

Shunder Ru



Vol. 30 – NO. 2

"Together Then – Together Again"

2nd Ouarter, 2015

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

Connecting Men, Monkeys and Memories

Reflections on the 25th Reunion in DC

By: Richard "Dick" Moore How Battery, 1/11, 69-70*

was feeling an over-whelming irrational fear. I didn't't want to get on the plane. No, it wasn't' the fear of flying that gripped my gut so lightly. It was a fear of what I would face at my final destination, memories of Viet Nam.

A year earlier Lt. Clark Thomas from 1/11th C Troop had tracked me down. We shared memories over the phone and sent emails and pictures. He encouraged me to attend the reunion in California, my home state. I couldn't't bring myself to do it. So he came to visit me. He encouraged me to come to the next reunion in DC. I said, "Maybe."

I called him. Immediately we began trying to connect memories, and bingo, a little spider monkey named Arthur pulled us threw 40 yrs of loss and pain and united us again.

Later that year an article in Thunder Run caught my attention. The author said he wanted to see Donnie Porter at the next reunion. Donnie Porter, I know Donnie Porter from A troop 1969. I looked at the author's name, John Sorich, and he gave a current phone number. I ran and got my little tattered Viet Nam journal. There on the back page, along with an abundance of red mud smears, was the name John Sorich. It took me a week to get up the courage to dial the new number, but I called him. Immediately we began trying to connect memories, and bingo, a little

spider monkey named Arthur pulled us threw 40 yrs of loss and pain and united us again. I sent John the picture of Arthur on my shoulder biting on my glasses. He sent me one of him and Arthur taking a swim. We were together again! Like Lt. Thomas he asked, "Are you going to the reunion in DC?"

It was August just about a week before the 25th Blackhorse reunion in DC. My flight was paid for! My hotel room reserved. I had friends from over 40 years ago waiting eagerly to see me and...I was getting tenser by the minute. Fear, what if

Please turn to **REFLECTIONS** on page 7

Arlington Wreath Laying



Tomb of the Unknowns, Arlington National Cemetery

n February 2, 2015, the active regi- 11th ACR and LTC Scott McFarland, a Fort Myer, VA. 1LT Evan Fitzgerald, Arlington National Cemetery Regimental Support Squadron (RSS), February 2, 2016.

ment conducted a wreath-laying former RSS Squadron Commander servceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown ing nearby, conducted the ceremony with Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery the assistance of The Old Guard soldiers to commemorate the 114th anniversary at Fort Myer. Arrangements have been of the activation of the 11th Cavalry at made to hold the same wreath laying at





Allen Hathaway President

From The Command Track

By Allen Hathaway, President

We strongly recommend making your [reunion] hotel reservations as soon

as possible. This will ensure that you have a reservation and it will help us in our overall reunion planning.

Plans are being finalized for the 2015 reunion in Columbus / Fort Benning, Georgia. We're looking forward to another great reunion!

The reunion this year will mark two significant events. First, we will celebrate our 30th annual reunion. This is a milestone for our organization. It's hard to believe that from the small group at the first reunion in 1986 we have grown into the organization we are today. Reunion attendance has increased from 175 at the first reunion to 1,500 at the recent reunion in 2015. Over this 30 year period we have been fortunate to locate and reunite countless numbers of Blackhorse troopers who served together.

The second event, and perhaps the most important, will be the dedication of the 11th Cavalry Memorial at Fort Benning. The memorial is dedicated to the brave Blackhorse troopers who sacrificed everything in the service of our country since the regiment was formed in 1901. It has been our goal to list every known casualty of the regiment throughout its history. When you see the names on the memorials you get the full impact of the tremendous sacrifice each has made. It's our solemn promise that we never forget their sacrifice.

We encourage everyone to attend this very special 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 several different hotels. We think, however, the memorial dedication and other planned activities at Fort Benning will offset any inconvenience.

We strongly recommend making your hotel reservations as soon as possible. This will ensure that you have a reservation and it will help us in our overall reunion planning.

We're also offering a low registration fee of \$70 per person. The fee covers the 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 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 the official reunion hotels and the convention center for anyone needing transportation. Shuttles will run on a regular basis leaving from each reunion hotel as well as the convention center on a regular schedule. Please note the shuttle will only be available from hotels listed in Thunder Run or the 11th ACVVC website. 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 centers offers a 400 space parking garage. The National Infantry Museum also has a large parking lot.

We encourage you to sign up for either the Rangers In Action demonstration or the Armor Restoration Facility tour on Friday. A Columbus tour and lunch is being offered for the ladies.

Remember to check our website frequently to see who's registered for the

reunion. Stay up-to-date with all the latest information for the reunion by visiting our website at www.11thcav.nam and our Facebook page.

We had several phone calls after our last newsletter from troopers who recognized the name of an old friend. If you are looking for someone, please feel free to contact me or any board member and we will try to put you in contact with your old friend.

We have also collected many "unit rosters" over the years which have been posted on our website. I urge you to go to our website and look at the rosters for your unit. There may be an old friend you recognize and want to contact.

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.

The annual raffle will kick off in May. The raffle is one of three fundraising activities we conduct each year to benefit the Scholarship Fund. Raffle tickets will be mailed to all members in May. We're offering some great prizes again this year. Drawings will be held during the reunion so be sure to return your tickets no later than August 15, 2015 to be entered in the drawing.

We invite all Blackhorse troopers, family and friends to honor our fallen comrades on Memorial Day, May 24, as we lay our Blackhorse wreath at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC. If you're not able to attend, take a moment wherever you may be and remember our comrades-in-arms. They shall not be forgotten. Their memory will live forever. ALLONS! — It's good to be "Together Again".

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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Still Finishing 'In the Money'

ongratulations to William L. Forkner **J** (How Battery, 2/11 67-68) who, on March 1, 2015 finished the Army Marathon III (Half) in Temple, Texas. This year's Marathon was dedicated to the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War and to all veterans, but particularly Vietnam Veterans. Bill and his two sons ran the half on what was a dreary day - 33 degrees, rain and a stiff north wind - he finished 2nd of 7 in his age group, (males 70-99) and was proud to wear his Blackhorse tee shirt. The finishers medal featured a Vietnam Service Ribbon and an M48 Tank - as a Vietnam Veteran. upon crossing the finish line he received a lapel pin "...A Grateful Nation Thanks and Honors You."

Note to readers: Bill served as the How 2/11 XO, FDO and as a FO with F Troop during his tour.



PSG Alfred McCullough Bridge

Platoon Sergeant Alfred McCullough Memorial Bridge

On April 18, 2015, a bridge was dedicated in Nanty Glo, Pennsylvania, to honor the sacrifice of PSG Alfred McCullough who was killed in action on May 13, 1968 while serving with A Troop, 1st Squadron, 11th ACR. The bridge is located on State Route 271 over the South Branch Blacklick Creek, Nanty Glo Borough in Cambria County, Pennsylvania.

The legislation requesting the naming of the bridge as the Platoon Sergeant Alfred McCullough Memorial Bridge was sponsored by his classmates of Nanty Glo High School class of 1954. PSG McCullough was awarded the Silver Star for his actions on that day. His awards also include the Bronze Star for valor for action on February 3, 1968.

Show Your Pride



Don Murphy, HHT, 2/11, 70-71 shows his pride around his home in Russell, Kansas.



Henry Marin, HHT, 3/11 (assigned to L troop - ground surveillance), track: M20, 1967-1968. Showing Blackhorse pride in Jacksonville, FL (or traveling in Daytona, Atlanta, Tampa, and Boynton Beach) everywhere he goes.

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2015 Election

By Adrian Vaaler, Secretary, 11th ACVVC

(The following description of our annual election process is the policy currently in place.)

General Membership Meeting held on Saturday morning, August 22, during the 2015 Reunion. The five positions are President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and one Director.

The President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary will serve a two year term. The Director will serve a three year term. All terms will begin January 1, 2016.

All candidates must be Life Members of the 11th ACVVC. Candidates will have an equal opportunity to state their qualifications at the General Membership Meeting. The elected candidates must be able to attend the annual reunion and two Board meetings each year of their elected term.

The elected candidates must be able to communicate by email with the other Board members and be able to help the Board make decisions on a variety of organizational matters. Each candidate must be highly organized and be able to commit time and energy to a specific project or committee as directed by the President. Excellent skills in using Microsoft Word and Excel are required in order to prepare reports and other documents required of all positions.

The positions of President and Vice-President require considerable time and superb organizational skills. The President needs to frequently multi-task in his responsibility to oversee all projects, programs, and activities of the organization. The Vice-President serves as the President's right hand man. Sound leadership is fundamental to both positions.

Candidates for Treasurer must have verifiable experience in accounting and/or finance. Excellent skills in using Microsoft Excel are required. Most importantly, the Treasurer is accountable for maintaining accurate financial records, preparing reports, budgeting, forecasting, etc., of the General Fund, the



We Want You!

organization's investments, and all expenses and obligations incurred from the various projects supported by the 11th ACVVC.

Candidates for Secretary should be able to intently follow and record organized minutes, summarize reports, actions and decisions from official meetings, and maintain records of the 11th ACVVC and its numerous projects. He should have strong language and writing skills and know basic Robert's Rules of Order. Information management skills on a computer are required.

Nominations for these positions should be submitted in writing to the Secretary or submitted from the floor at the General Membership meeting. Please consider participating on the Board of Directors serving the 11th ACVVC.

The officers will serve a two year term and the Director a three year term

Note: At our Mid-year Officers meeting in November, the Officers voted to amend the By Laws in order to stagger the terms of the President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. For this motion to be implemented it must be approved by a 2/3 majority of the members at the next membership meeting on August 22, 2015 in Columbus, GA.

Memorial Day Wreath at the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial

All Blackhorse Troopers, family, and friends are invited to participate in the Annual Memorial Day wreath laying at the Wall.

When: 9:45 AM, Monday, May 25, 2015.

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

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

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

Look for the Blackhorse Patch Wreath that will be there by 09:30. Please pass this information to anyone who might be interested in participating.

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Editor's Corner

C.E. "Bill" Gregory

This is a year of anniversaries; 50 years since the "beginning" of the Vietnam War, 48 years since the Blackhorse first went to Vietnam and 30 years since the first 11th ACVVC reunion. This will also be the year we rededicate our Memorial after it has been moved to Fort Benning from Fort Knox, after first being erected in Vietnam. It is a year for remembering our fallen brethren in the war, remembering those who have passed since the war, and treasuring those still with us. I really hope you can make it to Georgia this year; it promises to be a very meaningful trip. That is not to say that we should not have a good time at the reunion as well. Spend some time with old friends and enjoy each other's company, but also time with your family on a trip to the great state of Georgia.

This may be the last *Thunder Run* we are able to get into homes before registration deadlines begin to catch us. July 18, 2015 is the deadline to register for the reunion without having to pay a late fee, and to be sure you have a seat at the banquet. August 4, 2015 is the date that your golf tournament registration must be received in order to play, and if you are going on any of the tours, your registration must be received by August 1, 2015. The hotel rooms are going fast, two hotels are already full. Fortunately we have been able to add a fifth hotel to

We included a scholarship application again in this issue. Time is about up to apply this year, May 15, 2015 is the absolute deadline, so if you have an eligible child, please do not delay.



Bill Gregory, Editor Thunder Run

the list to accommodate what looks like a very large attendance. Look for the details on all this in this issue of *Thunder Run*.

Last quarter, we ran an article by Charles Hertel about Operation Hickory in October 1966 and it generated two more articles which we are including in this issue. One is from James Potter, who as a Platoon Leader in K Troop that day had a different perspective and another from Leo Degee, who was serving with How Battery 3/11 that day and could hear all the different radio conversations. I think you will enjoy reading these different views of the same action. I don't think any of these stories contradict or disagree with each other. Keep in mind that the three of them were seeing some of the same things from a different vantage point and that each of the three saw and understood things that the other two were unaware of. When you add to this the fact that it has been almost 48 years since the action it is amazing that their memories basically agree on the main points. We also have an article from Dick Moore about the 25th reunion and many really good articles from our regular contributors, not to mention the all important 30th Reunion information. Hope you find it all helpful and enjoyable.

We included a scholarship application again in this issue. Time is about up to apply this year, May 15, 2015 is the absolute deadline, so if you have an eligible child, please do not delay. Keep in mind that we are always glad to get your stories and remembrances from your time with the regiment or from past reunions. We will try to publish them in *Thunder Run*. We cannot promise any time schedule on publication and we ask that you check our publication policy which was last published on page 18 of the 4th Quarter 2013 *Thunder Run*.

Until next quarter, may you be well, happy and blessed!

MOVING	?
We want you to get your copy of <i>Thunder Run</i> 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 <i>11thcav1966@Comcast.net</i>	
Name:	
Old Address:	
City:	State:Zip:
New Address:	
City:	State:Zip:
Phone	Effective Date:
Email:	_

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

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From the 66th Colonel of the Regiment

COL Kevin L. Jacobi

FORT IRWIN, Calif. – Greetings Blackhorse Troopers, Families, and Friends! This first quarter of 2015 has kept us moving at full speed. So far, we squared off to three rotational training units, celebrated the Regiment's 114th Birthday, said farewell to the Commanding General of the National Training Center while welcoming the new commander, and conducted some good training in-between to continue to enhance our warfighting skills.

The Regiment is committed to delivering the toughest and most realistic training our visiting training units will ever have to encounter before they deploy in contingency operations. The most recent rotation in March brought 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division of Fort Riley, Kansas to the High Desert. This rotation helped the Regiment to increase focused energy in our formidability and mastery of movement to contact. As good teammates, the Blackhorse is always all-in and aims to win.

This rotation also gave us the opportunity to honor an exceptional Trooper and leader whom rode with the Blackhorse during Vietnam. On behalf of the Regiment, I want to extend my deepest condolences to the family and friends of retired Col. J.W. Thurman who recently passed. Col. Thurman's

Blackhorse Troopers continue to expand their knowledge and experience as cavalrymen as they prepare for the 2015 Gainey Cup competition. This is a bi-annual scout competition held at Fort Benning, GA ...



COL Kevin L. Jacob

dedication to the Nation and the Regiment, earned him the Distinguished Service Cross and the admiration of the Regiment for all time. We dedicate Rotation 15-06 to J.W. Thurman in honor of his service and memorable contributions to the Regiment.

Blackhorse Troopers continue to expand their knowledge and experience as cavalrymen as they prepare for the 2015 Gainey Cup competition. This is a bi-annual scout competition held at Fort Benning, GA where scouts squads from across the Army compete for the title of the "Best Scout Squad." These Troopers are the future of the Army and we are proud to see them help keep cavalry traditions alive as they come to represent Blackhorse.

The Blackhorse, partnered with NTC and Operations group, remains dedicated to accomplishing our training missions through teamwork. Therefore, it is with a hearty Blackhorse congratulations that I welcome BG Joseph Martin to the NTC Team and send farewell

wishes to MG Theodore Martin who is leaving NTC to become the Commander of 2nd Infantry Division with US Forces Korea.

Right now the Regiment is ramping up for our annual formal ball in April. Last year's success brought us back to South Point Hotel in Las Vegas. Troopers and their family members will be offered a grand opportunity to enjoy the time honored traditions of the Regiment and to recognize several individuals for the contributions they made to our mission at NTC.

Of course, our Blackhorse Veterans are also our teammates. Remember, you are always welcome to come and visit us. We would be happy to spend time with any of our honored Veteran Troopers so you can see for yourself what your Regiment is accomplishing. I also encourage you to stay up to date with us at our 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment Facebook page. Death Rides a Blackhorse! Allons!!

Editor's Note: COL J. W. Thurman served with HHT, 2/11 in 1969.

REFLECTIONS from Page 1

I open that box of memories called Viet Nam and I can't get it shut again? Will I have to feel all that pain again? That pain that came from isolation, confusion, rejection, anger, survivors guilt, and perhaps worst of all, the sudden and violent loss of my brothers in arms, most barely twenty years old at the time of their deaths.

I walked into the hotel in DC still feeling fearful and confused. A voice called out my name from across the crowded lobby. The smiling face of John Sorich rushed out to hug me. I just started to cry and knots started to unwind. It was the beginning of some of the most healing days of my life. Old and new friends welcomed me "home" and each time emotions surged. Stories were shared and haunting memories were clarified and released. These guys "knew" a part of me that I hadn't shared with anyone. I didn't have to explain myself to them. They had been there. And now, we were home...together again!

*Note: While with How, 1/11 Dick served with A and C Troops on the FO track.

Otis Needs Help

A volunteer is needed to assist Otis Carey, who maintains the shopping carts, forums and guest books and hosting related matters for the 11thcavnam website.

He will train you to help in these areas, the more experience you have the better, he prefers someone with an IT background, or any experience with Shopping Carts, PHP, Html and/or any MySQL experience.

Please contact Otis Carey, sales@kysales.net or call him at 1-270-828-2004.

Thunder Run 2nd Quarter, 2015

THE 24TH ANNUAL MARTY OGNIBENE MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT



Friday, August 21, 2015

Bull Creek Golf Course West Mike Spitz Miller, Tournament Director 7333 Lynch Rd Midlland, GA 31820

Veteran Friendly Championship Golf Club

\$75 per golfer includes greens fees, carts, balls, tees, lunch and prizes! Fill in the form and mail it to the address below with a check for \$75 per golfer (payable to Joe Coopet). Form and fee must be received in Minnesota by August 4, 2015 to guarantee your entry!

You don't need a foursome to enter. Include your average score for 18 holes and I'll pair you with a golfer of equal talent or include the names of all golfers in the group for whom you are paying. This outing is open to men and women. Don't delay!!! Mail today!!! FORE!

Call 651-246-8009 if you have questions. You will receive confirmation in the mail if your registration fee is paid by August 4, 2015. All entries must be prepaid. This year we will be playing at one of the best facilities in the south Georgia. They have a dress code to include: 1) No denim (Blue jeans), 2) No tank tops or T-shirts. Shirts must have collars. 3) Soft spikes only facility. Tee times will be an 8:00 AM shotgun start with lunch following golf.

Bull Creek's legacy is one of being extremely military friendly. Their staff eagerly awaits the arrival of our 11th Cav reunion.

24TH ANNUAL MARTY OGNIBENE	MEMORIAL	GOLF TOURNAMENT		
Name		Average Score		
Address		Home Phone		
City	State	_Zip		
Name		Average Score		
Name		_Average Score		
Name		_Average Score		
Mail Checks To: Joe Coopet, Golf Tournament Director, 9289 Parkside Draw, Woodbury, MN 55125				

UNLIKE YEARS PAST, THIS EVENT IS BEING HELD ON FRIDAY OF REUNION WEEK.

Check your schedule vs other planned events. We will rideshare from our individual hotels. No rental clubs will be available!

Incoming...

James Erwin, Medic, K Troop. The family of James Erwin, who served as a medic with K Troop from June 1969 to June 1970, is looking for any information about him that fellow K Troopers or 3d Squadron HHT would share with them. This could be in the form of pictures, comments on aid he may have provided stories to relate, etc. Jim did not discuss his experiences very much and is now in the grip of Alzheimer's. Any history about him would be of much benefit to the family.

Please relay items by email to Nathan Crutchfield (K Troop 1970) at *n_crutch@comcast.net* and he will sort/pull the items together for the family. Pass the word to others in the Troop who may not see this request. Any help appreciated.

From Ron Kruger. The 25th Annual Northern California

Information provided by and for our Troopers

Blackhorse Potluck/BBQ: Saturday, October 3, 2015, 1100 - ??? at Slidehill Park, 2850 Temple Drive Davis, CA. 95618. Everyone is welcome to join us for a casual picnic in the park. Bring something to BBQ, something to share (salad, dessert, or munchies) and your beverage of choice. Directions: I-80 to Davis. Take the Mace Blvd exit. Go North, around bend (Mace becomes Covell Blvd) Turn Left on Monarch Ln. Take1st right onto Temple. Park is one block ahead on left. -OR- I-5 to Woodland, exit at Road 102 to Davis. Proceed South to Davis, approx. 8 miles. Turn left at the 1st major intersection - Covell Blvd. Go about 1 mile to Monarch Blvd, turn right, go 1 block. Turn right on Temple. Park is 1 block ahead on left. RSVP: Ron Krueger: 530-758-0351/cell 530-304-4249 ronkrue@hotmail.com

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<u>SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM UPDATE</u>

by Mike "Doc" Rafferty, Director and Scholarship Chairman

11th ACVVC Raffle to Benefit Scholarship Program in 2015

The proceeds from this year's raffle will I once again go towards providing scholarships for our children. The 11th ACVVC's Scholarship Program has awarded 356 scholarships totaling \$1,126,000 to children of our membership since 1996. All children (natural, adopted or step child) of our members who are planning on attending a university, community college or trade school are eligible to apply.

There is no age limit and students do not need to be pursuing a degree. Please look at the scholarship guide on our website (www.11thcavnam.com/scholar.htm) for more information.

You can help fund the scholarship program by participating in the 2015 raffle.

You can help fund the scholarship program by participating in the 2015 raffle. The drawing will be held Saturday, August 22nd during the 30th annual reunion in Columbus, Georgia. You need not be present to win.



Mike 'Doc' Rafferty

The prize pool consists of:

- 1st place (\$500)
- 2nd place (\$400)
- 3rd place (\$300)
- 4th place (\$200)
- ...and eleven \$100 prizes.

The drawing will be held Saturday, August 22nd during the 30th annual reunion in Columbus, Georgia. You need not be present to win. The suggested ticket price is \$1.00 per ticket and is not tax deductible. TRaffle tickets will be mailed to all 11th ACVVC members in May. Please consider purchasing tickets to help fund this important program. If you do not wish to participate in the raffle you are still welcome to send a donation to the 11th ACVVC scholarship program.

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 Phone: 706-324-0231

Reservation Cutoff: Aug 3, 2015 175 rooms - Distance to Convention

Center: 5 miles

Rate includes full southern breakfast buffet

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

HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON

1664 Whittlesev Road Columbus, GA 31904 Rate: \$98 single/double Phone: 706-257-6931 Reservation Cutoff:

50 rooms - Distance to Convention Center:

5 miles

Rated includes breakfast

HILTON GARDEN INN

1500 Bradley Lake Boulevard Columbus, GA 31904 Rate: \$109 single/do ble Phone: 706-660 600 Reservation butoff: 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)

MARRIOTT COLUMBUS

800 Front Avenue Columbus, GA 31961 Rate: \$129 sin Nouble Phone: 860, 28-9290

Reservation Cutoff: July 20, 2015 110 rooms - Distance to Convention

Center: 1/2 block

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 AND 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.nationalinfantrvmuseum.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 2nd 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

Child of a Current 11ACVVC Member	Applicant s rull Name	Date	e of Birth:	
City: State: Zip Code: Telephone Number: Applicant's Qualifying Status: (Check Only One): □ Child of Decessed 11ACR Trooper who served in Vielnam or Cambodia □ Child of a Current 11ACVVC Member □ Trooper Who is a Current 11ACVVC Member □ Applicant's SPONSOR 11th Cav Veteran; Full Name: □ Email □ Sponsor's 11th Cav Unit in Vielnam: □ Dates in Vietnam □ 11th ACVVC Membership #: □ Dates in Vietnam □ 11th One in Vie	Applicant's Social Security Number:	E-Mail Address:		
Applicant's Qualifying Status: (Check Only One): □ Child of Deceased 11ACR Trooper who served in Vietnam or Cambodia □Child of a Current 11ACVVC Member □ Trooper Who is a Current 11ACVVC Member [4] Applicant's SPONSOR 11th Cav Veteran; Full Name: □ Dates in Vietnam □ 11th ACVVC Membership #: □ Dates in Vietnam □ 11th ACVVC Sendership *: □ Dates in Vietnam □ 11th ACVVC Sendership *: □ Dates in Vietnam □ 11th ACVVC Sendership *: □ Dates in Vietnam □ 11th ACVVC Sendership *: □ Dates in Vietnam □ 11th ACVVC Sendership *: □ Dates in Vietnam □ 11th ACVVC Sendership *: □ Dates in Vietnam □ 11th ACVVC Sendership *: □ Dates in Vietnam □ 11th ACVVC Sendership *: □ Dates in Vietnam □ 11th ACVVC Sendership *: □ Dates in Vietnam □ 11th ACVVC Sendership *: □ Dates in Vietnam □ 11th ACVVC Sendership *: □ Dates in Vietnam □ 11th ACVVC Sendership *: □ Dates in Vietnam □ 11th ACVVC Sendership *: □ Dates in Vietnam □ 11th ACVVC Sendership *: □ D	Address:	A	partment/Unit #	
[4] Applicant's SPONSOR 11th Cav Veteran; Full Name:	City:Str	ate: Zip Code:	Telephone Number:	
Sponsor's 11th Cav Unit in Vietnam:				ember
Address: City: State: Zip: Phone: Have You Made Application? Yes. No. Have You Been Accepted? Yes. No. Standard Test Score For Your State; ACT SAT Other Specify: Room & Board \$ Books & Supplies \$ Miscellaneous \$ Total Exp. \$ Total Exp. \$ Miscellaneous \$ Total Exp. \$ Miscellaneous \$ Total Exp. \$ Miscellaneous \$ Total Exp. \$ Mame City, State Dates From /To Name City, State Dates From /To Nam	[4] Applicant's SPONSOR 11th Cav Veteran: Full Na	me:	Email	
Name: Address: City: State: Zip: Phone: Have You Made Application?	Sponsor's 11th Cav Unit in Vietnam:	Dates in Vietnam	11 th ACVVC Membership #	·
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City: State: Zip: Phone: Have You Made Application? Yes. No. Have You Been Accepted? Yes. No. Have You Made Application? Yes. No. Have You Been Accepted? Yes. No. Standard Test Score For Your State; ACT SAT Other Specify: Speci	Name:			
Have You Made Application?	Address:			
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[10] You must attach a copy of your grade transcripts from your last two years of education in High School or College. [11] On one typed sheet of paper with your NAME & EMAIL and your 11ACVVC Sponsor/Father's name at top of the page: 1. State the Field of Study That You Plan to Enter and Why. 2. Tell Us Why You Would Be a Worthy Recipient of the 11ACVVC Scholarship. 3. Note: Concentrate on why you should be awarded an 11ACVVC Scholarship. Focus on your qualifications and not your father's military experies applicable, also describe your participation in veterans' affairs or events, if any. the undersigned, give my permission for a copy of my High School / College Transcript to be submitted with this Scholarship Application. Inderstand that the selection process may involve a committee composed of individuals that are in the community at large. Signature of Applicant Printed Name Date 15] Please Mail Your Completed Application with attachments for [10] and [11] above to the Scholarship Committee Chairman: Michael "Doc" Rafferty 11ACVVC Scholarship Chairman 5837 Habanero Drive ● Las Cruces, NM 88012 Email: platoonmedic36@gmail.com ● Phone 915-792-2804 or 575-915-2921		and the second s		
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→ QUESTIONS? <u>Email</u> is Doc Rafferty's <u>PREFERRED</u> method of communication.	[11] On one typed sheet of paper with your NAME & E 1. State the Field of Study That You Plan to Ente 2. Tell Us Why You Would Be a Worthy Recipient 3. Note: Concentrate on why you should be awar applicable, also describe your participation in violate and that the selection process may involve a commoderstand that the selection process ma	MAIL and your 11ACVVC Sponsor and Why. It of the 11ACVVC Scholarship. It of the 11ACVVC Scholarship. For the and 11ACVVC Scholarship. For the terans' affairs or events, if any. If of the 11ACVVC Scholarship. For the terans' affairs or events, if any. If of the 11ACVVC Scholarship. For the terans' affairs or events, if any. If of the 11ACVVC Scholarship. For the terans' affairs or events, if any. If of the 11ACVVC Scholarship. For the terans' affairs or events, if any. If of the 11ACVVC Scholarship. For the terans' affairs or events, if any. If of the 11ACVVC Scholarship. For the terans' affairs or events, if any. If of the 11ACVVC Scholarship. For the terans' affairs or events, if any. If of the 11ACVVC Scholarship. For the terans' affairs or events, if any. If of the 11ACVVC Scholarship. For events, if any. If of the 11ACVVC Scholarship. For events, if any. If of the 11ACVVC Scholarship. For events, if any. If of the 11ACVVC Scholarship. For events, if any. If of the 11ACVVC Scholarship. For events, if any. If of the 11ACVVC Scholarship. For events, if any. If of the 11ACVVC Scholarship. For events, if any. If of the 11ACVVC Scholarship. For events, if any. If of the 11ACVVC Scholarship. For events, if any. If of the 11ACVVC Scholarship. For events, if any. If of the 11ACVVC Scholarship. For events, if any. If of the 11ACVVC Scholarship. For events, if any. If of the 11ACVVC Scholarship. For events, if any. If of the 11ACVVC Scholarship. For events, if any. If of the 11ACVVC Scholarship. For events, if any. If of the 11ACVVC Scholarship. For events, if any. If of the 11ACVVC Scholarship. For events, if any. If of the 11ACVVC Scholarship. For events, if any. If of the 11ACVVC Scholarship. For events, if any. If of the 11ACVVC Scholarship. If any.	exifFather's name at top of the page: ocus on your qualifications and not you e submitted with this Scholarship Appli t are in the community at large. Date Date Date	cation.



Blackhorse Women's News

By Kathy Tandberg, Women's Group Co-coordinator

Guest Speaker, Tour, Highlights for Women's Group

Happy spring! At least some of you are experiencing spring weather in your state, which means we are well on the way to our next reunion. The Women's Group hopes to see as many of you as able when we next gather for the 11th ACVVC 30th annual reunion, August 19-23 at Columbus, Georgia/Fort Benning.

The Blackhorse Women's Group has been busy making plans for this reunion and we are excited to share these plans.

First up: A tour

A Women's Group Tour is scheduled for Friday, August 21 in the city of Columbus. The day begins with a 9:15 morning pickup at your hotels, with a first destination of the Columbus Art & History Museum. If you have not yet signed up for this tour, please do so as soon as possible because as announced in the January issue of Thunder Run, the tour is limited to the first 100 who sign up. We are nearly three-fourths full so please register by using the special tour form in the Thunder Run. This is the second largest museum in the state of Georgia, second only to a museum in Atlanta. The museum is unique in that it has a permanent art collection as well as rotating galleries. There is also a gallery dedicated to regional history. 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 and not all can walk as well as others. A special exhibit on display is a gallery of blown glass art made by the famous glass sculptor Dale Chihuly, 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.



Columbus Museum of Art & History

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. 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. 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 special locations in this cemetery. At approximately 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.

Speaker planned for Women's Meeting

As promised, we have an excellent guest speaker planned for the Women's Meeting, Saturday morning, and August 22. For the past few meetings, we have been approached by you, our women, requesting a speaker about Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, specifically related to families living with troopers with PTSD. It gives our women's board of directors great pleasure to announce that Dr. Candace Drake, Ph.D., PTSD Psychologist with the Veterans Administration, will speak at our Saturday morning meeting. Dr. Drake is the Assistant Director of Training, Psychology Internship Program, at Gulf Coast Veterans Health Care System, Pensacola, Florida. We thank men's board member, Pete Walter, with assisting us in locating Dr. Drake, who is also a 11th ACVVC family member. We are honored that she has agreed to speak with us. This is an important subject for our group. Even if you have never attended our women's meetings before, perhaps it is time to check us out and attend our meeting.

Saturday Lunch

Following the men's and women's Saturday morning meetings, lunch will be served that is included as part of the reunion registration. The menu includes a selection of sandwiches, potato salad or coleslaw and a cookie.

Fundraiser

Because the 30th annual reunion includes a special memorial dedication and several tours that Thursday and Friday, the women's group will not offer a second fundraising item as previously annuanced.

We will, however, still be offering a wonderful, special Fort Benning and memorial lanyard at this year's reunion. Look for us in or near the Quartermaster's room.

Getting to Know You and Other Notes

On another note — ladies, have you filled out your "Getting to Know You" project pages or forms and emailed or mailed them to project chairman Rosa Rector? If not, please do so. If you need a form or mailing information, please contact Rosa at 937-667-3606. Also, be sure to check out the Blackhorse Women's webpage site by going to the men's website at www.11thcavnam.com and on the New Website Format locate "Messages" in the long box near the bottom of the page above the words "Members Area." Click on Messages. This will take you to a second page for selection under the words "Blackhorse Messages" and you will find several links including one to our pages "Blackhorse Women's News."

Also please "Like" us on Facebook by searching Blackhorse Women.

Co-coordinator Kathy Tandberg can be reached by email at or by phone at 701-873-2970 or 701-870-6868.

Thunder Run 2nd Ouarter. 2015



Chaplain Larry Haworth

COLORS

s Viet Nam vets, we have a lot in common, even if we don't think about it much. For example, last night I woke up and couldn't get back to sleep. For my wife that was OK because if I was sleeping I would be snoring. Not being able to sleep, I started thinking about Viet Nam. "Whoa there, Chaplain!" you're undoubtedly thinking. I respond, "Hang on. I'll explain." What happened is that I started thinking about colors in Viet Nam. Is that strange? Yes? I agree. But it's true. I got to thinking about different things that we experienced in the Nam and what color they were. I'll tell you a few colors I came up with. You'll see what I mean. Then I'll be interested in what you have to say about this unusual, but worthwhile, subject. When thinking about it, you'll remember more about colors in Viet Nam than you expected. Check these:

Red #1. Those of you who rode with the Blackhorse around Quan Loi will clearly recall Quan Loi Red. Quan Loi dirt was red as bricks or even the Oklahoma hill country. When it rained the roads were slippery and hard to walk on, even hard to drive on, even in a jeep - remember jeeps? When I first arrived I rode in a jeep around Quan Loi a few times. It was like driving on ice. It was hard to scrape QL Red off jungle boots after sloshing around in the mud for a while. The ridges of the soles (not soul) of the boots helped keep you from slipping, but they also collected QL Red making your boots heavier and you

Green. This has no relationship to Quan Loi vegetation. It has to do with tracers. If you spent much time in the field or such places that drew fire, you'll remember green tracers. For those of you What happened is that I started thinking about colors in Viet Nam. Is that strange? Yes? I agree. But it's true. I got to thinking about different things that we experienced in the Nam and what color they were. I'll tell you a few colors I came up with.

who don't know, when the bad guys side shot at you with a machine gun, of all the bullets that were coming in your direction, one in five had a chemical butt that burned green. That was so the enemy could see where his bullets were going and you could see where they were coming. He liked it that way. You didn't. You may likewise recall that our side also used tracers in exactly the same manner and for the very same reason. Except, as you may have guessed, our tracers were not green, not even OD green. Ours were red. Given the circumstances, I think we agree that red was certainly the preferable color.

Gray. We often think of several different situations where smoke comes to mind. Smoke for our consideration today is sort of a dirty gray color. We discussed this subject briefly some time back, so we won't repeat ourselves. I'll just point out that this color came from our field sanitation system. Namely it came from the mixing of diesel fuel with the sewage, namely poop (not the precise word we used) and burning it in the poop receptacle which gave off gray smoke. This is not a particularly agreeable memory. That's because the duty of burning poop was a highly undesirable duty assigned to someone as a disciplinary measure or just because someone else had to do it and it was his turn. Anyway, although this memory isn't pleasant, it certainly is not one that would produce nightmares of the dangerous kind. It's actually funny, when you think about it, at least when you look back on it, especially if it was the other guy's duty.

Black. I'm told that black isn't technically a color. I heard when I was young that pure black is total lack of color. Without going into science or detail, I'll agree. When I remember the purest form of black I've ever experienced, I agree there was no color involved. There was nothing there that I could see, just black, nothing but black with my eyes wide open. It happened at night in the bush of Viet Nam when there was no light, no color, no stars, no moon, and no sunlight. For me, the blackest was when trying to find my way around an NDP (night defensive position) in the jungle along the Cambodian border when I had to find my tent in the middle of the night and had no light whatsoever. You've undoubtedly experienced such black and know what I'm talking about. You understood the reasons for having zero light, zero anything visible, because the bad guys would spot you and you'd quickly be saying hi to your ancestors.

OD. That's Olive Drab for those of you who aren't a Viet Nam vet, a vet of another service, or not a vet at all. Anyway, OD is sort of a greenish, brownish, grayish color for uniforms that I guess blends into the background better than normal colors. That's so the enemy can't see us too easily. OD is still around these days although now every-

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."

2nd Quarter, 2015 Thunder Run

12

thing seems to be camo, as in camouflage, with OD as a participating color in camouflage. As you undoubtedly perceive, OD was a very important color for us because in our war just about everything was OD from helicopters and tanks to fatigues and sox, even underwear. That's fine. Some of us even like OD. Some of us even have personal cars that we painted OD. I think OD was a holdover from earlier wars. Someone I wouldn't know about in Army history probably invented OD.

Red #2. Remember those huge red ants that got all over you when you had to park your ACav on an ant hill and had to spray that aerosol can of insecticide all over you to kill those monster ants? That's enough said which you know from experience.

Red #3. Remember those little red Honda 50s that were ridden by a young

ing along a jungle trail when your troop, company, or whatever was parked somewhere in the jungle and when they showed up you knew there would be no enemy around that day? There might be some action that day, but it wasn't the shooting kind. (You didn't think chaplains knew about such things, did you?)

Gold. Gold is a color. I don't recall ever knowing anyone who didn't consider gold to be beautiful in whatever form, as a piece of solid gold jewelry, as plating to cover a less beautiful thing, such as a gold plated ring, as gold thread to improve the looks of a valuable fabric. Gold is even considered very appealing as a color, adorning artificial gold items such as non-subdued stripes on enlisted soldiers rank insignia - the more gold stripes, the higher the rank. Therefore, it figures that the more stripes you wore,

man and had one or two young ladies rid- the more actual gold you could buy - but that's beyond us for this discussion. What is in the scope of this discussion is the value of gold in relation to life's other important things. All of this gets summed up in attitudes toward the color gold. On that note I'll wind up our discussion for today with a quote from the Bible, our best authority for where real gold fits into living our life:

> "The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul. The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy, making wise the simple. The precepts of the Lord are right, giving joy to the heart. The commands of the Lord are radiant, giving light to the eyes.... They are more precious than gold, than much gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the comb." Psalm 19:7-

God bless you, God loves you. So do I.

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)	
SER NO RANK (during tour)	SSN NO
OTHER INFORMATION	
TYPE MEMBERSHIP: 🗍 NEW	RENEWAL MEMBERSHIP NUMBER
ANNUAL (\$15)	☐ LIFE (\$100)
🗍 LIFE Plan (\$25 e	nclosed, plus 3 payments of \$25 in 3, 6 and 9 months)
IN ADDITION, PLEASE ACCEPT MY TAX D	EDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTION FOR \$
I authorize the release of my address/phon	ne number to other Troopers who served with the 11th ACR
(Sign)	
☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard Card #	Exp. Date
Signature	
Please make checks/money orders payable	e to: 11th ACVVC. Mail this form with your check or money order (no cash)

Thunder Run 2nd 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-akind 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

Winning bidders must be present and pick up their items and pay for them between 9pm and 9:30pm after the bid-

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 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!



Welcome Aboard!

New Members of the 11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia (11th ACVVC) since our last issue of *Thunder Run*. Are you looking for an old friend? Please contact any Officer or Board Member listed on page 3 for help.

NAME	DATES	NAME	DATES	NAME	DATES	NAME	DATES
HHT REGIMEN	Γ	HHT, 1/11		HHT, 2/11		HHT, 3/11	
Dancy, Thomas N	66-67	Rea, Michael A	70-71	Cifelli, Nicholas M Jr	71-72	Sampolski, William E	69-70
AIR CAVALRY TRO Graham, William D Hasselvander, Philip H	OOP 69-70 67-68	A TROOP, 1/11 Milligan, Stanley A	70-71	Huskey, James L Johnson, Gerald S Shaw, Robert L	66-67 71-72 67-68	I TROOP, 3/11 Nungester, Roy A	66-66
Huskey, James L	66-67	C TROOP, 1/11		E TROOP, 2/11		K TROOP, 3/11	
•		Armentrout, Bruce W Drescher, Gerald W	70-71 70-70	Hinrichsen, Rodney L	70-71	Wood, Vance C	66-67
398th TRANSPORTATI	-	Dieschel, Geralu W	70-70			HOWITZER BATTERY	<i>I</i> , 3/11
Abbl, Michael D	71-72	D COMPANY, 1/1	1	F TROOP, 2/11	00.00	Arnold, Dannie S	70-70
591st ENGINEER CO	MPANY	Williamson, John K	67-68	Pennington, Larry W	69-69		
Birkett, James A	67-68	Wulf, John P	69-70	Ray, Kenneth E	70-70		
595th ENGINEER COI Vescio, Carmen J Jr		HOWITZER BATTERY, Mcneil, Richard M	1/11 66-67	G TROOP, 2/11 Rosenberger, James D	68-69		



Membership is Our Strength



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

REUNION SHIRT ORDER – also available with additional personalization 11thACVVC - 30^{th} 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 Sailits sizes run large again (as were at Louis 2011, may 2013 and vega	15 ZU14.)
All Reunion shirts To receive your 2015 Reunion shirt for the Reunion,	H-MCVVC
will be pre-ordered. ALL ORDERS must be in BY JUNE 30, 2015 - No Except	ions.
your <i>name</i> and <i>phone</i> or email	030
Reunion Shirt	\$30ea
Sport shirt – pique knit cotton/poly blend, color sunflower - left chest pocket Adult (mens) size S – 6X available (3X please add \$2/ 4X +\$4/ 5X +\$6) If to be shipped (AFTER the Reunion) – please add \$8 per shirt	S&H
Include your address and shipping instructions:	(sales tax is included)
Personalization Add your name, unit, and/or dates in-country	y: \$10ea
left chest over pocket, opposite Reunion logo –	Check – (no CCs)
1 to 3 lines, allow 40 characters, excluding spacing:	Total enclosed —
example: CHUCK BOWER LTRP 69-70	payable to Penn Sport* - Thanks! - see you there - Allons
This form is for 2015 Reunion Shirts only – all other orders go the	ru the quartermaster

Thunder Run 2nd Ouarter. 2015

*Reunion shirts provided through Penn Sport Embroidery – Please e-mail or call direct with questions! 360-321-7110 – pennsport@whidbey.com - Chuck and Cathi Bower – 6075 S. Coles Rd. Langley, WA 98260

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 percent.

per person.	<u> </u>	
(Cut here , send b	oottom porti	on with payment)
FIRST NAME	MI _	_ LAST
ADDRESS		
CITY		
PHONE	_ E-MAIL	(if available).
Mail this form with your payment to:	11 8	ETER L. WALTER Ith ACVVC VP TALLOWOOD DRIVE ESTAMPTON, NJ 08060-3721
☐ RANGER TOUR: # ATTENDING	X \$2	0 = AMOUNT ENCLOSED
☐ ARMOR TOUR: # ATTENDING	X \$2	0 = AMOUNT ENCLOSED
☐ WOMEN'S TOUR: # ATTENDING	X \$2	25 = AMOUNT ENCLOSED
		TOTAL AMOUNT =
(Please include full nan tours on a se		

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.

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REGISTRATION FORM



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 (p	lease print)	\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
Total Registration Fee		\$
Banquet Meal Selection: Char-Grilled, Rib eye Ste (Indicate number for each selection)	ak Chicken Supre	meVeggie
Is this your first reunion? ☐ Yes ☐ No	Wheelchair or special needs	seating? Yes No
Will you need bus transportation to events or will you	ou drive your own vehicle?	□ Need 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

11™ ACVVC DONATIONS

Kuenzel, Orlin

Lengefeld, Eric

Linberg, Robert

McKnight, Matt

Morris, Duane

Murphy, Kenneth

Ochowicz, William

Rosendahl, Myron

Sonnier, Michael

Taylor, Craig

Tidwell, Phillip

Tinney, Edward

Trosper, Eddie

Vaaler, Adrian

Wagg, Robert

Watts, Wayne

West, George

Villarreal. Emilio

Wardrope, Scott

Watkins, Charles

Moyer, Jack

Nash. Dane

Parker, Flmer

Prver, Lee

Like, David

LaBrecque, Simon

Donor Levels:

Platinum Level \$500+

Gold Level \$100-\$499

Silver Level \$50-\$99

Edwards, Earl

Emerson, Ron

Bronze Level \$1-\$49

Trooper **Assistance Fund**

Gold Level

Cook, William Tony

Silver Level

Hager, Catherine In Memory of Edward J. Hager Wulf, John

Bronx Level

Bates, Terry Graham, William

Scholarship Fund

Platinum Level

Rambo, Daniel Stevens, Ilene

Gold Level

In Memory of Daniel Phillippi Jr Cartwright, Waverly Drake, Deloris Folden, Dennis & Janet Hanson, Carol & Gene Kasone, Lyle Lokken, Ramona Mitchell, Doris & Luke Mullins, Sonia Phillippi, Sy & Shirley Sorenson, Larry & Gloria Wahus, Lynn Wahus, Glen Wahus, Dale Waterbury, Harold R. R. McCormick Foundation

Silver Level

Conrad. Bill & Yevonne Wahus, Donald & Deborah In Memory of, Daniel Phillippi Jr

Bronze Level

Callaway, Gary Dirska, Alfred McIntvre, Debbie & Ernie

Riley, Charles & Betty In Memory of, Daniel Phillippi Jr. Varlien, Frank Venditti, Charles

General Fund

Gold Level

Cook, William 'Tony' Hager, Catherine In Memory of Edward J. Hager

Silver Level

Wulf, John

Bronze Level

Bates, Terry Graham, William

Memorial Fund

Platinum Level

Gould, Kingdon

Gold Level

Harden, E.B. Parks, Harvey . Eddie

Silver Level

Banks, Ray Jack, Gary & Dorothy In Memory of Johnny Hart

Bronze Level

Cullerton, Thomas

Calendar Fund

Platinum Level

Buening, Edward

Gold Level

Amore, John Bock, Daniel Bowen, Alfred Brennan, Paul Cartwright, Wavely Clement, Stephen Dirska, Alfred Dumdei, Larry Dunn, John

Foster, Roland Ganias, Steve Graham, James Gunn, Dennis In Memory of Percy Bly Hensley, Jerry Hughes, Joseph Hurley, Jack Kerrick, Jonathan Krieg, Steven LaFountaine, Donald Lamere, Bruce Mahurin, Mary Miller, Carl Miller, Kenneth Morris, Jimmy Murdock, Monte Norris. Danny O'Neill, Timothy Ortiz, Anthony Pender, Johnny Reynolds, Marla Rustenberg, Homer Smith, Wade Sobus, Timothy Tamulonis, John Tolan, Kenneth Vescio, Carmen White, Edward

Silver Level

Wright, George

Andrews, Jerry Arble, Patrick Bakos, Richard Baylosis, Joseph Burns, James Calton, Bobby Chipman, Stephen Clark, Floyd Crowder, Garv Davis. Matthew Eriser, James Fortnam, David Gathe, Wilbur Gordon, Ralph Hancock, Donald Harris, Charles Herman, Paul Howard, Edward King, Edward Kirkpatrick, Michael Klink, Robert Klosiewicz, Thomas Koch, Anthony Kraxberger, W. Stephen

Bronze Level

Baker, Robert Ballas, Tony Bartlett, Michael Bishop, James Black, Phillip Bonanno, Alfred Borror, John Bourdeau, Michael Brill. Grev Burke, Thomas Burney, James Callahan, Donald Carey, Donald Carlson, Robert Carter, S.R. Christensen, Burt Clack, Douglas Colameco, Thomas Cox. Ralph Cullerton, Thomas Derby, Steve Dickson, Robert Doswell, Clifford Dothinger, Jeses Duckwall, John Dye, Donald Easter, Larry

Endres, Bradley Ergish, Walter Erickson, Larry Evans, James Fernicola, Charles Fink, Eugene Finkelsen, Kenneth Flovd. Garv Foggin, John Ford. Timothy Fortman, Ed Francis, Roy Fremd, Harold Gaines, James Gambert, Robert Gamble, Jimmy Garcia, Julio Gatewood, Henry Gaul, James Gearhardt, Terry Gelder, Albert Gharing, Richard Gilbert, Howard Glaser, Barry Glunn, Dennis Grant. Robert Grim, Eugene Guldner, Peter Hadix, William Halstead, Babe Hancock, Jackie Hanna, Susan Hans, Owen Headrick, Joseph Hladky, Joseph Hoem, Neil Hofstaedter, Thomas Hollidav. P. Holmes, Malcom Hooton, Berke Hough, William Hrvadil, Nicholas Hufnagel, Richard Humbertson, John Iseman, William Jensen, Sandra

Journeay, Jack

Kemper, Robert

Kotke, Lawrence

Kujawa, Theodore

Kurniawka, Thor

LaGravier, Jerry

Lamgo, Floyd

Kopecky, Christopher

Kelly, Robert

Langley, Rickey Larsen, Chris Laspina, William Leesmann, Dale Lindell, Craig Liriano, Lady Long, R.H. Long, Richard Lyle, Ross Lvnch, James Mann, Johnny Manzo, Joseph Martinez, Daniel Mayer, Jan McArthur, David McCarthy, Leonard McCollum, Christine McKillip, Clarence McMasters, Cary Monprode, Robert Moore, William Morris, Deborah Moscarelli, Charles Munns, Michael Nebergall, Allen Newcomb, Dale Nuckols, Keith Orozco, Joseph Ortiz, Concepcion In Memory of SSqt. John Ortiz Ortiz-Colon, Antoinette Pace, D.L. Parisien. Dennis Pelvas, Bruce Pitt. Michael Poe, James Pudelek, John Pullium, Michael Quinlivan, John Randolph, James Reasland, Craig Reed, Jackson Refshauge, Charles Reyes, Jose Ribota, Richard Roberts. Don Ronne, Ralph Rosario, Miguel Ruscher, John Sabine, Dale Sabol, J.C. Sanders, Larry Savel, Thomas Scherz, Gerald Schofield, David Schwier, Richard

Dominguez, Manuel

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Scohy, R. Bruce Seese, Harry Sevigny, Richard Sharpe, Terry Sherman, Garry Silora, Thomas Simpson, Charles Six, Robert Skiffington, John Stampley, James Stark, John Stokes, William Sutton, Harold Switek, Joseph Taylor, Douglas Terry, Gary Thomas, Arthur Thompson, Limmie Todd , Michael Valdez, Anthony Van Horn, David Van Matre, Jerry Vargas, Luis Waldron, Hilmon Ward, George Ward, Bruce Ward, Bobby Warlick, James Watkins, Charles Weeks, Keith Weltzien, James Wetmore, Joseph Wherley, Steven Wieland, David Williams, Lyndal

Wisenor, William Wood, Kenneth Woodruff, Leon Wright, Stephen Wright, Curtis Zimmerman, Tim Zuan, James

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."

Homemade Mines. On 6 January 1967, Troopers from Alpha Troop, 1/11, uncovered a makeshift factory for making anti-personnel and anti-tank mines about ten kilometers south of Blackhorse Base Camp. According to the report that was submitted at the time, the factory contained "wooden boxes, CBU's [cluster bomb units] and [US] 105mm rounds, rubber bands, and nails... Explosives from the CBU's and 105mm rounds were used for the mine charges, the nails and rubber bands were used as detonators." All of the mine-making materials were destroyed. The next day, just as the Alpha Troopers were beginning their daily reconnaissance mission, an ACAV detonated a mine about 200 meters from that mine factory. The blast resulted in eight track blocks, two road wheels, and all grease fittings being damaged. There were no casualties.

Lima Troop to the Rescue. From an article entitled "Tracks Across Vietnam" that appeared in the August 1968 edition of Army Digest: "Critics predicted it just wouldn't work in Vietnam because of the thick jungles and boggy rice paddies, but by now Army armor units have proved themselves in battle... After being called to the defense of the Bien Hoa-Long Binh area during the [February 1968] Tet offensive, armor proved its worth in still another environment as it routed the Viet Cong from towns and villages. On short notice, L Troop, 3d Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, was called as a reaction force near Tan Son Nhut Air Base. After convoying down Highway 1 and through Saigon, the unit set up in a nearby rice field. An estimated battalion of Viet Cong attempted to overrun the position, but was beaten off by the .50 caliber and M60 machineguns. As tracer bullets and flares cut through the darkness and machineguns caught the enemy in deadly crossfire, a platoon of 'tracks' routed the enemy while they were attempting to set up rocket-propelled grenade launchers. Surprised by the sudden counter-attack and firepower, the VC fled their bunkers, leaving behind many weapons. Next morning, the cavalrymen confirmed at least 40 enemy killed."

Chaplains Know Best. From the June 1969 edition of the Blackhorse Newspaper: "Regimental Chaplain (Lieutenant Colonel) R.H. Hawn's message on Sunday, April 20, centered around the bib-

lical verse 'Seek and ye shall find.' A man to follow his own advice as well as to give it, the chaplain after his services were finished rode off and found a gift somewhat less than heavenly — a brand new antitank mine. Following his service at an 11th Cav field unit the chaplain was motoring back to the Regimental CP [Command Post] when he yelled at his driver to 'stop the jeep!' The chaplain moved to the center of the road and marked a pressure detonated anti-tank mine. 'We were driving along when I happened to glance at the road. I looked at one patch of ground and I knew that the mine was there. Don't ask me how I knew that mine was there. It's just a feeling that you get after being around armor and enemy mines a lot.' Within minutes 919th Combat Engineers arrived and detonated the mine.'"

Flying PX. From the April 1970 edition of the Blackhorse Newspaper: "It's called the 'Chopper Shopper' or the 'Flying PX.' Whatever its name, the helicopter laden with PX goods gives the troops in the field a chance to shop at least once a week. The 'Flying PX' concept was initiated last November by PX officer Lieutenant Thomas Nesbitt. The Blackhorse supplies a chopper three days a week which PX personnel load with soap, toothpaste, cameras, various food items and dozens of other goods. Troops can even order stereo, photo and other equipment from the PACEX [Pacific Exchange] catalog. 'Unless they're on the move, each squadron gets the 'Flying PX' one day a week,' said Staff Sergeant Lavin 'Tiny' Summers, S-1 NCOIC [Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge], coordinator of the PX bird. The chopper makes several trips back to Quan Loi to insure a full load for each squadron. The 'Flying PX' seems to be a great success. Daily sales range from \$900 to \$2800 right after payday. Second Squadron holds the single day record with the \$2800 figure. What seems even more amazing is that the next day the squadron spent another \$1800. Seventy-five percent of items such as radios, cassette tape players, watches and cameras which cost less than \$50 are held back from the PX shelves and sold in the 'Chopper Shopper.' 'We feel it's our obligation to the field trooper to give him a chance to compete with the men stationed in the rear who can go to the PX anytime,' said Lieutenant Mitch Robinson, PX officer."

Days & Nights Over a Hot Typewriter. From the 11th ACR redeployment after action report, dated 5 March 1971: "The processing of some 3600 awards during the period December 1970 to February 1971—each typed, submitted, followed up, returned after action by a IIFFV [II Field Force Vietnam, the Regiment's higher headquarters during this time] awards board and then presented to the individual—represents thousands of hours of work by the awards clerks of the Regiment."

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

2nd Quarter, 2015 Thunder Run

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

AL REUNION

AUGUST 19-23, 2015



We're looking forward to the 2015 reunion in Columbus. We have an For those needing transportation, shuttle service will provided between exciting agenda planned for the reunion week. This is a brief description of some of activities and tours in store for the reunion.

WEDNESDAY

Registration, quartermaster 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 ceremony.

Immediately following the graduation 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 dedi-

cation 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 nos-



talgic 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.

hotels, 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, quartermaster 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 demonstra-



tion is limited to the first 400 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 your 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.



Operation Hickory II

From a Different Perspective

James V. Potter K Troop, 3/11 66-67

Tenjoyed reading the article about Operation Hickory. It brought back memories of our first real operation and some of the problems we encountered. For the most part the article was accurate, but I have a slightly different perspective being in a different position during the operation. I was the platoon leader of first platoon K-troop. We were behind M Company who was leading the road march. The day was sunny and everyone excited about the operation. We made good progress for the first hour or so passing through a few villages with people standing on the side of the road waving at us. I remember this one man in particular. He wore only shorts and was carrying an M-1 Garand. I radioed my Platoon Sargent warning that he was coming up on the man. He replied there was no way to tell if he was hostile unless he did something. We probably caught him sleeping and he didn't have time to run. I laughed.

After several hours into the road march the tanks up front came to a halt. We peeled off to both sides of the road in a

Ambush

By: Frank Church G Troop, 69-70

The column rattles, rumbles and squeaks along a jungle trail
All in a line, track in track, keeping distance between
Guns pointed out, eyes wide open, adrenaline ready to flow
The dust is thick, wood line is dense, shadows begin to move
A familiar, haunting and ominus smell creeps into the air
An Asian odor of stale cooked rice mingled with decaying jungle
Senses come alive, muscles tense, sweat pours, weapons are cocked

Swarming plumes of fire and smoke streak through the air Automatic weapons thunder from the bush, green tracers fly The line turns right and left moving into the herring bone 50s, 60s, M79s and main guns come alive spewing lead in return Red tracers fill the air on all sides reaching deep into the jungle The trees splinter and fall, sheared down by the barrage of missiles

The air is heavy with smoke and the smell of gunpowder Calls on the radio are frantic and the same time calm

The line is now a din of charging steel claiming superior fire

"Cease fire," "cease fire," what loss did we take, what price did they pay Silence is all that is heard but for heavy breaths and deep sighs

"Medic", "medic" comes the frightful and anguished screams Count the dead, dust off the wounded, reload the weapons No moment to reflect, no time to morn, emotions are numbed "Mount up", get ready to do it all over again defensive position. At first we had no indication what was going on. Eventually word of a roadblock reached us. We waited. Time started to get boring so I sent a squad to search a small farm house just to our front. The squad hardly made contact with the farm house when we heard a boom. We remounted the squad and waited for orders. Some radio traffic revealed that a claymore overlooking the roadblock, which turned out to be a trench in the road, went off hitting some staff officers and the squadron sergeant major. I then learned our K-troop commander was among the casualties. Things were beginning to be tense, but everyone calm. Our engines' we running and all guns manned. I wanted to move up, but wisely my platoon sergeant advised to hold for orders. Shortly, we were called forward. We charged our weapons and move forward. The first thing we saw were tanks some on the side of the road, one in the middle somewhat blocking and none seemed to be manned. We weaved through the traffic to the front of the line and could see movement around the roadblock. A helicopter was lifting off, hopefully with the wounded. An unidentified lieutenant came running up to my track from my left rear, screaming for me and the platoon to dismount and form a defensive perimeter. That decision was not difficult to make. Let's see, dismount and give up my armor, heavy weapons, mobility, and communications. No way! I don't recall my exact words, but he was invited to get out of my area. I sent our platoon sergeant accompanied by a scout track to the right to take a berm in the distance. We could give him plenty of covering fire and from his position we had the whole right flank and rear covered. Later, we got the word to move out that we were disengaging.

On the way back to base camp I felt a little down about the operation. We had trained for months at Camp AP Hill teaching everyone not to approach roadblocks because they are booby trapped. What were the Sergeant Major, S-3 and my own company commander thinking? The VC had managed to stop a fully armed armored squadron by digging a trench in the road. The unmanned tanks looked like a used car lot with nowhere to park. Most disconcerting was the out of control lieutenant ordering me to dismount, which was nuts, and the spectacle he presented to the platoon. My platoon sergeant and I reflected on the operation back in base camp and as usual he had the words of wisdom. We did our job, no one panicked, and everyone came home safe. For the first time out on an operation and everyone new in country that was a good start.

Thanks to all that served and most of all my thanks to the first platoon K-Troopers and our platoon sergeant whose wisdom and guiding hand were always there.

Operation Hickory III

The Sequel

Leo Deege How, 3/11 65-67

Taving read Charles Hertel's account in the first quarter 2015 Thunder Run issue and the Welcome to Vietnam article by Don Snedeker I now recall some other incidents that may or may not have been part of this particular operation. I seem to recall an ACAV on the 3rd Squadron Headquarters/indirect fire support perimeter receiving pellets from a claymore mine that VC turned around during the night. I also seem to remember panicked shouts of "cease firing" and a caustic remark by Lt. Ruggles [3How Battery EXO] to "button up." While possibly not reassuring a frightened battle captain, the resulting laughter may have caused some frayed nerves to settle down. In our specially tailored TOE, I was bound to a track that had at least six radios blaring day and night. Consequently I monitored everything going on in our Squadron, in supporting artillery units and circling aircraft. I therefore heard those frustrated exclamations between the command helicopter and the team that was stuck in the mud.

It is always easier to listen to that sort of static when not directly involved. I never doubted that both Charlie and the S-3 were determined to do an excellent job. Nothing however provided my track companions and myself more merriment than listening to Aussie radio traffic. The Aussies sometimes provided us with artillery support. It generally took me longer to get them to respond to a request for fire support, which made me wonder about their vigilance and soberness, but I never once doubted their sense of humor. Was it Operations Hickory where we were up all night and where after a night of blaring radios and frantic cries for cease firing, I turned partially grey overnight? Thank you guys! I never doubted the accuracy of our howitzers.

On this particular operation, mud was the great equalizer! I had already learned that lesson in Korea. In 1964, as a newly appointed platoon leader in the only Honest John battery positioned about 11 kilometers south of the DMZ, my Battalion CO [also in a helicopter] directed the battery to relocate into a clayish area, where heavy frost had just started to melt. To make a long story short, more than half the battery got stuck in the mud. Purely by chance my own platoon trailed in the column and stayed on terra firma. It took at least six hours with lots of tractors, ropes and handling equipment to get the battery unstuck. I hate to think what might have happened if North Korea had chosen that moment to invade the South again. After a similar mishap, we finally learned the value of reconnaissance.

In Vietnam I tried to apply that lesson by reconnoitering a location before a planned move. Unfortunately my track got

caught in an ambush. Luckily an RPG and small arms fire missed us and I learned another lesson, "Don't ever go out by myself." Different scenarios provide different lessons. I was recently reminded of my own Vietnam mud experience, when a former jeep driver told me that he had driven me into ditch. I had to run the rest of the way, with mud clinging on my clothes, to an emergency meeting at the Squadron Headquarters.

Charlie mentioned that among others the S-3 and the Team K commander were injured. I now recall of having been airborne myself and adjusting fires all around the mud stuck operation. There is nothing that gives one a greater adrenalin rush than firing on an enemy who is assaulting hapless comrades. I was reminded of this when watching the movie American Sniper. While all of us fought valiantly, our country was experiencing psychosis. Hasty immigrations, draft dodging men, violent student protests, shameless politicians throwing our country's sacred awards across the White House lawn, and Hollywood stars colluded with our enemies in photo ops behind anti-aircraft guns, betraying our finest in the Hanoi Hilton.

For some of you and me, who tried to make a career after our Army stints were over, there was a challenging period of adjustment. While the Army gives us all excellent experiences, civilian life also demands credentials. One wise man told me that if you don't have credentials they will hold it against you, but if you have them they won't necessarily help you. Luckily a World War II veteran helped me to navigate through all the misinformation and got me going again. Patience will be tested. One of the nicest things you can do is to stay involved with other veterans and share your experiences. Our annual reunions and the American Legion will provide support for you and your family.



US M113 ACAV Vietnam Photo by Donn A. Starry. Mounted combat in Vietnam. Department of the Army

Thunder Run 2nd Ouarter. 2015

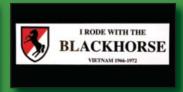
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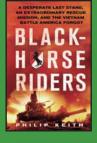
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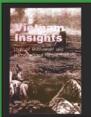
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From the Quartermaster...

Jerry Beamon

Hello from your Quartermaster Store.

Time is going so fast, it will not be long before we will be meeting together in Columbus, GA for our big 30. The last time I wrote this message I could not have imagined how true it is today; than it is just a few months until we will be in Columbus, GA.

Please do not miss this Reunion it promises to be a great one. Things that have been planned you would not want to miss. Again we are asking for your help as a volunteer in the QM Store, if you have any spare time come on by and we'll put you to work.

Again as a reminder keep up with the schedule of events there is a lot going on so as not to miss out.

To the guys who do so much behind the scenes to keep us going here in the Store, I would like to give them a BIG Thank you. To Bill Gregory our editor of *Thunder Run*; and to Otis Cary our internet Coordinator; thank you both so much for all the hard work you do it is really appreciated. We will be looking forward to seeing all of you in Columbus.

Allons, Jerry



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.

- **George W. Allen**, C Troop 1/11 (1966-1967) passed away on February 20, 2015. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Poway, CA.
- **Gary W. Bowling**, Howitzer Battery, 1/11 (1970-1971) passed away on December 2, 2014. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in San Jose, CA.
- **Elery Chatman**, 919th Engineer Company (1966-1967) passed away on February 12, 2015. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Berryville, AR.
- **Sammy L. Dublin**, Air Cavalry Troop (1968-1969) passed away on January 16, 2015. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Tacoma, WA.
- Joseph H. Fennell, 919th Engineer Company (1970-1971) passed away on June 12, 2013. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Dothan AL. He was laid to rest in Harpers Joy Assembly of God, Dothan, AL. Joseph is also a veteran of the Korean War.
- James C. Gilmore, B Troop, 1/11 (1970-1971) passed away on January 14, 2014. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Beech Grove, IN. He was laid to rest in Calvary Catholic Cemetery, Indianapolis, IN.
- **Richard E. Halvorsen**, Chaplain HHT, 2/11 (1968-1969) passed away on February 19, 2015. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Fresno, CA.
- **Brian D. Hendrix**, H Company, 2/11 (1969-1971) passed away on December 22, 2014. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Bastrop, LA. He was laid to rest in Alabama National Cemetery, Montevallo, AL.
- **Dennis M. Kelly**, K Troop, 3/11 (1966-1967) passed away on March 8, 2015. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Baltimore MD.

- Mark E. Maynard, C Troop, 1/11 (1969-1970) passed away on January 14, 2015. He was a member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in South Lyon, MI.
- **Gail T. McDonald**, E Troop, 2/11 (1969) passed away on January 16, 2015 He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Pleasant Garden, NC. He was laid to rest in Guilford Memorial Park, Greensboro, NC.
- **Charles A. Neves**, HHT, 3/11 (1967-1968) passed away on October 5, 2014. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Davis, CA.
- **Daniel W. Phillippi Jr**, B Troop, 1/11 (1967-1968) passed away on February 3, 2015. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Fountain, CO.
- Ronald N. Reed, C Troop, 1/11 (1968) passed away on March 17, 2015. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in llion, NY
- David C. Sibenaller, B Troop, 1/11 (1969-1970) passed away on February 23, 2015, he was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Huntley, IL. He was laid to rest in Memory Gardens Cemetery, Arlington Heights, IL.
- **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.
- **Henry R. Studeny**, Jr., L Troop, 3/11 (1966-1967) passed away on December 21, 2014. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Valentine, NE.
- **Jerry W. Thurman**, HHT, 2/11 (1969) passed away on February 24, 2015. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Elizabethtown, KY. He was laid to rest in Kentucky Veterans Cemetery Central, Radcliff, KY.

2nd Quarter, 2015 Thunder Run

26



* Required info to process your order

Quartermaster

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4. Window Sticker, full color BH insignia and Vietnam service ribbon				
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6. Watch, BH insignia on face, metal band (indicate choice) Man's				
7. Blackhorse Shoulder Patch, Colored				
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, 14x11x6 w/full color BH insignia and VN rib				
17. Blackhorse Pin				
18. 11th ACR Regimental Crest	5.00			
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11th Cavalry Memorial Project

By Allen Hathaway. President, 11th ACVVC

Construction of the new 11th Cavalry Memorial at the future home of the Armor and Cavalry Museum at Fort Benning is moving forward. The final architectural plans were approved in March. The concrete pad and sidewalk leading to the monument were poured in April. The proofs for three new bronze plaques were approved and submitted for casting.

The granite bricks offered as a fundraising project were a huge success. All brick orders were submitted to the manufacturer in March. A combined total of nearly 600 new bricks will be added to the over 900 existing bricks at the memorial. This is a true sign of support for the memorial proj-

ect. We say "thank you" to all those who supported the project by purchasing a brick or making a donation.

The anticipated completion date for the

memorial is the end of June. This project has lasted nearly seven years. We're looking forward to the dedication on August 20 as part of the 2015 reunion.



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