



Blackhawk Bulletin

2nd Squadron, 1st (Armored) Cavalry Association

January 2012

The Reunion is Coming Together!

By Tom Fey



Well Troops, this has been an experience helping to plan my first reunion as your president. Gettysburg is getting ready for us and we can anticipate a great time. **The Wyndam Gettysburg is our Reunion Headquarters hotel, 95 Presidential Circle, Gettysburg, PA 17325, located on the junction of Highways**

15 and 30 (York Road). Call 866-845-8885 to set your reservations. Refer to 2/1 CAVALRY ASSOCIATION for the block of rooms for the \$104 (plus tax) room rate. If you wish to register online there will be a hotel online registration link on our 2/1Cav website. We have three days before and three days after the reunion at the same room rate so you can take in the surrounding areas.

Our reunion schedule is forming up and it will be something like this:

- **Thursday, 16 August**, will be Registration Day where you'll receive your paperwork and have the rest of the afternoon to spend visiting in the Hospitality Room or go see the sights around Gettysburg. Please bring a picture of yourself/spouse from the "Old Days" to put on the name tags! Troop Meetings and Association Business meeting and the Ladies Social will be that evening.
- **Friday, 17 August**, 10 a.m. will be our Memorial Service on the hotel patio where we'll have chairs or move inside for inclement weather. The afternoon is free to visit or tour.
- **Saturday, 18 August**, is an open day until the Banquet. We will be visiting the Gettysburg Battle Field and possibly Pickets Charge (*there will not be busses*). If you would like to participate in the charge, you need to sign up and please bring your state flag to carry. The Banquet Happy Hour starts at six and will let us relax and find our seats before the raffle and silent auction begins.
- All too quickly it will be Sunday and it will be our 9 a.m. farewell meeting and checkout.

Please reserve your place at the Reunion and Hotel prior to 27 July 2012 as that is the cutoff date for \$104. Fill out the enclosed reunion registration form and send it in before you lay it aside and forget.



2011 Firebase Barker – "TOWERS OVER THE REST"

*Beaucoup – Thank you
– from Jerry and Elaine!*

The 2011 firebase exceeded our wildest expectations again and again. The inaugural guard tower stood watch over 104 hearty Nam-era souls – the biggest ever. The roster included 43 vets, 15 first-timers, representing 15 states. Saturday night saw 93 personnel on hand for an Association business meeting, MRE's and "Cavalry Communion". There were many surprises in store; chief among them was the arrival of Bill Kitrell all the way from California. Bill was seriously wounded in Viet Nam and has been MIA to everyone since the war. It was good to see him after all these years.

(continued on page 2)

Firebase Barker *(continued)*

Elaine and I were overwhelmed by the kindness and generosity shown to us. Thank you for “passing the helmet” on our behalf and thank you Tom Schluchter, your official donation to the cause was richly appreciated. Everyone contributed so much in so many ways!

Firebase Barker/Kokomo has become a major annual event for the 2/1 Cav Association. It wasn't always so. Its meager beginnings were limited to Indiana and Michigan boys. It was opened to all at the Kansas National Reunion in 1989 and has been growing ever since. What once was a long weekend turned out to be six days this year. Elaine and I are honored to host this because we love you all so much. Thank you for coming! We only wish time would not pass so quickly and we could spend more individual time visiting with everyone. Next stop is Gettysburg and it can't happen soon enough.

In the meantime remember that there is a standing invitation to join me in the tower for guard duty anytime. It's awesome to watch the tree line change with the seasons. I guess you could say “It's a jungle out there ...”



Troop Representatives

A Troop

By Brian Kosteck

There is a classic line from the movie *The Blues Brothers* “we're getting the band back together”. This line reverberates in my mind every time I recall the phone call from John Mavon, LT, more than 10 years ago. Many of us A-Troopers owe a huge debt of gratitude to John for his arduous efforts in getting “the band”, i.e. Band of Brothers back together. As many of you now know, John and his young bride, Judy, will not be attending this year's reunion in Gettysburg. They will be taking an extended vacation abroad and will miss this year's event. However, John has assured me he and Judy will be at subsequent reunions. Additionally, John has officially passed the baton as the A-Troop Representative onto me. I will attempt to uphold the tradition of A-Troop which has been established by John over the last 15 plus years as the A-Troop Rep. LT, from the bottom of our hearts;
THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS.

In September, 2011, a few of us A-Troopers made the trek to the Vietnam Veterans “Gathering” in Kokomo, IN and to Firebase Barker's in Indianapolis. For those of you who have never been to Jerry and Elaine's home in Indianapolis for this event; you are missing a “shrine” to the 2/1 Cavalry. Victor “Wic” Reyes, Richard “Reverend” Hines and I were in absolute awe of the shrine, complete with an observation tower. A big THANK YOU must go to Jerry and Elaine for making everyone feel right at home and for hosting an event which must take countless hours to plan.

Since I am new at this position as A-Troop Rep, I welcome any and 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 e-mails so if you send something, don't be afraid to call me to let me know you have sent me something.

My contact information is:

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New Haven, IN 46774
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E-mail: jbkosteck@frontier.com

Janet and I look forward to seeing all of you in Gettysburg. Take care until then.

B Troop

By Warren Roach

Well Troopers, it's getting closer to the 2012 reunion, and you need to make your plans now. You don't want to miss out. I would like to thank Elaine and Jerry Barker for the exciting time I had at Fire Base Barker. As always Jerry and Elaine made sure there was plenty food, drinks and a good time for all. There were many familiar faces and a few new ones. I appreciate the awesome job that the Barker's put into the Kokomo pilgrimage as Jerry calls it. Please stay in touch and I hope you had a safe and happy holiday.

C Troop

By Wayne (Hooker) Hook

The only news I have is about Bob Brothersen, he has lung cancer called Scarma Cell Carmona and is stage three. Bob said he is feeling good and is being referred to a radiation oncologist. If anyone wants to join Bob's support group, e-mail oldscout68@live.com, cell is 303-257-9341, address 11987 Riverstone Cir, Unit E, Henderson CO. 80640. Keep Bob and his family in your thoughts and prayers. If you have any news, let me know. I myself am doing real well. Hope everyone had great holidays.

D Troop

By Ray Marple

"Hello" again fellow D Trooper's. We had a great off-year reunion and general meeting at Firebase Barker again this fall. D Troop was represented there again in growing numbers. If you haven't been to Sgt Barker's yet for the weekend you should put it on your "bucket list" even if it's just to visit the guard tower Jerry built in his backyard.

We are all getting fired up for the Reunion in Gettysburg this fall. The Wyndham looks like a great venue for us, so get on the ball and make your reservations early. I'm hoping to see each and every one of you there this year.

Remember if you have any questions or problems, I may not have the answers, but I know how to get them pretty fast. Give me a ring or e-mail Rangerf425@sbcglobal.net and I will get back with you very quickly.

HHT Troop

By Lloyd Wirkkala

Gettysburg 2012 is drawing closer; time to make plans. Let's have a good showing for HHT.

I learned of the passing of Camden Henthorn (aka Chicken Man) on November 2001. He started out with C Troop but finished his tour as HHT Squadron Maintenance Clerk and Captain Harmeyer and Sgt Morgan's driver. For those of you who knew Anthony Conti here's a link to a story about his wife's return to Vietnam <http://www.sdit.org/VNConti.html>. See you in Gettysburg!!!!

Vice President – Lance Lake

Well fall is here and it is time to get out those coats and sweaters. It is such a great time of year to see all the beautiful trees turning colors. It is also time all you hunters out there get excited and get to shoot something!

I want to take this opportunity to send Bob and Barbi a big hello and that all their brothers and sisters in the 2/1 Cavalry are praying for them. I know there are a lot of other sick and hurting families out there and we pray for each and every one of you. Jo and I cannot wait to see all our family in Gettysburg. Everyone that is working on next year's reunion is making sure it will be a great one.

For all of you that are reading this and have never been to a reunion, I encourage you, if at all possible, to do this one. You will be amazed at the love and respect you will receive with your comrades. Also, to know we are standing tall for the Country we love and served is more important than ever.

Jo and I are doing great. Jo is still working hard, but I have not worked since my back surgery in April. I am trying to catch up on my honey do list with her and you know that is not easy. We both plan to be retired by the time we get to Gettysburg, so wish us luck and lots of money. HA.

President's Corner

Thanks to Jerry and Elaine Barker! What a time we had at Firebase Barker. If you missed it you really missed the best ever firebase! It's a great view from the guard tower, only thing missing is the M-60. Thanks!

This job is an ever learning adventure but I have great support from everyone, especially Scotty, Tom and Jerry. Thanks Guys! If you Troopers have ideas or suggestions for the Association, please send them to your Troop Rep or to one of the other officers, including me.

Our 2012 Reunion is looking up, things are coming together and I think it will be a great gathering; don't miss it! Don't forget to bring a picture of yourself and of your spouse from the "OLD DAYS" for your name tag. Also, if you want to join us in the Pickets Charge please let us know as we'll need a number for the Parks Service, and bring your State Flag to carry.

Remember the 27 July cutoff date for Hotel Reservations!

– Tom Fey

SIT-REP BY-LAWS CHANGE:

The By-Laws Committee has reviewed our Association By-Laws amended on 05 September 2006; replacing the original document approved 02 September 2000. The reasoning behind the review was that although the 2006 amendment opened the Association membership up to all who served with the 2/1 CAV prior to and after Viet Nam, those memberships did not develop. It was thought that it was time to “return to our roots”. Our current By-Laws are on the 2/1 CAV website to compare to the proposed changes which are:

- **Front Cover:** Proposed changes *submitted* to membership at the 2012 Reunion.
- **Page 1, C:** The term “Active Class Members” means those persons who honorably served in the 2nd Squadron, 1st (Armored) Cavalry in Vietnam.
- **Page 1, D:** The term “Associate Class Members” means those persons that wish to support the Corporation and participate in its activities, including family, friends or *other persons who are selected for membership by a majority of Active members present.*
- **Page 13, Article XI, Approval:** Active Class Members of the Corporation on the *day of approval 2012.*

These amendments will be presented and voted on in Gettysburg during our business meeting. Please review these changes and refer to the standing By-Laws located on the 2/1 CAV website: www.2-1cavalry.com.

Fiddler's Green

John D. Butcho

SAVANNAH – John D. Butcho – Flight Class 68-9, Cobra transition Class 69-2, Flew in Vietnam with Troop D, 2nd Squadron, 1st Calvary. CW2 John D. Butcho of Savannah, Georgia, passed away on Monday, November 14, 2011, after a twenty year battle with a cancerous brain tumor. John received the Distinguished Flying Cross for heroism on Aug 1, 1969, while supporting a Long Range Patrol which was surrounded by a numerically superior enemy force. His other awards include the Bronze Star, Air Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Army Aviator Badge, National defense Service Medal and the Marksman Badge. Flying, and anything related to it, was his passion. He continued to fly privately into the 1990s.

John is survived by a younger sister, Karen. He will be sorely missed by everyone that ever played tennis or flew with him. Fairhaven Funeral Home - Hubert C. Baker Chapel 7415 Hodgson Memorial Drive Savannah, Georgia 31406, www.fairhavenfuneralhome.net Savannah Morning News November 22, 2011. Please sign our Obituary Guest Book at savannahnnow.com/obituaries.

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| GENERAL ORDER | GO 88 |
| No. 88 | HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY WASHINGTON, DC, 30 July 1971 |
| PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION (ARMY)—Award | Section I |
| PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION (ARMY)—Award | II |
| PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION (ARMY)—Award | III |
| MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION—Award | IV |
| PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION (ARMY)—Section I, DA General Order 88, 1969, amended | V |

I. THE PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION (ARMY). Award of the Presidential Unit Citation (Army) by the President of the United States of America to the following units of the Armed Forces of the United States is confirmed in accordance with paragraph 104, AR 673-5-1. The text of the citation, signed by President Richard Nixon on 5 May 1971, reads as follows:

By virtue of the authority vested in me as President of the United States and as Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the United States, I have today awarded

**THE PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION (ARMY)
FOR EXTRAORDINARY HEROISM
TO THE
HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS COMPANY
1ST BRIGADE, 4TH INFANTRY DIVISION (FIRST
OAK LEAF CLUSTER)
1ST BATTALION, 8TH INFANTRY
3RD BATTALION, 8TH INFANTRY
3RD BATTALION, 12TH INFANTRY (FIRST OAK LEAF CLUSTER)
TROOP C, 2ND SQUADRON, 1ST ARMORED CAVALRY
COMPANY B, 1ST BATTALION, 68TH ARMOR (THIRD OAK
LEAF CLUSTER)
BATTERY C, 6TH BATTALION, 16TH ARTILLERY
BATTERY A, 6TH BATTALION, 16TH ARTILLERY
BATTERY B, 6TH BATTALION, 16TH ARTILLERY
BATTERY D, 6TH BATTALION, 16TH ARTILLERY
6TH BATTALION, 20TH ARTILLERY
BATTERY A, 4TH BATTALION, 42ND ARTILLERY
2ND PLATOON, BATTERY B, 4TH BATTALION, 20TH ARTILLERY
BATTERY B, 1ST BATTALION, 22ND ARTILLERY
2ND AVIATION BATTALION
COMPANY A, 4TH ENGINEER BATTALION
COMPANY D, 704TH MAINTENANCE BATTALION
1ST PLATOON, 4TH MILITARY POLICE COMPANY
COMPANY B, 4TH MEDICAL BATTALION
1ST PLATOON, COMPANY B, 194TH SIGNAL BATTALION
DETACHMENT 1, 374TH RADIO RESEARCH COMPANY
AND
TEAM 1, 4TH MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DETACHMENT
UNITED STATES ARMY**

The 1st Brigade, 4th Infantry Division, together with attached and supporting units, distinguished itself by extraordinary heroism in action against

TAGO 84A—July 1969—88—88

1

Registration and Extra Shirt/Hat Order and Mail Order Form

Blackhawk Reunion • August 16-19, 2012 • Gettysburg Reunion

Registration fee for Trooper **\$60.00*** \$ _____

**This fee covers hospitality expenses (beverages and snacks) miscellaneous hotel expenses, fees, permit costs and includes (1) shirt and a hat for the trooper only. The shirt is an Anvil shirt (forest green) with the tank and sabers on it. The hat is a regular ball cap style; khaki with a dark green bill.*

If sending in registration fee, please **check YOUR** shirt size here:

Small Medium Large XLarge XXLarge XXXLarge

Note: If attending and you wish to order an extra shirt or hat, please do so in the EXTRA SHIRT & HAT ORDER section. For those not attending, place your order for shirts/hats in this same area.

Family/Guest Registration Fee for 21 years and older **\$15.00 per person**
Number of guests _____ x \$15.00 = \$ _____

Arrival Date: _____ **Departure Date:** _____

Will you be staying at the Wyndham Gettysburg? Yes No

Banquet and Raffle

Saturday evening, Doors Open at 6 pm and Dinner at 7pm

*Note: This will be a plated dinner assembled specifically for Military Reunions. Price includes dinner, sales tax, and gratuities. It is **extremely** important that we know how many of each meal to order before our cut off date of August 1st. Please provide this information and the meal charges when you remit your registration fees. Your entrée choices are:*

Sautéed Breast of Chicken Picca Number of meals _____ x \$38.00 ea. = \$ _____

Flat Iron Steak w/Peppercorn Sauce Number of meals _____ x \$38.00 ea. = \$ _____

Banquet Meal Total \$ _____

Extra Shirt & Hat and Mail Orders

(Deadline to Order Items is August 1, 2012)

Shirts:

_____ Small _____ Medium _____ Large _____ XLarge \$15.00 per shirt x _____ = \$ _____

_____ XXLarge _____ XXXLarge \$18.00 per shirt x _____ = \$ _____

Hats: One size fits all \$10.00 per hat x _____ = \$ _____

If not attending, please enclose \$5 postage for first item ordered and \$1 postage for each additional item. Items will be mailed to you after the Reunion.

Mail Order Shipping Fee is \$5.00 \$ _____

Additional Item Shipping Fee is \$1 x ea. _____ \$ _____

TOTAL REGISTRATION, BANQUET and EXTRA SHIRT/HAT ORDER: \$ _____

PLEASE BE SURE TO TURN OVER THIS FORM AND FILL OUT THE OTHER SIDE

Please make all checks and money orders payable to: **2/1 CAV**

Mail Check and Registration Form to: **2/1 CAV, P.O. Box 87, Bay City, MI 48707-0087**

Return by August 1, 2012 as this will help us do our planning. But it's never too late to attend!



Trooper Informational Update

Trooper's Name: _____ Name for Tag: _____

Spouse/Guest: _____ Name for Tag: _____

Additional Guest: _____ Name for Tag: _____

Additional Guest: _____ Name for Tag: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: (optional) _____

Email Address: _____

PRIMARY TROOP: _____

Note: We are aware that some of you served in more than one troop and/or unit. Please list all the information you are comfortable with providing, but list your primary troop first.

**REMEMBER TO BRING A 1.5" x 2" PICTURE
OF YOUR "YOUNGER" SELF FOR YOUR NAMETAG!**

Don't forget to bring your photos, VCR tapes, DVD's and other items you would like to display in the Hospitality Room. Make sure that your items are clearly marked as yours.

**REUNION REMINDER ... YOU MUST MAKE YOUR WYNDAM GETTYSBURG
RESERVATION NO LATER THAN JULY 27, 2012 TO GET THE 2/1 CALVARY
ASSOCIATION HOTEL ROOM RATE OF \$104 (plus taxes).**



2nd Squadron 1st Cavalry Association

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 • PO Box 87 • Bay City, MI 48707-0087

Financial Support

For those who are financially able, we suggest annual dues of \$10 to help operate the Association.

Your 2011 dues and donations are accepted anytime. Just make your check payable to 2/1 CAV and mail it to:

2/1 CAV
PO Box 87
Bay City, MI 48707-0087

Thank you!

Communicate Your Move

Please, please keep your mailing information up-to-date. It would greatly help the organization. We are at over 2,000 members that receive the *Blackhawk Bulletin* and for every trooper that moves, and does not notify us, it costs the Association to locate you again. Please help us defray unnecessary mailing fees by communicating your home address change so you continue to get the *Blackhawk Bulletin*. Your help in this is much appreciated.

Shirt and Hat Orders

Shirts and hats are available to all people, whether attending the 2012 Reunion or not. Please fill out the part of the registration form that pertains to Shirts/Hats, be sure to include your address for shipping. Check must be made payable to 2/1 CAV and mailed to PO Box 87, Bay City, MI 48707-0087. Your order will be mailed out AFTER the Reunion in Gettysburg.

Remember... It's never too late to attend your Reunion!

2/1 CAV
PO Box 87
Bay City, MI 48707-0087

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Blackhawk Bulletin

2nd Squadron, 1st (Armored) Cavalry Association

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