



# BLACKHAWK BULLETIN

2ND SQUADRON, 1ST (ARMORED) CAVALRY ASSOCIATION

## President's Corner

Tom Fey

Your leadership Team has secured the reunion site; The 2/1 CAV Officer Team has selected the Reunion location and dates as per the vote of membership in Columbus, GA. Mark your calendars for **September 19 -22, 2024 reunion in Colorado Springs, CO**. The site location is the Embassy Suites, Colorado Springs, CO, 7290 Commerce Center Dr. **An online reservation will be available shortly or you can call the hotel direct at 719-599-9100, Veronica Kellerman will assist you with reservations.**

I will post on Facebook and have an email sent when the online reservations are available.

This has been a tough year for our CAV Family with much sickness and loss. Kaylene Vobelt, Tom Capp, Emmett Goodson and son Gene, Barkers and I attended the memorial service for SGT John McLaughlin (MSG Retired) in Kentucky. Then, Kaylene traveled to Michigan to attend with several others, the memorial service for Gary Simon. Since then, we have lost two more brothers; Our Past Vice President Lance Lake and Robert (Bob) Davis. We are getting older so it probably isn't going to get easier. Please take care of yourself and your loved ones.

**Veronica Kellerman**

*Sales and Catering Coordinator*

**Embassy Suites by Hilton**

**Colorado Springs**

(719) 955-6826 (CO Springs Office)

Veronica.Kellerman@hilton.com

## Vice President

Warren Roach

Now that the seasons are changing again and winter is on the way and we are looking for September 2024 reunion it is time for everyone to get your ducks in a row for Colorado Springs. Our President and his team will be working to lay out a wonderful time for all. Please keep in mind that some of us will not make it to the reunion due to fiddler's green and illnesses, hopefully they will be in our prayers and thoughts. Troopers and Sisters that I have spoken to that need prayers are Stu McDiarmid, Judy, and Fred Leyba also John McLaughlin and Caroline. Just a gentle reminder that it only takes a short note, e-mail, or a phone call to keep us informed. We need your feedback. FYI, I no longer have a house phone so I only use my cell phone: (540) 671-6539.

## Treasurer

Stu McDiarmid

The Association is doing ok financially. Thanks to the few that pay their \$10 a year dues and a big thanks to the few that pay more. We will be having a *Blackhawk Bulletin* soon that will provide information on the upcoming reunion. Any questions call me at (734) 552-2767.

Honoring  
ALL WHO  
served  
**THANK YOU  
VETERANS**



## Secretary

Kaylene Vobelt

Hello to all, we are approaching another reunion where we will be able to enjoy each other's company again. You need to start planning. The application and information will be coming out for the 2024 reunion in Colorado Springs, CO soon. Colorado Springs has always been a good time and a beautiful place to visit.

The first part of October, I was blessed that I was able to attend the funerals of two troopers that have always been very special to me. The first one was John McLaughlin Jr (C Troop) of Vine Grove, Kentucky. The second one was Gary Simon (B Troop) of Sterling Heights Michigan. In my way of thinking – this is the best reason to attend the 2024 reunion – because we do not know who we will lose next. *God bless you all and be safe.*

# Troop Reports

## A TROOP

Brian Kosteck

Well as summer is winding down, it's time to focus on the upcoming meeting in Colorado Springs, CO. The Executive Team is hard at work and will soon be sending out the requisite details and information for us to complete and send back. Father time does not really afford us much in the way of advanced news as to our health at any given time. Therefore, I would tell all of you who are questioning "Do I go now in 2024 or wait until 2026?", **DON'T PUT IT OFF**. We are all too aware of the fact that tomorrow is not guaranteed.

If you have any news to report regarding A-Troop, please forward it to me as Tom Fey is preparing the *Spring Report*.

Again, I welcome all advice and commentary you may have. If you have any ideas or suggestions for things to be included in the *Blackhawk Bulletin*, you can call me, e-mail me, snail mail or any combination. I am not the greatest person for timely reviewing of e-mails so if you send something, do not be afraid to call me to let me know you have sent me something.

My contact information is shown on the Officers Call.

## B TROOP

Fred Leyba

Fall does seem to be coming. Right now, we can be thankful for the cooler weather. No updates pertaining to any B-Trooper. All that I have to report at this time is what is happening with me and Judy. This last June I had a triple by-pass and a pacemaker installed. I am recovering and Cardiovascular Therapy is helping. While I was in the hospital Judy was diagnosed with a large cancerous tumor in the upper right lobe of her lung. The tumor and lobe were removed successfully but because the tumor was stage two cancer, she will need chemotherapy. Her recovery from the surgery is slow because she was also diagnosed with Vertigo.

All prayers will be appreciated for us and all troopers so that we will have a successful 2024 reunion.

## C TROOP

Wayne Hook

The following is correspondence I received from fellow C Trooper Barry Hartman:

On 20 May 2023 Barry and Bridget Hartman attended the funeral service and internment of Wolfgang Geckeler. Wolf passed on 30 April 2023. Wolf was my jeep driver in C Troop, 2-1 Cav at Ft Hood and in Vietnam 1967 to 1968. There were upwards of 200 at the funeral service in Galloway, NJ and many continued on to the internment in the Atlantic County Veterans Cemetery. The Service was very moving with appropriate eulogy by his son Jason and the military internment was done by the local honor guard. Wolfgang was sent to his final rest with the honors he deserved.

After his military service he returned to his trade as a Chef. Over the years he became a renowned chef, owner of several restaurants, eventually being awarded the "Golden Toque" in 2006, only 100 chefs in the US are so honored. Throughout his life Wolf championed many veteran organizations, and in his retirement, organized several soup kitchens in the Southern NJ Coastal Area. If there was a Veteran in need, Wolf was there to help. Over the years, we became great friends. He will be greatly missed.

Barry Hartman, Cdr, C Trp, 2-1 Cav 1967-1968.

## D TROOP

Stu McDiarmid (interim)

Hello D-Troopers once again I'm requesting one of you to step up to be the troop leader and be able to write a quarterly troop message to be published in the *Blackhawk Bulletin*. Please call me on my cellphone at (734) 552-2767.

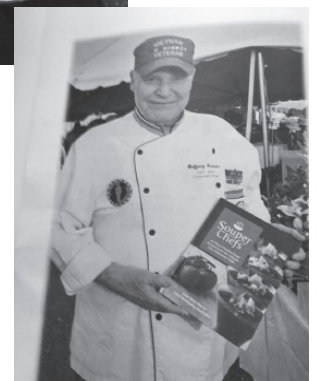
## HHT TROOP

No Report.

## Quarter Master

Paul Watson

Hello from The Watsons in Missouri. Not much going on here just enjoying the cooler weather. Looking forward to the reunion in Colorado Springs in 2024. Take care and have a wonderful holiday season. See you next year.





# 2nd Squadron 1st Cavalry Association

1ST REGIMENT OF DRAGOONS

## Trooper Registration/Change of Address

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse Name: (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Service Dates (from/to) with 2/1 Cav: \_\_\_\_\_

Theater/Area of Operation(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Troop/Platoon: \_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL TO:**

2/1 CAV • 22158 Chelsea Lane • Woodhaven, MI 48183

## Blackhawks Secure the Whale's Gap

Fort Carson, CO Friday 19 October 2023

In September 2023, the Blackhawks deployed to the National Training Center at Fort Irwin. During the 3-week training period, we successfully maneuvered into enemy territory to provide vital information to the Raider Brigade enabling mission success for both the Squadron and the Brigade.

This coming winter, the Blackhawks will continue to pursue excellence through the completion of the Expert Medic/Infantrymen/Soldier Badge. This test will allow our troopers to demonstrate that they are ready and fit for combat!

In conjunction with these events, we have contestants competing at the upcoming Best Ranger, Medic, and Sniper competitions to represent the oldest Cavalry Squadron in the U.S. Army.

The Blackhawks continue to manifest the greatness achieved through the accomplishments of our predecessors and carry the legacy of those who served under the same guidon. *Courageous and Faithful!*



2/1 CAV  
22158 Chelsea Lane  
Woodhaven, MI 48183

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



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## Officers Call

### **TOM FEY, PRESIDENT**

5318 Hwy 72, Blackhawk, CO 80422  
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### **WARREN ROACH, VICE PRESIDENT**

260 Rolling View Dr., Front Royal, VA 22630  
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### **STU MCDIARMID, TREASURER**

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734-552-2767 • [macstu@sbcglobal.net](mailto:macstu@sbcglobal.net)

### **FRED LOHR, WEBMASTER**

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### **KAYLENE VOBELT, SECRETARY**

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### **EMMETT GOODSON, CHAPLAIN**

2404 S Mitchell Dr., Kingfisher, OK 73750-4816  
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## Troop Representatives

### **BRIAN KOSTECK, A TROOP**

1223 Providence Drive, Fort Wayne, IN 46815  
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### **FRED LEYBA, B TROOP**

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479-750-7009 • [fjleyba@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fjleyba@sbcglobal.net)

### **WAYNE HOOK, C TROOP**

1386 Storytown Road, Oregon, WI 53575-2547  
608-835-5530 • [waynebkup22@yahoo.com](mailto:waynebkup22@yahoo.com)

### **REPRESENTATIVE WANTED, D TROOP**

Let Tom Fey know if you are interested.

### **REPRESENTATIVE WANTED, HHT TROOP**

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