

Thunder Run



Vol. 30 – NO. 1

"Together Then - Together Again"

1st Ouarter. 2015

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

Operation Hickory

Team Mike at the Roadblock

By: Charles Hertel. M Company, 3/11

s the Commander of Team Mike during Operation Hickory in October 1966, I read with interest the 11th ACVVC Historian's article "Welcome to Vietnam" in the Blackhorse Hoofbeats section of the 3d Ouarter 2014 issue of Thunder Run. Operation Hickory was the first major independent operation conducted by the 11th Armored Cavalry after its arrival in Vietnam, and, unfortunately, Team Mike's experience at the blocked road during the route clearance mission was even a greater fiasco than described. The 11th ACVVC Historian is to be forgiven, however, because, his source for the story was undoubtedly the official after-action report, and official after-action reports, as we all know, are usually written by those who were not present at the event and are approved by those who have an interest in making the action seem, if not heroic, at least competent.

During Operation Hickory, Team Mike consisted of the Headquarters Section and the 3rd Platoon of M Company for a total of

Operation Hickory was the first major independent operation conducted by the 11th Armored Cavalry after its arrival in Vietnam, and, unfortunately, Team Mike's experience ... was even a greater fiasco than described.

seven tanks, plus two attached ACAV platoons from I Troop and L Troop respectively. Team Mike did not have an AVLB, which was a Squadron asset, attached on this mission. The route clearance operation was in the western portion of the former Long Khanh Province and was supervised from the air by that bane of all ground combat junior officers and NCO's in the Vietnam War, a field officer in a Command and Control helicopter, in this case the Squadron S3.

Team Mike's route degenerated from a rather solid dirt road through thin jungle to a narrow trail over a type of causeway through an open swamp which might have been an abandoned rice paddy. About 100 meters into

Please turn to **HICKORY** on page 8



Columbus, Georgia

Steve Page, Reunion Chairman

In six short months The 11th ACVVC will descend on The City of Columbus and Fort Benning. This Reunion will mark 30 years as an organization, this is BIG. Planning for this event has been ongoing for more than two years. Not only the 30th Annual Reunion, but the rededication of our memorial at its new home, makes this a very special event. We think all attendees will enjoy what has been planned.

We need everyone to make hotel reservations ASAP. 1279 (50%) of the total 2514 room nights blocked have already been reserved.

We need everyone to make hotel reservations ASAP, 1279 (50%) of the total 2514 room nights blocked have already been reserved. Please remember that if you must cancel, there is no charge if the cancellation is made in the time frame set by

the hotel. We have a different room block for each property and we are not able to add rooms until the block for that hotel is filled. We need your help in making sure that everyone who wants to attend has a room. Make your reservations early.

See hotel list on page 11

Early reunion registration is also very helpful in getting everything we need to make it run smoothly. Please remember that the reunion cutoff date has been moved out further from the reunion dates and we must stick to this date. It is neces-

Please turn to **REUNION 2015** on page 6





Allen Hathaway President

From The Command Track

By Allen Hathaway, President

This year will be very special as we honor our fallen Blackhorse troopers

with the re-dedication of the 11th Cavalry Memorial at Fort Benning, GA. ... We strongly encourage you to attend...

This first issue of Thunder Run for 2015 is being mailed to the nearly 14,000 on our mailing list. Thunder Run is pub-

lished four times each year. For those of you who have not yet joined as members, this issue will give you an opportunity to catch up on some of the activities of the past year as well as those planned for 2015. We encourage you to take a few minutes and read this magazine cover to cover.

Last year was very busy. On Memorial Day Blackhorse troopers, family and friends gathered at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial to honor our fallen with the annual wreath laying. This has been an annual tradition since 1986. We never forget our fallen.

In July, the 11th Cavalry memorial was moved from Fort Knox to Fort Benning in preparation for the new memorial at the future Armor and Cavalry Museum.

In August, the nineteen (19) scholarship recipients for 2014 were announced. Thanks to the support and generosity of our members for our Scholarship Fundraising projects we were able to award scholarships totaling \$78,000. Eighteen (18) applicants received scholarships of \$4,000 with one receiving \$6,000 and The Chuck Schmidt Leadership Award.

In September we held our annual reunion in Las Vegas where 1,500 troopers and family members attended! This was the third largest reunion in our history. One of the traditions at our reunions is to recognize veterans attending their first reunion. One hundred-eight (108) "first timers" were recognized at the Saturday evening banquet. Welcome home!

Las Vegas also gave us an opportunity to visit our regiment at their home at the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, CA. Over 700 people boarded 14 buses for the day trip. The veterans were welcomed back to their regiment and enjoyed viewing a large display of equipment and vehicles, touring the

museum and watching a demonstration by the horse detachment. At the end of the day the veterans and entire regiment assembled for the impressive photo printed on the back page. No further words are needed to describe this picture

On Veterans Day, troopers gathered at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial for our annual wreath laying. Also on Veterans Day the groundbreaking ceremony for our new memorial was held in Columbus, GA. Both events were well attended.

We wrapped up 2014 with the mailing of our annual calendar as part of our Scholarship Fundraising project. Members are always eager to get their calendars. The calendar contains 12 photos of "every day life" in Vietnam. There are also many significant dates and historical notations about the regiment's service. We encourage all those who received a calendar to help support the Scholarship Program by making a donation. Even a small donation is helpful. Donations also ensure that we can continue printing and mailing the calendar.

In 2014 we published four outstanding issues of *Thunder Run* with a variety of photos and interesting articles, many submitted by our members. We encourage everyone to continue to submit their stories. Throughout the year we posted photos and other items of interest on our website and Facebook page. Please check our website and Face book page for all the latest news and updates.

We have an exciting year ahead in 2015. We will continue our Memorial Day and Veterans Day traditional wreath laying at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

We will roll out the new design of our website soon. Many of the items have

been reorganized for easy use. The new design will bring a fresh look to the site and will complement our Facebook page.

In May we will mail raffle tickets to all members as part of our Scholarship Fundraising effort. Once again this year, we will offer the chance to win one of 15 prizes ranging from eleven \$100 prizes to the top prize of \$500.

This year will mark a milestone for the organization as we host the 30th annual reunion. The reunions are the hilight of the year. This year will be very special as we honor our fallen Blackhorse troopers with the re-dedication of the 11th Cavalry Memorial at Fort Benning, GA.

We strongly encourage you to attend this reunion. Reunions are a great place to meet old friends and to make new friends. We all share the very special bond of having served together in the 11th Cavalry. Reunions provide an opportunity to renew your pride in serving our country and our regiment.

With the memorial dedication we expect another large turnout. This year we have the challenge of being located in four different hotels. We think, however, the memorial dedication and other planned activities at Fort Benning will offset any inconvenience.

We're also offering a low registration fee of \$70 per person. The fee covers Wednesday, Thursday and Friday Bunker, shuttle transportation (if required), Saturday lunch at the Convention Center and Saturday evening banquet and program.

Our hospitality room, called the "bunker" will be at the Columbus Convention Center. This is a central location where everyone can meet their old friends, share photos, tell stories and

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

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Thunder Run covers present and future interests of the organization that includes membership and reunion information, various fund raising activities, and other items relative to the membership. Submissions are welcome and encouraged. Correspondence and inquiries concerning *Thunder Run* should be made in writing to: Editor, "Thunder Run," C.E. "Bill" Gregory, Jr., 421 Fallen Leaf Dr., Soddy Daisy, TN 37379-3577.

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Thunder Run 1st Quarter, 2015

The 29th Annual Reunion of the 11th



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ACVVC

Las Vegas, NV



Thunder Run 1st Quarter, 2015

Editor's Corner

Sometime back, I read that smells (odors) are the best stimulus to trigger memories. I think this is true and it happens most often with me when I am around the mixed smells of diesel fuel and mud. On rare occasions I have smelled that mixture, with the addition of burned gunpowder, which really takes me back. Before I realize it, my mind is back at a firebase with tracks running through the mud, and guns (of all sizes) firing; or I am busting jungle with that humidity and diesel smell all over everything. Once the memories start, they are not that easy to control. But that is a topic for another day.

This quarter we have memories of ambushes, tactical lessons and dogs. We have a lot of reunion information about our 30th Reunion at Columbus / Fort Benning in August. There is only one more issue of Thunder Run before the reunion registration deadline this year, so please check out the reunion information and get your registration and reservations in as early as you can. The hotel closest to the Convention Center in Columbus is already SOLD OUT, so don't delay. (Don't despair either, there are 3 more hotels near-by). This looks like it is going to be another large reunion, so don't be left out. This reunion is going to have more "moving parts" (four hotels and a convention center headquarters) than any I can remember, so the 11th ACVVC needs everyone's cooperation and attention to detail. That attention to detail gets harder and harder for me as I get older, but I will try extra hard this year.

C.E. "Bill" Gregory

There is only one more issue of Thunder Run before the reunion registration deadline this



Bill Gregory, Editor Thunder Run

year, so please check out the reunion information and get your registration and reservations in as early as you can.

Many thanks to the members who have contributed their writing talents to our publication, this quarter they are Blandon Karabinos, Charles Hertel and Frank Church. I have said before that the folks who submit their writings to us are very special. They are sharing treasured memories and a very personal part of themselves. It is also true that most of the stories to be told about the Blackhorse in Vietnam have not been written yet. If you have some of those stories, please share them with us. Keep in mind that we are a family friendly publication but most stories can be told in a family friendly way. We also thank our regular column writers, who write for us as part of their job with the 11th ACVVC. Writing a regular column can be a challenge and we appreciate your efforts.

I am looking forward to Columbus in August and hope to see all of you there. We will visit again next quarter, may your life be blessed.

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sary to get the meal count in as well as the transportation count. We need you to register early. Contact your old friends early so they will have plenty of time to make their plans to attend the reunion. Please read the schedule of events posted in this issue. Some activities are on a first come first served basis with a limited number of attendees allowed because of space at the venue.

Shuttles will run between the contracted hotels and the Columbus Convention Center on a timely schedule. Hotels outside of those contracted with will not have shuttle service. We encourage anyone driving to Columbus to drive to the Convention Center and the dedication. The Convention Center has ample parking in the parking deck and The National Infantry Museum has ample parking for the dedication. There is an approximate 1/4 mile walk involved to get to the memorial site. We will post the reunion schedule as well as the transportation schedule in all the contracted hotels. If there is someone staying at your hotel who needs a ride, help them out. We looked out for each other back in the day and we can do it

We will need your patience and understanding for this weekend as we have never had to use multiple hotels in this way before. We do promise to make this reunion another first class event. There is a list of things to do in the Columbus area in this issue. Please remember the key words for the weekend are PATIENCE and UNDERSTANDING.

MOVING?

We want you to get your copy of *Thunder Run* without a lot of trouble. Complete this form and mail it to: 11th ACVVC Membership Update, Allen Hathaway, 13194 Rettew Dr., Manassas, VA 20112. Email *11thcav1966@Comcast.net*



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

2014 Newsletter Deadlines

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

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

All submissions for publication must be sent to: C.E. "Bill" Gregory, Editor, 421 Fallen Leaf Drive, Soddy Daisy, TN 37379-3577. E-mail:

Battle46A@epbfi.com



From the 66th Colonel of the Regiment

COL Kevin L. Jacobi

Fort Irwin, California - Yet another quarter has passed and it still with great honor that I continue to ride with the Blackhorse, the best regiment that you will ever see! Just last quarter, Blackhorse Troopers met 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division on the battle field of the National Training Center. This past quarter also allowed our Squadrons to catch up on important resiliency training which was paired with various activities to include sports competitions and a chili cook-off. In December, the Regiment conducted their annual Long Walk to the Veterans Home of Barstow, California, a truly humbling event where our Troopers took the opportunity to thank our veterans for their inspiring service.

In the last issue of the *Thunder Run*, I mentioned that leaders of the regiment planned to get together to develop a shared vision for the future of the Regiment and also to discuss how to achieve excellence in all we do. Now, I'd like to take this opportunity to share the vision with you, Blackhorse Troopers, Veterans, Family and Friends.

The vision helps us to see who we are as members of the Blackhorse Regiment and what we strive for as an organization. The three pillars of this vision states that we are a formidable, professional, team of teams.

We are experts in our craft and masters in maneuver warfare. This means we are experts in all our war fighting functions, acknowledging that it takes all functions and MOS's to create a Cavalry Regiment. However, we strive for mastery in maneuver warfare — a reputation that must be upheld.

We are disciplined members of a profession of arms – our Soldiers do what's right, live the Army Values and enforce Army standards.

Last, we are great team mates, first – to each other. We must remember that members of a profession of arms are bound by trust and their



COL Kevin L. Jacobi

relationships with each other which are grounded in dignity and respect for one another. Second – we are great teammates to our partners here at Fort Irwin, particularly Operations Group. Together, Blackhorse and Ops Group are a powerful team for the Army. The last level of being a good teammate is to the rest of the Army. This is a great audience, but we focus on U.S. Army Brigades that train here. We are their training partners and with our help, they become stronger and that means we help build a stronger Army and Nation.

This vision serves as our guiding light as we move into the future. Every rotation I challenge the formation by stating: "you will out shoot them, out maneuver them and out decide them on the battle-field." By doing this, our training partners get the most out of their training here at Fort Irwin. Blackhorse Troopers are urged to carry out the Blackhorse Vision as we face our next opponent, the Arctic Wolves of the 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division during the January rotation.

On behalf of the Regiment, I wish a happy New Year to you all and look forward to meeting many of you in the future. Remember, you are always welcome to come home. Death rides a Blackhorse! Allons!

11th ACVVC Calendar Appeal 2015

By Pete Walter, 11th ACVVC Vice President

By now all dues-paid members of the 11th ACVVC should have received their personal copy of our 2015 calendar. If you have not received a calendar please contact Allen Hathaway (11thcav1966@comcast.net) or myself (BasePiece70@verizon.net) This year's calendar features fourteen color photographs, thirteen submitted by members of the 11th ACVVC and one provided by the active duty Regiment. In addition it includes historical information on significant dates in the history of the United States and your Regiment. We have received many compliments on the 2015 calendar along with many generous donations and we thank you for your continued support!

This full-color calendar is the first of our 2015 Scholarship fundraising efforts. The calendar you received is yours to keep and use whether you donate or not. We do however ask for your support with the most generous tax-deductible donation that you can make to assist the children of 11th ACVVC members to begin or continue their post-secondary education. The scholarships can be used for college, trade school, or any other educational training following high school.

You donated over \$68,000 to the 2014 calendar appeal; we are now very close to awarding \$1,100,000 in scholarships to the children of members of the 11th ACVVC! Every member of this organization can be proud of our service with the legendary Blackhorse

Regiment in Vietnam and Cambodia; over forty-three years later we continue to serve and show our pride by our generous support of the children of our Blackhorse brothers.

A comment and request on the future of our calendar is in order. It is imperative that you the members of the 11th ACVVC continue to search through your old photos and submit the best quality photos you can find to be considered for inclusion in future issues. We transitioned to the full-color version two years ago and to continue to publish a full-color calendar we need a large pool of high quality color photographs. The best photos for reproduction purposes are high quality 35mm prints or slides showing groups of Troopers performing every-day combat missions and chores along with images of the landscape, hamlets and indigenous Vietnamese. If you have the capability of electronically scanning photos at a resolution of 300 or 600 dpi, you can send them to me using e-mail. This is the easiest, cheapest and quickest way to submit images. Additionally, I will have a high-resolution flatbed scanner at our 30th Annual Reunion (August 18-22) this summer in Columbus, Georgia. If you bring your photos I can scan them and return them to you in minutes. If you choose to mail me prints, please send copies and retain your original. Info describing the subject matter, identity of Troopers, date, location, etc., is appreciated. This calendar shows your service, your history...please help me continue to make it a great production that we can all be proud of! Thank you. "ALLONS!"

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the swamp, the VC had dug a trench about 10 feet wide and 4 to 6 feet deep, effectively blocking the road over the causeway. The heavy section of 3d Platoon, M Company, was the lead element in the Team Mike column and was able to maneuver one tank over a portion of the trench but could proceed no further without collapsing the causeway. At this point, Mike 6 (unlike the description from the Historian) was quite daunted, realizing that it would be impossible to continue without further problems. The road over the causeway was effectively blocked and too narrow to allow one ACAV to pass another, much less a tank. Likewise, the causeway was too fragile to attempt any work by the dozer tank, so nothing seemed to await Team Mike except to reverse direction.

While the efforts at the breached causeway proceeded, the Squadron S3 circled overhead in his OH-13 ordering "operational updates," which I grudgingly gave every 15 to 20 minutes. The S3 finally realized that continuing on the road was impossible, but he claimed that he could see from the air that it would be possible to proceed if a tank would leave the causeway and drive to the right of the swamp, hugging its edge. From my position on the ground, this was impossible, and I stated so. After a short exchange, I was informed to stop arguing, not be insubordinate, and do as instructed. In short order, tank number 1 sunk in the mud: I was told to send another tank out on a wider curve to the right. Tank number 2 then sunk in the mud. The VTR, attempting to winch out tank number 2, itself then sunk in the mud.

At this point, the S3, annoyed at my incompetence, had his pilot land the OH-13 and came to take charge of the situation on the ground. On the ground at the head of our column, it was readily apparent that the route was impassable and the road clearance operation at an end. To support Team Mike, Team Kilo had been ordered to follow Team Mike and was now in formation behind us, both units in a modified herringbone formation. The Team Kilo Commander soon joined the S3 and me, and the S3 said he was going to take a look at some further trenches that he had seen from the air near the point that the road re-entered the jungle. This point was some 200 meters in front of where Team Mike's column had been halted. I posited that this was not a very good idea as we had no security out at the second trench location and that the causeway could bear no further tracked vehicle traffic. No was the reply; we can walk there. I see it from here. The S3 followed by the Team Kilo Commander and a few engineers took off along the causeway while I frantically had the 3d Platoon Leader dismount a few of his tankers with M3 .45 caliber "grease guns" to act as security walking alongside but not on the causeway. At this time, we had a chronic shortage of caliber .45 ammunition, and each "grease gun" had barely 10 rounds in the magazine. The Platoon Leader of Team Mike's attached I Troop platoon also scurried back to his unit organize some dismounted scouts/infantrymen for security.

By this time, the party had reached the farther trenches on the causeway, studied them, and concluded that the route was indeed impassable. As the party was returning to the head of the Team Mike column, there was a loud explosion when the party was about half-way back. I, on the side of the causeway, was about dead even with the large VC-produced Claymore-type mine that exploded; throwing me to the ground and hurling shrapnel and fragments into the party on the causeway. A few desultory bursts of small arms fire seemed to come at us from the jungle in the vicinity of the cut. As I only caught the side blast of the mine, I was stunned but unhurt. I crawled to the edge of the causeway and saw the attached I Troop

Platoon Leader running up with some dismounted troopers and begin firing at the wood line and the ditch along the causeway. This fire was joined by one or two of the tanks which fired machine gun fire into the jungle near the trenches. There was no further hostile activity. Several troopers, including the S3 and the Team K Commander were wounded and quickly "dusted off." The S3, who had always been a stickler for wearing flak jackets at all times, told me, as I was helping to load him on the evacuation helicopter, that the greatest lesson learned from this operation was to always wear your flak jacket — it undoubtedly saved lives in this instance. Luckily, no one was seriously wounded, and all were returned to duty in a few days.

There was nothing further to do except vehicle recovery operations, and, thanks to the talent of the Company M maintenance section, that went rather rapidly. Three ACAV's were hooked up in tandem with cable and freed the VTR. Then the three tandem ACAV's and the VTR, using its winch, freed the two tanks. The Third Squadron Commander with his Command and Control helicopter had joined us during the "Dust Off" and observed a portion of the recovery operation. When he departed, he ordered me to take Team Mike and Team Kilo back to our designated laager position for the night, thus ingloriously ending the road clearance mission.

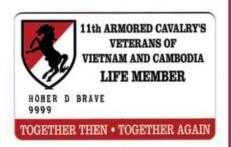
Are You A Member?

By: Allen Hathaway, President and Membership Chairman

This issue of *Thunder Run* is being mailed to nearly 14,000 Blackhorse troopers who served in Vietnam. This includes members, lapsed members and those who have not yet joined.

If you haven't yet become a member of the 11th ACVVC, or if your membership has expired, this is a good time to take a minute and become a member or renew your membership.

If you are not sure of your membership status in the 11th ACVVC, take this time to check the mailing label on the back page of this newsletter. If the words "FREE COPY" are printed on the first line of the label, take this opportunity to join and



become a member. If the words "EXPIRED" are printed, this is a good time to renew your membership. Expired members will also have their membership number printed on the same line.

To join or renew your membership in the 11th ACVVC just fill out and mail the membership form printed in this newsletter. Make sure you give your full name, address, service number, unit(s), and dates

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COMMAND TRACK from page 2

enjoy the camaraderie of being with other Blackhorse veterans. All meetings and the Saturday evening banquet will be held at the Columbus Convention Center.

We have arranged complementary shuttles to run between each hotel and the convention center for anyone needing transportation. Shuttles will run on a regular basis leaving from each hotel as well as the convention center every 30 minutes. A schedule will be posted in the lobby of each hotel.

Those with their own vehicles are welcome and encouraged to use your own transportation. The convention center offers a 400 space parking garage. The National Infantry Museum also has a large parking lot.

The hotels are filling up quickly. The Marriott is sold out. As of mid January, half of the total 538 rooms in all hotels have already been reserved. We strongly recommend making your hotel reservations reunion registration soon. This will ensure that you have a reservation and it will help us for our overall reunion planning.

We also recommend contacting your old friends early and plan to meet them at the reunion. Give them plenty of time to make their plans. Feel free to contact any officer or board member if you need help finding an old friend.

We will finish 2015 with the mailing of our annual calendar in December. We're always looking for good quality and interesting photos for our calendar. If you have a photo with interesting subject, crisp and clear lines, please take the time to contact our vice-president.

We have an exciting year ahead of us. We have a tremendous organization that has grown from a handful of members 30 years ago to the thousands of members today.

Finally, always remember the men and women who serve our country every day in the military, law enforcement and public safety. Take a minute to thank them for their service to this great country of ours. Welcome home! It's good to be "together again".

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM UPDATE

by Mike "Doc" Rafferty, Director and Scholarship Chairman



Mike 'Doc' Rafferty

The 11th ACVVC Scholarship Program has awarded 356 scholarships totaling \$1,126,000 to children of our members and KIAs since its inception in 1996. Every scholarship dollar paid was donated by YOU, the members of this

great association of Blackhorse combat veterans!! You will find a usable copy of the current Scholarship Application in this issue of *Thunder Run* and also on our website.

Our recently updated Scholarship Guide provides more information on the scholarship process and contains detailed assistance on completing the scholarship application. Applicants planning on attending graduate school programs are eligible to apply for a scholarship, however undergraduate applicants will be given preference in the judging process (see #6 below). You can print a copy of the Guide and the Application at www.11thcavnam.com/scholar.html. If you have a child (natural, step child or adopted) who is planning on attending a college, community college or trade school this fall, please encourage them to apply for a scholarship. Please do not hesitate to contact me with your questions.

Beginning in 2008, each recipient's Scholarship Award has been dedicated to honor a specific 11th Cavalry "Blackhorse" Trooper who was Killed in Action (KIA) in Vietnam or Cambodia. The Blackhorse KIAs to be honored each year will be selected on an impartial and random basis. An attractive certificate suitable for framing containing information about the trooper in whose honor their scholarship is dedicated is sent to each recipient.

In addition, each year, one recipient is selected to receive a special Colonel Charles L. Schmidt Leadership Scholarship award in honor of former 11th ACVVC President Chuck Schmidt for his leadership and devotion to the 11th Cavalry "Blackhorse" Troopers of the Vietnam War.

Chuck died on Veterans Day 2007 as a result Agent Orange-related cancer shortly after being elected to his third term as President. Chuck's widow, Mrs. Bonnie Schmidt, selects the recipient of this award from the list of scholarship winners.

Scholarship Judges are asked to rate each applicant on a 30-point system.

- **1.** Up to **7 points** may be awarded for Application completion, legibility, and following the instructions on the form and in the Guide
- **2.** Up to **8 points** may be awarded for Grades of the Applicants' most recent two years of education (high school or college)
- **3.** Up to **15 points** may be awarded for the narrative response to the questions in item #11 of the 11ACVVC Scholarship Application.
- **4. Each** applicant will be judged independently by **each** Judge. Currently we have five participating independent Judges.
- **5.** The Judge's scores are averaged to obtain a final score for each applicant.
- **6.** If some applicants are graduate students, the scholarship chairman shall add 4.0 points to each undergraduate student applicant's score.

The 11th ACVVC Board of Directors will determine the number of Scholarship awards to be granted in any given year based on the available donated funds and the dollar amount determined for each scholarship award. The Scholarship Committee will then apply that number to the list of applicants in descending score order to determine who will receive the Awards. In 2014, we were able to award 19 scholarships totaling \$78,000 to children of our members.

Grandchildren of members are not currently eligible. The criterion to include Grandchildren as eligible for scholarships is reviewed annually.

Please inform your eligible children that applications and grade transcripts need to be sent to me by May 15, 2014. E mail me at platoonmedic36@gmail.com if you have questions. If you do not have access to e mail you may reach me at 915-792-2804 or 575-915-2921.

Thunder Run 1st Ouarter, 2015

<u>Meet Our 2014 Scholarship Winners</u>

This issue contains brief statements from the remainder of our 2014 Scholarship Winners. The Oct-Dec 2014 issue off Thunder run featured 10 of the 2015 Scholarship Winners.

Danielle Larry



Thank you so much for awarding me this scholarship! It will help me tremendously with paying for my schooling. I am taking classes to become an ultrasound technician. I love helping people and this is the perfect profession to be able to do that! It means a lot to me to receive a scholarship from a military entity with such standards and class as the 11th ACVVC. My father is a member and military

service runs very deep in our family. I, myself, am a veteran and I am now married to a veteran, as well. All the males in my family as far back as I can trace have served in the military. I pride myself as being the first female veteran in my family! Again, I thank all military members for their service and I will make the 11th ACVVC very proud to have awarded me this great gesture!

Danielle Larry is the daughter of Donald Carey, Air Cav Troop, 67-68. Dedicated to Richard M. Kulavik, I Troop, (KIA 2/17/69).

Christopher Lee Miller



This scholarship award will allow me to fulfill my degree as a physical education teacher. Thank you so much for helping me get one step closer to completing college!

Christopher Miller is the son of Gary L. Miller, F Troop, 67-68. Dedicated to Daniel L. Mullins, K Troop, (KIA 8/31/67).

Kerstin Nelson

Thank you for awarding me this scholarship in the honor of Michael L. Jones. I am very grateful for this scholarship as it will help me in the journey of becoming a Marriage and Family Therapist. Specifically, it will help with all kinds of expenses while I attend school, and work at my internship at a mental health clinic. It is humbling to receive this award knowing where it is coming from. I'm very proud of my dad and all the people who served for our country. I sincerely thank the 11th Armored Cavalry's

Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia for their generosity.



Kerstin Nelson is the daughter of Lee Nelson, HHT 1/11, 68-69. Dedicated to Michael L. Jones, E Troop, (KIA 12/27/67).

Cassie M. Nybo



I was elated to hear from you regarding the scholarship award from the 11th ACVVC and also somewhat sobered by the reminder that so many died including Robert Henderson, Jr. on June 6, 1970. My Dad has told me some about his experience in Viet Nam with the 11th ACR. He remembers the skirmish during which Mr. Henderson lost his life. I am honored and thankful and appreciate all the troop-

ers who served and who still carry on to preserve the memory of their brothers, especially those who gave "all".

Cassie Nybo is the daughter of Marc Nybo, HHT 2/11, 69-70. Dedicated to Robert K. Henderson, A Troop, (KIA 6/19/70).

Matthew G. Rusteberg



I would first like to thank the 11th Armored Calvary's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia for the scholarship that has been awarded to me in memory of a fallen hero. I am also very proud that my dad served in Vietnam. With this scholarship and my internship with the US Army Corp of Engineers, I will be able to attend college without it being a financial burden. With my Wildlife Habitat Management

and Conservation degree, I will have the ability to help preserve and conserve wildlife habitats for future generations to enjoy.

Matt Rusteberg is the son of Homer Rusteberg, How Battery, 3/11, 70-71. Dedicated to John Ortiz, H Company, (KIA: 1/17/68).

Laura E. Santos



I was at a loss for words when I received this scholarship. The first person I called was my dad, Tomas Santos. He was so thrilled. He and all of the soldiers who served in Vietnam and Cambodia are the reason I was able to receive such an honor. Being a single mother, I've made some sacrifices in order to resign from my job to continue my education. My sacrifices do not compare to those who have

served and to those who continue to serve in the Armed Forces. I've been truly blessed and can't thank you enough for this. With the money I receive from this scholarship (in memory of Robert L. Mingle who was killed in action on 06/18/1969) I will be able apply it to my tuition and books at the University of Texas at El Paso. I am working on my Bachelor's of Science in Kinesiology in order to work in the Cardiac Rehabilitation field. You will be helping me help others who are in need of

Laura E. Santos is the daughter of Tomas Santos, HHT, Regiment, 69-70. Dedicated to Robert L. Mingle, Air Cav Troop, (KIA 6/18/69).

Sarah J. Seebold



I am honored to receive the 2014 11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam & Cambodia scholarship award. I cannot express into words how appreciative and thankful I am for your assistance with my college education. I am a mother of three so college tuition is not easy to afford. With your generous scholarship I am now able to finish out my degree in Elementary Education and

pursue my goal in becoming a teacher. This award is dedicated to the memory of Ralph O. Hill who was killed in action serving as a trooper in G Troop of the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment in Southeast Asia.

Sarah Seebold is the daughter of Barry Sutherland, I Troop, 68-69. Dedicated to Ralph O. Hill, G Troop, (KIA 4/25/70).

Brittany Le Anna Smith

I feel incredibly grateful to be selected for this prestigious scholarship award in honor of 11th ACR Trooper Bobby A. Semore. Even since grade school I planned on going on to college and by the time I completed high school, and now the first year of college, the reality of the high costs of attending college began to sink in. In receiving the financial boost that this scholarship represents means that I am even closer to reaching my goal



of earning a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting and starting my career. My plan is to complete my degree at Texas A&M, College Station, Texas and now that appears to be closer to reality. I want to sincerely thank all the members of the 11th Armored Cavalry Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia and the scholarship committee for this award and I fully intend to perform to the best of my ability and make the

organization and my family proud.

Brittany L. Smith is the daughter of Robert Clark, HHT 3/11, 69-70. Dedicated to Bobby A. Semore, B Troop, (KIA 5/9/67).

Lauren N. Victor



I was honored to learn I was a recipient of 11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam & Cambodia Scholarship. I would like to thank the association for your generous, financial support towards college. I am a Biomedical Engineer major at Northeastern University in Boston. In the fall, I will be doing my first semester in Greece in hopes to become a global citizen and gain new perspective of other cultures. After graduating, I

plan to seek my master's degree or begin my career in Biotechnology. Thank you for your generosity that has allowed me to pursue my education.

Lauren Victor is the daughter of James Victor, L Troop, 69-70. Dedicated to Lanny J. Norman, F Troop (KIA 11/11/68).

30th Annual Reunion - Columbus / Fort Benning, GA ◆ August 19-23, 2015

Hotels and Transportation

HOLIDAY INN COLUMBUS NORTH

2800 Manchester Expressway Columbus, GA 31904 Rate: \$99 single/double Phone: 706-324-0231

Reservation Cutoff: Aug 3, 2015

175 rooms - Distance to Convention Center: 5

miles

Rate includes full southern breakfast buffet

HILTON GARDEN INN

1500 Bradley Lake Boulevard Columbus, GA 31904 Rate: \$109 single/double Phone: 706-660-1000

Reservation Cutoff: Aug 3, 2015

100 rooms - Distance to Convention Center: 5

miles

Rate includes 1/2 price breakfast coupons, 2 coupons per room per night (\$5.00 per person)

DOUBLETREE COLUMBUS

5351 Sidney Simons Boulevard

Columbus, GA 31904 Rate: \$109 single/double Phone: 800-222-8733

Reservation Cutoff: July 28, 2015

150 rooms - Distance to Convention Center: 5

miles

MARRIOTT COLUMBUS (SOLD OUT)

800 Front Avenue Columbus, GA 31901 Rate: \$129 single/double Phone: 800-228-9290

Reservation Cutoff: July 20, 2015

110 rooms - Distance to Convention Center: 1/2

DIOCK

All hotels offer the following:

- · Complimentary parking
- · Complimentary guestroom internet
- Complimentary shuttle service to/from Columbus airport (call the day prior to make arrangements)
 For anyone needing transportation free shuttle service will be provided from Wednesday thru Saturday

between the following hotels and the Convention

Center: Holiday Inn, Hilton Garden Inn, Doubletree.

COLUMBUS CONVENTION & TRADE CENTER

801 Front Avenue Columbus, GA 31901

Reunion Registration, Quartermaster, Bunker, Membership Meeting, Women's Meeting, Saturday

Banquet and program

Complementary Parking (400 spaces) www.conventiontradecenter.com/

NATIONAL INFANTRY MUSEUM

1775 Legacy Way Columbus, Ga 31903

www.nationalinfantrymuseum.org/

GROOME TRANSPORTATION

706-324-3939 or 800-584-6735 www.groometransportation.com/

AIRPORT SHUTTLE SERVICE

706-225-9639 or 888-881-6541 www.columbusairportshuttleservice.com

Thunder Run 1st Ouarter. 2015

11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam & Cambodia (11ACVVC) SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION [revised January 1, 2015]

◆Please print the latest **Scholarship Guide** at <u>www.11thcavnam.com/scholar.html</u> Scholarship Chairman Michael "Doc" Rafferty

	Da	te of Birth:	
Applicant's Social Security Number:	E-Mail Address:		
Address:		Apartment/Unit #	
City:	_ State: Zip Code:	Telephone Number:	
Applicant's Qualifying Status: (Check Only One) Child of		er who served in Vietnam or Cambodia Trooper Who is a Current 11ACVVC Me	ember
4] Applicant's SPONSOR 11th Cav Veteran: Full	Il Name:	Email	
Sponsor's 11th Cav Unit in Vietnam:	Dates in Vietnam	11 th ACVVC Membership #	:
[6] Name and Address of College or Trade Scho	ool That You Plan to Attend: Are	you pursuing a graduate degree prog	ram?
Name:			
Address:			
City:	_State:Zip: Phon	e:	
Have You Made Application? ☐ Yes.			
Standard Test Score For Your State: ACT			
Estimated Expenses for the School Year: Tuitio Books & Supplies \$;			
P] Schools and Colleges Attended: (10th Grade t			
	one of the second section is		
Name City, State	Dates From / To Name	City, State	Dates From / To
 10] You <u>must</u> attach a copy of your <u>grade transcr</u> 11] On one typed sheet of paper with <u>your NAME</u> 1. State the Field of Study That You Plan to lead to the state of the s	& EMAIL and your 11ACVVC Sponse Enter and Why. pient of the 11ACVVC Scholarship. awarded an 11ACVVC Scholarship. in veterans' affairs or events, if any. by High School / College Transcript to	sor/Father's name at top of the page: Focus on your qualifications and not you be submitted with this Scholarship Appli	
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Blackhorse Women's News

By Kathy Tandberg, Women's Group Co-coordinator

It's hard to believe, but we're halfway to the 30th annual reunion, August 19-23 at Columbus, Georgia/Fort Benning. Many exciting plans have been made by the 11th ACVVC for this reunion. The biggest excitement for the Blackhorse Women's Group has now been confirmed – an exciting day of touring the city of Columbus!

This tour has been scheduled for Friday, August 21, as an alternate activity for the women who aren't interested in touring the many military options offered that day. The Women's Group Tour begins with Friday morning pickup at your hotel. We will then travel and meet at 10 a.m. at the Columbus Museum of art and history. The museum offers both modern and historic exhibits. The open concept, three-level museum offers elevators and bench seating throughout the facility. This was a big plus when reviewing locations to tour because we are a group of all ages. We think the elevators and benches are a plus for our ladies who want to sit and rest from time to time, as well as those who want to simply sit and view the many exhibits. The tour will be guided, but women can also wander the museum on their own.

A special exhibit on display is a gallery of blown glass art made by the famous glass sculptor Dale Chihuly, from Washington state, whose work has been exhibited in every major museum in the world. It is Chihuly's beautiful blown glass creations that are in the Las Vegas Bellagio Hotel lobby and the hotel's indoor gardens. His work is magnificent.

At noon we will board the buses once again for the Wynn House, a beautiful plantation-like and historic Greek Revival home from the early 1800s. Here we will have a southern luncheon, including coffee, tea and dessert. And, we can also wander and tour the house. After luncheon we will once again board the buses for a historic driving tour of the old city. The guided tour includes the historic homes and church district and port area.

We will also have a guided driving tour through the historic Linwood Cemetery from the early 1800s. This is also a Civil War cemetery and has a beautiful little chapel. We will stop at a couple locations in this cemetery. At around 3 p.m. or so, the buses will begin drop offs back at the hotels or at the Convention Center, where the bunkers are located; your choice. All of this for the price of \$25 a person – this includes your transportation, tours and luncheon – what a great price for a day of fun.

Like the men's tours, we are limited in the number we can take. This tour is limited to the first 100 participants who sign up. Our tour will be listed among things to do on the reunion forms so be sure to sign up right away. Check your spouse's Thunder Run and reunion information as soon as it arrives and get signed up.

In addition, the Women's Group will again offer Fort Benning site-specific lanyards as well as another fundraising item. Watch for news on those in the next Thunder Run! The Women's Board looks forward to seeing you in Columbus and we are already planning an exciting meeting with a guest speaker for our annual meeting Saturday morning. More news to come on that!

On another note – ladies, have you filled out your "Getting to Know You" project pages or forms and mailed them to project chairman Rosa Rector? If not, please do so. If you need a form, contact Rosa at 937-667-3606.

Remember, watch for the upcoming *Thunder Run* and get registered for the Women's Group Tour!

NOTE: Kathy can be reached by email at kathyz.tandberg @yahoo.com or by phone at 701-873-2970. Also, be sure to check out the Blackhorse Women's webpage site by going to www.11thcavnam.com and locating Blackhorse Women's News tab in the white box near the bottom. Also find and "Like" us on Facebook by searching Blackhorse Women.

Reunion Assistance Fund

The purpose of the Reunion Trooper and KIA Survivor Assistance Fund is to assist Troopers who served with the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment in Vietnam and Cambodia, and family members of our troopers killed in action in Vietnam and Cambodia, to attend a reunion sponsored by the 11th ACVVC. Qualified applicants will be given one or more of the following items, depending on the number of requests, funds depletion, and the degree of assistance required:

- 1. A room at the host hotel for one or two nights during the reunion weekend.
- 2. Funds to purchase fuel for auto, tickets for airfare or other means of transportation such as bus fare or train fare.
 - 3. Registration fees.
 - 4. Meals or food allowance.

Funds are collected through direct donations by our members and are accounted for by the Treasurer. The Trooper and KIA Survivor Assistance Fund is a separate reporting account on the 11th ACVVC quarterly financial report.

To be considered for financial assistance from the fund to attend a Reunion of the 11th ACVVC, the Trooper or the KIA's immediate family members (defined as Parents, siblings, children, widows) making the request must...

- 1. Do so in writing to the Secretary or the President, and
- 2. Provide evidence of the Trooper's service in Vietnam and/or Cambodia with the 11th Armored Cavalry "Blackhorse" Regiment.

The applicant Trooper or KIA survivor should describe his/her need for monetary assistance, briefly stating his/her financial situation. In addition, the Trooper may be required to show proof that he is a member, or that he is qualified to become a member, of the 11th ACVVC. The Officers and Directors of 11th ACVVC will decide by a majority vote on whom and how much assistance will be given to a Trooper or Survivor of a KIA . **Requests must be submitted no later than to July 18, 2015.**

A complete description of the Reunion Trooper and KIA Survivor Assistance Fund can be found on our website at: www. 11thcavnam.com.

Thunder Run 1st Ouarter. 2015



Chaplain Larry Haworth

Ter name wasn't Joanne, but that's Mat we'll call the young woman who came to a reunion a few years ago. She'd been born when her father was in Viet Nam. He was killed in action so she never knew him. She came to the reunion to find someone who knew her dad. She wanted to know him too. She found three troopers who knew him. They were buddies who had served with him on the same track. They were there when her dad was killed. She wanted to know all about him and they told her. Her dad was a real Blackhorse brother and a real hero. She spent the whole reunion with her dad's brothers. Now they were her brothers too.

A motto of our reunions is "Together Then - Together Again." Having reunions is important for the men (and now women) who went, fought, and paid the price demanded for whatever situation they were plunged into. I don't need to remind you of life in Viet Nam. You were together with the men who covered your back, who lived your story as you lived theirs. You bonded under fire - in the bush, in the rear, in training at home or sometimes in another land besides Viet Nam. Serving in uniform meant you were available for whatever our country needed. Same with your buddies. During Viet Nam our country needed you and plenty more. A lot of water has passed under the bridge since. Our lives have changed and come to where we are now. We're a lot older and wiser. We're carrying the memories and lessons learned from the fog and fire of war. We're not the same as we were before and we're not the same as we would have been if we hadn't gone. Most who weren't there don't have a clue what we're talking about. But you do. The brothers you served with do too. Coming to reunions is a way to put your

A motto of our reunions is "Together Then - Together Again." Having reunions is important for the men (and now women) who went, fought, and paid the price demanded for whatever situation they were plunged into.

life then, into perspective with life now; and all the years between.

Look at Joanne's story that we opened with. Her dad's buddies had been getting together at reunions. They kept the bonds between them strong by showing up, by "re-uniting." Then Joanne came. She was looking for someone and found them. They "adopted" her; she gained family, healing, and joy. They gained a sister who shared her dad. This is only one story, one among many. But it shows what happens with "Together Again."

A typical experience happened the year a Blackhorse trooper, Bill, came to a reunion for the first time. He was nervous. Actually, I'd say he was pretty scared. Is that unusual? No. It's not unusual. Most of us are apprehensive about meeting up with brothers after decades apart from the Viet Nam experience (aka, ordeal). Bill was too. I remember him telling me about stepping into the reunion bunker. It's the large room where everyone gathers to visit, tell old stories, and imbibe a little. In other words, to re-unite. Bill looked across the room and spotted one of his best buddies from the old days. His trepidation and fears were quickly broken, old bonds took hold, and "Together Again" set into motion. It was like fortyfive years had faded away. Stories from those distant days were told one after another. The years apart meant little, only "Together Again" mattered. Sure, Bill was heavier, had lost some hair, and gained a few age marks. So what? Soon other old buddies showed up. They were still "Wild Man, Doc, Snake, Slick, Blaze," or whatever handle they were tagged with that fit at the time. Sometimes you didn't even know your buddies real name. Now, at the reunion you could finally find out. Together again.

To let you know (or remind you) of the sorts of our brothers who come to reunions, I'll talk about Vernon. Many of you knew him. Vernon was first sergeant for a tank company when we were operating along the Cambodian border. He was a big man, in more ways than just his size. Top was one of those firm but fair types that the troops respected, while doing whatever he ordered. I learned about him at the reunions. The troops knew from Vernon's firm leadership and his clear love for the men that he had saved a lot of lives. I got to know and love him later. After retirement he became a Methodist minister. When the call came to gather in Dallas for our first reunion, he and I met, formed a strong friendship, and were partner chaplains for our organization. Vernon died of an Agent Orange cancer several years ago. He and his troops are the sorts of brothers that come to reunions.

To show you in another way who comes to reunions, I point out that our organization was started by three enlisted troops. I think they were E-5s. One

So that his brethren shall know...

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

1st Quarter, 2015 Thunder Run

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still serves (Ollie), one died a few years Together Again." ago (Big Jim), and one left for other things (Dave). Enlisted and officers of all ranks belong; many are regular and active. I was surprised one year when we invited a four star general to speak for the banquet. He was very well liked. I hadn't known him prior to his speaking. I was pleasantly enlightened when he told me that he'd been coming to reunions for about three years. I hadn't known it already because he came and sat with his troops, the men in his platoon when he was a lieutenant in Viet Nam. Our presidents have all been former enlisted, as you might expect. Except for Chuck. He retired as a full colonel. "Hey! (or Hay!)" you say? "So what's the big deal?" The big deal is that everyone is important. Everyone is equal. Everyone is respected. Everyone is wanted and appreciated. We live our motto of "Together Then -

It's important to recognize something else about reunions that make them so significant in our brothers lives: Our families are included fully in the organization. It's clear that the wives and kids their soldier. So any and all are encour-California at the time. She was all excit- (Romans 8:37-39, NLT). ed. She said she was getting married God bless you. God loves you. So do I.

soon in Dallas and would I come and do the ceremony. So what do you think? Of course, I said yes. We had a great wedding. That was a few years ago. Now she and Chris have a family of their own.

Now I'm out of time so I'll sign off of our fighting troops bore the brunt of with a word about the Greatest Reunion everything that happened in the life of that we all can look forward to if we sign on. From the Holv aged to bring their families along. Early "Overwhelming victory is ours through on, many brought their wives and little Christ, who loved us. And I am conkids. Now many are bringing their grand- vinced that nothing can ever separate us kids. It's plain and easy to see how heal- from his love. Death can't, and life can't. ing and bonding this is in the life of fam- The angels can't, and the demons can't. ilies. I know several who brought their Our fears for today, our worries about really young kids. The kids came and tomorrow and even the powers of hell grew up together. They were buddies. can't keep God's love away.... Nothing They liked each other. I remember when in all creation will ever be able to sepa-April was a little kid. I also remember rate us from the love of God that is when she called years later. I was in revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord."

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

11th ARMORED CAVALRY'S VETERANS OF VIETNAM AND CAMBODIA

Membership is open to all troopers who served with or were attached to the I lth Armored Cavalry Regiment while in the countries of Vietnam or Cambodia from August 1966 thru March 1972. Membership is also open to the wives, parents and children of our Troopers killed in action.

NAME	PHONE
CITY/STATE/ZIP	
UNIT(Troop,Sqdn)	
(Troop,Sqdn)	(Mo/Yr) (Mo/Yr)
SER NO RANK (during tour)	SSN NO
OTHER INFORMATION	
TYPE MEMBERSHIP: NEW	RENEWAL MEMBERSHIP NUMBER
ANNUAL (\$15	5)
LIFE Plan (\$25	5 enclosed, plus 3 payments of \$25 in 3, 6 and 9 months)
IN ADDITION, PLEASE ACCEPT MY TAX	DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTION FOR \$
I authorize the release of my address/ph	one number to other Troopers who served with the 11th ACR
(Sign)	
☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard Card #	Exp. Date
Signature	
Please make checks/money orders payal	ble to: 11th ACVVC. Mail this form with your check or money order (no cas

Thunder Run 1st Ouarter, 2015

to: 11th ACVVC Membership, Ollie Pickral, 571 Ditchley Rd., Kilmarnock, VA 22482.

2015 Silent Auction

By: Greg Masonn

The 2014 Silent Auction raised \$7,635 for the 11th ACVVC Scholarship Fund with 159 items donated and available for bid. The donated items included many hand-crafted items and one of-a-kind items with a Blackhorse theme. We look forward to another successful auction.

This year we are making a few changes to improve the experience and process.

The auction process will be as follows: Items are needed for the Silent Auction to be conducted during our 30th Annual Reunion in Columbus, GA. Items peculiar to the 11th Cavalry are always favorites, and any item or service of value is welcome, Cav related or not.

We will have a collection site set-up in the registration area to collect donated items brought to the reunion beginning on Wednesday from 2pm to 6pm, Thursday from 2pm to 6pm, and Friday from 2pm to 5pm.

You can ship items to Horace Baxley,

to collect, hold and bring the items to the reunion for display. If you plan to ship items, please use the convenient Silent Auction Donor Form printed in this issue. If you bring the items to the reunion, also complete the donation form and include it with the item.

The auction will be from 7pm to 9pm on Friday night with the bidding ending precisely at 9pm.

Winning bidders must be present and pick up their items and pay for them between 9pm and 9:30pm after the bidding is complete.

If the item is not picked up, the item will be awarded to the next highest bidder at 9:30 or auctioned off at 9:45pm Friday evening. The bid form will have a place for you to leave a cell phone number in case we need to call you to let you know to pick up your item.

We will be able to accept cash, checks, Visa or MasterCard for payment.

Our reason for setting up in near the

registration area is allow our volunteers to be able to interact with friends as they arrive, rather than working in a back room. With that said, we do need volunteers to work the collection site and the night of the auction. We are setting up the collection site schedule in 2 hour shifts and if you would like to volunteer please contact me at gregrmason@aol.com or 813-754-2980. I will respond to your email as I receive them. If you do not get a response, it is probably because AOL has a habit of putting stuff in their "junk" folder so feel free to follow-up with a phone call.

Our reason for requiring items to be picked up and paid for the evening of the auction is because of the difficulties we have had in prior years getting all the items delivered and paid for. We appreciate your understanding with this change.

We look forward to seeing you in Columbus and thanks in advance to all the donors!



Membership is Our Strength

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



his can't be anything except a tragic tale. Not the kind of story I like to write as it evokes more sorrow than joy. It is a bitter-sweet tale of the final days of the 2nd Squadron in Vietnam. From February through early March of 1972, the rush was on to send U.S. troops home. A lot of equipment was left behind, so were a lot of friends. Those friends included man's best friend, his dog. Some departures were difficult.

But I know leaving a dog behind was not the only cause of sorrow, all over Vietnam, relationship ceased when the Freedom Bird lifted off the runway. But nonetheless, leaving a dog was a hard thing to do.

This then is a story of a boy and his dog. Not a small boy and a Collie or Shepherd — no, this is the story of a battle-hardened lad and his mutt. Rusty the Trooper and Strawberry the faithful pup.

I don't know when or where Rusty found Strawberry, in fact I don't even know Rusty's first or surname, only the moniker that his fellow Blackhorse troopers pinned on him. I have a blurred picture of him when we made a trip to an orphanage which happened to coincide with one of his infrequent trips to the rear, but no picture of Strawberry. Rusty is playing paddle ball with the orphan kids in Goo Vap, and Strawberry was waiting patiently at the F Troop laager in Tay Ninh Province.

At least I think Rusty was from F Troop, I can't be sure. We had three Troops in the field and I visited each weekly for parts of two days. In my memory, they all blend together, but as I recall each Troop and each fire base had at least one dog. I believe that was the limit set by the CO.

Strawberry is the only dog I remember, and he was a memorable pup. All the guys in Rusty's platoon fussed over Strawberry, but it was clear he was Rusty's dog. I say "fussed "because I don't want to say "loved." I'm willing to bet they did, as anyone who has ever had a dog understands. Strawberry was a light brown mutt with a slightly pink tint to his color, and ... thus, the name Strawberry.

The pup followed Rusty everywhere and rode on top of his ACAV while we busted jungle and at night, he hunkered

Rusty and Strawberry

By: Blandon Karabinos HHT, 2/11, 71-72

down beside the track. He was awake and company for each one of the track members when they took their turn on top on those dark and foreboding nights. Strawberry was also, always there when we shared chow or lurps of C rations.

It was no exaggeration to say that Strawberry could be found lying in front of the ammo crates or beer cases that we piled up to make a make-shift altar for field Mass. And so it was each week. I too, found myself somewhat attached to that pup.

But then came the good news for Rusty, he was going home. The Blackhorse troops began leaving the field in late February to start the stand down and troopers were getting drops. One by one, E, F and G troop rolled into our newest and last fire base, Fiddlers Green. From there, after a shake down and spruce-up, it was a road march to Phu Loi. The Pentagon was anxious to get our kids home, and papers were processed for early drops as quickly as LT Kennedy could type.

The bad news: Strawberry was to stay behind. What was Rusty to do?



Rusty plays paddle ball with children at Goo Vap orphanage in 1972.

Well it is an old story. When there is a problem outside the chain of command, you go see the Chaplain. And Rusty did. He appeared at my door with Strawberry on a boot-stringed leash. He didn't have a lot of time, as he had to catch a ride to Long Binh to process out, and so with a lump in his throat, he said "Chaplain, take good care of Strawberry."

As Rusty turned and walked away, I couldn't see his eyes, but I know I would be crying if it was my dog. Lord knows, I cried buckets as I put mine to sleep. Strawberry whimpered and I had to hold the leash tight or he would have followed the truck all the way to Long Binh. In a few hours, Strawberry adopted a new buddy, and either stayed by my side or waited faithfully by the chapel door. He never seemed to wander far.

I still had made trips to the field, either to visit one of the others Troops that hadn't stood down as yet, or go down to Cu Chi and even back to Fiddlers Green. The first few times I left, Strawberry was there when I returned. Always with tail wagging and a paw raised. Then maybe on my last trip, I was gone for a few days and when I returned, no Strawberry.

I didn't have a Chaplain's Assistant; in fact I only had a Chaplain's assistant for my first week with the Regiment. No one to keep an eye on the dog. I had no idea where Strawberry was and as all the other hooches near the chapel were empty, not much luck asking around. That day, I even had to sign the chapel over to an ARVAN officer. It was getting lonely on Post. So many people were in-transition, that I had a hard time finding anyone who wasn't in a hurry to catch a ride out.

I did search the compound, even borrowed a jeep and roamed the vast base, which by that time was mostly empty or being dismantled. No Strawberry, in fact no dogs anywhere on the post at Phu Loi.

I haven't forgot Strawberry, my own golden retriever is much the same color and every time I play ball with her, I think of Strawberry and Rusty. Now, 42 years later, I finally have enough courage to tell Rusty, "I'm sorry Pal; I didn't do a good enough job watching over Strawberry." I too feel your loss.

And, as we all tell our children and grandchildren, "All dogs go to heaven".

Thunder Run 1st Quarter, 2015

REUNION MULTI-EVENT REGISTRATION

RANGERS IN ACTION DEMONSTRATION REGISTRATION FRIDAY, AUGUST 21, 2015, 0730 – 1200

The Ranger demonstration is limited to the first 400 who register. Transportation will be furnished with pick-up at your hotel: Cost: \$20 per person. Make your check or Money Order payable to: 11th ACVVC. Do not send cash. All registrations must be received by August 1, 2015. You must have a valid photo ID to enter Fort Benning! The name on your ID must match the name on the form!

ARMOR RESTORATION FACILITY TOUR REGISTRATION FRIDAY, AUGUST 21, 2015, 0730 – 1200

The Armor Restoration Facility Tour also includes a stop at the Armor School at Harmony Church to view a static display of many of the vehicles and weapons used in today's Army. This tour is limited to the first 400 who register. This tour is not wheel-chair accessible. Transportation will be furnished with pick-up at your hotel: Cost: \$20 per person. Make your check or Money Order payable to: 11th ACVVC. Do not send cash. All registrations must be received by August 1, 2015. You must have a valid photo ID to enter Fort Benning! The name on your ID must match the name on the form!

WOMEN'S GROUP COLUMBUS TOUR REGISTRATION FRIDAY, AUGUST 21, 2015, 0915 – 1500

First stop is the Columbus Museum for a guided tour of art and area history followed by a special ladies lunch at the historic Wynn House, which also includes a tour of the house. After lunch, re-board buses for a driving tour of the old city and along the river area and the port. This will include the 1800s churches followed by a stop at historic Linwood Cemetery. Please note that registration for this tour is limited to 100 ladies so please sign up as soon as possible. All registrations must be received by August 1, 2015. Transportation will be furnished with pick-up at your hotel. Cost: Lunch included at \$25 per person.

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Flag Ceremony

By: Calvin Reese

n October 29, 2014, a flag ceremony was conducted at Poor Richard's Café, Plano, Texas. The ceremony included presenting an 11th Armored Cavalry Association Flag for the veterans that served in Vietnam and Cambodia, 1966 to 1972. Approximately 50 participants attended including the Owner, Mr. Richard Butterly and General Manager, Mr. Jim Wells, of Poor Richard's Café. Other persons included, Jerry and Jan Beamon, Quartermaster, representing the national organization, Calvin Reese, Project Officer, and his son and grandson, Brad and Jacob. Jacob, age 5, led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance. Also, Colonel Lyle Metzler, Ret., Chaplain and member of the Texas State Guard, lead the group in prayer, first for those present and later a special prayer for those who made the ultimate sacrifice in all conflicts involving the US Military.

Also present was LTC Bernard Aikens, Ret., who is the Senior Instructor for the JROTC unit at Plano East High School. This school provided the Color Guard and Bugler for playing of TAPS. The highlight of the ceremony was when 11th Cavalry Trooper David Barnes, rode in on RC, his 23 year old thoroughbred Black Horse, to present the flag to Mr. Butterly. David was wearing his 1901 style Cavalry hat presented to him by Gen. Crow at the Houston Reunion years earlier where he and another trooper performed Color Guard duties.

This ceremony came about when two years earlier, Calvin and his wife, Sue, observed that the 11th Armored Cavalry flag was not among the Branch and Unit flags displayed at Poor Richard's during Memorial Day and Veterans' Day activities. Twenty-eight other Branch and Unit flags were on display honoring the veterans that served under them during times of conflict involving the US Military. After meeting with Mr. Butterly and Mr. Wells, they both agreed that the 11th Armored Cavalry flag should be represented with the group of flags being displayed. Calvin Reese, former HHT Commander, 3rd Squadron, 1966, requested that he be allowed to conduct a brief ceremony honoring members of the

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Attendees at Plano, Texas flag ceremony on October 29, 2014

11th Armed Cavalry and their service in Vietnam/Cambodia, 1966 through 1972.

The program was agreed on and scheduled for October 29, 2014. The ceremony was executed and the flag was presented and immediately displayed in the restaurant. The program for US Military flags was developed by the Owner of Poor Richard's in conjunction with the Blue Star Mothers of North Texas. Each year on Veterans Day, November 11, Poor Richard's Café honors all veterans offering a special menu most servicemen are familiar with: SOS. A meal not to be missed. The program began four years earlier in conjunction with the charity work

of the Blue Star Mothers, and there are plans for it to continue for the future. The 11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia is honored to be associated with this program. The 11th Armored Cavalry veterans who attended are looking at continuing the camaraderie generated by the ceremony.

REUNION SHIRT ORDER - also available with additional personalization 11thACVVC - 30th Reunion 2015 - Columbus, GA All pre-ordered shirts will be available for pick-up during the Reunion in Georgia Please make your Reunion shirt pre-order; it will be ready and waiting for you at Registration. This year's shirts' sizes run large again (as were St Louis 2011, Indy 2013 and Vegas 2014.) All Reunion shirts To receive your 2015 Reunion shirt for the Reunion, will be pre-ordered. ALL ORDERS must be in BY JUNE 30, 2015 - No Exceptions. your name and phone or email \$30.-ea. **Reunion Shirt** (request no pocket) Sport shirt - pique knit cotton/poly blend, color sunflower - left chest pocket (add over 2Xs =) _____ Adult (mens) size S - 6X available (3X please add \$2.-/ 4X +\$4.-/ 5X +\$6.-...) size S&H If to be shipped (AFTER the Reunion) - please add \$8.- per shirt Include your address and shipping instructions: (sales tax is included) Personalization \$10.-ea. Add your name, unit, and/or dates in-country: left chest over pocket, opposite Reunion logo -Check - (no CCs) 1 to 3 lines, allow 40 characters, excluding spacing: Total enclosed -**CHUCK BOWER** payable to Penn Sport* - Thanks! example: LTRP 69-70 - see you there - Allons This form is for 2015 Reunion Shirts only – all other orders go thru the quartermaster *Reunion shirts provided through Penn Sport Embroidery - Please e-mail or call direct with questions!

Thunder Run 1st Ouarter, 2015

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Korba, James Kotek, Richard Kowalski, James Kratky, John Krcelich, George Krebs, Richard Kruse, Robert Kubena, William Kudzia, John Kuehner, James Kuhr. Richard Kulpa, Norman Kunego, Donald Kunst, Cornelius Kurihara, Harry Kwiecinski, Paul Lakara, Walter Laneve, Louis Lang, David Lanphier, Connie Larocque, Robert Larson, Raymond Larson, Ralph Larson, Ken Lawless, James Lee, Robert Lee, Kenneth Lee. Johnny Leeson, William Lehew, Daryl Lehnard, Paul Lemperle, Myron Lescisko, John Lessard, Gerard L'etoile, Roger Levario, Jaime Lewis, Larry Licon, Thomas Little, Eldred Livingston, Donald Logan, Larry Londo, Ned Long, John Loo, David Looft, Richard Lopes, Francis Lopez, Miguel Loudon, Orrin Love. Guv Loveday, Gary Lowe, Richard Lozon, Frank Ludwick, John Ludwig, David Luke, Craig Lundahl, Richard Lyle, Roger Lynch, James Lytle, Howard MacDonald, John Machut, James

Mackley, Kurt Madej, Bill Madelle, James Madrid, David Madsen, Paul Magee, Howard Magnarelli, John Main, James Malnarick, Bernard Malone, Walker Mang, Michael Mankowski, Carl Manley, T.R. Mann, Harold Markowicz, Carl Marlatt. Charles Marmet. Dave Martin, Romeo Mascuilli, Timothy Mashburn, Lewis Masley, Jon Massengale, Glen Mathias, Terry Matthews, James Matthews, Milton McBryde, Jerry McCall, Rex McCann. Timothy McCarthy, Francis McDonald, Douglas McFee, Thaniel McGarrity, Thomas McGowan, Bernard McGreevy, Michael McGregor, Stewart McIntosh, James McKenna. Thomas McLendon, Glenn McMillin, Michael McNeal. Thomas McNeil. Robert McRoberts, Gerald McSwiggan, Joseph McVicker, James McWethy, Wesley Medbery, Thomas Meek, Benjie Meier, Michael Melo. Salvador Meltsch. Eugene Menefee, Douglas Menzel, Sewall Merz, Robert Meshew, Clinton Mettler, Larry Meyer, Keith Meyer, Douglas Michaud, Randolph Mikluscak, Michael Miller, Louis Miller, Clyde

1st Quarter, 2015 Thunder Run

Horvatic, Michael

Howard, Henry

Miller, Richard Miller, Eric Miller, David Miller, William Minor, Earl Mitchell, Loren Mitchell, Cleveland Moliterno, Leland Molstad, Steven Monaghan, John Montague, Harry Montalbano, Frank Montgomery, Fred Moodie, D.C. Moody, Pansy Moody, Harry Moon, Bradford Moore, James Moore, Floyd Moore, David Morena, Dennis Morgan, Dennis Morgan, Stephen Moriarity, Douglas Morris, Henry Morris, Willis Morrison, Willie Morrison, Charles Morrissey, Matthew Morrow, Charles Moser, Kenneth Moughmer, Dave Moushegian, Stephen Mulcahey, Daniel Mulrath, John Munoz, Amador Murphy, Alan Murphy, Don Mutter, John Nagata, Iwao Nagel, John Naidas, Kenny Neal. Bobby Neighbors, Andrew Nelson, Jack Nelson, David Newlin, Ronny Newman, Leslie Nichelson, David Nicklas, Harold Nissen, Steven Noe. James Nute, Charles O'Brien, James Offutt, Theodore Ohlmeyer, Daniel O'Leary, Joseph Olechny, Patrick Oliver, John Ondulick, James O'Neal, Robert

Ontko, David Opp. Terry Oracz, Robert Ostermeyer, William Ostrander, Garv Ottenbreit, John Owens, William Pagan, Angel Palmer, David Papp, Raymond Parr, Robert Parrish, Edgar Pascual, Carl Passanisi, Julie Payne, George Pearl, Charles Peckham, John Peiakovich, Michael Pendola, Lloyd Perrin, Craig Perry, Carl Pfohl, Dennis Phillips, David Pietroiacovo, Paske Pitt, Christopher Pizer, Charles Pledger, Murray Plisch, Clifton Poe, Jimmy Pollard, Lewis Posak, Nicholas Priadka, Ivan Price, Henry Proctor, Jay Quinn, Richard Radosevich, Wilbert Rafferty, Michael Ralston, William Ramirez, Grable Ramnytz, Samuel Raper, Ronald Rasberry, Jesse Raseman, Kim Reardon, Maurie Rebeck, William Redmond, Sylvester Reed, James Reed. Ronald Reese, Calvin Reeves, James Reeves, Edward Rego. Ronald Rehm, William Reichgeld, Blake Reininger, Thomas Relyea, Mark Reynolds, Kenneth Reynolds, Philip Richards, Dennis Richardson, Lawrence

Richmond, Randy

Ricks, Jimmy Rideau, Michael Riley, Dwight Ritter, Jim Roberta, James Roberts, Larry Roberts, Joe Robertson, Melvin Roest, Herman Rogers, Jimmy Rogers, Sammie Rolfson, Ronald Rollins, Charles Roman, Irving Romano, Anthony Rooper, Raymond Rose, Charles Rose . Jerome Roseman, Richard Rosenkrands, Peter Rossi, Frank Roth, Steven Rubas, Ronald Rucci, Gerald Ruffner, John Runion, Jack Ruocco, William Russell, Michael Russell, Dean Russell, John Russell, David Russell, W. Arthur Russell, Ronald Saadi, William Sack, Richard Salerno, Allen Sanchez, Jessie Sandlin, Robert Sanford, Clinton Sargent, Larry Sartor, Billy Saxby, David Schaefer, Michael Schamberber, William Schaunoland, Donnie Scheetz, Phil Schiraldi, Richard Schleppegrell, William Schmersahl, Thomas Schneeman, Frederick Schneider, David Schneiter, Robert Schoephoerster, Harry Schroeder, Ronald Schumacher, Robert Scott, Steven Searcy, Rufus Self, Gary Selner, Arland Selvitella, Dennis

Severeid, Ralph Seyller, Phillip Shelburne, John Sheldon, Dennis Shepler, Mike Shuev. Lawrence Shuke, Llovd Sieja, Ronald Sieminski, Edmund Simers, James Simpson, Charles Sinclair, Robert Skiera, Ronald Slomienski, Walter Slone, Kermit Smith, James Smith, Doyle Smith, Leslie Smith, Dennis Smith, Thomas Smith, Willard Smith, Russell Smith, Art Smith, Paul Smith, William Smith, Sherman Smith, Billy Smith, Russell Snyder, Larry Snyder, Darrell Sorich, John Southerland, Gary Spahr, Thomas Sparpana, Gary Spaulding, David Specht, Eugene Spitze, Jim Spriggs, Steven Sprueil, James St. Clair. Harold Stafford, Edmund Stallings, Joseph Stamev. Charles Stanley, Gary Staples, Thad Starbuck, Todd Starr, Douglas Stephenson, Sammy Stern, Audra Stevens, Billy Stoddard, Jack Struble, Ron Sucato, Richard Sullivan, Roy Sullivan, David Suminski, Raymond Summers, Carl Sunderman, Kenneth Sutton, Gordon Swanson, George Swanson, James

Sweningson, Bruce Tallent, Larry Tandberg, Lauren Tankovich, James Tarr. Raymond Tatum, Pearl Taylor, F. Robert Temple, Billy Tenik, Joseph Terlecky, Slofko Thatcher, William Thestrup, Roger Thielman, Ronald Thompson, David Thomson, Richard Tiedeman, David Tighe, Michael Tinslev, Jack Tips, George Titschinger, Mark Toddy, Dale Tonks, Glenn Toole, Larry Torno, Charles Torsok, Michael Totaro, Lawrence Townsend, Frank Trabanco, Andrews Tracy, Stephen Traw, Gary Traylor, Douglas Treleaven, Thomas Trottier, Raymond Tumlin, R.M. Uebelher, Francis Upton, P. Richard Van Ert, William Vanderbogart, Kirk Vaughan, Travis Veenendall, Mike Vega, Ramon Venhoff, John Verbeke, Russell Vest. Robert Vicario, Raymond Vigus, Max Violet, J.W. Vyver, Michael Waddell, Darrell Wagner, Gail Wagner, Larry Wagner, Richard Wagner, Paul Wakeham, David Walker, James Walkner, Thomas Wallace, Terrence Wallech, Joseph Wallen, Harry Walton, Ron Waters, Larry

Wathen, Robert Watkins, George Watters, David Watts, George Waugh, Steven Weaver, Harmon Webb. Garv Weege, Henry Wehrle, Hubert Wells, John Welsh, Dennis Welton, Floyd Wemhoff, Gregory Wentz, Darrel Werker, Frank Werner, James Werner, Warren Westerman, James Weynand, Mary Wheeler, Billy White, Robert Wilcox, John Williams, Terry Williams, David Williams, Dana Williams, Ernesto Williams, Harry Wilson, Richard Wilson, William Wilson, Mike Wilson, Arnold Wilson, Mark Wilson, Felice Wineland, Ralph Wing, Shayne Wing, Douglas Wisdom, Scott Wise, William Witt. Marvin Wolas, Theodore Wolfe, Okey Wolfenden, William Wollschlaeger, Kenneth Womack, Thomas Wood, Fred Worthey, Kenneth Worton, Charles Wright, Ralph Wright, David Yeaman, Kenneth Yeider, Tim Yirsa. Harold Yochum, Thomas Yocum, Kenneth Yoder, Kenneth Young, Manuel Zaremba, John Zellmer, Steven Zillner, Robert Zimmerman, Winn Zuna, Dean

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Thunder Run 1st Ouarter, 2015

Sevelius, Arthur

Blackhorse Hoofbeats

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

Don Snedeker, 11th ACVVC Historian

- Welcome to Vietnam. In his welcoming remarks to the Blackhorse Regiment after landing at Vung Tau on 7 September 1966, Lieutenant General Jean Engler (Deputy Commanding General, US Army, Vietnam) said: "One of the most important missions in Vietnam is to take the roads away from the Vietcong and give them back to the people so that they may move freely. For this mission, by reason of firepower and mobility, your unit is eminently qualified."
- Mines, mines, and more mines. On 6 January 1967, Troopers from Alpha Troop uncovered a makeshift factory for making homemade antipersonnel and anti-tank mines about ten kilometers south of Blackhorse Base Camp. According to the Operations Summary (OPSUM) that was submitted, the factory contained "wooden boxes, CBU's [cluster bomb units] and [US] 105mm rds [rounds], rubber bands, and nails... explosives from the CBU's and 105mm rds were use[d] for the mine charges, the nails and rubber bands were used as detonators. All materials destroyed." The next day, just as the Troop was beginning its reconnaissance mission, an Armored Cavalry Assault Vehicle (ACAV) detonated a mine about 200 meters from the mine factory found the previous day. Again, according to the OPSUM, the blast resulted "in 8 track blocks, 2 road wheels, and all grease fittings being damaged. No casualties."
- **Gas bill.** During February, March, and April of 1968, Blackhorse helicopters flew 4,325 hours and consumed 198,870 gallons of fuel. Even at \$.23 a gallon (remember those prices?), that's an almost \$46,000 gas bill! Oh by the way, during the same period, they expended over one million rounds of 7.62 machine gun ammunition, over 4,000 rockets, and almost 7,600 40mm grenades.
- Wiped out! Throughout the Regiment's service in Vietnam, the enemy's propaganda machine routinely made exaggerated claims of having "wiped out" entire troops or even whole squadrons. On the 4th of March 1969, the Air Cavalry Troop's Aero Rifle Platoon, reinforced by aero scouts and gunships, as well as platoons from India Troop and Mike Company, came close to "wiping out" an entire company of the K33 Battalion, 96th Regiment, 69th (NVA) Artillery Command. Between the massive personnel losses suffered during the three phases of their offensive in 1968 (Tet of '68 in February, mini-Tet in May, and the final push in August), unrelenting pressure by US and Allied forces throughout 1968 and 1969, most NVA companies were averaging about 60 soldiers present for duty. Many VC local force units were down to less than 100 per battalion – a quarter of their normal strength. At mid-morning on March 4th while conducting a bomb damage assessment following a B-52 strike, aero scouts discovered an enemy force holed up in a bunker complex and the Aero Rifle Platoon was inserted, receiving small arms and RPG (rocket-propelled grenade) fire almost immediately. A platoon of infantry from Delta Company, 2nd Battalion, 28th Infantry (Big Red One) was the first to pile on, followed shortly thereafter by platoons from both India Troop and Mike Company. The firefight lasted throughout the afternoon, with the enemy finally breaking contact near dark. During the course of the contact,

- seven US soldiers were wounded and required medevac, while three light observation helicopters (LOHs) were damaged. Enemy casualties were considerably higher not only were 23 NVA soldiers killed during the engagement, but an additional dozen were captured. The prisoners reported that the C3 Company had a total of 48 men present for duty on the morning of 4 March. By that evening, 35 of the 48 were confirmed dead or captured and, according to the regimental intelligence estimate, the "remaining 13 men were probably also killed when the tanks crushed the bunkers." The enemy prisoners included the company Executive Officer, an Assistant Squad Leader, another Sergeant, a medical Sergeant, four Corporals, and four Privates. The ARP Platoon Leader, First Lieutenant Thomas White (who went on to command the Regiment and become Secretary of the Army), and Specialist Five Armando Carillo, a platoon medic, were both awarded the Silver Star for their actions during this fight.
- New Command Sergeant Major. From the July 1970 edition of the Blackhorse Newspaper: "A twenty-year Army veteran, who was with the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment when it came to Vietnam, is the new Regimental command sergeant major. Command Sergeant Major Hiram T. Harrison, a native of Killeen, Tex., succeeded Command Sergeant Major Donald E. Horn June 1 as the top enlisted man of the Blackhorse. Sgt. Maj. Harrison began his first tour in Vietnam in August 1966 when the 11th ACR deployed from Ft. Meade, Md. He was sergeant major of the 2nd Squadron until he completed his tour in July 1967. Returning in the middle of the Cambodian operation, Sgt. Maj. Harrison commented, 'They couldn't have selected a better unit than the 11th ACR for this type of mission. It's the best outfit in Vietnam."
- Tanks up front. From the July 1970 edition of the Blackhorse Newspaper: "'We're the Sunday punch,' says H Company First Sergeant Paul Curran. By 'we' he means the men and M48 medium tanks that make up a tank company. The punch (any day of the week) is delivered by a 90 millimeter main gun, a .50 caliber and an M60 machine gun. Each squadron in the field has a tank company which provides ready reaction support for the reconnaissance troops, escorts logistics convoys, and furnishes the bulk of fire power at the squadron night defensive positions. At 50 tons apiece, the tanks are the heavies of the Regiment – in more ways than one. 'When we go in, there's already a fight in progress,' says H Company commander Captain Harold Fuller. 'When the squadron moves, we're the lead element.' And with good reason, for up front the going is usually toughest. The big tanks can knock down jungle too thick for ACAVs [Armored Cavalry Assault Vehicles] and Sheridans. But ramming down trees eight inches in diameter creates special maintenance problems. That's where the M88 VTR [Vehicle Tracked Recovery] comes in. The M88 recovery vehicle is the workhorse of the tank company's maintenance team. Except for another M48, it's the only thing around big enough to drag out a downed tank. At the NDP [Night Defensive Position], a skilled crew can quickly put a disabled vehicle back into operation. All of which makes tank company almost self-sufficient. As Capt. Fuller says, 'With our own maintenance section, we're a complete unit.'"
- Quan Loi remembered. "Quan Loi comes as a shock when you step

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off the plane. No comparison between it and Long Binh or Bien Hoa. Cut out of the rubber trees, the base camp looks like a splotch in the middle of 'no-man's land. Red dirt is embedded in everything. Well remembered about Quan Loi was the extreme abundance of red laterite clay DUST. Seems this stuff got into everything, our clothes, food, tents. I had red clay coming out of my pours for about 3 months after returning to the States. In the day time the VC were always trying to hit the ammo dump or the POL area, using the Quan Loi Tower as their aiming point. That was nerve racking... During the 'rainy' season, being able to set the clock by the 1600 hours rain fall starting... Quan Loi also got its 'SMALL' share of USO shows, and Red Cross Girls visiting. Remember the bands from the Philippines? Were they really as bad as I remember? How about a cool swim in the pool at the French Country Club on the Southwest side, after walking thru the perimeter wire to get there. Pretty weird seeing a 10 meter concrete diving platform in a war zone. Getting in and out of Quan Loi was simply a guestion of either getting a ride on a convoy up and down 'Thunder Road', which had to be swept for mines daily...or catching a ride on one of the flights coming to the airstrip. That choice was a real no brain'r..."



Welcome Aboard!

New Members of the 11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia (11th ACVVC) since our last issue of *Thunder Run*.

Are you looking for an old friend? Please contact any Officer or Board Member listed on page 3 for help.

NAME	DATES	NAME	DATES	
595th ENGINEER CO	MPANY	F TROOP, 2/11		
Rutledge, Carlus W	67-68	Belton, Mondell	69-70	
Rutledge, Kenneth D	67-68	Cadmus, Robert P	70-71	
Stoneking, Larry	67-68	Richardson, William J	70-71	
919th ENGINEER COMPANY		HHT, 3/11		
Youel, Gerald E	69-69	Miller, Howard	66-67	
E TROOP, 2/1	1	Mosley, William M Jr	69-70	
Zerilli, Joseph M 68-69		M COMPANY, 3/11		
Zeriiii, Jusepii M	00-09	Jones, Louis K	69-71	

Registration

By: Bob Moreno, Director

Welcome to 2015 and as we begin this brand new year, let us start thinking about the months ahead of us. In particular, let's start planning August and our annual reunion.

Yes reunion. It's never too early to start planning for that fun filled weekend of memories, friendship and reconnections. What's the first step you ask? Filling out the registration form and understanding the reason for doing so as early as possible.

Let's start with the form itself. Looks confusing? It's not. So many questions and you can't figure out why we need them all. Simple. They all have a reason. For instance - your name. Obviously we need it for your reunion ID tag. After all, so many of us have changed a bit since way back then. Your address - we need to know where you are living now just in case we need to get hold of you for something. Unit and dates - these two are extremely important. They help us determine just where it is that you will be sitting during the banquet. After all you do want to sit with your unit, don't you?

Now, let's start filling it out. Name - "King Kong" Address - "2 Highway Rd. Jungle Town USA. Phone - xxx-xxx-xxxx. Email address: king one @ jungleland.com (Of course all these are just examples:))

Unit - G Trp 2/11 (NOT G Trp and K Trp. JUST use one and that's the one you will be sitting with at the banquet) Year - 68-69 (NOT 1 year).

Okay so that takes care of you. Now let's add your guest. Easy just list their name(s) and finally tell us which choice of the meals listed each person would like. Such as 2 Beef and 1 Chicken. Remember one meal per person.

Now sign it and send it in by means of one or two ways. US Mail or send it in by e-mail. And of course be sure to send in your registration payment with it.

While I'm here let me give you a couple of registration tips

to help make things a little smoother for all of us. When filling out your name and address, if you use one of those little address labels, we all get in the mail, it will help us when we make your name tag. No one likes to have their name misspelled. And next, if you send it via e-mail we get it sooner and therefore it doesn't get lost in the huge amounts that come in near the end.

Be sure to watch for the cut off dates and if you aren't sure if you will be able to attend, then send it in anyway as we can always do a refund up to the week prior to the reunion (unless it's an emergency). And remember even if you live in Columbus or near it you still have to pre-register.

I was informed that the rooms were filling up quickly so make your hotel reservations as soon as possible. It looks to be a GREAT weekend and sure hope you will plan on joining us.

And finally - if at any time you find something wrong in the reunion listing in the Thunder Run or you just have a question, then by all means call me at any time. My number is listed in the TR. I'll be happy to help you.

50th Vietnam Veteran's Commemoration

YOUR INVITED!

Join us as we pay tribute to our Vietnam Veterans

- Where: National Training Center, Fort Irwin, CA, Army Field, Inner Loop Rd & Barstow Rd
- When: April 18, 2015, main ceremony begins at 11:45 am
- What: Parade, group photos, lunch, guest speaker, vendors, static displays and information booths.

For more information and a complete schedule please see: www.irwin.army.mil or call Community Relations: 760-686-8266

Thunder Run 1st Ouarter. 2015



30th Annual 11th ACVVC Reunion Columbus, Georgia - Fort Benning

August 19-23, 2015 Registration Deadline: July 18, 2015



Registration fee is \$70.00 per person. This fee is required for attendance at the Wednesday, Thursday and Friday night Bunker Parties and the Saturday lunch and Saturday evening banquet dinner.

Register early. The registration fee will be an additional \$35.00 per person for registrations post marked after Saturday, July 18, 2015. ALL RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 2015.

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION

(print clearly or use mailing label)

Name	Telephone No:	
Address		
City/State/Zip		
E-Mail Address		
Unit Assignment (Example: B TRP, D CO)		
KIA Relative? Yes Name of KIA:		
Relationship to KIA:	Unit:	
ATTENDEES, INCLUDING YOURSELF (please print)	\$
		\$
	_	\$
		\$
Total Registration Fee	-	\$
Banquet Meal Selection: Char-Grilled, Rib eye St (Indicate number for each selection)	reak Chicken Supreme _	Veggie
Is this your first reunion? ☐ Yes ☐ No	Wheelchair or special needs seating	ng? □ Yes □ No
Will you need bus transportation to events or will y	you drive your own vehicle? 🗖 N	eed Bus 🚨 Will Drive
☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard		
Card No		Exp. Date
Signature (Required for credit card)		

Make checks payable to 11th ACVVC. Please mail Registration Form along with payment to:

11th ACVVC C/O OLLIE PICKRAL 571 DITCHLEY RD KILMARNOCK, VA 22482



11th ACVVC 30th Annual Reunion

Columbus, Georgia/Fort Benning August 18 – 23, 2015



Troopers, families and friends, our 30th annual 11th ACVVC 2015 Reunion in Columbus, Georgia will be unique and more complicated than our previous reunions. This is because there is no single hotel in Columbus that can accommodate 1,200 - 1,400 people. We will be using the Columbus Convention & Trade Center for our reunion functions. Because we will be using four hotels it is imperative that all attendees familiarize themselves with the reunion schedule, transportation options and event venues. Complete information for the each of the hotels and convention center is listed in this issue.

For those attendees who do not have their own transportation free round-trip bus transportation will be available from each hotel to/from and the Columbus Convention & Trade Center and the National Infantry Museum (NIM) near the entrance to Fort Benning. We plan to have the bus shuttle Pick-Up (PU) and Drop-Off (DO) every thirty minutes. While the schedule has not been firmed up yet, we envision the last drop-off to be at 11:30 PM.

The reunion registration form includes a question box indicating your need for shuttle service. Please indicate on the reunion registration form if you will need bus transportation. We need to know this in order to contract for enough buses to move everyone comfortably from their hotel to the CCTC and Fort Benning. If you drive your own vehicle to the reunion we urge you to drive to the CCTC & the NIM. The 11th Cavalry Memorial Dedication on Thursday is just outside the entrance to Fort Benning. If you have a vehicle, we urge you to drive; there is ample parking at the NIM.

There are several optional events (at additional cost) for our attendees on Friday, August 21. The events at Fort Benning require the attendees to ride the bus. Security procedures on military bases were upgraded in January, 2015. Anyone over 16 years of age entering Fort Benning must have a valid photo ID. When you complete any of the optional tour registration forms it is imperative that you list the full name (first name, middle initial, last name) of all attendees. Security at Fort Benning requires this information and your photo ID to enter the post. (Details are listed in this issue)

- 1) Rangers in Action Demonstration. This tour is limited to the first 400 who register. Transportation furnished with pick-up at your hotel: Cost: \$20.00 per person.
- 2) Armor Restoration Facility at Sand Hill. This tour is limited to the first 400 who register and is not wheel-chair accessible. Transportation furnished with pick-up at your hotel: Cost: \$20.00 per person.
- 3) Women's Group Columbus tour. Please note that registration for this tour is limited to 100 ladies so please sign up as soon as possible. Transportation furnished with pick-up at your hotel. Cost: Lunch included at \$25.00 per person.
- 4) The 24th annual Marty Ognibene Golf Tournament will be held on Friday morning. Note this is a day later than in the past. Golf Director Joe Coopet will provide details at a later date in Thunder Run and on our website at: http://www.11thcavnam.com/.

There are several transportation options for those who fly to the reunion site. Columbus, Georgia, is served by Hartsfield International Airport in Atlanta, Georgia. The airport is approximately 110 miles from Columbus. Travel from the airport is via privately owned vehicle or shuttle service. Shuttle and Bus service is available from the airport to Columbus, GA for an additional cost. As an option, you may want to check flights into Columbus Airport

which is about 15 minutes from the four reunion hotels. Each of the hotels offer complimentary shuttle to and from the Columbus Airport. Flights are fewer and more costly when flying directly into Columbus.

Rental cars are available at Hartsfield. Shuttle service is also available 24 hours a day, seven days a week from Hartsfield to Columbus, GA for an additional cost.

Airport Shuttle Service provides shuttle service between Columbus and the Atlanta Airport 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Their fares are \$38 per person one way or \$71 round trip. Children 7 to 16 years of age ride for half the cost of the adult fare and children 6 and under ride free. All of their vans provide free Wi-Fi and soon all of their vans will feature family friendly videos. Airport Shuttle Service: 706-225-9639 or 888-881-6541 or on-line at: www.columbusairportshuttleservice.com/

Groome Transportation provides shuttle service between Columbus and Atlanta Hartsfield International Airport seven days a week. Transportation from Fort Benning to Atlanta Airport is \$39 per person one way or \$72 roundtrip. Children 2 and younger ride free when accompanied by an adult, and children 3- to 6-years-old pay half fare. For more information, call 706-324-3939 or 800-584-6735. Or on-line at: www.groometransportation.com/

MEMBER from page 8

in country including month and year. Also include any other information such as nickname, track number, platoon, or section. This will help us match you with others that served in the same unit. We also encourage you to sign the release line at the bottom of the form. This gives us permission to give your address and/or telephone number to other troopers who may be looking for you. Your name, address, etc. are NOT sold or given out to vendors or anyone other than Blackhorse troopers.

Membership dues are only \$15 per year, or \$100 for a LIFE membership. Over 95 percent of our members are LIFE members. We also offer an easy and convenient LIFE payment plan which divides the \$100 membership dues into four payments of \$25 each. We also accept Visa and MasterCard credit cards for all transactions.

Your membership dues provide you with this quarterly newsletter *Thunder Run*. The newsletter keeps you informed of your organization, its members, and the activities of the 11th Cavalry, both past and present. We pride ourselves on our continued commitment to bring the news to our members through this newsletter.

When you become a member or renew your membership you will receive your new membership card. All members are assigned a membership number that appears on their membership card. LIFE members receive a plastic membership card with their name and membership number and also a LIFE membership pin. All new members will be listed in the "Welcome New Members" section of *Thunder Run*. Show your support and join today!

Thunder Run 1st Ouarter, 2015



30TH ANNU.

COLUMBUS / FORT BENNING, G.

Places to Visit in the Columbus, Georgia Area

PORT COLUMBUS, NATIONAL CIVIL WAR NAVAL MUSEUM

1002 Victory Drive Columbus, GA 31991 706-327-9798 Tues. thru Sat. 10:00 am - 4:30 pm Sun. thru Mon. 12:30 pm - 4:30 pm visitor@portcolumbus.org Admission Fee

CALLAWAY GARDENS

17800 US Hwy. 27 Pine Mountain, GA 31822 800-852-3810 www.callawaygardens.com Admission Fee

ANDERSONVILLE

760 POW Road Andersonville GA 31711

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8:00 am – 5:00 pm www.nps.gov/andersonville Camp Sumter, Civil War Prison Site Admission fee

NATIONAL POW MUSEUM

Andersonville National Cemetery No Admission fee Approximately 30 miles from Columbus This is a must see if time permits.

NATIONAL INFANTRY MUSEUM

1775 Legacy Way Columbus, GA 31903 706-653-9234 9:00 am to 5:00 pm www.NationalInfantryMuseum.org Donations Encouraged

COCA COLA SPACE SCIENCE CENTER

701 Front Street Columbus, GA 31901 701-649-1470 Mon. thru Fri. 10:00 am - 4:00 pm Sat. 10:30 am - 6:00 pm Admission fee

LITTLE WHITE HOUSE HISTORIC SITE

401 Little White House Road Warm Springs, GA 31803 706-655-5807 9:00 am - 5:00 pm - 7 Days

Schedule of Events			
Wednesday, August 19		2:00 pm - 12:00 am	Shuttle service from hotels to Columbus
2:00 pm - 12:00 am	Shuttle service from hotels to Columbus Convention Center	2:00 pm - 9:00 pm	Convention Center Registration Open (Convention Center)
2:00 pm - 6:00 pm	Registration Open (Convention Center)	2:00 pm - 9:00 pm	Quartermaster Store Open
2:00 pm - 6:00 pm	Quartermaster Store Open	2:00 pm -12:00 am	Bunker Open
2:00 pm - 12:00 am	Bunker Open	7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	Silent Auction
Thursday, August 20		Saturday, August 22	
7:30 am - 2:00 pm	Begin shuttle service from hotels to National Infantry Museum.	7:30 am - 12:00 am	Shuttle service from hotels to Columbus Convention Center
9:00 am - 10:00 am	Basic Training Graduation - National Infantry	8:30 am	Raffle Drawing
40.45	Museum Parade Grounds and grandstands	9:00 am - 12:00 pm	Annual Membership Meeting (Members Only)
10:15 am - 11:00 am	11th Cavalry Memorial Dedication	9:00 am - 12:00 pm	Women's Group Meeting
11:30 am -	Self tour National Infantry Museum, World	12:00 pm - 2:00 pm	Lunch
0.00 10.00	War II Company Street	2:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Memorial Service
2:00 pm - 12:00 am	Shuttle service from hotels to Columbus Convention Center	3:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Registration Open for Late Arrivals
2:00 pm - 6:00 pm	Registration Open (Convention Center)	3:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Quartermaster Store Open
2:00 pm - 6:00 pm	Quartermaster Store Open	5:45 pm - 6:45 pm	Cocktail Hour
2:00 pm - 12:00 am	Bunker Open	7:00 pm - 10:00 pm	Banquet, Program, Presentations and "Blackhorse Salute"
Friday, August 21		10:00 pm - 12:00 am	Dancing
6:00 am -	24th Annual Marty Ognibene Memorial Golf Tournament (optional fee per golfer)	Sunday, August 23 10:00 am - 11:00 am	Chapel Worship Service (Nondenominational)
7:30 am - 3:30 pm	Optional Tours (optional fee per person) 1) Rangers in Action Demonstration (\$20.00) OR	All Day	Farewells and Departures

1st Quarter, 2015 Thunder Run

2) Armor Restoration Facility/Armor Center (\$20.00)

3) Women's Group Columbus Tour (\$25.00)

AL REUNION

AUGUST 19-23, 2015

tion of some of activities and tours in store for the reunion.

WEDNESDAY

Registration, guartermaster and the bunker will open in the afternoon at the Columbus Convention Center. Free shuttle service will run every 30 minutes between hotels and convention center from Wednesday thru Saturday for those who need transportation. Those who have their own vehicles are welcome to drive to the Convention Center and use the 400 car parking garage.

THURSDAY

This is an exciting day as we begin at the National Infantry Museum Parade Ground to attend graduation ceremonies from covered grandstands for a new generation of armor and





cavalry soldiers following in our footsteps. The 11th Armored Cavalry Veterans will be recognized during the graduation ceremonv.

Immediately following the gradu-

ation will be the dedication of the new 11th Cavalry memorial, on the nearby site of the future National Armor and Cavalry Museum. This is a time

when we honor the fallen comrades-in-arms who have served the 11th Cavalry in all campaigns throughout it's history since 1901.



After the memorial dedication you can visit the

World War II Company Street across the parade field. Although originally intended to be "temporary" in the 1940's many of these buildings were still in use in the 1960's and 1970's. This is a nostalgic look back at the



"luxurious accommodations" in the barracks, mess hall, orderly room, supply room and chapel that many of you may have used during your service.

You will also have the opportunity to visit the National Infantry Museum for an on-

your-own tour of this amazing state-of-the-art museum which traces the infantryman through the history of the United States. Be sure to visit the Armor Gallery on the lower level of the museum. The new gallery tells the Armor story through a mix of actual combat vehicles, uniforms, soldier equipment, wall displays, and dioramas that also showcase the Armor Museum collection.



V V exciting agenda planned for the reunion week. This is a brief descriphotels, the National Infantry Museum and the Columbus Convention Center. Those who have their own vehicles are encouraged to drive and park at the museum parking lot. Registration, guartermaster and bunker will open at the Columbus Convention Center in the afternoon.

FRIDAY

We will have the opportunity to choose from one of three different optional half day tours.

1) Rangers In Action Demonstration. This exciting demonstration is held at Victory Pond and is part of the Ranger School graduation. This highly coordinated performance will awe and thrill you as Rangers detonate

explosives, jump from helicopters into the water, rappel down and up towers, race down zip lines, and participate in hand to hand combat. The Ranger demonstration is limited to the first who register. Transportation will be furnished with pick-up at



your hotel: Cost: \$20.00 per person.

- 2) Armor Restoration Facility at Sand Hill. This is where many of the armored vehicles are being restored for eventual display in the Armor and Cavalry Museum. Here you will see the world's largest collection of armored vehicles. Many U.S. as well as foreign armored vehicles are featured. The tour also includes a stop at the Armor School at Harmony Church for a static display of many of the vehicles and weapons used in today's Army. This tour is limited to the first 400 who register and is not wheel-chair accessible. Transportation will be furnished with pick-up at vour hotel. Cost: \$20.00 per person.
- 3) Women's Group Columbus tour. First stop is the Columbus Museum for a guided tour of art and area history followed by a special ladies lunch at the historic Wynn House, which also includes a tour of the house. After lunch, re-board buses for a driving tour of the old city and along the river area and the port. This will include the 1800s churches followed by a stop at historic Linwood Cemetery. Please note that registration for this tour is limited to 100 ladies so please sign up as soon as possible. Transportation will be furnished with pick-up at your hotel. Cost: Lunch included at \$25.00 per person.

The 24th annual Marty Ognibene Golf Tournament will be held on Friday morning.

Registration, guartermaster and bunker will open on Friday afternoon at the Columbus Convention Center.

SATURDAY

Annual membership meeting, women's meeting, memorial service, Saturday evening banquet and program.



Thunder Run 1st Ouarter. 2015

11th Cavalry Memorial Project

By Allen Hathaway, President, 11th ACVVC

On Veterans Day, November 11, 2014, a groundbreaking ceremony for the new 11th Cavalry Memorial was held at the site of the future National Armor and Cavalry Museum in Columbus, Georgia.

Approximately 50 Blackhorse troopers, family and friends attended the groundbreaking of the new memorial. Construction for the memorial is scheduled to begin in March with an expected completion in May or June. The memorial will be re-dedicated during the 30th Annual Reunion on Thursday, August 20, 2015.

The ground breaking was held in conjunction with the official dedication of Patton's Park, the first phase in the overall development of the National Armor and Cavalry Museum. Several hundred attended the dedication where retired General William S. Wallace, 55th Colonel of 11th ACR (1992-1994) was the keynote speaker. The park is a 750 foot walking trail featuring nine combat vehicle displays tracing the develop-

ment of armor from WW II to the present and a parking area for 30 vehicles. It is located on Benning Boulevard just outside the gate at Fort Benning, GA and adjacent to the National Infantry Museum.

In July 2014, the 11th Cavalry Memorial was carefully packed up and moved from Fort Knox to Columbus, GA. The monument is the first to be located on the site of the future National Armor and Cavalry Museum. The new memorial will feature all the components of the original memorial including the Vietnam Memorial, the three memorials which are dedicated to the Philippine, World War II and Iraqi Freedom campaigns, plus all the granite bricks which surround the memorial.

The move also provided an opportunity to add several new features. These new additions include a bronze plaque placed in front of the Vietnam monument with a narrative of the history and special significance of this particular monument. Two additional, freestanding granite stones will be added to the

memorial site. One stone will contain a brief history of the 11th Cavalry since 1901 and will feature a large Blackhorse insignia. The second granite stone will list the 24 campaigns credits of the 11th Cavalry since 1901 along with the regimental crest.

The cost of the move is being shared between the 11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia and the Blackhorse Association. Both organizations offered granite bricks to help offset the cost of this project. Many veterans as well as family members purchased bricks to honor their service to our regiment. A combined total of 550 new brick orders were received. This brings the total to approximately 1,450 bricks when the monument is complete. This is a true sign of support from Blackhorse veterans as they honor their service with the 11th Cavalry and to the fellow Blackhorse troopers whose names are listed on the memorials.

We hope you will join us for our reunion in August and the memorial dedication.



Your 2014 Donations Report

By Ollie Pickral, Treasurer

During the calendar year of 2014, our organization received record donations and dividends from our investments. Below is a listing of our projects funded by you, our members:

- Our investments in securities and mutual funds netted 11th ACVVC over \$50,000 in dividends for the year.
- Donations to our Scholarship program funded 19 scholarships to the children of our membership. Funding of scholarships throughout the years is now well over 1 million dollars.
- Donations from our annual calendar totaled over \$68,400, a new record that funds 17 new scholarships!
- Your bidding at the reunion Silent Auction added over \$7,635.00, resulting in additional scholarship funding.
- Our annual raffle brought in \$44,000, yet another record, that

will be used to help construct the site for our monuments previously located at Fort Knox. An additional \$2,860.00 was received in donations for this cause.

- Donations to assist active duty troopers attend the Las Vegas reunion totaled over \$4,400.00. We were able to assist many troopers and distributed all these funds in the effort.
- Our General account that handles our administrative expenses was provided \$2,400.00 from donations of our members.

In all, 1,923 donors contributed over \$84,000.00 in donations to our organization. Our accomplishments were achieved because of your generous donations. We hope you'll continue to contribute your tax deductable donations to the 11th ACVVC, allowing our organization to continue its service to our members and 11th ACVVC family.

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11th Armored Cavalry Memorial Relocation Donations

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

- · Arble, Patrick M.
- · Arce, Carlos
- Bayer, Peter C. for those who gave all OIF '05
- · Barber, Michael J.
- · Beckom, Danny L.
- · Belton, Mondell
- Berry, Timothy R. in memory of Kurtis A. Berry
- · Betts, Stephen W.
- Blake, Monica Jasura in memory of Robert W. Jasura
- · Boles, John K.
- · Bourdelais. Herbert C.
- Bowen, Alfred T. (2 bricks)
- Bowen, Alfred T. in honor of R. C. Quick
- Bricker, Warren G. (2 bricks)
- Bricker, Warren G. in honor of Carlos Collazo
- Bridgeford, Daniel W.
- · Brooks, Timothy F.
- · Bumpass, James O.
- · Burns, Jack
- Burrell, Lacretia A. in memory of William Burrell
- Butler, Roger F.
- Carter, Wellington C.
- Castaneda, Mary L. in memory of Buddy Castaneda
- · Collins, Charles W.
- · Coleman, Vincent C.
- · Confer, Richard W.
- Corburn. Dennis J.
- · Cornelius, Jerry D.
- Courtney, Thomas M.
- Cranford, Thomas T.
- · Cross, Frezell
- · Deal, Clifford L.
- · Denney, William B.
- DeNote, Mike in memory of David L. Summers
- · Dinsmore, Benny L.
- Doucet, Kristi N. in honor of Carmine C. Esposito
- · Edwards, Jimmy W.
- Elkins, Alvin M.
- Engel, William C.
- England, Zbilly J.
- · Epperly, H. Mason
- Fahr, Randall K.
- Flick, Walter C.

- · Forehan, Dennis R.
- Foreman, James T. in memory of Edgar Blankenship, Richard Orsund, Jerry Wickam
- Frederick, William R.
- Friend, Richard E.
- Galaviz, Felix
- · Gamet, Ted J.
- · Gosa, Robert E.
- Grabenhorst, John F. in memory of B. D. Stephenson
- Greany, Paul T. in memory of John H. Hays
- Gruber, Paul & Jennifer in honor of Clinton W. Shaver
- Gruber, Paul & Jennifer in honor of George L. Bailey
- Gruber, Paul & Jennifer in honor of James W. Tuttle
- Gunderman, Larry in memory of Gene Lanoux
- Gunderman, Larry in memory of Neil Keltner
- Hagen, Waldo A. (4 bricks)
- Hagen, Waldo A. in memory of Stephen L. Glore
- Hagen, Waldo A. in memory of Kenneth F. Ybarra
- Hagen, Waldo A. in memory of Kurt E. Ward
- Halvorsen, Richard E. and in memory of Jimmy Abernathy
- · Hanna, James A.
- · Hatch, Donald D.
- Heaton, Mark A. in memory of Frank W. Asp
- Heaton, Mark A. in memory of Kenneth Grassl
- Heaton, Mark A. in memory of Victor Johnson
- Heaton, Mark A. in memory of Gene Lkuvik
- Heaton, Mark A. in memory of Ricky A Myers
- Heaton, Mark A. in memory of John A Rickels
- Heaton, Mark A. in memory of Stuart Thomson
- · Heilig, Gerald W.
- · Hill, John W.
- Hufnagel, Richard H. in honor of Albert H. Smith
- Hunt, Charles T.
- · Hunter, Johnnie M.

- Hutchison, David in honor of Bobby Allen
- Joseph, Sarah & Tiffany in honor of N. L. Joseph
- Juarez, Jose (3 bricks)
- Juarez, Jose in memory of George Drake
- · Karabinos, Blandin W.
- · Karels, Roger V.
- Kelting, Craig A. in memory of Terrence Weldon
- · Kent, Raymer A.
- · Koch, Anthony F.
- Koch, Thomas F.
- Koppenal, Kenneth A.
- · Kotek, Richard J.
- · Kraxberger, W. S.
- Lambert, Robert E.Lantrip, Gary A.
- Lantzy, Darrell (Bud) F.
- Larner, Wayne M. (2 bricks)
- Larner, Wayne M. in memory of Anthony Stanfa
- · Lawless, Daniel R. (2 bricks)
- Lawless, Daniel R. in memory of Bob McAndrew
- · Long, John W.
- · Loya, Atanacio A.
- · Maley, Robert J.
- McBryde, Jerry W.
- McCarty, Jerry D.McMurray, Ronald E.
- Merriam, Charles S. in memory of Francis Scharpf
- Moore, David W.
- Morin, Donald R.
- Munoz, Amador C.
- Musk, Ronald A.
- Myers, Robert G. in memory of Isaac Heath, Aducci / Honor of Myers, Aducci, Webb, Baird, Bates
- Nadge, Kim in honor of William J. Baier
- O'Neil, Richard J.
- Parish, Ray
- Perez, Felipe in memory of Kenneth F. Ybarra
- · Pertuit, Donald J.
- Pledger, Murray A.
- Ray, Judson M.
- Richardson, Frank E. and Ronald Noble

- Riley, Robert F.
- Rogers, Jimmy L.
- · Rutledge, Carlus W.
- Rutledge, Carlus W. in memory of George H. Heppen JR
- Rutledge, Carlus W. for 595th Engineer Company
- Rutledge, Kenneth D.
- · Sakole, Michael J.
- · Sanford, clinton R.
- · Schartz, Greg L.
- Sherman, Dale L. in memory of Dickie C. Curry
- · Soule. Robert M.
- · Sponaugle, Jackie D.
- · Springer, Edward R.
- Stanley, John B.
- Stoneking, Larry
- Straszewski, GeraldSullivan, David L.
- Taylor, James (Doc) L. in honor of Dan Sutherland
- Terlecky, Slofko
- Thompson, James M.
- Thorson, Ellan W. in memory of Glenn J. Thorson
- Thorson, Ellan W. in honor of James L. Embrey
- Tingley, Roger L.
- Tonks, Glenn
- Utt. Carroll
- Uzzi, Gerald H. in honor of John Williams
- Varlien, Frank E.
- Vallerreal, Emilio S.
- Walter, Peter L. in honor of Gerald Mladjen
- Walter, Peter L. in honor of Lewis P. Walter
- Wathen, Robert A.
- Wentz, Darel P.
- Werner, Warren E.
- Wheeler, Billy W.
- Williams, Roy H.Wilson, Michael B.
- Windemuller, Paul E.
- Wood, Eddie C.
- · Wright, Geary O.
- Wright, William F.Yochum, Thomas J.

Thunder Run 1st Quarter, 2015

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



#1 Coffee Mug \$12.00



#2 Key Ring \$4.00



#3 Bumper Sticker \$2.00



#5 Blackhorse Watch w/Leather Band (men's only) \$35.00



#7 Blackhorse Patch Colored \$4.00



#8 Blackhorse Patch Subdued \$4.00



#4 Window Sticker \$2.00



Watch w/Metal Band (men's only) \$35.00

#6 Blackhorse



#9 Cavalry Hat \$225.00



#11 Flag, Indoor/Outdoor \$50.00



#16 Tote Bag, Embroidered \$20.00

#17 Blackhorse

Pin \$5.00



#10 Belt, \$30.00



#15 Attache Case \$30.00



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



#13 License Plate, Blackhorse \$5.00



#18 11th ACR Regimental Crest \$5.00



#20 Vietnam Blackhorse Pin, Wreath \$5.00



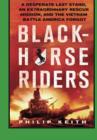
#19 Blackhorse Cavalry Pin \$5.00



#25 Blackhorse Coin \$15.00



#26 Magnetic Blackhorse \$5.00



#31 Book: Blackhorse Riders \$25.00



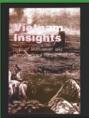
#22 Gear Bag, Red \$45.00



#27 Magnetic Ribbon \$4.00



#28 Video (DVD) Combat Reports \$30.00



#30 Book: Vietnam Insights \$10.00



#34 Book: The Anonymous Battle \$16.00



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



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



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



#38 Poplin Hats \$15.00



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



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



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



#41 Denim Shirt, w/BH & VN Ribbon \$32.00





From the Quartermaster...

Jerry Beamon

Hello to all BLACKHORSE Troopers, and Happy New Year!!! Jan & I hope everyone's had a Merry Christmas and your New Year has started out on a positive note. We have wrapped up another great year here at your Quartermaster Store. And we are looking forward to another great year with our 30th Reunion just around the corner. Plans are already in the making for another great Reunion. Just think of it as the big 3 0! Back in the beginning who would have thought that reunions would have lasted as long as they have. Together Then, Together Again; that applies to an outstanding group of guy's put together back then, who today come together as a band of brothers. Here in Columbus we are going to lay a new ground work on our memorials to our fallen troopers who gave their all.

So Guy and Gals if you possibly can come and see us in Columbus Ga. August 18th through 22nd. Just think it is only roughly 6 months away as you read this.

Hey! M Company's Darrell Carey has offered to you guys of M Company a pin he had made up, and would like to hear from. He has asked me to add one to your order here at your Quartermaster Store. You can go on the website at members form and post a note so you and Darrell can connect.

And on that note, things are in planning for another great EAST TEXAS ROUND UP in Rusk, TX again. The date scheduled is APRIL 25th, at the Rusk State Railroad just outside Rusk on Highway 84, so make plans to attend. If you live close to the East Texas area come on over for some good food & great fellowship. If you need more information you can call (903) 780-5621 and talk to Jan who is filling in this year as coordinator of the event.

In closing, please check over your order before you send it in to us. Some changes have been made; some prices have changed, so please check it over. ALLONS!



Fiddler's Green

We are sorry to report the following Troopers have taken the journey to Fiddler's Green. We send our heartfelt sympathy and sincere condolences to their families and friends. We honor their service to our country and to our regiment by posting their names. Funeral Honor Guard, please check daily at www.11acr.com/hg.htm. We check over 500 U.S. Newspapers. The daily obituary keyword is 11th Cavalry. Information is then posted on our website to allow us to attend the funerals.

- Robert L. Bitson, M Company, 3/11 (1969-1970) passed away on September 25, 2014. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Shelby, MI. He was laid to rest in Otto Township cemetery, Rothbury, MI.
- **Dennis G. Christman,** E Troop, 2/11 (1969-1970) passed away on September 1, 2013. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Lodge Grass, MT. He was laid to rest in Fairview Cemetery, Hardin, MT.
- Rodger D. Evans, B Troop, 1/11 (1969-1971) passed away on September 4, 2014. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Gore, OK.
- Anthony P. Falduto, HHT REGT (1969-1970) passed away on June 7, 2014. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Fort Lauderdale, FL. He was laid to rest in Mt. Carmel Cemetery, Hillside, II
- **Kenneth A. Frederick**, 541st MID (1967-1968) passed away on January 5, 2015. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Lititz, PA. He was laid to rest in Millport Cemetery, Lititz.
- James L. Garten, 409th Radio Research Detachment (1969-1970) passed away on April 8, 2014. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Bloomfield, IN.
- William L. Hudgins, E Troop, 2/11 (1969-1970) passed away on August 17, 2014. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Fountain, FL. He was laid to rest in H. C. Smither Memorial Cemetery, Hudgins, VA.
- **Gerald J. Laporte Sr.**, 919th Engineer Company (1967-1968) passed away on November 25, 2014. He was a member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Victoria, VA.
- Wendell A. Myers, A Troop, 1/11 (1968-1969) passed away on August 5, 2014. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in North Las Vegas, NV.

- John P. O'Donnell, F Troop, 2/11 (1966-1967) passed away on November 19, 2014. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Rockville, RI. He was laid to rest in Rhode Island Veteran Memorial Cemetery, Exeter, RI.
- **Theodore B. Seagroves**, 409th Radio Research Detachment (1966-1967) passed away on December 2, 2014. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Chapel Hill, NC.
- Phillip W. Sears, F Troop, 2/11 (1969-1970) passed away on October 1, 2014. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Liberty, KY. He was laid to rest in Camp Nelson National Cemetery, Nicholasville, KY.
- Donald E. Spencer, Air Cavalry Troop (1968-1969) passed away on January 7, 2015. He was a member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Magna, UT.
- David R. Templeton, HHT, 1/11 (1967-1968) passed away on December 23, 2014. He was a member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Yuma, AZ. He was laid to rest in Evergreen Cemetery, Red Oak, IA.
- Ronald L. Vetere, HHT REGT (1967-1968) passed away on December 1, 2014. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Rocky Mount, NC. He was laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA.
- Donald C. Whitney, M Company, 3/11 (1967-1968), passed away on January 9, 2015. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Citrus Heights, CA. He was laid to rest in Lower Lake Cemetery. Lower Lake. CA.
- Dean W. Zuna, G Troop, 2/11 (1968) passed away on July 16, 2013.
 He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Tucson, AZ.

1st Quarter, 2015 Thunder Run

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Quartermaster

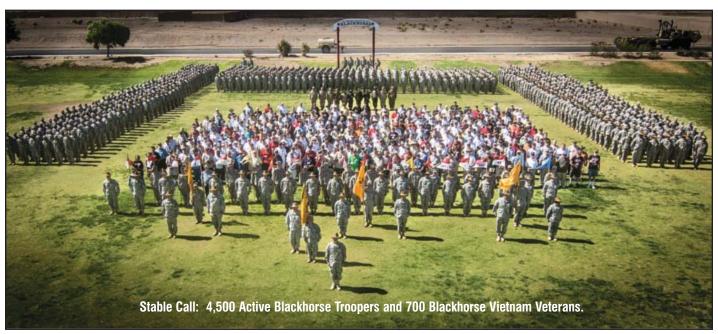
ORDER FORM •1st QTR 2015

11TH ARMORED CAVALRY'S VETERANS OF VIETNAM AND CAMBODIA

Item No. Product Description	\$ Amt	Size	Qty	\$ Total
1. Coffee Mug, white, ceramic (glass) 11oz w/full color Blackhorse insignia				
2. Key ring, 1. 5 " Embroidery square w/full color Blackhorse insignia				
3. Bumper Sticker "I Rode With The Blackhorse" w/full color BH insignia				
4. Window Sticker, full color BH insignia and Vietnam service ribbon				
5. Watch, BH insignia on face, leather band (indicate choice) Man's				
6. Watch, BH insignia on face, metal band (indicate choice) ☐ Man's				
8. Blackhorse Shoulder Patch, Subdued				
9. Cavalry Hat (Brown in color, rope and pin included in priceround or oval head shape)				
11. Flag, indoor/outdoor 3'x5' with color insignia				
13. License Plate, metal red & white background with crossed sabers & 11				
14. License Plate Frame, metal, black w/Blackhorse 11th US Cavalry in white				
15. Attache Case w/shoulder strap 11.5" x 15.5" w/dir emb. BH insignia & VN rib				
16. Tote Bag, red & black, 14x1x6 w/full color BH insignia and VN rib				
17. Blackhorse Pin	5.00			
18. 11th ACR Regimental Crest	5.00			
19. Blackhorse Cavalry Pin, brass, 11 over crossed sabers				
20. Vietnam Blackhorse Pin w/wreath	5.00			
22. Gear Bag, camoufllage wwith color BH insgnia				
25. Blackhorse Coin				
26. Magnetic "Blackhorse"				
27. Magnetic "Support Our Troops" Ribbon				
28. Video: "Combat Reports" (DVD Only)				
31 Book: "Blackhorse Riders"				
30. Book, "Vietnam Insights" by James Griffiths				
32. Book, "Anonymous Battle II" (Picture not available)				
36. T Shirt, "My Grandpa Rode With The Blackhorse" (sizes: S, M, L)				
37. Book, "Tales of Thunder Run" by Chaplain Larry Haworth				
38. Hat, Poplin adjustable w/mesh back □ white □ black Solid cloth back, (black only) Old Style □ New Style □				
39. Blackhorse T-shirt, 100% cotton, preshrunk, full color BH insignia. Specify color: □ Dark Gray □ Sand				
40. Golf Shirt, w/BH insignia and VN Ribbon: Specify color: □ Red □ Dark Gray				
41. Denim shirt (men's)	32.00			
42. Blackhorse Jacket, 100% Nylon, zipper front, fleece lining w/full color BH insignia, (6" back), and ACVVC front left	95.00			
43. Windbreaker, black w/snap front, BH insignia & VN Ribbon	35.00			
44. OTHER: Sale Items, Etc.				
Note: unless otherwise noted, all clothing items are available in size medium through size 3XL Specify size and color preference of item requested.			ototal	
	Shipping	and Handling		
Shipping Costs: (Includes multiple Items)	Total			
A) \$2.00 — \$5.00 = \$3.00				
B) \$6 00 — \$15.00 = \$6.60				
C) \$16.00 — \$60.00 = \$12.35				
D) $$61.00$ and over = $$16.85$				
☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard Card #		Exp. Da	te	
Cignoture				
Signature				
* If paying by check, please write your drivers license number on the check	,			
ii paying by check, please write your drivers license number on the check	<u>\.</u>			
*Name	Phone _			
*Address	Email			
*City/State/Zip				
□ Check if address change				
Please include the largest of chosen items S/H costs with your order. Maximum per order form charge i	s \$14.55.	Checks or Mo	oney Order	s should
be made payable to 11th ACVVC. Allow six weeks for processing and delivery. ALL PRICES SUBJECT 1	O CHANGE	. Previous pr	rice lists ar	
Mail order to: 11th ACVVC Quartermaster, c/o Jerry Beamon, 15926 Cedar Bay Dr., Bullard, TX 7575				
* Required info to process your order				



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