeks left in country and many of us thought he shouldn't have even been out there anyway. He chose to go out one more time to fill a team who was short an experienced man and unfortunately didn't make it home. Very sad story. He was killed by a Huey tail rotor during an extraction of his team when a young pilot came in too hot and caught a skid in the ground which spun the helicopter 180 degrees and he got hit. It was a terrible accident and he was a big loss for those of us who were there. Of all the losses we had during my time there, this one seemed so unnecessary and hard to understand as a young Ranger in Vietnam. It made you just know no one was guaranteed anything over there and death was always present.

In closing, I'm hoping more and more of you will come out to some of these events this spring and summer and enjoy our Ranger brotherhood while we can. Personally, I've been dealing with some serious COPD issues for a while now and squamous

cell cancer on my left shin since last May, which started out as a small abrasion on my leg when cutting some tree limbs with a chainsaw and one of them fell and swiped my shin and left a small scrape. Blood on my socks and I washed it, hit it with peroxide, and then the old stand by, Neosporin, and thought that would be it. Turned into cancer and did 6 weeks of radiation for 5 days a week that ended in September. Now 5 months later, they finally biopsied it and it came back positive so I start again trying to get rid of it. Be careful with your bodies and look out for weird things happening to it at our age. I think I waited too long to address it myself but I'm on full alert now. I guess I'm hard to kill and hard to heal!! See you down the road. RLW !! Terry "Rock" Roderick

*Jose Dominguez, Vernon Riley,
and Sam Burnette*



Vernon Ray Riley



Vernon Ray Riley

Specialist Fourth Class – U.S. Army
November 15, 1948 – April 28, 1970

Specialist Fourth Class Riley, husband of Marlene Taylor Riley and son of Mr. and Mrs. Jason Riley, was killed in Quang Tri Province while serving with Company P, Seventy-Fifth Infantry (Rangers), Fifth Infantry Division (Mechanized). Born in Tazewell, Virginia, Riley joined the army at age seventeen and served nearly five years before his death. He was a member of the Calvary Gospel Tabernacle of Barborton. In addition to his wife and parents, he was survived by sons Michael and Vernon, Jr.; brothers, Jason, Jessie, and Timmie Lee; and sisters, Kathy and Patricia Sue. He is buried at Brookfield Cemetery in Massillon.

Bronze Star ★ Air Medal ★ Army Commendation Medal ★ Purple Heart
Good Conduct Medal ★ National Defense Service Medal
Vietnam Service Medal ★ Combat Infantry Badge
Vietnam Campaign Medal ★ Parachutist Badge

Disabled American Veterans
Chapter 38
Joe Heinzer

ARVIN RANGER ADV, (BDQ)

Fellow Rangers and Co Vans:

Once again I am asking for articles of interest concerning your time as a BDQ Advisor.

Feature:

Death Stalked the Night- Vietnam Rangers and their US Advisors Battle Human Wave Assaults at Thach Tru

By Mike Martin

"I got the SOBs that shot them," said Staff Sergeant Henry McNeal, referring to the NVA who had killed the Senior Advisor to the 37th Vietnamese Ranger Battalion and his young American RTO.

This timely "declaration would certainly not immortalize McNeal as a quotable personage, nor would it become a pithy observation of his long night of death and destruction. However, it would become an exceptional testimonial to the daring and courageous fighting spirit of McNeal and his fellow Ranger advisors during a battle that saw close-in hand-to-hand combat before it was over.

Thach-Tru

If the meaning of the name of a battle holds any significance for military analysts to ponder then the heroic stand at Thach Tru is most apropos. The name of the village and the old French-style fort located there, where the soldiers of the 37th Vietnamese Rangers fought off wave after wave of communist troops in the early morning hours of 22 November 1965, literally means "Stone Pillar."

The encampment and the village that straddled National Highway 1- 20 miles southwest of Quang Ngai and 320 miles north-east of Saigon had been targeted by the communist forces in the monsoonal drive through the Central Highlands of South Vietnam. As the torrential rains pelted down and low hanging clouds shrouded the hills, the PAVN of Vietnam (Peoples Army of Vietnam) forces and their Viet Cong allies moved unrestrained down improvised jungle trails and across the swollen streams and water filled paddies in coordinated thrusts to the south.

Human Wave Tactics

May through December of 1965 had become months of bloody reality for South Vietnam's military forces, as Viet Cong tactics, along with those of the NVA allies, went through a subtle change. Although there was sharp decline in attacks against government outposts, those that occurred were being conducted by units of battalion and regimental strength. Such was the attack directed at Thach Tru.

UNIT DIRECTOR—BILL MILLER



The enemy's favorite, perfected over the years, was to attack a small, isolated ARVN (Army of the Republic of Vietnam) outpost with a small force, and as the government rushed to aid the outpost, they were slaughtered in well-laid ambushes followed by human wave assaults.

The South Vietnamese Rangers were used to blunt these successful enemy tactics, especially in the I Corps area of operation. In three major battles during the time frame just described, the 11th, 37th and 39th Vietnamese Ranger Battalions (BDQ) had sustained heavy losses coming to the aid of government outposts under attack. What was most disquieting to the U.S. military high command was that two American Ranger Advisors had been killed in each of the three actions.

However, Thach Tru would prove to be a rude awakening for the communists and their plans for an easy victory there. The determined defense put forth by the 37th Ranger Battalion and a single RF (Vietnamese Regional Force" company. Against human wave assaults from an enemy regiment, was evidenced by more than 400 dead and wounded NVA/VC counted inside the compound and in the killing zone outside the perimeter wire after the battle. The count would continue to climb as bloated enemy bodies bobbed to the surface days after the fight had ended. It was staunch testimony to the tragedy of war and the savagery of the combat at Thach Tru.

The Prelude

The three-pronged attack on the Rangers and their U.S. Advisors would come as no surprise. On 15 November 1965, a combat patrol from the 37th Ranger Battalion, operating west of their Thach Tru base, had ambushed and killed eight members of an enemy unit, one was a North Vietnamese (PAVN) commander who was carrying documents indicating the communists were going to attack the Regional Force outpost at Van Ly, west of Thach Tru, and subsequently ambush and annihilate the reaction force the 37th Ranger Battalion-sent to relieve the outpost. The captured plans also had the enemy attacking force as the 18th Regiment of PAVN 325 Division.

The fortunes of war had blessed the Rangers, since the significance of this intelligence would later prove crucial to the defense of Thach Tru. The North Vietnamese and Viet Cong always liked to pick the time and place for any pitched battle, then rehearse their strategy and methodically prepare for any and all contingencies. However, due to this unfortunate quirk of fate, now they had to amend both their plans and their timetable, forcing them to attack the Rangers in prepared defensive positions rather than out in the open as a relief force.

Continued on the next page

Accordingly, all South Vietnamese units in the Quang Ngai area of operations were alerted and ordered to make the necessary preparations for defending against a surprise attack of regimental size. During this time frame, the Viet Cong increased their attacks on small government outposts. To counter the enemy's plans, US and ARVN forces stepped up their operations in the area in an attempt to disrupt and destroy the forward staging areas or clandestine bases of the communists and to gain more conclusive evidence of their anticipated plan of action

One combined operation, named Lien Kiet or Black Ferret, was conducted in northern Binh Son. Utilizing USMC, ARVN, Special Forces and RF units, the operation failed to produce any major contacts nor any significant intel. After the withdrawal of the Allied forces, the 37th Ranger Battalion continued its original

mission of area pacification and the defense of Thach Tru, with its companies being deployed in and around the Thach Tru camp.

Due to the length of this story it will appear in several issues of patrolling.

Quote:

"However beautiful the strategy, you should occasionally look at the results"

Sir Winston Churchill

Mu Nau

Bill Miller

Unit Director Ranger Advisors

Find out more:



5TH RANGER TRAINING BATTALION PRESENTS:

RANGER OPEN HOUSE

APRIL 25th, 2020

FROM: 11AM TO 4PM

CAMP FRANK D. MERRILL, DAHLONEGA GA

Event Schedule:

| | |
|---|--|
| 7:00am Mountain Ranger Run | 2:00pm Hand-to-Hand/ Snake Demo |
| 11:00am Open House Begins | 3:00pm Mountaineering Demo |
| 11:30am Mountaineering/ Snake Demo | 4:00pm Military Displays Close |
| 12:30pm Hand-to-Hand Demo | 5:00pm Concert |
| 1:00pm <i>Rangers in Action</i> | 6:00pm Critter Cookout |

All Airborne Operations are weather dependent

U.S. Army Ranger Camp Frank D. Merrill 1 Camp Merrill, Dahlonega, GA 30533 Camp Frank D. Merrill is home to the 5th Ranger Training Battalion (est. 1952) and the mountain phase of the U.S. Army Ranger School. Named in honor of Major General Frank D. Merrill, commander of one of the first Ranger units (Merrill's Marauders in World War II), the camp's 290 acres are located at the base of the North Georgia Mountains near the Appalachian Trail.

Dahlonega Ultra Marathon Association coordinates Mountain Ranger Run -- 5k, 15k -- and 34k mountain bike race.
 1 Camp Merrill [Dahlonega GA 30533](https://www.dahlonega.com)

Fees/Admission

Free Event with Ranger Memorabilia and Refreshments Available for Purchase

Black and Tan Sponsors



West & Dearn
 legal services to individuals and associations, with a particular focus on
 assisting the outdoors of the United States Armed Forces.
 www.westdearn.com



In summary, we had 200 Rangers and relatives attend the event, hosted by a Ranger, Travis Krauss, at their business, Zombie Apocalypse a/k/a Apocalypse Vegas. It was held in conjunction with the Shot Show, and Sponsored by USARA, with the assistance of supporters shown on the left. **Black Rifle Coffee owners Matt Best and Jarred** were the primary Sponsors and donated a BRCC rifle that will be raffled online along with a Leupold scope during The Best Ranger Competition. Look for details at ranger.org.



Form Left to right Travis Pheanis, Dennis Dunn, Chris Vanek, and Mike Bryers

**NINTH ANNUAL
RSF INVITATIONAL
GOLF TOURNAMENT**



April 16, 2020
Maple Ridge Golf Club
Columbus, GA

Rangers Scholarship Fund
The Rangers Scholarship Fund was created in 2008 to honor those who performed selfless service to our Nation. These awards are based on merit and awarded to dependents of current and former members. They encourage and recognize family members who emulate the dedication, integrity and selflessness of their sponsors. The Fund sends a strong, real-time message to 75th Ranger Regiment members and their families that their exemplary service to our great Nation is truly appreciated.

WHEN: Thursday, April 16 2020
TIME: 1:00 PM Shotgun Start
WHERE: Maple Ridge Golf Course
COST: See sponsorship opportunities

CHECK-IN: Lunch begins at 11:15AM

PLAYERS MEETING: 12:45 PM
Cart side

FORMAT: 4 Man Better Ball

RULES: Men will play **White** tees. Ladies will play **Red** tees. Exceptions to USGA rules will be posted during the players meeting.

FOOD: Lunch will be served beginning at 11:15 AM. Snacks and refreshments available during play.

DRESS CODE: Shirt (tucked in)(kind of), belt (maybe), slacks or shorts, soft spikes only.

PAIRINGS: 4- Man teams.

ENTRY DEADLINE:
Monday, 08 April 2019/ First 128 Players.

PRIZES: Prizes will be awarded to 1st – 3rd place teams. Closest to the Pin. Long Drive prize and CTP on par 3's.

RANGERS SCHOLARSHIP FUND GOLF TOURNAMENT ENTRY FORM

Players Name/s
1. (Captain) _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

SPONSOR'S PLEASE EMAIL CORPORATE LOGO FOR ADVERTISEMENT SIGNS

Company: _____ Address: _____
Phone: _____ POC Name _____ EMAIL: _____
Medallion Level
Make Checks payable to: **RSF Golf Tournament.** Send sponsor/entry fee to:
Matt Walker, 4408 Olympic Lane, Columbus, GA 31907
For additional information or questions please call **Matt Walker at 706-604-5330**
or email **m.walker@rangersscholarshipfund.org**

**RANGERS SCHOLARSHIP FUND 2020 ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT
SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

TOURNAMENT SPONSOR: \$5,000 -Tournament sponsorship named for and Corporate Logo prominently displayed on all event materials and Staging as well as the First Tee and 18th Green Two Four Man Teams, green fees, carts, range balls, grab bag, mulligans, long drive entry, closest to the pin entry Free entry into the various contests

PLATINUM SPONSOR: \$2,500-\$4,999 -Two Four Man Teams, green fees, carts, range balls, grab bag, mulligans, long drive entry, closest to the pin entry, Catered lunch sponsorship named for your organization, Free entry into the various contests Corporate Logo displayed on two tee boxes / greens

GOLD SPONSOR: \$1000-\$2,499 - One Four Man Team, green fees, carts, range balls, grab bag, mulligans, long drive entry, closest to the pin entry, Putting contest named for your organization, Corporate Logo displayed on tee boxes / greens

SILVER SPONSOR: \$500-999 (Product or monetary) - One Four Man Team, green fees, carts, range balls, grab bag, Corporate Logo displayed on tee box / green

BRONZE SPONSOR: \$450 (Product or monetary) One Four Man Team, green fees, carts, range balls, grab bag, Corporate Logo included on display material

Friends of Rangers: \$250.00 -Hole sponsor signage, Corporate Logo included on display material

In the interest of advertising Ranger supporting businesses and groups please contribute product and paraphernalia for player's grab bags and display at the course. Send to:

Matt Walker
4408 Olympic Lane
Columbus, GA 31907

All sponsor levels include catered lunch provided on site and drinks and snacks on course. Sign up as a single player for \$100.00 and we will assign you to a team, benefits will include; green fees, carts, range balls, grab bag, catered lunch provided on site and drinks and snacks on course.

REGULAR MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

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

**75th RRA
PO Box 2200
Orangevale, CA 95662**

With our Benevolent fund, the Association supports the Family Fund, Gold Star Fund, and the Scholarship Fund which awards scholarships working collaboratively with the Ranger Memorial Foundation. We support the Best Ranger Competition and other events the officers regard as beneficial in promoting the 75th RRA ethos within the Greater Ranger Community. 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

PO Box 2200
Orangevale, CA 95662



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Annual Dues **\$40** Checks Payable to:
75th Ranger Regiment Association
Special Rate 5 Years for \$175

| | | |
|----------------|-----------------|-----|
| LAST NAME | FIRST NAME | MI |
| STREET ADDRESS | | |
| CITY | STATE | ZIP |
| PRIMARY PHONE | SECONDARY PHONE | |
| EMAIL ADDRESS | | |

SIGNATURE _____

UNITS

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 DIGIT SEC CODE _____

CHECK ONE NEW APPLICATION RENEWAL SUBSCRIPTION MEMBER

MEMBERSHIP CONTINGENT UPON PROOF OF SERVICE AS REQUIRED BY OUR BYLAWS: orders, or have two current members provide testimony of your service in an eligible unit as designated by our Bylaws. We are not just a Vietnam era veteran's organization. Service in all units of the 75th Ranger Regiment is eligible for membership.

ADVERTISE IN PATROLLING



Patrolling Full Page (COLOR) Ad (back or inside cover-4 issues)

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BLACK AND WHITE (4 ISSUES)

BUSINESS CARD \$150

1/4 PAGE \$200

1/2 PAGE \$350

FULL PAGE \$650

SECRETARY TOM SOVE: secretary@75thrra.org

RANGER BUDDIES

THE
DARBY
PROJECT

THE DARBY PROJECT's Ranger Buddies program enables Ranger organizations to benefit from their participation in GallantFew, Inc.'s Run Ranger Run. Here are 2020's results:

POWERED BY  **gallantfew**
Revolutionary Veteran Support Network

50+ Ranger Teams

600+ Ranger Participants



2 Ranger Buddies,
Three Rangers Foundation &
US Army Ranger Association, raised

\$5,000+ for their support programs

JOIN US FOR RUN RANGER RUN 2021

RUNRANGERRUN.COM

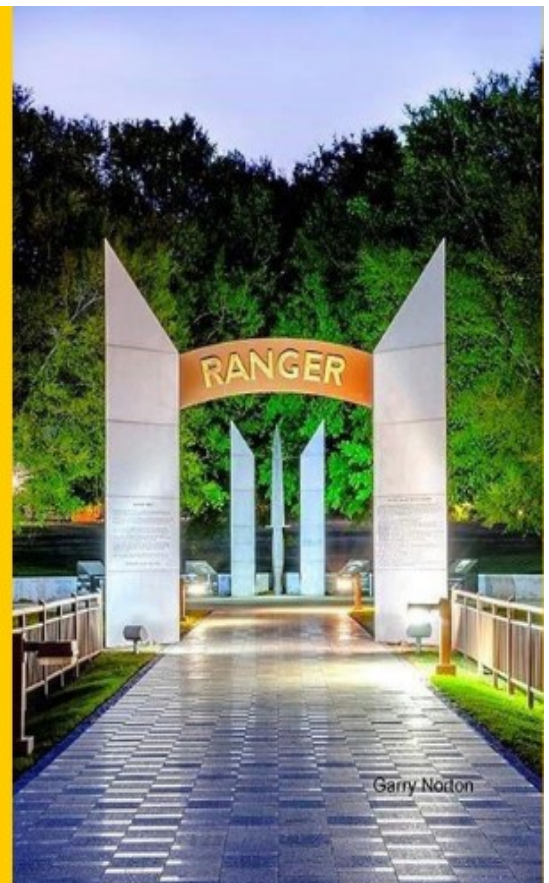
THE RANGER MONUMENT

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RANGER LEGACY IN
GRANITE AT THE
RANGER MONUMENT**

WWW.NATIONALRANGERFOUNDATION.COM



\$295





75th RANGER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

PO Box 2200

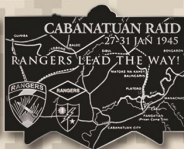
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RANGER SCHOOL GRADUATION PRODUCTS



Graduation must be verified.

COMMEMORATIVE COIN RAILS



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View the products here: <https://stores.inksoft.com/onpoint1-1/shop/home>

OnPoint 1-1 is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit dedicated to fundraising for Ranger Veteran programs. Proceeds are shared between OnPoint 1-1 and the 75th RRA.