

PATROLLING

December 2018

75th Ranger Regiment Association, INC.

Volume 30 Issue IV



*Celebrating
the Life,
Love, and Legacy
of*

RET. MSGT
*Milton
"Davey"
Lockett, Jr.*

Sunrise
February 5, 1935

Sunset
June 27, 2018

Tuesday, July 3, 2018
11:30 AM

CHAPEL AT HILL-WATSON-PEOPLE'S
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Columbus, Georgia 31901

Reverend Joseph Robinson, Officiating





To care for him who shall have borne the
battle and for his widow, and his orphan.

Abraham Lincoln



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Editor's Corner

By Stephen Odin Johnson—Editor

Hello Patriots!

The front cover of *Patrolling* shows MSG Lockett and SFC Celiz. I got the Lockett graphic from Duke DuShane and I thank him. The Celiz photo is a DOD. Neither Ranger is with us having left us this July. They are now sharing time with the "Big Ranger in the Sky".

They mirror the Brothers that we are; Lockett served in Korea and Vietnam and had a chance to live a full life. Celiz made the ultimate sacrifice and was KIA in Afghanistan. 2019 is just around the corner. Lest We Forget!

Recently, we received a letter from Robert Allchin, A/75th that we will share.

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In a recent issue of *Patrolling* magazine, I noticed my name mentioned in reference to the promotion of (DJ) Dejarnette. He was indeed a member of my 2PLT. along with Danny Olsen, Clyde, Bayless and many others.

One event that most Rangers at that will time remember is when I fractured my neck during a mission at Camp Bullis. Cpt Nolen, 1st SGT Romo and our senior medic SGT Brown saved my life. The captain called the same chopper we just exited back. Other Rangers assisted in getting me aboard. SSG Brown held my head in traction till we got to the ER at Brooks. Then God and the surgeons did the rest.

Lon Constantini, the writer of the feature article from the September issue, has suggested we continue Laffs and Giggles. We will do that with Dave Travis' article on how he became a LRRP.

If anyone has a lite-humorous article they would like to include in "Laffs and Giggles", please submit that to your unit director.

The feature article is about patrolling your health by a former G/75th officer that challenges each one of us about our health; both physically and mentally. The author, Harrison Jack, will continue with a two page article in the following issues. Information that you might find useful.

If you have any suggestions for the improvement of *Patrolling*, please let me know.

Normally we have 48 pages, but as you can see we have 44 for this issue. I know that unit directors are busy this time of year. However, we are all responsible for our duty to the Association.

Thanks to all who are contributing for your magazine, *Patrolling*.

Thank You!

Stephen Odin Johnson RLTW!!!!

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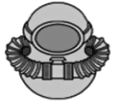
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The Officers and the Editor reserve the right to edit submissions for clarity and space constraints. Every precaution will be taken to preserve the intent and scope of the author. The Officers and Editor reserve the right to refuse any submission that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

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

POSTMASTER

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CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

BY JOE MARQUEZ

Greetings Rangers,

I thought that I would write to you about my favorite person.

Hebrews Chapter Twelve, verses Two to Four tells us to be, "Looking to Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. For consider him who endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest you be wearied and faint in your minds. You have not yet resisted to the point of shedding blood, striving against sin."

He endured mortal pain, while despising the shame, and in speaking for God, endured the contradiction, the verbal and physical opposition of sinners, both religious and secular, against himself. The only truth teller among all the race of men. For what? For the joy of presenting to God a chosen generation of men and women who followed in the footsteps of their example. He shall say "Behold I, and the children whom God has given me." They all, as Moses did, chose, "...to suffer affliction with the people of God, rather than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season. Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: For he considered the recompense of the reward." "For he that comes to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of those who diligently seek him."

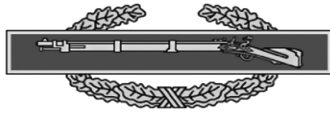
Time is not ours to claim, it is in the hand of Another. May we use what time we have left wisely. All must sooner or later meet their Maker. And for those who trust in Christ Jesus, He is the bridge over troubled waters. May your Christmas be blessed with the Gift above all gifts.

What value does a soul possess?

What value does a soul possess to the Great God above, that he would send to earth below, the Son of his enduring love? Not like us this Gracious one, who loved his Father dear, who honored him above all things, who had opened his obedient ear. To hear the voice that in wisdom spoke, who saw through all things clear, who knew each step that he would take, and kept each falling tear. It was not in vain he toiled alone when all around he heard, not this for you, serve yourself, and don't waste your time down here. But to each voice that called to him, he would not hear, to keep each of his Father's commands, though the cost was clear. To know no gain of fleeting fame or weight of gold so dear, nothing could turn his course, he mastered every fear, of shame, reproach, of solitude, the object of bitter hate, he followed on, convinced that it would lead, to a joyful fate. And when upon Golgotha's tree full spent and at an end, he looked in vain for pitying eye, for none did understand. And from his lips was heard that heart wrenching cry, Lama, Lama, Sabachthani. Why, O why, have you my God, forsaken me, to die? No voice came then as anguish rolled over him in wave on thunderous wave. But he in steadfast faith endured, fixed on him who had vowed to save. On through those three dark hours, a thousand years of hell. For a day to him is as a thousand years or as a night watch's knell. Left alone to feel the abandonment, the lot of every soul who refused to kneel and use their lips to own God's rule and tell. Of him who rules in heaven above, and on the earth as well. Yet as he drank of our bitter cup, he would not murmur at all, but in loyal faithfulness, did the Father's will. And when at last the evil cloud that passed between his soul and God had flown, he saw the light and knew he'd fought that dreadful fight and had the victory won. "It is finished" was his mighty cry, his work on earth well done. His thirst for righteousness was slaked, he'd magnified his Father's law and sealed the Devil's fate. If he the eternal Son would so lowly bend, then of who of angels or of men, who could ever offend, and say "your commands are unjust, my duty is too great an end?" His holy soul burdened with the guilt and shame of men, was poured out a sacrifice as he died, and so they buried him. Three days passed then, God in might came down and raised him up, to death no more to bend. "Thou art my Son, I this day have begotten thee, the firstborn from out of the dead. Thou my King shall also be, of a kingdom without end." The Son by faithfulness overcame, and gained for all who in him trust, a pardon and a name. That will endure when heaven and earth are melted down and then reformed again. And on those blessed fields we'll stand, by faith in Christ redeemed, no more to sin, nor tear to shed, nor sorrow our hearts to rend. All that is past for, "It is done", will say, the Beginning and the End. What value does a soul possess? That God to save us from the grave would send the best he had? Of far more worth than all the earth is each, and for that gift we're glad. God's only begotten Son, who gave his own life's blood that we be bound into the bundle of life of the Lord our God.

JWM

Joe Marquez, C/1/503rd,'69 N/75th, Juliet,'70 A/2/503rd,'70 Chaplain: SC Chapter 30; and the National 173rd Airborne Brigade Association. Serving those who served. 864-467-0424 Cell 864-525-6941 Our lives are but for a moment, while what we do or leave undone will echo down through eternity.



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

OUR MISSION:

1. To identify and offer membership to all eligible members of the 75th Infantry Rangers and those who served in the Long-Range Reconnaissance Patrol (LRRP) Companies, Long-Range Patrol (LRP) Companies and Detachments, Vietnamese Ranger Advisors of the Biet Dong Quan (BDQ). Also eligible are those members of LRSU units that trace their lineage to Long Range Patrol Companies that were attached to Brigade or larger units during the Vietnam War and the members of the 75th Ranger Regiment.

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

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

WHO IS ELIGIBLE

SECTION 2: Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol

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

SECTION 3: Long Range Patrol

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

Section 4: 75th Infantry Ranger Companies

- Co F (LRP) 52nd Infantry
- Co C (LRP) 58th Infantry
- Co E (LRP) 58th Infantry
- Co F (LRP) 58th Infantry
- 70th Infantry DET (LRP)
- 71st Infantry DET (LRP)
- 74th Infantry DET (LRP)
- 78th Infantry DET (LRP)
- 79th Infantry DET (LRP)
- Co. D (LRP) 151st Infantry
- Co A (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- Co B (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- Co C (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- Co D (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- Co E (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- Co F (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- Co G (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- Co H (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- Co I (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- Co K (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- Co L (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- Co M (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- Co N (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- Co O (RANGER) 75th Inf.
- Co P (RANGER) 75th Inf.

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

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



Presidents

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

SECTION 5: Vietnamese Ranger Advisors BDQ

All units of the Biet Dong Quan (BDQ)

SECTION 6: 75th Ranger Regiment

- 1st Battalion (RANGER) 75th Inf., activated in 1974
- 2nd Battalion (RANGER) 75th Inf., activated in 1974
- 3rd Battalion (RANGER) 75th Inf., activated in 1984
- 75th Ranger Regiment HHC Company, activated in 1984
- 75th Ranger Special Troops Battalion, activated in 2007
- 75th Ranger Military Intelligence Battalion, activated in 2017

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

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Vacant

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY RICHARD S. BARELA

2019 Rendezvous Status – Well it is getting close to that time our Ranger Rendezvous is about upon us. Hope you are signing up at the hotels and events upcoming. If there are any questions about the hotels, please contact Roy Barley 2nd VP and he can answer them directly.

Roy Barley has worked hard in getting hotels and events lined up for all to attend. We will be coordinating with USARA for a couple of events for those who are interested. More to follow as this is firmed up.

I am looking forward to this year's event with joy and sadness both. I will be turning over the reins as President over to whom the Association elects as the new President. It has been an honor and privilege to have served two-terms as president. But the time is right for new blood to take over and come in with some fresh eyes and ears. With that being stated I am proud to announce that Stephen Johnson has thrown his name into the hat for President. Thanks Steve. This leads into the next item on my list.

2019 Officer Nominations: – Again I am calling to arms, for all members of the 75th RRA. The time is running short. If you are interested in an officer position, please let us know. Send us a short bio and the office you are interested in running for. We need you to "Lead the Way", step up and take the initiative and take an active role in our association. The following positions are open:

President

1st Vice President

2nd Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

We still need Rangers to fill the positions of Unit Directors for H Co and O Co Rangers. These positions have been vacant way too long and now is the time to Lead the Way and take an active role. If you are a member of these fine Ranger companies, please contact one of the officers and become the Unit Director

Ranger Hall of Fame: The RHoF packages have been emailed out to all the officers and Unit Directors and those who have requested one for a submission. The package contains the 2019 MOI, RHoF nomination package.

RHoF By-Laws and the Statement of Certification. The Statement of Certification must be signed by the submitter and then again by the association president submitting to the board. All RHoF packages must be submitted to the 75th RRA prior to 10 Jan 2019.



This allows the Association review board to ensure all the packages meet the requirements of the RHoF requirements IAW the RHoF By-Laws. If there are no changes required, the nomination packages will be submitted to the board recorder on 13 FEB 2019. If there are any recommended changes the Association review board will return to the Unit Director for updating the package. Here is the current schedule for the RHoF nominations for 2019. Right now, these dates are fixed, and no extensions will be granted.

15 FEBRUARY 2019 - All nomination packets are due via email to the board recorder. Nominations will be screened for all requirements IAW the 11 Jun 2018 RHoF Bylaws.

3 MAY 2019 - The RHoF Voting Board will convene at the 75th Ranger Regiment Headquarters, Fort Benning, Georgia, review nominations and select inductees IAW the RHoF bylaws. The board will start at 1000 hrs. in the Darby Room, BLDG 2931.

06 MAY 2019 - Information packets on the RHoF ceremony and associated rehearsals will be sent to each inductee by the ARTB. A courtesy copy will be sent to each nominating party.

9 JULY 2019 - RHoF Dinner at the Airborne and Ranger Training Brigade, Fort Benning, Georgia.

10 JULY 2019 - Prior to the RHoF Ceremony, the Airborne and Ranger Training Brigade will conduct an information briefing and full-dress rehearsal of the induction ceremony for inductees. Ceremony will be held at 1300 hrs. in Marshall Auditorium, BLDG 4, Fort Benning, Georgia.



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

1st VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

STEPHEN ODIN JOHNSON

As Rick mentioned, so far I am the first person to throw his hat into the circle as president of the 75th RRA at the next business meeting during the 2019 Rendezvous. I would encourage others who can commit the time and responsibilities to consider running for the office of their choice.

One suggestion that I would like to share with you is taking a refresher course in the familiarization of the Association Bylaws that are posted on our website. That works for me dealing with my responsibilities as 1st VP and editor of Patrolling. I read those often.

Roy Barley has contracted 4 hotels that are in the same proximity of each other by a very short walk or drive. Whatever works for you. Each hotel will serve its guests a complimentary breakfast.

Talk about breakfast, how about attending a Ranger Special / Forces breakfast near you. Sherry Klein has been the catalyst for these events held all across the country once every month. You can check on the 75th RRA Facebook site.



and liquor warehouse.

I spent several hours at Gil's Auto. They have on display some very nice muscle cars and trucks that fill the entire show room floor. If you are into classic cars and want to walk on over, it's well worth your time.

From the tentative itinerary (working copy) we have moved our banquet

from Thursday early evening to Friday. This will allow the current Ranger in service a chance to break bread with everyone. It is most important to involve the entire Ranger community with our Rendezvous banquet and that is what we are doing.

The officers of the Association have collaborated with USARA, the Greater Columbus Chamber of Commerce, and the 4 hotel managers for the 2019 Rendezvous. Will it be perfect for everyone attending? Of course not!

However, we have listened to the general membership and unit directors of our Association and the 2019 Rendezvous will reflect those suggestion and our efforts making for a much improved venue and experience for all of us.

We wish you all a happy holiday and new year. Our thoughts are with our Brothers who have left us. We enjoy the times we can spend together and our prayers are with those in harm's way. Some of whom like Celiz, that will make the ultimate act of freedom that does not come without sacrifices.

See some of you at the 2019 Best Ranger Competition.

Regards,

Stephen

RLTW!

Should you want to eat out without having to drive, there is an IHOP, Texas Roadhouse, Mexican restaurant, several fast food places. All are within walking distance. Also there is a sports bar



2nd VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY ROY E. BARLEY

It is funny how things seem to go in circles. No not that kind of circle, but things always seem to connect. On Memorial Day in 1986 we dedicated a memorial in a Springville Town Park to the memory of 4 men who died in Viet Nam. This was the result of a year's worth of planning; fund raising and hard work. The stone on which a brass plaque was placed was from the fields of Western NY where all 4 had roamed in their youth. Not being from Springville I did not know of any of them, but I knew their mothers and families from the planning and felt that we owed them at least this. The day was a big deal for this little sleepy town. The only other memorial in this park was one that contained a plaque to the memory of the dead from WW I. It had been in the High School and removed when the Demolition was done of the building. The superintendent of the District gave it to me and I took it to the Legion who decided to rededicate the plaque on a Stone in the newly built park. This was the year prior to the Viet Nam memorial dedication.



In 1990 I headed a committee to honor the only NFL player killed in Viet Nam, Lt James Kelso of the Buffalo Bills who was KIA on July 21, 1970. James was with A/2-11th FA. The story of his death was not correct, but it made for good copy. The story went that he was killed when he was going to a chopper to see if they had information about the birth of his son. His wife, Jan, was expecting any day. He was in front of a bunker when a mortar attack started. He was killed instantly when a piece of shrapnel went into the back of his head. This committee was sponsored by the Western NY Viet Nam Veterans Leadership program, of which I was the VP. I recruited representatives of the Legion; VFW; Am.Vets; DAV and other Veteran Organizations. We were able to secure a wall in the ticket office for the memorial. We had to fight just to get that space, as we wanted to place his name on the wall of fame, but the Bills would not let that happen. 20 years later his name was placed on the wall of Honor.

What is the connection? Both died at Fire Support Base Ripcord of the 101st about 3 months apart.

Fast forward to 2018. I got a call about some visitors coming to town. A memorial team from Charlie Company, 2nd of the 506th, 101 Abn. I had no idea that Dennis Heinz has been killed at this fire support base. In fact, his parents had no idea as to how he was killed and were given little information. In speaking to the team, it was interesting to learn that this was true of many of the KIAs. I had encountered this before but had no idea that it was something the Army condoned.

A shame!

The team arrived on September 30th and consisted of 8 members. I was impressed that they were traveling around the country doing a memorial service for their deceased comrades. They lost a total of 19 men in the relatively short time they were there.

It is impressive that they do this so many years after the war, but it does close the circle.

Reunion:

Take the time to ensure that your reservations are in place. Still looking for suggestions on what people would like to do. IE: Trip to Andersonville, etc.

4 Hotels that you can choose from for the 2019 Ranger Rendezvous Call Now for Reservations

2019 Ranger Rendezvous

Book Now!

This very busy summer is almost behind us and we can discuss how hot it was, but nowhere near as hot as Viet Nam was. Hard to believe it was 50 years ago. This past Spring has gone by very fast with trips to Branson, MO and Fort Benning, GA. Of course, those trips were in anticipation of the 2019 Ranger Reunion at Ft Benning in July of next year. Time to give the basic information to plan. **Reunion dates are July 8th through July 12th , 2019.**



2019 reunion will be different from last year and probably from all other reunions. Usually we stay in one hotel and have all our activities coordinated out of that hotel. This reunion will use 4 hotels with one of them being the headquarters. All are in a 300 meters distance of each other and there are plenty of restaurants in the area catering to different tastes. This will allow for each unit to be able to have their own reunions in conjunction with the 75th. All hotels offer a hot breakfast as part of their rates.



The primary hotel and HQ will be the Best Western Plus, 4027 Veterans Court, Columbus, GA. This hotel will be where you will sign in; where our membership meeting will occur and where you will pick up your Registration packet. The quartermaster will be located here along with other vendors. If you want to stay there you must make your reservation by calling the hotel direct at 706-507-1111 and mention that you are with the 75th Ranger Regiment Association. They have 40 rooms set aside for us at \$99.00 per night, plus tax and fees. Check in time is 3:00pm and check out is at 11:00 am. Reservations must be made by June 3, 2019.

Another hotel is the Hyatt Place at 2974 N Lake Parkway, Columbus, GA. The hotel is holding 50 rooms for us at \$93.00 plus tax and fees. Reservations are to be made by calling the hotel at 706-507-5003 and mention that you are with the 75th Ranger Regiment Association.



The Hampton Inn at 7390 Bear Lane, Columbus, GA is also holding 50 rooms for us at \$99.00 plus tax and fees. Contact the hotel to make reservations at 706-256-2222 and again mention you are with the 75th Ranger Regiment Association. Cut off for reservations is May 24, 2019.

The Holiday Inn Express and Suites at 7336 Bear Lane, Columbus, GA is our 4th hotel. They have 30 Rooms reserved for us at \$104.00 plus tax and fees. Reservations must be making by calling 706-507-7200 and mention the 75th Ranger Regiment Association. The cut off for a reservation is June 10, 2019.



Mr. Rick Stetson, a friend and a fantastic officer has agreed to Assist in all the planning and such for the event. Rick was one of the originals to go to Viet Nam with the LRRPs of the 9th Infantry Division.

The hotel information will be run in future issues of Patrolling with more information as it becomes available. **RENZVOUS HOTEL DATES-JULY 8-12 WITH CHECKOUTS SATURDAY 13 JULY**

TREASURER'S MESSAGE

BY ROGER CRUNK

75th Ranger Regiment Association

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY

October 2018

TOTAL

Revenue

4000 Program income - DNP

4002 Membership dues 795.00

Assoc. Patch 11.90

Assoc. Patch Bumper Sticker 35.70

Operations Transfer/Paypal 2,304.18

Total 4000 Program income - DNP
3,146.78

4100 Member donations - DNP

4102 Family fund contributions 1,865.00

4104 Goldstar contributions 50.00

4110 Operations contributions 40.00

Scholarship 135.00

Total 4100 Member donations - DNP
2,090.00

4900 Interest income 44.19

Unapplied Cash Payment Revenue 100.00

Total Revenue \$5,380.97

GROSS PROFIT \$5,380.97

Expenditures

6000 Program expenses - DNP 500.00

6020 Website maintenance 250.00

6022 Intuit Subscription 20.00

Quickbooks Online 20.00

Total 6022 Intuit Subscription 40.00

Membership Returns 30.00

Total 6000 Program expenses - DNP
820.00

6100 Patrolling expense - DNP

6106 Adobe subscription 56.50

Total 6100 Patrolling expense - DNP 56.50

6500 Operations - DNP

6502 Bank and merchant fees 13.90

6512 Legal and accounting fees 625.00

Postage-Secretary 18.34

Treasurer Postage 3.63

Total 6500 Operations - DNP 660.87

Total Expenditures \$1,537.37

NET OPERATING REVENUE \$3,843.60

NET REVENUE \$3,843.60

Accounts Receivable

1100 Accounts receivable 0.00

Total Accounts Receivable \$0.00

Total Current Assets \$147,972.14

TOTAL ASSETS \$147,972.14

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

Liabilities

Total Liabilities

Equity

3000 Net Assets - Unrestricted 134,828.55

Net Revenue 13,143.59

Total Equity \$147,972.14

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY
\$147,972.14

75th Ranger Regiment Association

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As of October 31, 2018

TOTAL

ASSETS

Current Assets

Bank Accounts

1000 Affinity / Operations 19,903.96

1002 Affinity / Family fund 19,063.98

1030 Affinity / Savings 45,323.94

1040 Benevolent funds MM 17,027.12

1041 Legacy funds MM 4,637.85

1042 Life funds MM 38,481.62

1050 Paypal funds 3,533.67

Total Bank Accounts \$147,972.14

PATROLLING FOR YOUR HEALTH

By HARRISON JACK

Setting: Today's RANGER is one of the most physically fit and well-prepared individuals to serve on the battlefield in the history of our nation. Capabilities improve annually to enhance battlefield operational effectiveness. Evolving technology has improved leadership & training skills, resilience, endurance, tactical proficiency, intelligence gathering, emergency transport, medical response and numerous other areas. The preceding has proven to be combat multipliers that enhance the chance for battlefield success faster and with fewer casualties than ever before. A soldier today is more confident in himself and his team, feels safer while on mission, enjoys phenomenal logistical support by air/land/sea, and is better prepared to deal with the daily challenges of combat than ever before, at least physically. However, the additional rigors of excessive battle gear weight, toxic battlefield conditions and extremely high OPTEMPO stress take a toll both during and after military operations and after separation from service that are simply unacceptable. Military Sexual Assault has reached proportions that have never been seen before; 22 Veterans a day are "checking out" (committing suicide) after leaving military service; the quality of life for Veteran and family members after deployment is often times as devastating as the combat missions were themselves. Our country does a great job preparing servicemen and women for making the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our democratic freedoms; it should also do a great job to prepare them for separation and transition into civilian life. The physical, mental, emotional and spiritual scars acquired while in uniform can and should be addressed before, during and after leaving military service. Many of today's service personnel are oblivious to what is happening to them when they arrive home and try to resume a normal life, whether still in a reserve status or after separation. Where does the anger come from? Why don't I want to socialize? Why is my wife afraid of me? Why can't I sleep? Why do friends and classmates consider me different and even strange? Why have things changed for me at work? Why am I having such a difficult time going to college? Each is unaware of the changes that have taken place because trauma changes physiology, for the good by way of survival during combat, but not so good when it is not understood by employers, professors, peers or one's spouse and children. Confidence begins to erode; doubt and depression emerge; family members who have been a primary resource for healing support begin to drift away out of self-preservation. Addictive behaviors often begin to emerge as the only source of temporary relief; prescription meds become a daily need just to make it through the day. The "merry go round" of self-destruction has begun with an all too probable outcome, suicide – a truly unnecessary waste of life. It is my personal opinion that the military contract our government extends to uniformed personnel should return every individual who serves in the same or better condition than when they enlisted or were commissioned. Unrealistic obviously, but none the less a goal that should be considered a moral and ethical responsibility at least until the individual has regained the health and wellness required to engage in another

occupation that will allow him to support himself and loved ones. The Pharmaceutical industry is obligated to publicly

address possible side effects of their medications; DoD should be responsible for addressing similar side effects for anyone that enters uniformed service and is subject to deployment, especially into a combative theatre of operations.

Veteran Total Health & Wellness (VTHW): This is a term that I have personally coined in an effort to define the status of Veteran health before deployment compared to afterwards, whether still in uniform or after separation from Active Duty (AD). DoD makes every effort to ensure that Special Operations Forces (SOF) personnel, RANGERS in particular, are in the best possible physical and mental condition to endure the rigors of both training and deployment; our country would be remiss to do otherwise in order to ensure battlefield success. However, change takes place at multiple levels during combat tours, some of it obvious, some not so much so. Post deployment recovery training resources are remiss in their efforts to ensure a return to total operational effectiveness of the individual, much less the family. Battlefield scars run deep and accumulate over successive deployments. Stress continues to build up, the body continues to compensate, the soldier continues to "drive on", but at a price that may only manifest years later. Just ask offspring, extended family members or employers if change has taken place over successive deployments. Even the Veteran eventually begins to sense that something is wrong that needs attention but unit esprit & commitment to "mission first", the machismo of youth and the military "code" of not discussing mental/emotional issues have a way of covering up that which needs attention, at least for the moment.

As a nation we have made tremendous strides in developing highly technical and proficient prosthetics that offer tremendous improvement in the overall quality of physical life for today's Veteran amputee compared to previous generations. Foundations, clubs, competitions and social circles surround amputees, helping them to restore physical mobility; confidence and self esteem but enhanced employability. The mental, emotional and moral injury side of recovery, however, has received a fraction of the attention it deserves in comparison. That which is unseen sometimes receives much less "effective" attention even though the impact is no less significant. But, that doesn't mean we couldn't do a much better job than we are between deployments or in transitioning personnel from AD to civilian life. Other nations and cultures have been quite successful in addressing these areas which we seem so slow to adopt. There are numerous technologies, new treatment modalities and trainable techniques that can and should address each of these latter areas before, during and after deployment. It would be in the best interest of the individual, the unit and the mission if they were at least investigated. I continue to use many of them on a daily basis with solid results, all to be discussed in later articles.

Continued on the next page

The Sickness Industry: Here comes a reality check, for some of you: In my opinion, the medical profession is not interested

PATROLLING FOR YOUR HEALTH

in contributing to your total health & wellness unless you are sick and “treatable”. Why? Because there is no money to be made on a recurring basis dealing with an increasingly healthy person. Medical personnel are not allowed to cure, only treat. Why might you ask? Because the Pharmaceutical industry combined with the Medical profession can only grow and profit by treating recurring symptoms of sickness. Additionally, doctors caught “curing” may have their medical license suspended and even be prosecuted (first hand MD conversation). So, how do they treat a patient? - By reducing their symptoms, only. And of course symptoms only disappear or are relieved for the duration of a prescription. And so we have become a prescription society that acquires new afflictions, new diseases and new treatments that require new drugs. Don’t get me wrong; I’m an advocate of the free enterprise system and the quality of life that it provides the US citizenry. It’s just that our greatest strength has also become one of our greatest weaknesses; the profitability associated with sickness drives our society at the expense of any true commitment to individual health & wellness. European countries have all but prevented “Big Pharma” from entering its borders. Many physicians use Ozone Therapy (lots of specialized oxygen) as an initial form of treatment along with cleanses and alkaline Ph balancing techniques because such an approach contributes to cure and wellness (especially for cancer patients) almost immediately (more about this later).

VA services, a function of politics and profit: When a Veteran leaves AD, enters the civilian world and finds himself being treated by the VA, he is in fact being treated primarily with traditional AMA allopathic techniques, drugs. Although such treatment may initially be well warranted, especially in cases of severe trauma, pain, depression and other life threatening circumstances, prolonged use of prescription drugs to address a myriad of symptoms often contributes to extreme complications for the Veteran, especially if opiates for pain and anti-depressants are part of the mix. The more drugs in our system, each with its own level of toxicity and possible side effect(s), the more threatening, confusing and un-resolvable life may become. The original cause of the presenting symptom is seldom if ever addressed because medical training does not focus on curing a core issue, just the treatment of its presenting symptoms. A Veteran is worth between \$1.3 – \$1.5 million to the Pharmaceutical industry over the lifetime of his association with the VA – we are each cash cows, being milked daily with every pill swallowed. Although the VA has been mandated to offer alternative therapies (to be highlighted later) to manage pain, mainstream treatment is not expected to change anytime soon. However, there is a trend towards accommodating the wishes of a Veteran when he expresses a desire not to use drugs, which is one of the main reasons I’m writing a series of articles for Patrolling. **Each Veteran must assume total personal responsibility for his/her own health and wellness**, otherwise he will be treated like a cog in the VA wheel of implementing Pharma/AMA profit related types

of drug therapy and long-term treatment.

How Future Patrolling articles

will be presented: I’m going to use the common denominator of the 5 Principles of Patrolling (Planning, Recon, Security, Control & Common Sense) as an outline for the Health & Wellness articles that follow. We all know them, or at least used to. We lived by them while in uniform and we survived in combat by following their precepts. They gave us an outline to follow and a focus of effort that involved every man on a team. I challenge each of you to now consider YOUR PERSONAL HEALTH & WELLNESS a lifetime “mission” that warrants 5-Principle compliance from this point forward, assuming you want to get healthier and then stay that way. Just as a RANGER team survives in the field by planning each mission according to principles of Patrolling in as much detail as time permits, your future health is equally dependent upon applying a similar set of health principles on a daily basis. Fortunately, we will have the time to flesh out detailed content of total health and wellness principles for your new health order compared to previous field operations when we often flew by the seat of our pants and improvised along the way. I am going to provide readers as thorough a “mission health plan” as possible in 12 articles, to include annexes and resources for a more in depth reference for those so inclined, but they will have to be referenced on the RANGER website (www.75thrra.org) due to cost and space limitations within the Patrolling publication.

Who is your author? Why is he writing? What are his goals? By now you may be wondering who is this author and what are his motivations? I’d like to share a little of my background so you can appreciate the journey that I have been on the last ten years, 50 years since serving as a RANGER Platoon Leader who went out on 19 missions and then an Infantry Company Commander on fire base DUC PHO, 11th IN Bde, Americal Division, I Corps, 69-70-71. I graduated from the US Military Academy, West Point in 1968 (almost at the bottom of my class) and then went to both Airborne and Ranger schools before leaving for Vietnam. I spent 32 years in uniform, a combination of both Federal AD and CA State Active Duty, retiring in 2005 at the federal rank of Lieutenant Colonel. For you math whizzes who just calculated an obvious break in service, good job. I had a real attitude at about the nine year point and bailed out of uniform for almost five years – time well spent but I could have addressed some personal issues that would have definitely enhanced the quality of my life and those close to me a lot sooner, but didn’t. With PTSD symptoms that I was in complete denial of, I blew out my first marriage after 15 years. My second marriage is still intact after 32 years, but I have run my good wife through the ringer. At about the 20-year mark she wakened me from a combat nightmare in which I literally had her in a head-lock death grip while relating to her “I’m going to dispatch you”.

Continued on the next page

PATROLLING FOR YOUR HEALTH

Five months later I'm arrested at gunpoint at 0600 in my bedroom (sleeping in the buff of course) through a joint federal-state-local operation that accuses me of terrorist charges that accumulatively amount to two life sentences. I spent the next 2 ½ years under house arrest, ankle bracelet and all, when all charges for parties involved (11 of us) were completely dropped, resulting in a clean record. I finally got it, something was seriously wrong with me so I turned myself into the VA the latter part of 2007. I am currently rated 100% Permanent and Totally Disabled, attending regular support counseling twice a month at a local Vet Center in downtown Sacramento. I am well educated with advanced degrees and certifications up through Doctorate level. I have chaired the Sacramento Veterans Health and Wellness Council from its inception for five years, assisting frustrated Vets navigate the VA system while simultaneously exploring alternative holistic practices to meds to deal with any and all Veteran afflictions. I made a commitment to myself at the beginning of this journey not to use medication of any type and have been successful doing so, not that I haven't had some real challenges along the way with the medical profession. I am currently living a healthy, productive life thanks to a loving wife and enjoy three great grandchildren, golf, fishing, woodworking and travel. I have taken advantage of every resource that has come my way that might improve my "condition", some worked, some didn't. It was only about three years ago that my wife finally related that she was no longer afraid of me – the only measure of real success that has meant anything to me. Everything that I mention in future articles about various treatments and technologies, I have done myself; I'm my own guinea pig. I hope to save each reader time, unnecessary effort and the disappointments I have experienced by taking advantage of whatever fits for you in the articles that follow. I'm writing them in an effort to share with fellow Rangers, Veterans and family members those hidden secrets of true health & wellness that are very challenging to piece together unless you have time to do a lot of research, experimentation and personal "homework". Relying solely upon the VA or other traditional medical professionals has not been sufficient for my personal wellness and quality of life expectations. It took me years to realize just how ignorant I was about my own physiology, much less the politics of medicine and VA treatment. Besides, my wife knows where I am when I'm writing these articles and I'm "off the streets" where RANGERS sometimes have a tendency to stir up some type of "mission".

I have one primary goal: ***To impart the attitude, knowledge and skills so that each reader may take full responsibility for their individual health & wellness, thereby improving quality of life for the remainder of their years.***

For those of you who may still be on AD, I will share skill sets that can help you manage combat stress and trauma more effectively, stay energized longer throughout the day and remain emotionally resilient so you can return home to family and loved ones "less disturbed". For retirees, it's simply a matter of being able to live our Fall years with fewer aches, pains and fears of debilitating disease so quality of life is sustained until the sun finally sets on this lifetime. It won't happen overnight, but with a plan of action based on proven principles of health & wellness combined with the character and commitment we forged on the battlefield, I assure each of you that your total health & overall wellness will change for the better, and sooner than you might expect-good luck.

I'm available for questions at no charge; don't expect a return call or correspondence any sooner than 48 hours: Harrison U Jack, LTC Ret.; (530) 867 7071; hjack@wavecable.com.



LAFFS AND GIGGLES

BY DAVE TRAVIS

Before the Army institutionalized and standardized the Ranger units, requiring that standards be met and qualifications earned, there were LRRPs. I think the only thing we all had in common was that we all volunteered. My best guess is that most of the guys' backgrounds were pretty much the same, but I guarantee that nobody else got there the same way that I did.

My strange journey began with a series of quirks that were triggered by my being a pretty smart guy. (No, really!). I joined the Army right after I turned 18, left home the day BEFORE Thanksgiving (see, smart), and went to Fort Knox, Kentucky, to become a soldier. When they marched us - well, walked us - to a big building to take the Army Classification Battery, I had a really good day. I qualified for everything in the Army and MENSA as well. When the PFC who was assigning enlistees to Advanced Individual Training on completion of Basic saw my scores, he was impressed. I remember him saying, "You'll be going to OCS." I didn't know that OCS was Officer Candidate School, and I was afraid to ask him, after all he was a PFC. Nobody got assigned to OCS. You had to compete to get in, not just score well on the ACB. You had to be a minimum of 18 and 1/2 years old and have two years of college. I had just turned 18, was a high school dropout, and was so immature that if they waived the minimums; they still wouldn't have let me in. Consequently, I slid through the reception Station without a designated AIT. Talk about going to a gunfight with a pocketknife.

They honored my enlistment request for Jump School, another really smart move on my part. I found out when I got to Fort Benning that I had signed up to jump out of airplanes. Who knew? But I made it by watching another 120-pound kid and telling myself every day that if he could make it, I could make it. After graduation, he laughingly confessed that he had been doing the same thing with me. The nerve! I spent my enlistment primarily as a detail man with no MOS because I wasn't trained for anything. I lost the second year of my hitch being screwed over at an ordnance depot in France after I was injured in a jump and put off status. I broke my coccyx. I left in a huff after three years, but I knew I didn't really want to go. The Army was the best thing that ever happened to me.

When LBJ came on TV and told the Gulf of Tonkin story, I knew I was going back. I signed up with an enlistment option for Intelligence School, but after they swore me in, they told me they were only kidding. As prior service, I had no options. They sent me to the 101st at Fort Campbell. One thing they did was to give me an MOS. They called me a Textile and Leather Repairman and assigned me to a shop patching deuce and a half covers and stuff, but I did learn OJT to operate a sewing machine. I got orders for the 173rd in 1966 and went to Bien Hoa. They put me in

parachute maintenance and gave me a tent with a couple of sewing machines and other equipment. The problem was that nobody was jumping, so there was no parachute maintenance to be done. Along with some seat covers for officers' jeeps and stuff, I made 1,500 jungle hammocks and 500 collapsible canteen covers. The whole deal blew up over an eighth of an inch. Our company commander had bought a stereo and had me make a cover for it out of that nice shiny material that parachute covers are made of. He came roaring into the tent and chewed my butt in stentorian voice because the seam on one corner was the aforementioned eighth of an inch wider than the other corner.

I was pissed! To start with, I hadn't re upped to run a sewing machine. I wanted to fight and there was plenty of fight to be had. I asked for transfer to an Infantry unit but they turned me down flat. I went to the Brigade Sergeant Major and asked to leave. He told me there was going to be a combat jump, and if I would stay he would make sure I was on the manifest so I could get the star on my wings. No thanks. I told him there was nothing he could offer me to stay with that sissy-ass captain who only cared about his mismatched seams. Making a Solomonian decision, he told me I would get my transfer to an Infantry unit, but not in the 173rd. He called personnel and got me orders for the 196th Light Infantry Brigade.

Before I left Bien Hoa, I used my sewing skills one last time to switch my 173rd patches to the right shoulder. I looked good in 196th replacement. 1LT Maxwell visited us in Replacement, looking for volunteers for the LRRP Detachment that was about to be formed. I think it was the 173rd combat patch and the fact that I was a SP4 instead of a private like most of the incoming guys that made him ask me to volunteer. I explained that I had not been trained for the Infantry and had no experience, but he said that I would have a little time in a line unit before getting the call for the LRRP. I went to B/4-31 for a few weeks and finally got my LRRP orders. When I went, I brought along my team leader, Paul Grondines, and my partner from B Company, Stan Kovich. I believe Mike McMahon may have been another guy from B Company as well.

You've seen those cartoons in the comic strip Family Circus where Billy goes from point A to point B and a dotted line traces his manic meandering through the neighborhood to get there? That's kinda how it was on my journey from 18-year-old enlistee to the LRRP, but I got there.

See, I told you I was smart!

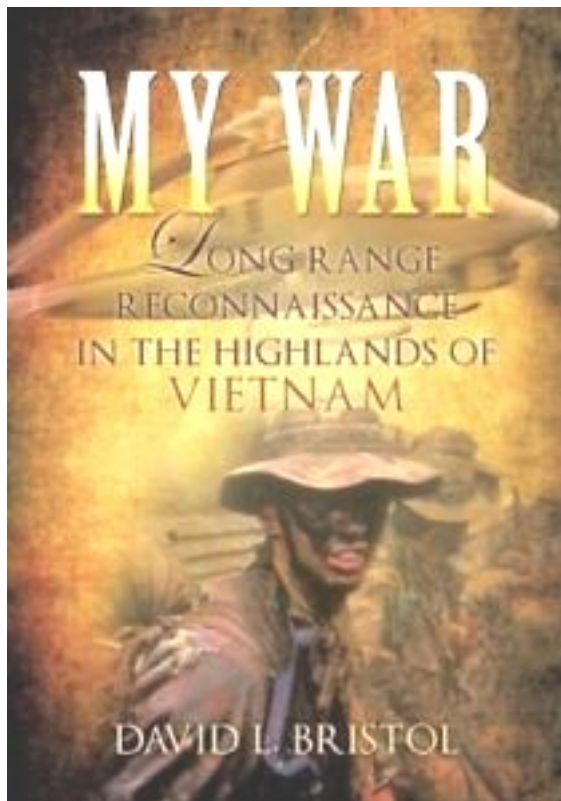
BEST RANGER 2019

APRIL 12-14, 2019

FORT BENNING, GA

The Best Ranger Competition 2019, is the 36th anniversary of this grueling competition, starring the best soldiers of the world, our United States Army, RANGERS! The Best Ranger Competition was started in 1982 after Dick Leandri found a way to honor his personal friend, Lieutenant General David E. Grange, Jr.

The competition has evolved over the past thirty years from once that was originally created to salute the best two man "buddy" team in the Ranger Department at Fort Benning, GA to determine the best two-man team from the entire United States Armed Forces.



MY WAR

Is the story of a young Ranger, in the Highlands of Vietnam, his experiences and the men he served with. It was written for those who were not there, but Veterans have found it helpful as well.

The book is available online at Amazon in paperback and E-book. Signed copies are available at www.mywarvietnam.com

HE'S JUST A WREATH MAKER FROM MAINE—JILL STEPHENSON

My son is laid to rest in Section 60 at Arlington National Cemetery. He requested this in his living will and I honored those wishes. When Ben died in 2009, a friend who lived in Washington DC, invited me to come out for Wreaths Across America in December. Being new to the happenings of the cemetery, I didn't know what this was. I soon learned that Christmas wreaths were placed on the graves in mid December each year by an organization called Wreaths Across America. I agreed to attend and placed a wreath on Ben's grave and on several others near him. This year will mark my tenth consecutive year to be at Arlington for WAA.

Many years ago, twelve-year old newspaper boy Morrill Worcester won a trip to Arlington National Cemetery. It made an impression on him, an impression so great that years later he would see to it that all 225,000+ graves at ANC were covered with a Christmas wreath.

In 1992, as the owner of Worcester Wreath Company, Morrill found himself with an excess of 5000 wreaths near the holiday season. He recalled his youthful trip to ANC and made a phone call to the Governor of Virginia asking if he could honor veterans by delivering them to the cemetery. She said yes and that was the beginning of the legacy WAA has created. To date, it has grown to reach more than 1,400 locations in all 50 states.

In 2011 and 2016, I was fortunate to ride along with the annual convoy that makes its way from WAA headquarters in Columbia Falls, Maine all the way to Arlington. This convoy has become known as the world's largest veteran parade as they make stops along the way at schools, monuments, VFW's, American Legions, and numerous other locations that support our military. The trip takes nearly a week as the days are filled with 2-4 stops at any of the above locations. The convoy is met by adults and children waving flags, holding signs of support and cheering excitedly as we arrive. Meals are often provided and a program centered around delivering wreaths to special members in that community is the order of the day. The patriotism felt on this journey equals, if not exceeds the 4th of July.

The first year I attended Wreaths Across America at Arlington, I didn't know what to expect. What I found were semi-trailers parked in various locations throughout the cemetery and thousands of people ready to place wreaths on the graves. The majority of the crowd seemed to be gathered in Section 60, the section where the most current KIA's are laid to rest. Families line up behind the open trailers that are filled with boxes of wreaths packaged in Maine at Worcester Wreath Company headquarters. Each wreath includes a pretty red felt bow tied



perfectly at the top. The pine boughs intertwined to shape the wreaths are so fresh that if I closed my eyes while holding one, I can imagine myself standing in the middle of a northern Maine pine forest completely engulfed by the scent of a million trees.

Once the volunteers begin to distribute the wreaths it doesn't take long for each section to be completed. Adults and children traipse back and forth between the semis and the graves, taking time at each headstone to say thank you to the person whose name is engraved in the marble stone. This is part of the mission of WAA: Remember, Honor and Teach. Remember their names, honor their sacrifice and teach others to do the same.

Since 2009, when there were approximately 5000 volunteers, WAA day at Arlington has grown to include more than 70,000 volunteers. For the last three years, the entire cemetery has been covered with Christmas wreaths. (It is important to note that respect is given to those families who do not celebrate Christmas). The first year this happened, Morrill Worcester placed himself at the headstone of the very first person laid to rest at ANC. Twenty-year old Army Private William Christman died at a DC hospital in 1864 from the measles. Worcester was accompanied by several of his young grandchildren and saved PVT Christman's wreath for last - to be the one that completed 100% coverage for the first time. Together they Remembered and Honored young Christman and, setting an example, Worcester taught the second generation of his family the importance of doing both.

Having spent nine consecutive years at Arlington for WAA, I have not grown tired of it. In fact, I look forward to it. I have invited friends to join me and they come away changed, unquestionably. In the midst of the thousands of volunteers, you can feel the energy and can get lost in the controlled chaos. Before you know it, the work is done and everyone leaves and Arlington again becomes the place where valor rests. It's like the calm after the storm, yet this beautiful, beautiful sight remains; a Christmas wreath for every single person laid to rest in one of our nation's most sacred grounds. As the mother of a child resting eternally in section 60, it wells my heart with love and joy for the season knowing Ben and all the rest are not forgotten. I always take a walk (or a drive) through the entire cemetery and let that feeling resonate for every family like mine, whose loved ones will never again be home for Christmas.

Continue on the next page

WREATH MAKER CONTINUED

Morrill Worcester did not serve in the military, however, I have yet to meet a man with more passion than him to honor our nation's fallen. He never forgot that youthful visit to Arlington and continues to share this with hundreds of thousands of families across our nation and overseas where Americans eternally rest. Morrill is also the humblest of men you will ever meet. His entire family is. I am honored to know them and to be a part of Wreaths Across America and to share this selfless endeavor with all whom I know and may read this. Morrill will often say he is,

“just a wreath maker from Maine.” If this is true, the Mississippi is just a river, Denali is just a mountain and Freedom Tower is just a building. Morrill is a giant among men. What he started with Wreaths Across America reaches into the homes and hearts of hundreds of thousands of people.

Wreaths Across America day at Arlington National Cemetery is December 15th. I hope to see you there. For more information, please visit www.wreathscrossamerica.org

JILL SEPHENSON



VA PAYMENT DELAYS

Financial Hardship

October 25, 2018 11:00AM

Education Service continues to experience a higher than normal pending claims inventory which is causing processing and payment delays for some GI Bill students. We apologize for these delays, and want to assure you we are doing everything in our power to reduce the pending workload and address the oldest claims. As of October 24, our pending work is continuing to go down, and we are maintaining our focus on the oldest items.

As we get reports of hardship situations we are addressing those immediately.

If you are experiencing a financial hardship due to a delay in GI Bill payments, please contact the Education Call Center at 1-888-442-4551 between 7 a.m. - 6 p.m. Central Time, Monday-Friday or contact us through the [GI Bill website](#).

We have been asked what Education Service considers to be a hardship case. Examples of a financial hardship due to a delay in GI Bill payments include, but are not limited to: you are in danger of losing your housing or; you are in danger of having utilities turned off or; you are in danger of receiving collection notices from creditors.

We regret that these delays are occurring and the impact they may have on you and your family. We are working to make sure you are paid as soon as possible and will continue to update you on our progress.

Housing Payment Timeliness

October 16, 2018 11:00AM

Many of our Post-9/11 GI Bill students are experiencing longer than typical wait times to receive monthly housing payments. Today, we are averaging a little over 35 days to work first-time applications and 23 days for re-enrollments.

Although processing times in the fall are longer than other seasons, wait times this year are longer than usual. Knowing this may have caused you a financial hardship, please let us know by contacting us via the GI Bill website at https://gibill.custhelp.va.gov/app/utills/login_form/redirect/ask.

As Our Education Call Center is also experiencing higher than normal wait times, you can avoid waiting on the phone for a payment status by calling 1-888-442-4551 and choosing Option 2 for an automated response. You can also check your [eBenefits](#) or [vets.gov](#) account for payment status. Once your payment is processed by VA, it will take a few more days to reach your banking institution.

We regret that these delays are occurring and the impact they may have on you and your family. We're working to make sure you are paid as soon as possible and will continue to update you with any new information we have. You may also want to follow us on our Facebook page for updates at <https://www.facebook.com/gibillEducation/>.

Information for School Certifying Officials (SCO)

October 16, 2018 9:45AM

As you are aware from our previous notices to you, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is experiencing some delays in processing payments for our beneficiaries and their educational institutions. This is due to several IT-related issues and the fall peak enrollment season. While the pending inventory is trending downward, we anticipate

a high pending claim inventory through the end of this year. We sincerely regret these delays, and are doing everything possible to restore the timeliness you have come to rely on.

We are reaching out to you to ask for your assistance to ensure that GI Bill students are not penalized if the school has not received tuition and fee payments due them from VA. Late payments are likely due to VA processing delays and certainly are not the fault of the student. We ask for your patience as we work to resolve the ongoing challenges. If your school is waiting for tuition and fee payments for GI Bill students, we respectfully urge you to continue to work with the students so they may continue their academic pursuits.

Please share this with any other offices at your institution as you deem appropriate.

If you have questions concerning the status of an enrollment you submitted, please contact our School Certifying Official inquiry phone number. If you do not have the number, please contact your [Education Liaison Representative](#) for it.

For updates on the average time it will take us to process enrollments, please go to the GI Bill website at <https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/>. Thank you again for your patience.

Housing Payment Processing Times

October 10, 2018 3:30 PM

Many of our Post-9/11 GI Bill students are experiencing longer than typical wait times to receive monthly housing payments. Today, we are averaging a little over 35 days to work first-time applications and 23 days for re-enrollments.

Although processing times in the fall are longer than other seasons, wait times this year are longer than usual. Knowing this may have caused you a financial hardship, please let us know by contacting us via the [GI Bill submit a question](#).

As Our Education Call Center is also experiencing higher than normal wait times, you can avoid waiting on the phone for a payment status by calling 1-888-442-4551 and choosing Option 2 for an automated response. You can also check your [eBenefits](#) or [vets.gov](#) account for payment status. Once your payment is processed by VA, it will take a few more days to reach your banking institution.

We regret that these delays are occurring and the impact they may have on you and your family. We're working to make sure you are paid as soon as possible and will continue to update you with any new information we have. You may also want to follow us on our Facebook page for updates at <https://www.facebook.com/gibillEducation/>.

Claims Processing Times

September 25, 2018 3:40 PM

As of today, on average, it is taking about 35 days to work first-time applications for education benefits and 17 days for supplemental claims. A supplemental claim is often a re-enrollment or other change that impacts your benefit.



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

News Release

Office of Public Affairs
Media Relations

Washington, DC 20420
(202) 461-7600
www.va.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 21, 2018

VA realigns several program offices to improve efficiency in meeting Veterans' health care needs

WASHINGTON — As part of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA) modernization efforts to improve efficiency in care coordination for Veterans and meet a presidential executive order for reorganizing the executive branch, VA plans to realign several programs within its Veterans Health Administration (VHA) into four offices.

A requirement of [Executive Order 13781, Comprehensive Plan for Reorganizing the Executive Branch](#), the realignment, which will begin Nov. 25, is designed to enhance quality care for Veterans by improving coordination of services in the areas of population health; education and training of health care professionals; research, academic affiliations; engineering services; and human resources (HR).

"The realignment creates greater accountability and clearer governance for the program offices that perform these critical functions," said VA Secretary Robert Wilkie. "Integrating and consolidating offices will allow VA to reduce bureaucracy and focus on meeting Veterans' needs."

Population Health will consolidate six programs into one new office to reduce administrative burden on the Veterans Integrated Services Networks (VISNs) and hospitals. This consolidation will enable facilities to target issues common to their market area and, based on the populations' health in the region, align with other federal agencies to promote best practices based on public and private institutional standards.

The Office of Academic Affiliations (OAA) and Office of Research and Development (ORD) will realign under the new Discovery, Education and Affiliates Networks (DEAN) office to foster a collaborative environment that will address the most complex health concerns facing Veterans, while improving medical care for all Americans.

On June 22, Dr. Carolyn M. Clancy moved from executive in charge of VHA to oversee the DEAN office.

"It is critical that someone of Dr. Clancy's experience take on this new role to help ensure that the next generation of physicians will thrive in providing cutting-edge medical care and innovations for Veterans," Wilkie said.

Engineering and Environment of Care functions will be integrated into a single office to improve coordination between related environmental and safety initiatives and provide a world-class health care environment. VA Medical Centers will now have a single point of contact for safety issues. The consolidation of functions also will ensure high-quality safety standards, which are essential to Veterans' health.

HR will merge four headquarters-based HR groups with similar functions into one office to create a more efficient HR organization and provide more transparent and consistent service. A more efficiently functioning HR Service in VHA will improve the quality and efficiency of central office functions, which are essential to VA providing high-quality health care to Veterans.

RANGER BREAKFAST



HUNGRY RANGERS ALL ACROSS THE UNITED STATES



TACOMA WASHINGTON

RANGER BREAKFAST



MID MICHIGAN



COLUMBUS GEORGIA

75th RRA National Coordinator

Leaving your Mark!

Marshall Huckaby



Usually I provide information about the 75th RRA Fallen Ranger Program. While that is still a work in progress, I'd like to call your attention to something else.....Leaving Your Mark!

There are many ways you or your unit can “leave your mark” for the next generations to see and perhaps try to learn more about what you did for your Country.

The ARMY HISTORY MUSEUM, being built in Virginia has begun placing pavers at their new site. Many people, units, groups, etc. have purchased a paver or pavers to recognize their service, friend's service, Units, and in many cases their KIAs. You can do a search for the Museums website and see how to get a paver placed.

The LONG RANGE RECONNAISSANCE ASSOCIATION (LRRA) has taken the step to have the service of LRRPs, LRPs, and LRS recognized with a paver. The LRRA has also placed a number of memorials in other places.



The LRRA also placed a Memorial Bench at the National Infantry Museum as well as pavers for the unit and one for a LRS KIA in Iraq. The bench and the pavers are both appropriate and provide monetary assistance to the NIM. You can visit the NIM website to learn more about benches and pavers.



The first LRRA memorial was at the National Ranger Memorial at Fort Benning. A bench was placed which not only serves as a monument to LRRPs, LRPs, LRS, but also offers a place for those who are visiting the Ranger Memorial a place to sit and reflect.



The LRRA placed a memorial bench in Branson Missouri where the LRRA was “officially” organized and a paver at the US Army Mountain Ranger Camp. You can visit the US Army Mountain Ranger Association website to learn more about their paver programs. There are many museums, memorials, parks, and other venues, which would welcome you becoming part of their Military Service Recognition Programs

So contact them and....Leave your Mark!

Marshall Huckaby



1st BN, 75TH RANGER REGT

UNIT DIRECTOR—BILL ACEBES



Jared Attaway (son of our own “Doc” Attaway) passed away on 1 September and a Celebration of Life was held on 8 September at Camp Frank D. Merrill. Jared had always aspired to serve his country as a Ranger but it wasn’t meant to be. He was “one of us”. We miss you Jared.

Memorial service for Sergeant First Class Christopher Andrew Celize was held on 12 September. SFC Celize was killed in action on 12 July 2018; Afghanistan.

Ranger Gene Peters and his lovely wife Laura hosted a Ranger Gathering in September at their beautiful home near Oklahoma City. Young and Old Rangers alike; from all three Ranger Battalions and Regiment were in attendance. There was plenty of activities (Shooting; eating; drinking). Gene’s neighbors came and pitched in. There was a band and a huge fireworks display; Ranger Creed led by ‘yours truly’. Steve Murphy and myself showed up from Savannah. When I arrived in OKC; there were no rental cars available; but Gene showed up; picked me up; and loaned me one of his cars for visiting a friend (from my Vietnam 173rd days) in Eastern Oklahoma. As a side note; Gene served with Steve Murphy on Operation Eagle Claw. (Desert One).

Doughboy Award Ceremony held at Fort Benning on 10 September 2018. Command Sergeant Major (R) Autrail Cobb was honored this year. CSM Cobb stood up 1st Battalion as a Platoon Sergeant of Company C; then was Platoon Leader in Company B. CSM Cobb went on to stand up 3rd Ranger Battalion; served as Regimental CSM; CSM of USAIC Fort Benning; and retired as the CSM, JRTC Fort Polk. Hooah!



Ranger Gathering

John and Lanette Edmunds became grandparents of twin boys on 2 October, thanks to their daughter (Jamie) and her husband. John helped stand up 1st Battalion back in 1974. Congratulations to all.

SSG JASON DAHLKE ADVENTURE RACE; 6 OCTOBER LOTTS ISLAND. 25 teams competed. Mike Waldron and Marshall Huckaby did a lot of cooking – A great time was had by all in attendance. (Picture attached of Mike Waldron (A Co 1/75) and Tessa and Roger Dahlke).

Joe Muccia and Anita Muccia traveled to Grenada for the 35th Anniversary of Operation Urgent Fury. In attendance were Gold Star Family Members from that operation. Joe is the Historian for this operation. We will forgive him that he is a Marine!

At the same time; the 35th Anniversary Reunion was being held in Savannah. Members from both 1st and 2nd Ranger Battalions were in attendance. Marine and Air Force participants from the operation showed up also. I am told it was a GREAT GATHERING; especially at Kevin Barry’s and at the Ranger Memorial. Thank you to all that came in to participate in the reunion and honor our fallen heroes.



Mike Waldron (A Co 1/75) and Tessa and Roger Dahlke).

Ranger Ball on 19 December. Ranger breakfasts everywhere – Look for one in your area. Until the next time; keep your head down; your powder dry; your hatchet sharp and see you on the high ground.

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

UNIT DIRECTOR—STAN JONES



By the time this hits the press, the November Hilltop trip will be in the books. When we attended Ranger Carlisle's funeral, we promised Marie that we would be back so we will be there 2-9 November. There is a picture of Ranger Carlisle's stone also.

Roy Bissey and Jim Savell are planning a reunion in Waco TX for September 14th, 2019. So far, they are looking at a BBQ at Jim Savell's sons ranch with 4 wheelers, horses and a bounce house for the little Rangers. They are working out the details so check out the A CO server or the A Co Facebook page for more info. This is open to ALL who served in the A CO lineage from Germany to Ft Hood and to their families.

Not much new to report, Mike Theisen is still healing from having both knees replaced in March. Mike Fisher has left Chicago behind and moving to Michigan. D J DeJarnett had neck surgery and letting that keep him from attending the hilltop this year. Mark Ross has left Oregon and now resides in Utah. Roy Bissey is also working on updating our company roster.

The rest of this article is dedicated to SSG Clyde Bayless, as we knew him.

There are three pictures. One I will assume is his high school senior picture. One is a picture of his headstone and on the next page his team during Reforger in October 1973.

Clyde Yerba Bayless Jr. Airborne Ranger Green Beret. His awards included the Army Ranger Tab, Parachute Badge, a Bronze Star with two oak leaf clusters, the Army Medal of Commendation with oak leaf cluster, the Meritorious Service Award with oak leaf cluster, Purple Heart with oak leaf cluster and several Vietnamese honors.



I found the following obituary:

"Clyde Y. Bayless Jr., former Tulsan, Army veteran and a security expert under contract with the U.S. State Department, died May 20, 1989 in Peru, in an airplane crash. He was 43. The plane, which carried five other government drug enforcement employees and three Peruvians, crashed in the Peruvian Andes. The cause of the crash is unknown. Bayless served as reconnaissance team leader with the Special Operations Group in Southeast Asia. He served in Vietnam from 1969 to 1971.

Clyde was a 1963 graduate of Tulsa Central High School, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

He is buried in Promise Land Cemetery in Oakland, Arkansas near his parents, Mildred and Clyde Sr. At the time of Clyde's death, he was survived by his mother, wife Ann and three sisters.

Clyde developed the commando course for Latin American troops at the Southern Command's School of the Americas at Fort Gulick in the Panama Canal Zone. Clyde retired from the Army from an injury he received during a Special Forces airborne operations in 1981.

From the Chicago Tribune dated May 23, 1989: Peruvian police hiked into 15,000-foot mountains northeast of Lima on Monday to recover the remains of six

American cocaine eradication workers and three Peruvians killed in a weekend plane crash. The crash was seen as a further setback in the State Department's faltering campaign against heavily armed coca leaf producers in Peru's Upper Hualagala Valley.

Peruvian Interior Ministry spokesman Fernando Yovera said there was no indication of what caused the crash Saturday, but he discounted sabotage because of tight security.

Continued on the next page

U.S. Embassy spokesman Charles Loveridge in Lima said the unarmed single-

engine Cessna Caravan took off from Tingo Maria, forward base for the State Department's \$10 million effort to spray the Hualaga Valley's vast coca fields with herbicides.

The eradication program, which began in 1987, met with resistance from coca harvesters, which escalated to include a rocket grenade attack and ground fire. Meanwhile, reported coca leaf eradication has fallen to 3,000 acres this year, compared to 35,000 acres in 1988.

Killed in the plane crash were drug agent Rick Finley, 36, of Ft. Knox, Ky., along with Americans Clyde Bayless, embassy security officer; Billy McDonald and Dennis Eisler, helicopter pilots; John Van Zandt, helicopter mechanic; and John Knapp, the Cessna's pilot.

Memories of Clyde from Jim Savell: Kinda sitting here & remembering things. Was At CCS with Clyde. I was on RT AUGER & not sure his team. SOG used C-130/Black Birds (Painted black & loaded with electronics). They would fly to Taiwan (CCK) or Thailand (NKP) for maintenance that usually required several days. If you were on "stand down" you could go to "House 10" in Saigon & hop a flight. The plane would land at the terminal in Taipei, taxi to a secluded spot & transportation would take you around the building to the Kent Hotel. On one of my trips I shared a room with Clyde. It was a blast & we became close friends. The last I remember of Clyde at A/75 he had been injured on that "mass tactical" thingee. I thought he had broke his neck/back & was permanently out of action. It was a sad day when I learned he had got back into the "game" & was killed in South America. Rest in Peace Clyde Bayless.

Not for sure about down time at the "A" team camps. Operational SOG personnel were mission prep, mission or debrief. If you weren't in one of these statuses you were kinda off. The C-130 Talon (Blackbirds) flew between CCC, CCN, CCS & Saigon. Hopping aboard to Saigon was easy. In Saigon we could stay at "House 10". Most of us went to the Saigon Bar on Tudo street. Mama Bic was the owner & took care of SOG guys. She had to close before curfew & if you needed a place she would take you home with her. She would bring one of her girls for entertainment. I don't remember ever paying for anything. Do remember one night after curfew being arrested by the MP's & taken to "House 10" to be reported. I can't remember but Bayless may have been the other criminal. When we drove up to the gate...Bayless & I walked past the guards...the guards locked & loaded on the MP's & we laughed our drunk asses off at the pissed MP's. They sat across from the gate most of the night while I got a good nights sleep.

I was never in Saigon except as a visitor & can't remember much. House 10 was a safe house & highly guarded. Seems the security was Chinese & they wore tiger fatigues. There was sleeping quarters (cots)& a bar. Can't remember if there was a dining room. There was a 1st Sergeant that handled the operations of the house. There was a small fleet of vehicles. Can't remember exactly...but upon arrival at the airport in Saigon SOG members could call "Tiger 49". They would ask your name, where you were & where you wanted to go. Shortly an un-

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

marked black camouflaged vehicle with a Chinese driver would arrive & take you where

you requested. I believe this was for the time you were in Saigon. We wore civilian clothes & had "walk on water passes" from the CIA that gave us authority to be out past curfew.

From Mike Cantrell: So we were walking through the woods and Clyde keeps looking at me like he is going to kill me and he finally says "Can you make any more fn noise? I looks at Clyde and says, lemme tell you something, let me put this 74 b on your back with the coder burst, batteries, acc pack, and two cases of c's strapped to the frame and three gallons of water on the top and see if you can walk through the woods like Pocahontas dude. Maybe Diegel walks like her, you can dx me for the big d and he may be quiet but it will be like the jolly green giant marking your position for artillery fire. Clyde say, no thanks, I did my RTO time in Vietnam. Everybody loved Clyde Yerba, man he did not like his middle name. He was my team leader, he also came to my house and checked things out on the health and welfare side of the job. Clyde was always pulling somebody's chain. When I went to JOTC the entire unit was restricted to the barracks. I got called into the 1st Sgts office and told I was getting Saturday off and a guy was going to pick me up and take me out for the day. Who do you know Cantrell that you can get out of the barracks and go visit in Panama. I said I do not know anyone. Clyde picked me up about 0300, we went and bought a bunch of minnows from a san blas indian and spent about three hours fishing. We caught over 80 pounds of peacock bass, took them home and fried them up. Unbelievable fishing. I saw Clyde again in 80 at Ft Bragg, he was wearing a green beret, doing his thing again.

From Stan Jones: I never went to the field with Clyde but I do remember his smile and from what Cantrell says that smile was not always a happy smile

From Mike Theisen: he said to this guy that he was going to reach down his throat and grab him by his asshole and pull him inside out !! three seconds later my teeth were gone and I was trying my best to beat a man to death. (see Theisen's story from Feb 2016 issue)

From Doug (Capt.) Nolen: When Clyde smiled normally bad shit was going to happen!



Bayless Theisen Lopez and Sundquist

Clyde Yerba Bayless. Airborne Ranger Green Beret.

Need stories for the next edition. Germany V Corps LRRPs, D/17, A Co. come on guys give me some lies!
Stan Jones/UD



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

UNIT DIRECTOR—MARC L. THOMPSON

Greetings and Salutations:

Hello again, fellow Rangers, LRRPs, and Jayhawks.

There must be something about submission deadlines for Patrolling that aggravates Mother Nature... either it's basement water removal, snow/ice storms, or something else... well, lights are flickering but at least we still have power! So far... HA!

HUNTING WITH HEROES OF WYOMING

Several Rangers visited Wyoming this month to hunt deer and scare the beejesus out of the local populace... They included Jim Broyles, Mike Moser, Marty Patterson, Michael Albert, and Jeff Horne.

From Jim Broyles:

Big thanks to the VFW post of Sundance, Wyoming and Hunting with Heroes of Wyoming!!! Last night they had a blowout dinner for all the hunters here and Mike Moser bought me a cake to share. Was a great time and super Birthday party! Thanks to everyone involved!

Home ward bound today! All but two of us got deer!

Thanks to Hunting with Hero's! A great group..so honored for them to have us up here!



L-R Patterson, Horne, Broyles, Moser, Albert

HEALTH AND WELFARE

Greg Phillips:

Is undergoing cancer treatment at The University of Florida Proton Therapy Institute.

From his Facebook posts:

Update: Week #6; 28 treatments done, 11 to go, 2 more Doctor appointments and 1 set of labs - then we can head home.



Thank you all for your continued prayers. Both Min and I feel blessed having you all in our lives.

(If you're on Facebook, you can check his page for updates).

Bill Walter:

Bill continues to recover from cancer at a rehab center. He also has a Facebook page. From his (photo posted there, not included here):

Hatchet brothers visiting me at my rehab center 12 Nov 2018. Great day. May we Never Forget!!! RLTW

Ranger Voyles: John Henry, likewise, continues his battle to recover from cancer treat-

ments. From Jane Voyles:

Jack is still battling stage 4 squamous cell carcinoma.

Never have I seen such a fighter. It is a privilege to know this great man.

John Henry recently had a full body scan.... They expect the results by 21 November?

Hang tight, Ranger.

Tony Harley is further recovering from a knee replacement, and was doing well the last time we heard from him. Still cheering on those Seahawks...

Curtis Christopherson:

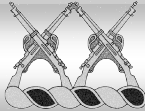
Ranger Christopherson was recently admitted to Seattle's Swedish Neurology hospital in Cherry Hill for back surgery. It appears that he had to be re-admitted on an emergency basis, but is doing better now.

I am growing ever-more wary of putting contact info in the clear on anything which will appear on the web. If you do not have contact information for any of them, please get in touch with me and I'll provide you with the necessary info.

HEARD FROM: (in no particular order)...

Richard Stutsman, Bill Walter, Ranger Voyles, Tommy R. Wright, Stan Harrell, Jim Broyles, Alfredo Moncayo, Sr., Willie Mack, James W. Ardwan, Lynn Thompson, Greg Phillips, Jeff Rice, Don Bruce, Steve Murphy, Bill Mathiak, Chuck Straehl, Neil A. Lofgren, Ricardo Torres, Jose Zapien, Robert "Skip" Robertson, Tom Forde, Bob Wolstrum, Leo Starkey, Dirty Eddie White, Richard Stutsman, Dennis Lucas, Curtis Christopherson, Gary O'Neal, and Mike Moser.

Respectfully-Marc Thompson-Unit Director



C/75 - E/20 LRP

UNIT DIRECTOR—JOE HAYES

The Ranger Hall of Fame nominee packets were emailed to the unit reps on October 22. All completed packets are to be mailed to the 75th RRA by 10 January. Last January when I received the packet in e-mail; my first thought was “what do I do with this?” The instruction was to have the nominees in by February or early March. There wasn’t much time so I posted on our website about the RHOF nominee packet and got a few good names. But I really didn’t know what to do. I guess I thought that someone would come up with a good candidate, do the paperwork, and submit that candidate. My thought was how do you do this in a couple of months? I didn’t know what the process was, but I did give some thought as to which I would submit.

I’ve met a lot of guys at the reunions that I’ve attended, but I can’t really say that I have come to know them very well. I served in 1971; and even those guys I didn’t know very well. Forty years had passed since I had reunited with some of them at the 2011 reunion. That’s the year that Gary Dolan was inducted into the RHOF. David Dolby was inducted in 1993 – Steve Murphy in 2009 – Gary O’Neil in 2010 – Tom Bragg in 2013 – Cal Rollins in 2014. Gary Dolan was the only RHOF member of these that I had met in 1971. I went down to that reunion to see the induction ceremony and I’m glad that I did, not only for Gary, but also I was proud of our unit. I walked through the Ranger Hall of Fame in 2011 and again in 2013. I can’t remember giving any thought as to how those Rangers got inducted. I just walked through and read several of the citations which gave the brief reason that they were there. Today there are only four hundred and six people so honored in that Hall. Only up to fifteen can be inducted each year. Last January I started to think about who gets nominated.

Last January after I posted, I got a call from Gary Dolan. He wanted to clarify something that I had posted: That was that he had volunteered to review the packets for submission (to make sure that they were complete), and not a voting member. That was good to know because I began to get a better understanding of the process in that conversation. It also became clear that the packet that I received would take about five or six months to complete. Now I realized that any nomination for this packet would be submitted for the 2019 nominations. I did have a name in mind.



I had read the Chippergate story in Bob Stein’s book. I had heard the story in 1971 when I first got into the unit in An Khe. The story had taken place three years before, and the narrator didn’t have the names. I met Parker Johnston in 2015 when I was looking at the portraits that he had painted. I didn’t realize that he was the Chippergate team leader until the unit dinner where he was the guest speaker. So, last January as I was thinking about nominations, Bob Johnston was the name that I thought about. I called Bob Stein on January 9th and caught him in Tasmania of all places. Bob promised to put something together when he got back and he

did. Bob put together a whole loose leaf folder of information and sent it to me. All I had to do was to organize it in the packet format. I let Milt and Bones know what Bob and I were doing, and they seemed fine with the idea.

Bones and I had a good conversation about the nomination process. Since I had talked to Bob Stein I had been thinking more about our nominations, and I couldn’t stop thinking of another name from the Chippergate story. That person was Del Ayers: I don’t know why, because I had probably spoken about two paragraphs to him in the four reunions that I went to. And besides, Del doesn’t say a whole lot anyway. He doesn’t have to. So, when I talked to Bones I asked him how many people we could submit to which he replied “as many as we want...but the paperwork has to be filled out on each one.” I was glad to hear that because I thought we could only put in one guy. I had to nominate both of them. Bob was the TL and Del was the RTO/Medic. I can’t explain it, but that’s the way it was. I’d do the paperwork on Del and submit both of them. I guess it came down to nothing more than a gut feeling.

It is in writing the packet that you find out if the gut call was right or not. Mine was right and no one will ever be able to convince me otherwise. There are a lot of Rangers who should be nominated and never will be. You all know that there were a lot of contacts and tons of bullets that were expended in Vietnam. There were a lot of heroes over there too. Bob and Del were part of a team that against the odds – survived. That’s just the starting point of a nomination – something that gets your attention. Completing the packet then becomes a journey through a good part of their life.

Continued on the next page

It is not easy to do. I found that you can't make a good man look better with words – so after several writes and rewrites you just end up going back to the basics; just tell the truth. Bob and Del didn't really want to be nominated. Bob wanted Del, and Del wanted Bob to be nominated. The process worked out over five or six months. I was told early on that the board puts a lot of weight on what the nominee has done for the Ranger community. I didn't know what that meant, and I'm not sure that I know now. I do know that a Ranger is always a Ranger. Bob Johnston and Del Ayers have lived exceptional lives devoted to service both in and out of the US Military. Today both live much quieter and safer lives than what their careers had in store for them over the years. Both men seem to be at peace. And even though they both think that it is a great honor to be nominated to the RHOF, I get the impression that they both would just as soon let it go at that.

In my conversation with Bones about the RHOF nominations a few months ago, the subject of Lt. Col. Danny McNight came up. They are good friends. I think I said something like "...that guy belongs in the RHOF." Bones agreed but doubted that that would ever happen. I knew what he meant – Somalia. If someone were to ask me why Danny should be in the Hall I'd say because he bore a weight that would have crushed a lot of commanders into dust – because he took a lot of arrows which are more agonizing than bullets – because he became a shield behind which a lot of cowards in the aftermath of Somalia hid then

C/75 - E/20 LRP

and probably still do to this day. There are a lot of stones that have been picked up ready to throw. When all is said and done I'd like to see who is still standing in the square ready to throw their stones when everyone else has dropped them and walked away. So, the short answer is that this man is a man of valor. He's a solid guy. To you Bones I say nominate Danny McNight. I'm sure that a lot of guys feel like us. Sometimes the nomination is worth a whole lot more than the price of admission.

Induction into the Ranger Hall of Fame truly is a great honor. Every nominee is unique. There are only up to fifteen inductees each year. If you believe someone should be a nominee then get a packet and make the case for choice: It is your choice regardless where it goes. It was both humbling and a privilege to have been involved in the nomination process. Without Bob Stein, I think that I would not have done it. So thanks Bob. Forgive me if I don't say "let's do it again sometime." And finally to Bob Johnston and Del Ayers – best wishes. I'd like nothing more than to see both of you inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame. My hope is that a place is being prepared for you among the four hundred and six other Rangers in that Georgia Hall. You are both extraordinary men who have devoted your lives to service – to our country, and to community. I am proud to know you and equally proud to count you as my friends.

See you in February Joe Hayes

RANGER BREAKFAST



Colorado Springs



D/75

UNIT DIRECTOR—RICHARD “HERD” NELSON

The cherry blossoms were in full bloom the first time I saw the Wall, the sun was shining bright, and the smell of spring was in the air. I told myself that it would be ok, I could look and not be affected, I was wrong. Walking close to thousands of names, I lost track of Sharon and the grandkids as I looked down and saw a letter someone had written to their Uncle whose name was engraved on that dark stone; it sucked all the air out of my lungs, and I realized that whatever I was part of as a soldier, as a ranger in late 69 and 70 was much bigger and more powerful than what I was trying to control.

Theodore Roosevelt said the best day of his life was when he and his men, his “rough riders,” charged up San Juan Hill, the decisive battle of the Spanish American War. The best time of my military career was in Vietnam, serving with the best group of men that America fielded in the late 60s, much like the men who charged up San Juan Hill, made from the same cloth and brand, instead of riding horses, we flew in Huey helicopters, piloted by good men like Carl Norris. I wish our victories in War Zone D could have ended the war in Vietnam but it would go on for another five years, ending with the fall of Saigon in April 1975. It’s been an honor to write about the men and their lives I served with a half century later, what a privilege.

Everyone Herd contacted seems to be doing well; some more than others, like Fitz and Kathy who are expecting grandparents, baby due on the 17th of November in Los Angeles. We want to know the specifics later, congratulations to the Fitzgerald’s upcoming addition to the family! After calling Fitz back to see how his pregnant Daughter was doing with the wild fires near her location, he said although there was plenty of smoke and ash in the air they were doing OK.

Frank Parks is waiting for deer season to open in Pennsylvania, go Frank! Frank travels to California and other places in the country, enjoying retirement.

Like Frank, Psycho is waiting on deer season to open. Unable to bow hunt due to his injury when he hit a deer with his motorcycle, he will be using his rifle this year. Good luck buddy on the hunt, we all hope your shoulder has completely healed.

Ed and Janice Krause are doing ok with Ed still recovering from heart surgery. Like Psycho, Ed will have to settle on hunting



deer with the rifle this season instead of a bow. Venison is good no matter if it’s taken with a bow or rifle. I hear the whitetail deer in Wisconsin can get pretty huge, good luck on the hunt!!

Tom and Janice are doing well in North Carolina. They are located far enough inland where the last two hurricanes didn’t affect them very much, thankfully. Carry on Tom.

Mo and Cindy are doing well and landing a new fencing contract that will keep them busy for a while.

Carl Norris is back home in Arizona after a trip to North Carolina, doing well. It’s always good hearing from Carl.

Ken and Linda are doing great. That’s pretty good for an old ranger; Ken will always be in my winning circle of friends.

Richard Lowes doing ok, hanging out. Richard talked to Onicia Mercer, just checking on her since her husband Ed passed away. Richard and Ed were best friends in Vietnam.

Mike and Vicky Jaussaud are doing well, enjoying life.

Don “Vic” Vaccaro is doing well and so are his daughter (Coleen) and grandsons. Don said to say hi to his brothers.

All is well with the Warren’s, a blessing for sure. We have just come through a beautiful fall and headed toward good holiday seasons. I plan on taking my granddaughter Madison deer hunting this weekend and looking forward to fresh venison if she is successful. I am a hunting guide these days for the grandkids; seeing them have a successful hunt is my reward.

Herd is doing about the same as the last article. The black eye has healed now but still having trouble walking due to the pain in the knees.

The photos I selected for this article were again from the trip to South Dakota and back. Vicky Jaussaud took the two pictures taken at the American Legion Fish



Fry in Hot Springs.

Herd and I want to wish you all a good Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas; we hope to see you someday on the high ground!!

RLTW

D/75 CONTINUED



VETERAN CENTERS

Life isn't always easy after a deployment. That's where Vet Centers can help. Vet Centers across the country provide a broad range of counseling, outreach, and referral services to combat Veterans and their families. Vet Centers guide Veterans and their families through many of the major adjustments in lifestyle that often occur after a Veteran returns from combat. Services for a Veteran may include individual and group counseling in areas such as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), alcohol and drug assessment, and suicide prevention referrals. All services are free of cost and are strictly confidential.

Who We Are

We are the people in VA who welcome home war veterans with honor by providing quality readjustment counseling in a caring manner. Vet Centers understand and appreciate Veterans' war experiences while assisting them and their family members toward a successful post-war adjustment in or near their community. If you'd like to send us a private message or have a counselor contact you, visit the Vet Center page on Facebook (www.facebook.com/VAVetCenters) and click the blue Send Message button at the top of the page. Please include your first name, phone number, and ZIP code in your message.

D/151st/LRP/LRS

Unit Director Bob McIntire

I am always thinking about what to write. I guess this is like television, if you don't like what your watching or in this case reading, you can change channels. I woke-up this morning, as I do a lot of mornings, too early to get up, but I am done sleeping. So this morning I am thinking about the past. The recent past is a trip with one of my best friends, Chuck Wallace, we went together to a sad event, the passing of a brother's child. Gary Porter lost his son and his wife Pam lost her stepson.. I won't go into how that is not suppose to happen to parents. From there I moved on to better times. I thought about other brothers and the good or not so good times that happened to us in our lives.

Sgt. Ezell was my Drill Sgt. Basic training at Fort Ord. Ft. Ord was a beautiful place about 90 miles south of San Francisco, another beautiful place. Well as nice as Ord was, Sgt. Ezell was not a beautiful person in a lot of respects. He was down right mean. He did not think highly of any of us maggots and expressed that to us anytime he had the opportunity. After we puked had completed Basic, his parting wish for us was to all die in Viet Nam. What he didn't know was that Vietnam would continue to play a tragic role in a lot of our lives. I think the best thing about Sgt. Ezell is that more than likely he is not with us any more. Thank you Sgt. Ezell for such a crappy experience. In spite of you we rose above you and made some lasting friendships and some great memories (Maybe I will save those for some other ramblings) for now I will try to avoid them.

To continue on the theme of Ft. Ord, does anyone remember Jerry Lewis's son Gary? Well I remember him. I remember the picnics Jerry would have with his son in his company area next door to ours. I remember the family times they had while we got to watch from the third floor window of our barracks. I remember the catered food and the lawn chairs and the beautiful well dressed young ladies. It was thoughtful of Jerry and his entourage to allow us to watch them enjoying there get-togethers from the third floor of our concrete barracks in beautiful California. I remember running to the rifle range 4 miles away with our field jackets strapped to our backpacks on 30 degree mornings while Gary road the cattle trucks out to their training whistling and yelling obscenities at us running along the berm of the rode in the gravel. I remember running back to our company area wearing our field jackets in 80 degree temperatures. Did that help acclimate us to the Vietnam latitude a year and a half later? I don't think so. Do you suppose Gary was sent to Viet Nam? There is a joke there somewhere. Oh well, "This Diamond Ring (probably) Doesn't Shine Anymore", I can only hope.

I can remember finally getting back in shape after My good friend, another one of my special brothers physically pulled me



through Basic. I can only imagine that it made us both stronger. It certainly made us better friends. A friendship that is still strong and lasting. What would I do without such good friends.

My mind as feeble as it may be has moved on to another friend and brother. I met Mike Jones, (a punk kid) driving to Guard drills in Greenfield, Ind. He drove an old, beat up Ford Fairlane. I swore to myself never to get in a Ford Fairlane again. Luckily I was activated and he was sent to some far off Basic Training center in another part of the world. Even being activated had it's good points. Jones was gone and I was divorced the world does smile on me once in a while. Time passes and I have a new girlfriend and in the bunk under me, can you guess, yep, there is that punk kid Mike Jones. Both single and both in new and strange surroundings. Yes we started hanging together, even assigned to the same training patrol. We had Big Jon Ellis as our patrol leader, the sun was certainly shining at Fort Benning. The only bad thing was that we had Sgt. Ralph Moss for a platoon Sgt. The worst thing about Sgt. Moss was that he was too good. Every time and I do mean everytime I tried to get away with something Sgt. Moss was there. Now how could that be you ask yourself, I ask myself that same thing. I couldn't complain because when he caught me I deserved it. All I could do was avoid him, because it always seemed like I was doing something I shouldn't be. I became the only guy in the company that had to dig a 10x10x10 pit for Co, D trash (I got even with Sgt. Moss for that, He had to find a ladder to get me out of that hole), but before the hole could be filled with trash it was deemed dangerous and I had to fill it back in. But, Co. D still had trash so because I was such a nice (?) guy and because of Sgt. Moss, I offered to dig it again. This time for the safety of all the other guys I had to fashion a fence around it. Yes I got to know Georgia from above (about 1200 feet) from below (about 10 feet) and from in the middle (on Kelly Hill). From Fort Benning, I lost Big Jon, he moved to "The Fighting Fourth" platoon, but I got to Keep Sgt. Moss and Mike Jones. Thank you Sgt. Eads for allowing me to join the Third platoon as an absentee member where the only duty I was allowed to pull was to burn Co. D's enlisted man's defecation for two weeks. To be completely honest both Sgt. Moss and Sgt. Eads and yes even Lt. Ellis allowed me to visit the jungles of Southeast Asia, honing my skills and become proficient with the M-16, the PRC 35 and the Army issued bug repellent, but no good deed goes unrewarded, because I got to be exposed to Agent Orange, just another reward bestowed on Co. D, 151st, Inf., Ranger, Airborne, RTO, Jungle Expert, Crap Burner, all of which are expertises I have found to be somewhat useful in civilian life as I hope you have too. I think. Well that's it for this session of my ramblings. If "In Contact" invites me back, till next time. I truly love you all, my brothers in combat and after.



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

UNIT DIRECTOR—C."JEFF" WEBB JR.

Greetings to all Echo Company personnel, their warrior wives and families By the time you are reading this submission, the holidays should be upon us so I trust that Hanukkah was pleasant and anticipate that Christmas will be very Merry!

2019 ECHO COMPANY 50TH INF & 75TH INF (LRRP) REUNION JULY 15TH - 21ST

The reunion is less than 7 months away so start planning now by making your hotel arrangements. Below is the basic information to arrange your hotel reservations and travel plans.

The 2019 Reunion will convene in Kalispell Montana from Monday July 15th through Sunday July 21st

Reunion Coordinator: Terry Leishman
Leishman4@gmail.com

Cell # 406-253-0738 Home # 406-471-1083

HQ Hotel:

Fairbridge Inn & Suites
1701 highway 93 South
Kalispell, Mt 59901
www.fairbridgekalispell.com
406-755-6100

Be sure to mention E company 75th Ranger reunion - Rates are for Sunday July 14 thru Saturday July 20th

Complimentary breakfasts bar every morning - price of the rooms are \$139.00 Sunday to Thursday \$159.00 Friday and Saturday

Kalispell has service from several different cities but service is limited and in high demand in the middle summer months – so plan accordingly. Other airports which may be a little cheaper or easier to get into are Missoula, Mt (about two and a half hours) or Spokane WA (about four hours) -Southwest, Delta, SkyWest, Alaska-Horizon, United, and Allegiance are all popular carriers in this region

Most rental car companies are available in all locations

Activities:

There will be planned events for each day, a memorial service on Saturday Morning, the unit business meeting on Saturday afternoon and a closing banquet on Saturday night. Our reunion chairman has not firmed up each day's events but would appreciate an e/mail to determine interest in the following activities:

-River rafting trip in Glacier National Park <https://www.nps.gov/glac/index.htm>

-Day trip to the bison range (shooting not allowed!)

-A visit to the historic St Ignatius Mission Church built in the 1700's has the most beautiful ceiling paintings. One of the



original brothers was an artist (muralist) and painted the ceiling similar to the Stignatius Chapel. <https://stignatiusmission.org/> More options to follow as Terry and his committee firm up the calendar

Please e/mail Terry ASAP with your interests – or strong commitments to any of the above activities at: leishman4@gmail.com - He would like to gauge the interests of the group to plan activities accordingly.

Further, to gauge potential reunion attendance please e/mail Terry if you plan to attend and the number of persons attending with you (wife, family members, and friends)

Helping Those in Need- "Peacemakers Quilting"

One of our unit members and his wife, Beverly and Tom Koontz of Las Vegas, are members of a church group that helps people with cancer cope with the disease. After I contacted Tom about his group he wrote:

"We are a group that makes warming quilts for people that are battling cancer. There is a cross in the center with prayer and scripture verses on the outer edges. We distribute them for free for the asking or when contacted by a friend or family member. All we need is the contact information and the type of cancer. Our support comes from donations made to the group and projects that we sell during our Christmas party. Each quilt takes more than 40 hours of work and there are more than 50-60 people who help out regularly in groups or at home."

Tom knows the pain of this terrible disease because it was his wife, Joyce, who started the program before she died in 2005.

Should you or anyone you know wish to be involved in this cause or provide donations please contact Tom at tokoontz12000@yahoo.com
Thank You

Pleasant Holidays to all and raise a glass and toast to an enjoyable, rewarding New Year!
Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Webb
Unit Coordinator E Co. 50th/75th LRRP – RANGERS
Unitdirectore50e75@gmail.com
917-975-4646
RLTW!



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

UNIT DIRECTOR—JOHN McGEE

This will be a very short report. Everyone is still well into enjoying the summer by now. George Timmons and the lovely Dianne have finally returned from circumnavigating the entire country in their RV. Great photos can be seen on Facebook showing their trip. The next event where F Company members can get together this year is rapidly approaching, that being the 3 /4 Cavalry Reunion September 26-30 at Colorado Springs, CO. I hope that everyone has a safe and wonderful trip.

Marshall Huckaby still wants to hear “your” stories about Vietnam. We cannot let our experiences become lost and it’s important to have those stories included as part of our history. Most of us have spent a lifetime trying to refute the false narrative of who the Vietnam Veteran really is. We are not the drug addicted, guilt ridden, uneducated,



unemployable, psychotic losers they made us out to be. We are a generation of Americans who answered their country’s call just as our fathers and grandfathers had done before us. We were young, but we were dedicated. We were doing our duty as best we could. We cared for our fellow soldiers, went on missions and did our best to make sure everyone came home alive. We must tell our stories or else we risk the truth being lost in the historical translations and opinions of others.

I have had very little response on my plea for help in nominating one of our own for the Ranger Hall of Fame in 2019. Time waits for no one and time is rapidly running out.

McGee Out.

Marshall Huckaby Induction : Georgia Military Hall of Fame 2018



Marshall



Marshall



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

UNIT DIRECTOR—AL STEWART



The E/51st LRP G-75th Ranger Association conducted our annual reunion, September 6-8, 2018 in historic Deadwood, South Dakota. Just over 30 of our members were in attendance along with wives, children, grandkids and even a few parents. Our hosts were Ron Olsen and his bride and they did an outstanding job of working out the details and itinerary for our event.

If you have never been to the Black Hills of South Dakota, you need to add it to your bucket list. It is a beautiful part of our country and has some of the most interesting Wild West history you will find anywhere. I can't write about the Black Hills of South Dakota (and Wyoming) without sounding like a member of the area Convention and Visitors Bureau. A magnificent place to visit and centered as a great base of operations is Deadwood. It's a fun place to visit with lots of local history and has easy public transportation.

Bars, shops, museums, casinos and restaurants, Deadwood can keep you occupied for days. Within a couple of easy drives are Mt Rushmore, Devil's Tower (Wyoming), the Buffalo Grasslands at Custer State Park, the Needles Parkway, the Lead (pronounced LEED) goldmine, Spearfish Canyon, and the Badlands.

Deadwood uses Wild Bill Hickok as their most famous citizen. Shot in the back at Saloon #10, the town uses his name and his famous poker hand of aces and eights as a calling

card for many attractions. The truth is that Wild Bill (James Butler Hickok) had only been in Deadwood for 20 days before being killed. His resting place in the Mt. Mariah Cemetery in Deadwood is shared with Calamity Jane and other notable characters of the era. It is a great place to visit, but I recommend taking the tour bus. The guides provide great historical information and a steep climb to the cemetery is brutal. A tour bus is a better choice.

Our reunion had a group visit to Mount Rushmore. A beautiful monument with a museum, restaurant and well maintained grounds. We went in the evening, which I recommend. The National Parks Service puts on a show full of Patriotic flair. A historical video, and explanation of how Frances Scott Key was moved



to write the "Star Spangled Banner" and last but most importantly for our group, an invitation to the Veterans in the audience to lower and fold our Flag and a standing ovation by the crowd in appreciation for all the Veterans. It was a moving and emotional event and the National Parks Staff did an outstanding job in conducting the service. While the event is in progress, just after dark, the Monument is lit from a distance and it is a beautiful site to see.

We also held a Memorial service to honor our fallen at the Black Hills National Cemetery. An American Legion Honor Guard and the Patriot Riders attended this event. We were all touched and honored by those who attended on behalf of our service.

Next July, we will join the Ranger Regiment Association for our unit reunion at Fort Benning, Georgia. The RRA group is providing a full week

of events for this Ranger Rendezvous and with the local Ranger support; it will be a great time.

The official dates for our reunion at July 9-11, 2019 but with the events planned by the RRA, I recommend staying for the entire week (July 8-12, 2019).

Our hotel of operations is the Hyatt Place Columbus North, 2974 N Lake Parkway in Columbus. To make reservations specifically for our group, call Tosha Cook at 706 507-5003. Tosha is aware of

our unit and is keeping our group separate from the RRA so it is important the contact her directly for reservations. If she doesn't answer, leave her a message and she will return your call. It is important that we keep our E/51st-G/75th group separate for hotel booking purposes. Book early as the rooms will fill up quickly as there will be a large attendance for this combined event with the Ranger Regiment Association.

I close with a toast to our unit that I read many years ago; "Here's to us and those like us; damned few left."

Don't let the last reunion you attend be the one you missed!

RLTW





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

PATROLLING WRITER— PETE DENCKER

As I was reading through the last issue of *Patrolling* – I noticed that H Company was not represented. I felt it was my duty and an honor to pick up the banner and continue to tell the story of one of the most decorated units of the Vietnam War.

My name is Pete Dencker, I joined Company H in December of '70 as XO, became CO in the spring of '71 and remained the CO through August of '72. I had been a grunt Platoon Leader with the 1/7th Cav for 6 months prior to arriving at H Company so I was aware of and appreciative of the great reputation that H Company (and all Ranger Company's) had developed as well as the professionalism that was evident in everything they did. Once there I was even more impressed with the men of H Company and their dedication to the mission and to each other. I'm happy and honored to be able to continue to pass on bits and pieces of the story of H Company and the men who made it a legend.

The best place to start is with this year's reunion – which I was unable to attend (I was actually at Ft Benning pinning a Ranger Tab on my son). The reunion was held in conjunction with the annual 1st Cav reunion in Charlottesville WV and attendance was inspiring. Please see accompanying group picture! In total, H Company had 45 attendees spanning the years from 1966 – 1972. Each year at the reunion, officers for the Company Association are elected – this year the only change was Bob Raab replacing John LeBrun as President. Charlottesville and the surrounding area provided a great setting, great hospitality, and received kudos from all who attended.

One of the most significant events for H Company attendees was the opportunity to visit the Sgt. Richard E. Arden Memorial Bridge (picture also attached), which was dedicated to Rick's



memory and located on the WV Turnpike (I 64) at mile marker 90 which overlooks the town of Marmet where Rick was born and raised. Rick served with H Company during 1969 and 70 and was a highly decorated Team Leader. His awards included: The Silver Star, Bronze Star w/V, 3 Army Commendation Medals w/V, and 2 Purple Hearts along with numerous other awards for Achievement and Meritorious Service. Rick passed away later as a result of a rare and highly aggressive form of cancer that was most likely service related.



Many of us have suffered the after effects of Agent Orange (or other chemical agents used during that time to help defoliate the jungle or achieve some other tactical advantage) and have carried on in silence with the after effects of those connections ever since. It is just recently that the VA has made more of an effort to identify and help those Vietnam era Veterans with combat



related illnesses and provide a better level of help and support. If you're one of those please check the VA website to apply for and hopefully receive the benefits you've earned. As an alternative, there are a host of facilitators out there that are intimately familiar with this complicated system and process. Knowing the in's and outs of how it works can be a huge help in navigating what can only be described as a paperwork nightmare. I

used the facilitator route and it worked well.

I'm new at this so I hope I've stayed within the boundaries! In future editions I will try to focus on recent H Company news as well as highlighting some of the more "interesting" missions and teams from our time in RVN. In each issue I will also try to highlight and honor one of our brothers who are no longer here to tell their own story.

RLTW! Pete



K/75 - E58 LRP - 4TH DIV LRRP

UNIT DIRECTOR—ROGER CRUNK

Greetings to all my Brothers,

I hope everyone is as well as can be expected at our age. Did you ever think that we would be one of those old people sitting around complaining about all our ailments? I will admit I have my share of ailments but just as my Brother LRRPs I know no other way but to drive on. Remember those who are suffering, keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

Moving on to other news: Jim and Gigi Joyce report that there were funds left over from the Pittsburgh Reunion.

\$517.04 was deposited into the K-Co account with a balance of \$6,126.00.

\$1000.00 was donated to the Family Fund of the 75th Ranger Regiment Assoc. Thank you again Jim and Gigi for your love and dedication to the LRRPs and Rangers of the 4th Inf. Div.

And I have to thank again Jim and Antoinette Bell for building the KIA Memorial, arranging the service, providing the food and being great hosts at their home. Just another example of the love we hold for each other.



There were several who wanted a copy of my remarks at the Memorial Service. I don't remember them all so I will include it here. If you want a copy please let me know. These words came from my heart.

1. Good Morning ladies and gentlemen, I am truly thankful that you have come to share in this memorial service. Please join me in thanking Jim and Antoinette for expending so many of their own dollars and so much of their time to build this beautiful monument placed here in memory of the fallen LRRPs and Rangers of K-Co, 75th Infantry Rangers. The motto of the Rangers is (Sua Sponte), "Of their own accord". In true Ranger tradition Jim has carried out this mission, "of his own accord." A true tes-



tament to that unbreakable bond that even those of us held in its embrace, little understood. Formed and solidified in blood, sweat, and tears, in a faraway-jungle so many years ago.

2. Before we dedicated this memorial a few years ago, I received this letter from my daughter Andria, and I want to read it especially for you, my Brothers:

Dear Dad,

I have been thinking about this memorial for a few days, and these are my thoughts. Feel free to use them if you

want. It has always been my wish that you all find some peace and let go of your survivor's guilt. I don't think your brothers who died want you to grieve so hard for them. They will never be forgotten as the children of the survivors will always be grateful for their sacrifice because our fathers came home. So, I wrote this for you.

Let the mourning end here

Lay your grief at the gates

The dead have long rested gently in their peace

The lost demand not your grief, your sorrow, your guilt,

It honors them not

They had plenty of that at their death

Lay at their feet in tribute

Your loves, your triumphs, your joy

Let them share in your life

And know your daughters, your sons, your wives

So lay your burdens down my brothers

And leave them there forever

Come here again with a peaceful soul

And honor the dead by living

4. In the context of the Vietnam war, the LRRPs and the Rangers are one and the same.

Continued on the next page

K/75 - E58 LRP - 4TH DIV LRRP

. The Division LRRPs of E 58 and 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Brigade LRPS were the forerunners of K Company 75th Infantry Rangers. When the 75th infantry Rangers were formed in 1969, K Company assumed the mantle carried by those first brave LRRPs. With the support of great company Co's and First SGTS, their experience and sacrifice helped mold K-Co into the finest Ranger Company in Vietnam. In this way, we are all brothers, united by duty, sacrifice, and the herculean effort of serving as the eyes and ears of the 4th Infantry Division, encompassing the Central Highlands, the largest, most rugged divisional area of operations in Vietnam. We became known as the Highland Rangers.

5. As an all-volunteer force, the military historians tell us now that we performed the most dangerous missions in Vietnam. I don't think any of us looked at it that way back then. I suppose if you consider that we operated in 4 or 5 man teams deep in enemy territory, with support of any kind many long minutes, sometimes hours away if the weather or darkness prevented the choppers from flying. Yes, it was dangerous.

Despite the fact that the Viet Cong and the NVA placed a price on our heads and formed headhunter teams tasked to hunt us down and kill or capture us, we all stepped forward and said "I will" take on that mission. We were just a motley bunch of cocky, independent, brash. Kids who thought of it as a way to do something of importance. We carried out our missions alone, were wounded and died in the jungle, alone with only the help and comfort of our Brothers to see us through.

6. The team leader was the authority on the ground. He made the decisions to carry out the mission and to protect his team, rather than the brass back in base camp. He had at his disposal the full firepower of the U.S. Army. He could call in helicopter gunships, 105, 155, 8 inch or 175 mm artillery. Depending on what was available or his location. Sometimes he had the firepower of a naval destroyer off shore. There were times when fighter jets were used. That was a heady feeling for a 20 year old kid. Talk about your video games.

7. But reality was always at your shoulder, and it reared its ugly head, when Brothers fell and Brothers died. I and each of my brothers have attended the K company memorial services in Viet Nam for brothers lost. We were deeply affected in that moment, but most often we had another mission to plan, prepare for and execute, many times on that same day. We never had time to absorb and mourn their passing. We internalized that hurt. But with each other's help, we picked ourselves up... knowing no other way, we carried on. Our survival and the

survival of our teammates depended on it.

8. Each of us have many stories to tell. To me, they simply point out the commitment, the character, and stature of the men we chose to surround ourselves with. It was my greatest honor to serve with the bravest, most honorable men I have ever had the privilege of knowing. My favorite quote by Theodore Roosevelt reads: *"It is not the critic who counts, not the man who points out how the strong man stumbled, or where the doer of deeds should have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena; whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly, who errs and comes short again and again, who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions, and spends himself in a worthy cause; who at best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement; and who at worst, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory or defeat."*

9. There are fifty-two names on this plaza, the names of our Brothers who did not return home to their loved ones. Even one is too many. But we have, and will continue to bear the loss of each of our fallen brothers. We have born this burden since the moment of their death. We "must" and "will" bear this burden because it is our duty, our honor, to carry them with us every day of our lives. One of my favorite quotes from Shakespeare reads:

"From this day to the end of the world

But we in it shall be remembered

We few, we happy few, we band of brothers

For he today that sheds his blood with me,

Shall be my brother"

So lest we become full of ourselves (as Rangers are want to do), otherwise we would not be who we are, we only need to look upon this monument, to read the names inscribed thereon to remind us of who they are, who we are, and where we have been together.

10. I'm not sure who the author of this quote is but it is a poignant truth: "You may be lost but you are not forgotten. Those who have traveled far to fight in foreign lands know that the soldier's greatest comfort is to have friends close at hand.

Continued on the next page

K/75 - E58 LRP - 4TH DIV LRRP

In the heat of battle we cease to fight for a flag. Brother, we fight for the man on our left; we fight for the man on our right. When armies are scattered and empires fall away, all that remains is the memory of those precious moments we spent side by side."

The Bible tells us "No greater love hath a man than he lay down his life for his friend". These men were not just our friends, they were, are, and will forever be our Brothers. I pray that at the end of my time here on this earth I will once again be among my Brothers who gave their all. You are gone now, but rest in Peace Brothers.

Rangers Lead the Way!

The 75th Ranger Regiment Association Reunion will be July 8th through the 12th (2019) Checkouts Saturday July 13th.

The hotel arrangements are different this year because the Doubletree Inn already has prior commitments so rooms and space will be limited as it was in 2017.

This reunion will use 4 hotels with one being the headquarters. All are in 300 hundred-meter distances of each other and there are plenty of restaurants in the area catering to different tastes. All hotels provide a hot breakfast as part of their rates.

The primary hotel and HQ will be the Best Western Plus:

4027 Veterans Court, Columbus, GA. Reunion registration will be at this hotel, also where the membership meeting will take place.

If you want to stay at the Best Western call the hotel direct @ 706-507-1111 and mention that you are with The 75th Ranger Regiment Association. They have 40 rooms set aside for us at \$99.00 per night plus tax and fees. Reservations must be made by June 3, 2019.

Another hotel is the Hyatt Place at 2974 N. Lake Parkway, Columbus, GA. The hotel is holding 50 rooms for us at \$93.00 plus tax and fees. Call 706-507-5003 for reservations. Again mention The 75th Ranger Regiment Assoc. The cutoff date is June 3' 2019.

The Hampton Inn at 7390 Bear Lane, Columbus GA is also holding 50 rooms at \$99.00 plus tax and fees. Call 706-256-2222 and again mention The 75th Ranger Regiment Assoc. The cutoff date is May 24, 2019. The Holiday Inn Express@ Suites at 7336 Bear Lane, Columbus GA. Is our 4th hotel and have 30 rooms set aside for us @ \$ 104.00 plus tax and fees. Call 706-507-7200. Again mention The 75th Ranger Regiment Assoc. The cutoff date is June 10, 2019.

Now a stroll down memory lane:



Top photo- Romeo-7 December 1969

Middle photo- Building Blast Wall/ 1970 L-R Mitsch, Healy, Skiles

Bottom photo- POW Camp Raid extraction LZ 1970



P/75 - 79TH LRP

UNIT DIRECTOR—TERRY B. RODERICK

First of all, Happy 82nd Birthday to our Papa Company Ranger Daddy, Duke DuShane, who turned that number on 7 November. I'm not exactly sure how much that is since I can't count that high, but I know it's a lot!! I'm just back from a weekend at retired CSM Dave Gates' home for his surprise 70th birthday party (November 6th) and a Veterans Day gathering and an all-day college football watching Saturday at his home in Woodstock, Georgia. Since most of us had missed Woodstock in 1969, it was a good opportunity to finally get an opportunity to go to Woodstock and see what all the fuss was about? Now that is marked off my bucket list. I'm happy to inform you we missed a good time when we were busy doing other things in 1969 and a good time was had by all in 2018. Dave's wife, Sheryl, had invited a short list of people she thought might be able to make this gathering for Dave and we got a nice crew and had a good mini-reunion of sorts. Friday started with me waking the Sergeant Major from his dead sleep about 0900 as I informed him that he had missed PT and the troops were waiting. Actually, it was only me until later in the afternoon when he was pleasantly surprised to see Marie and Jerry Yonko, and Debbie and Bud Wease eating wings waiting for us to get there at a Sports Bar in Woodstock. Marie, Jerry, and I stayed with Dave and Sheryl at their lovely home and met up with Gaynelle and Thomas Wilson the next day, and later that day, Tom Perry arrived. Jerry cooked ribs, wings, and there was a feast for all to partake in all day long while we watched football on a probably 150-inch screen in his basement/clubhouse/boy's club. The entire basement area is covered with many of the awards and gifts he had accumulated over his 30-year service in the Army and made me think a lot about all the time and service he has given to this country. Not just him, but many of our brothers who had outstanding careers in the Army too. Hat's off to them and not a better time than Veterans Day to give them their due. Sheryl and the rest of the girls had a good time and made sure we had everything we needed. Many thanks to her for setting up this great opportunity to gather and surprise Dave. Gaynelle and Thomas spent the night Saturday with us before heading back north to South Carolina. While we were there the temperature dropped to 37 one morning and it was time for me to head back south to Cocoa, Florida where the air is way more tolerable. For the record, it was 85 at home the same day. I had forgotten how bad it felt to be cold, but I won't forget it again for a while. I was not prepared for the arctic-like temperatures that snuck in there on us like a North Vietnamese



sapper. Jay Lutz sent me a nice photo of him and Mr. Wilson (his sidekick and Aire-dale), in his motorcycle/sidecar as they got ready for the Veterans Day parade in St. Petersburg, Florida. Jay is one of our company's favorite Rangers and it's always good to see him out and about.



CSM Gates 70th



P/75 - 79TH LRP

3rd Bn. Ranger Rick Smith came in for a visit from Tucson, Arizona in late September and we headed to his former home, Fort Benning School for Boys (and now girls too!!), for a Ranger School Graduation and the 3rd Ranger Battalion Ball the last weekend in September. Ranger Dylan Sullivan graduated from Ranger School on 28 September, 2018 and Rick, Duke DuShane, Ted Tilson, and I were there to celebrate this great accomplishment with his twin brother, Sean, and his Mom and Dad, Sandy and Mike Sullivan. You can imagine how full of pride this family is and was that day. Brother Sean will be getting his chance to do the course at a later date and it's great to know the brothers are serving in the same Battalion, though they are in two different companies. I look forward to seeing them in the months and years ahead as they continue their Ranger journeys. I expect great things from both of them and I'm sure they'll handle their business. Rangers Lead the Way!!!

The same night, Rick Smith, Duke, Ted and I got all gussied up for the annual Ranger Ball the 3rd Battalion put on that Friday night at the Iron Works. Even though I've gotten old, 70 now, I still ain't blind, and those 3rd Bn. Rangers sure have some beautiful women in their lives. The girls were all decked out in the finest evening dress and the guys clean up real nice for this affair and it was great. The food, speakers, and entire evening was great. One of my favorite things they do is the Ranger Punch Bowl Ceremony where they take beverages with some relationship of sorts to the battle or place Rangers fought over the years from Rogers Rangers up to the current GWOT Rangers who serve us today. In addition to the liquid beverages a bit of sand and oil is mixed into this concoction as a succession of Rangers step up and describe the action and the significance of the beverage being added to the punch bowl. At the end, the youngest Ranger in the Battalion is charged with drinking some of this swill first and then the Battalion Commander follows up and downs a good amount too. Some do the minimal ceremonial drink, and some get real crazy with it and this year I can tell you it was "over the top" in my experiences observing this ceremony!! You can imagine what this stuff might taste like. This year, while "charging" the punch bowl, I noticed several of the Senior NCO's and 1st Sergeants from 3rd Bn. were involved, and I have never seen the quantities consumed like this year as they charged the bowl. Usually a swig or two and even a slug might be sampled by the presenter before pouring the balance of the beverage into the bowl, but these guys were flat out killing the bottles this stuff came in and drew ooh's and aah's from the attendees as they poured measly amounts into the bowl after they hit the bottles and cans, etc. Some of those valiant Rangers paid dearly for it a short time later, but I'll tell you, the 3rd Battalion knows how to make Ranger Punch!! Ha! Ha!



Duke DuShane & Rick Smith



Dylan Sullivan and Terry Roderick

P/75 - 79TH LRP

Some of you may not know of my relationship with

Ranger Richard "Rick" Smith. I met Rick at the Ranger Rendezvous in 1994. At the time, he was a young SP/4 in B Co., 3rd Bn.

and was assigned as what we called a Forward Observer. He arrived in B Company right after they returned from Somalia in 1993 as a replacement for one of the many Ranger they lost during the Battle of Mogadishu in October 1993. We met in the Hospitality Room at the hotel and hit it off and have been close friends ever since. At the time he told me he was about to go to Ranger School and asked me if I would come back to his graduation and I told him I would if he didn't get recycled. He didn't, and I did come up for his graduation as I said I'd do, and I was honored and privileged to be the one who pinned his Ranger tab on his sleeve for the first time. I cannot emphasize to you the honor it was for me to be asked to do this. We've stayed in touch over the years and it was wonderful to have him come and visit my home and spend a

week with me. I have some other Rangers who I've stayed in touch with too over the years and to realize it's been 23 years is pretty amazing if you think about it. It might not be the 49-50



Lutz Veterans Day Parade

years we all have, but it's extraordinary to say the least.

I treasure these friendships I've made with the younger Rangers and some I've known for their entire 20 plus year careers. I wish

more of you could have enjoyed these relationships like I have over the years so you'd understand better.

I've got some dates for some Ranger events coming up in 2019 for you too. The annual Best Ranger Competition held at Fort Benning the 12-14th of April, 2019. Two weeks later is one of my favorites..... The annual Critter Cook-out and Open House at Camp Merrill and the Mountain Ranger Camp. The dates for this are Friday April 26th for the Fish Fry and the main event is Saturday, the 27th of April, 2019. The 2019 Ranger Rendezvous and 75th Ranger Regiment Association Reunion will be held July 8-12, 2019 at Fort Benning. Roy Barley, the 2nd Vice President of the Association has provided many details for hotels, etc. in the previous issue of Patrolling and it is available on the Associa-

tion website also. Please make your arrangements early and come and enjoy the time together before you get too damn old to travel. *Continued on the next page*

P/75 - 79TH LRP



Pinning Rick Smith's Tab On 1995

In closing, I misspelled CSM Curt Conklin's first name last issue (Kurt) and want to let his Dad, Mike, know I've corrected it. Not sure what I was thinking when I was typing last article when the two other boy's names start with a "C" too. Chris, Casey, and Curt. Got it right now, Mike!! Ha! Ha! Jerry Yonko's son, Captain Kelly Yonko, finished the two knives he made for Steve Nash and David Slone for hosting our reunion in Rhode Island this summer and they came out great. Many thanks to you, Kelly, for this wonderful gesture and showing us some of your other skills!! You Boys keep your hatchets sharp and your powder dry!! RLTW!! Terry "Rock" Roderick P/75th Rangers



Sean, Dylan, Mike Sullivan Sept 2018 Ranger School Grads



Roderick, Perry, Wease, Gates, Yonko, and Wilson

ARVIN RANGER ADV, (BDQ)

UNIT DIRECTOR—BILL MILLER

Fellow Rangers and Co Vans:

Reunion 2018:

The reunion was held as scheduled on September 6th to the 9th in Huntsville, AL. We stayed at the Embassy Suites in the downtown area right in the middle of the entertainment district. Attendees were on their own time during the day and some went to the Soldiers Memorial, the Military Museum or the Art Museum. The hospitality suite was quite a hit and many enjoyable hours were spent there. Attendees included Karl and Lori Fee, Sam and Fran Conn, Phyllis Gunn her daughter Mary and her husband Ron Strobe. (Wife, daughter and son-in-law) of Walt (Buzz) Gunn, Robert and Janis Gill, Tex and Ichiko Wandke, Rod and Terri Wijas, Ron and Janice Payne, Roy and Carol Lombardo. Chuck Hanson and his wife Sam had to cancel as their flight was canceled due to the hurricane off the Texas, Louisiana coast. Also in attendance were Caroline Wilson along with her son Matthew and his wife Johanna. Caroline is the widow of John Wilson who recently passed away while helping me with this reunion.

I want to thank Caroline who graciously stepped in and took over for John and made the reunion such a success, and all who took time away from busy schedules to keep us together.

An amazing story:

It was mid June when my phone rang on a Saturday morning. Looking at the screen it was a call from south Florida and I did not recognize the number, but I answered it anyway. A lady identified herself as Lauren Berkson and explained that she had gotten my contact information from the 75th RRA and stated that she was looking for anyone who had known her father Captain Joseph M. Berkson who was KIA May 2, 1972 while serving as an advisor with the 5th Vietnamese Ranger Group. You see Lauren never knew her father.

I explained I was one hundred miles from home attending a granddaughter's regional soccer match and wouldn't be able to do any research until Monday at the earliest. In the mean time she said she would email some documents she had. I agreed to contact her on Monday or Tuesday with my findings.

Well after that conversation I made it my mission to find out



what I could do to help her out. When I returned home on Sunday night I found that Lauren had emailed copies of three after action reports. What a find!

I recognized one of the signatures (1st Lt) Stephen Nahay. The after action reports detailed evacuation of the Ranger advisors from Quang Tri province. The Vietnamese Ranger commander and Captain Berkson boarded on helicopter while 1st Lt. Nahay and another Ranger Advisor Captain Kenneth Teel boarded another helicopter. The eyewitness report that both helicopters were shot down by heat seeking missiles Captain Berkson did not survive, however 1st Lt. Nahay and Captain Teel were picked up and transported to safety.

After checking my records I found the email address for Stephen Nahay. I emailed Stephen and explained that I wanted to put him in contact with Lauren. He agreed and also provided me with an email address for Ken Teel, who also agreed. The only problem I had was that Steven Nahay lives in Thailand. Due to time differences this took a little time to complete.

Eventually Lauren, Stephen and Ken made contact with each other and lots of questions were answered regarding her father.

The good Lord and the stars must have been aligned.

The following is a letter from Steven Nahay and an excerpt from his draft book.

Bill,

Thank you so very much for connecting me with Lauren Berkson, the daughter of Captain Joseph Berkson who was KIA in Quang Tri while serving with Major Ken Teel and me as we advised the 5th Vietnamese Ranger Group.

Continued on the next page

ARVIN RANGER ADV, (BDQ)

I experienced an emotional and rewarding conversation with Lauren telling her about our experiences with the Rangers. She was instrumental in re-connecting me with Ken Teel and in providing me access to three Army activities reports, which I had been searching unsuccessfully for quite a while.

Thanks for the Vietnamese Ranger items. I really appreciate them. Please feel free to add this letter and attached excerpt from my draft book to the next issue of Patrolling.

Respectfully,

Stephen

RLTW

THE GREEN CHILE CAPER

After returning to Long Binh, Plantation, I was granted a day off. Accompanied by other members of the III Corps Vietnamese Ranger Command Assistance Team (junior officers and sergeants) we drove in jeeps to Saigon for an overnight stay. On arriving in Saigon late in the morning, we drove up the tree-lined majestic Pasteur Street, past the park, which was east of the Presidential Palace. After passing a number of cross streets, I guided the driver to turn into a small alley heading east. We drove a short way and pulled into a small, walled compound that contained the Milan Hotel. I had stayed at this hotel once before. The quartermaster corps captain from DCAT 99 had introduced me to it.

The Hotel was a 6-story structure, containing two restaurants: a Chinese restaurant on the ground floor and a rooftop, open-air restaurant with dance hall. After checking in and dropping off our overnight bags and weapons in our rooms, we assembled downstairs for lunch. Sitting around a large table, we placed our food orders and asked for beers all around. Shortly, the waiter delivered our very cold beer 33s and placed condiments on our tables including nuoc mam.

One captain, a military intelligence officer, challenged all of us at the table to drink down the sauce in a single gulp. Being rangers all accepted the challenge and washed away the fishy-salty taste with a huge swallow of the beer. I feared that challenges were about to escalate.

“That’s nothing”, voiced the military intelligence captain nicknamed “Rocky Raccoon” due to his heavy eyebrows and sunken eyes. “I challenge you all to eat one little green chili!” Not a man volunteered. The green chilies were also placed in little dishes around the table. The Vietnamese loved them. The green chilies are some of the hottest in the world. Rocky continued to goad us. “Ok, tough rangers, I’ll eat one!” “Don’t do it,” all exclaimed. Rocky answered, “Big, bad rangers afraid of a one little green chili, Ha! I’ll do it!” He placed a chili in his mouth and bit down.

Immediately, Rocky started to grasp for air, fainted, and fell to the ground. We revived him, pouring water onto his face and adding a few slaps for good measure. To kill the burning on his tongue and throat a sergeant fed him spoonful’s of rice. After a few minutes, we lifted him to a chair at the table. By the way, Rocky was not a qualified Ranger, having not attended and graduated from Ranger School. If one of us Ranger qualified soldiers had eaten the chili, we would have endured long enough to leave the dining room and faint outside!

Pale as a ghost, Rocky Raccoon asked, “What happened?” A crusty, hard-core sergeant-first-class replied, “Chili got your tongue or your tongue got the chili!” We all laughed and ate our lunch as if nothing had happened. The boastful officer had learned his lesson. Green chilies would no longer be served at the Ranger Advisory Team table.

Excerpt from draft book detailing my experiences with the 3rd and 5th Vietnamese Ranger Groups in 1972.

Stephen A. Nahay, Jr.

Major, SF

Retired

Mu Nau

Bill Miller

Unit Director

Ranger Advisors



JUST ANOTHER RANGER CHRISTMAS—DAVE TRAVIS (196th LRRP)

It was almost Christmas of 1970. We had intel that Charlie intended to strike at Chu Lai base itself. The Americal Division staff had decided that the best counter was not to pull one of the maneuver units from their AO to patrol, but to use the best unit found on base: the Rangers.

On my second tour, my assignment was G-2 night Operations Sergeant. I worked in the Division Tactical Operations Center (DTOC) from 1900 hours to 0700 hours. When the G-2 learned that I had been in the 196th Brigade LRRP, he nonchalantly told me that I would be the DTOC liaison with the Rangers. I'm sorry to say that the Rangers were not in favor with the DTOC staff at that point. No one ever told me why, but I know one thing that pissed them off was that in response to a Ranger team reporting a kill, the staff's response was one of disbelief. The next time a team made a kill, they showed up at the gate to the DTOC with the corpse, just to prove they weren't lying. For some reason, those staff officers didn't appreciate the verification.

I'm reluctant to name a name, but the most acerbic staff officer I was exposed to was the G-3 Operations Officer, Major Johnson. I can't accurately quote any particular disparaging remark, but I'm confident in saying that in all the time I was in the room with him (it was a big room), he never said anything good about the Rangers.

The plan for the Christmas season was to send out a Ranger platoon of 25 men to patrol the Chu Lai perimeter rather than deploying the normal six-man teams. When I came to work at 1900 hours, I checked the spot reports and saw that the Ranger platoon had reported a force of approximately 100 armed VC in black pajamas south of their position. A couple of hours later, they reported a similar force north of them. Memory is not that sharp, but Major Johnson's response was something derisive like 'they probably saw a half a dozen schoolgirls.' I tuned my spare radio to the Rangers' push so that I could listen in.

As darkness fell, the reports became more frequent and more concerned. The two groups of 100 were closing in on the 25 Rangers. Major Johnson scoffed. The captain from aviation was nail-biting anxious to get gunships in the air, but Major Johnson wasn't hearing it. Then hell broke loose.

The beleaguered Rangers were surrounded, with VC as close as the other side of a road. The gunfire was not effective, but the proximity was so near that Charlie was lobbing grenades among the Rangers. Reports of wounded after wounded came one on

top of the other. At one point, the patrol leader called in "I just took another hit." The RTO asked, "Do you mean another man got hit, or you got hit again?" The answer was "I just took another personal hit." I was amazed at the polite language in those circumstances.

They called for Dustoff, which was not controlled by Major Johnson. What ensued was one of the bravest things I ever heard in my life. Dustoff arrived on site (it was just outside the wire, so it was a quick ride) and asked for a SITREP. The response was "Bad guys 360, 10 meters." Dustoff said as if he were going to a bus stop, "Roger. Coming in." And he set it down in the midst of it all and picked up the worst wounded.

At this point, I was about to soil my jungle fatigues. Major Dan Swain, the G-2 Operations officer had come back to the DTOC, so I hurried over to him to plead for some support for the Rangers. Major Swain went to Major Johnson and mirrored my phrase. He said, "They're up against the wall. Let's get them some help now." Major Johnson acquiesced, and the aviation captain, who had been leaning on his own knees with a sick expression, spun around to his radio and had gunships up in a matter of seconds.

Multiple gun-runs will make the participants in a ground attack rethink their intentions in a hurry. The VC disappeared back into the dark. As contact was breaking, Hueys arrived to extract the Rangers by McGuire rig. As they were being hauled back to the base, one of the radios was stuck on open mike. I listened to the guy scream all the way back and I thought, "I don't blame you, brother. That's how I feel, and I'm sitting in this big-ass building."

When all the dust cleared, we had no one killed, but ten of the 25 Rangers were wounded. That's 40 percent. We never learned whether or how many VC were killed or wounded. When the Ranger platoon was deployed, there was no designated backup force. As far as I ever knew, no one even bothered to go to the site the next day to check for men or materiel left behind by the 200 VC.

For me, there were two lessons learned. First, the intel was correct. The 200 VC who attacked the Rangers were not out there for a stroll. And the other lesson is that Rangers will fight their ass off, with or without support!

Rangers Lead The Way.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

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

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

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

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Vietnam Vet's PTSD Book

Charles W. Grimsley is a 2 tour Viet Nam Army LRRP. He is a U.S. Chaplain working at a Veterans Health Care System facility. Charles has been facilitating a Spirituality Group working with veterans from all branches of service for several years. While working with the veterans at the hospital he noticed a correlation between those who managed to conquer their addictive behaviors when they actively implemented Spirituality and the forgiveness components; the forgiveness of self and others.

Charles earned his Doctorate from Denver Seminary with emphasis in Marriage and Family Counseling. While writing his Doctoral Thesis he developed a group study of combat veterans diagnosed with PTSD to prove the validity of his thesis. Past and present returning combat veterans exhibit symptoms of PTSD: Addictions are rampant, uncontrolled anger, horrifying memories and stories. Drug therapy does not seem to be effective.

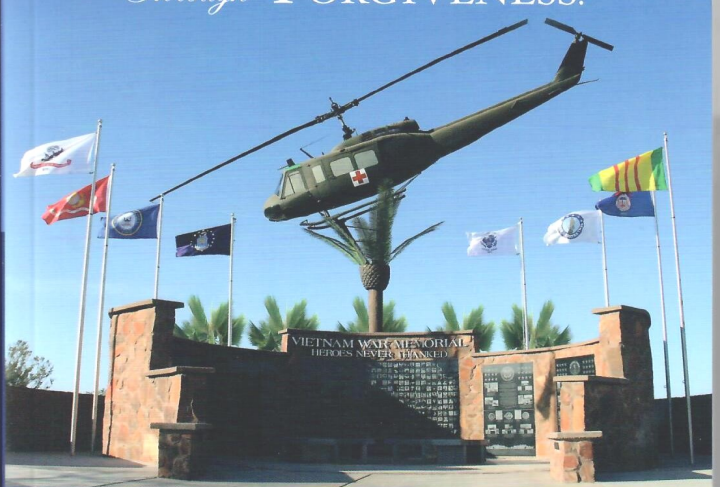
Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injury (TBI), and depression are frequent diagnoses among combat veterans. Emerging symptoms of PTSD, TBI, and depression often go unrecognized or may be slow to develop (Milliken et al., 2007) and not addressed until problems become critical. "When 20 veterans die by suicide and 14 veterans hadn't touched VA care, it means that we can't do this alone." Dr. Caitlin Thompson, Executive Director VA Office of Suicide Prevention. Veterans from all eras continue to struggle with issues related to their combat experience and reintegration to civilian life following military service. 23% of women veterans report at least one sexual assault while in the military. Yes, help awaits....

It is not in the forgetting that the answer lies, but in the remembering that healing manifest itself, yet utilizing the forgiveness component. It is the matter of unlocking the unconscious, to open the awareness, thus the work to be done is buried within and entails the Journey of Freedom through forgiveness, necessitating and connecting applications of; Theology, Psychology, and Spirituality.

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Through FORGIVENESS.



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