



Blackhawk Bulletin

2nd Squadron, 1st (Armored) Cavalry Association

Summer 2014

President's Corner

— Tom Fey

The 2/1Cav Association was invited to the last Spur Dinner the Squadron held at Joint Base Lewis McChord (JBLM) and the invitation was accepted by your President Tom Fey and Lonnie Hirsch, who traveled from Tokyo, Japan. The pictures show the Blackhawk cake and Tom, the oldest trooper present with the youngest trooper present, cutting the cake with a saber. And, Lonnie and Tom receiving their gold spurs for time in combat from Squadron Commander Major David Fulton.



Reunion Time!

All right my fellow Troopers it's time to get those reunion registration forms completed, mailed and hotel reservations made. Time is getting short — less than 3 months and we'll be together again! Milwaukee is excited to host us based on the number of emails and phone calls I receive, such as: *"The Brunow Company would like to welcome you on one of our public cruises on Lake Michigan when you come to Milwaukee in August. Check out our web at www.funboat.net".* The committee has worked diligently to put together a super reunion so get those registrations in the mail to Tom Schluchter and call the Hilton Milwaukee City Center at 414-390-8249 and make your room reservation under the 2nd Squadron, 1st Armored Cavalry Association room block special rate of \$109 per night, plus taxes. Our rates will be honored three days prior and three days after August 28-31.

Our Squadron has moved

The Second Squadron, First Cavalry Regiment has moved from Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM), WA. to Fort Carson Colorado. Richard Harper, Richard and Andrea Bruce and Tom Fey attended the Reflagging Ceremony. The 7/10 Cavalry colors were cased and the 2/1 Cavalry colors unfurled! Age does have its advantages. The new Squadron flag bearer did an amazing job of holding our colors steady in the 40+mph winds blowing that day and better than the Battalion flag bearers. The 2/1 Cavalry Association will be invited to future Squadron functions and you will be notified by email/webpage of these events.



A Message from the Chaplain

— Dennis Scott

We have lost several of our 2/1 Cavalry Association comrades in the past year and as I have found out about the passing of a Brother, I have tried to send a note of sympathy to the family on behalf of the Association. We have also attended funerals when we found out in time and it was within our power to be able to travel. In all cases, the families have appreciated knowing that our group suffers the loss with them. **This is where I need your help.** If you know of the passing of one of our CAV members, please contact me or one of the officers with the information so that I can send our sympathies to the family. Details are helpful but if all you have is the name that is OK. Also, information can be placed on the 2/1 CAV website by contacting one of the officers or myself. My contact information is in this newsletter as is all the officers. Please help in honoring our fallen comrades. Thank you.

Troop Reports

A Troop

By Brian Kosteck

Well the calendar on the wall says it is Spring, 2014. For those of us in the Midwest and many other parts of the country, SPRING is a welcome thought. The Winter was brutal and once again we are reminded that we mortals are not in charge. All we can do is approach each day with the attitude that this day will be better than yesterday. Why shouldn't we; we will never be any older than we are or any younger than we are on any given day. Accepting this, it is time to get the reunion sign-up sheet out and get it went in. Milwaukee is soon going to be here.

This year will be a chance to renew old acquaintances, see faces we haven't seen since "NAM" and enjoy the memories of so many years gone by. So, don't put this newsletter down until you have completed your application for joining your "Band of Brothers".

Again, 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 new as Janet and I moved in July of 2013: 1223 Providence Drive, Fort Wayne, IN 46815; phone 260-493-2701; email: jbkosteck@frontier.com.

B Troop

By Warren Roach

It with great sorrow that I received word from Marla Gabric that her husband Ronald passed away on Aug 14, 2013 at Sarasota Memorial Hospital. Ronald was with the B-Troop in 67-68. I would like to say Farewell to my fellow Blackhawk Brother. Just a gentle reminder that it only takes a short note, postcard, e-mail or a phone call. I need your

feedback about what is going on in your world and with your fellow troopers. STAY IN TOUCH. Anyway hope to see you all in Milwaukee, WI.

"Scout Out"

C Troop

By Wayne (Hooker) Hook

Oshkosh – EAA AirVenture Museum – one of the most extensive aviation attractions in the world, a year-around destination for the entire family and the home of the Experimental Aircraft Association. More than 80 full-size historic military & civilian aircraft plus plane rides aboard a 1929 Ford Tri-Motor. Also offers world-class museums, art galleries, theater and musical productions and unique dining and shopping. 877-303-9200 VisitOshkosh.com

Wausau – 888-948-4748; www.visitwausau.com/

Wisconsin Dells – water capital of the world and crown jewel for family fun – largest concentration of water parks in the world including America's largest outdoor water park and largest indoor/outdoor combination, and the state's largest indoor water park; amusement parks & rides; sightseeing boat tours on the Wisconsin River; home to the world's largest fleet of Ducks (restored WWII amphibious vehicles) popular for land-to-water tours; long-running water ski show; kayaking, boating, canoeing, parasailing & fishing; ride a roller coaster or get behind the wheel of a go kart. 800-223-3557; www.widells.com

Baraboo – Circus World Museum, International Crane Foundation, Devil's Lake State Park. 800-227-2266; www.baraboo.com

Madison – State Capitol, modeled after the Capitol in Washington, DC,

(guided tours every day); Monona Terrace Community & Convention Center based on a 1938 design by Frank Lloyd Wright; Overture Center, the city's performing and visual arts center; a trio of museums including the WI Veterans Museum which traces the state's military history from the Civil War to Desert Storm; University of Wisconsin campus; University of Wisconsin Arboretum (1,260-acre outdoor ecology laboratory); State Street pedestrian mall which links the Capitol and campus; Olbrich Botanical Gardens & Bolz Conservatory (16 acres of outdoor gardens plus a glass, indoor tropical conservatory); National Mustard Museum, world's largest collection of mustards (over 3,100 varieties); Betty Lou Cruises aboard enclosed motor yachts; Henry Vilas Zoo (no admission fee); 800-373-6376; www.visitmadison.com

For full details, go to <http://www.travelwisconsin.com/>.

D Troop

By Raymond Marple

All right D Troopers here's the Sit rep on 28 Aug we will be inserted into Blackhawk Firebase, Milwaukee Wis. where we will be brought up on the details of one of our missions, one of which will be a assault on the Harley Davidson factory and Museum. We'll lay dog until about 0630 then come in low out of the rising sun. All kidding aside the reunion should offer some opportunities in the area to do some great sightseeing if you have the time. I know the HD museum is one of my priorities.

As always I am ready and able to help you troopers out with information, if I don't have firsthand knowledge I have a line to the Command Center and will do my best to find out for you. If you D

Troopers would like to drop me an e-mail let me know if you'll be there I like to start a little roster of our own.

HHT Troop

By Oscar Olson

It has been a long grueling winter; we just had our April snowstorm yesterday with 10 inches of snow. Things are beginning to look up with the sunshine today, it might even get up to +35. The "trivia" question about "Kahuna's Killers" was answered by Calvin Hosmer III, he was assigned as Squadron XO and deployed with the Squadron aboard the "Walker" where he was the senior officer. To get back to the trivia question, the trooper in question is most likely 2LT Van Russell from "B" Troop. I believe he was originally from Hawaii but have no knowledge of his whereabouts now. I am looking forward to the reunion and am still digging through

the basement for my pictures. I have thought about the Vietnam experience a lot (while staring out the window at the snow) I remember a lot of names and thought if I listed them it might spark someone's memory and they can be contacted. Here goes: MAJ Wolfe, CPT Peter L. Sawin, Fugate, Mendez, Wiley, Church, John W. Jackson, SGM George T. Buswell, Charlie Clay, Mike Dasho, Campbell, Ohlrich, PSG Martinez, MSG Doyt E. Lusby, 1SG Marion F. Tye, CPT Stephen M. Overton, 1LT Alexander J. Clark. That's about all for now but more will come in time. I realize that some of them are just last names but that's how I remember them. The trivia question is: Who was the first black officer assigned to the 2/1 in Vietnam? (It would have been in 1967) What was his duty assignment? All for now.

Vice President's Report

— Lance Lake

Well spring is here and we are looking forward to summer. Summer will bring us closer to the time we will see you all at our reunion. We cannot wait for that, so I hope you have all made your plans. Jo and I took a wonderful cruise recently and went to Hawaii for the first time. It was beautiful and we had lots of fun. They even had a meeting for all us veterans one day. That was fun and interesting meeting more great brothers. There was one gentleman that was a veteran from WWII. We went to the Arizona monument which was a humbling experience for us also.

I want to express to all who have never been to a Blackhawk Reunion that now is the time. All of you that come is what makes it great. Hopefully we will see a lot of new faces and make a lot of new memories. Please feel free to call me for information. Jo is also available and can help.

If you can donate something for our auction and door prizes it would be great. Nothing has to be that expensive just something you know someone else will enjoy. Bring any pictures you have of when you were in Viet Nam or other mementoes to share.

God bless you all and will see you soon.

Firebase Barker

— Jerry Barker

Stand by for a cavalry boots and saddles summer in the Midwest! Base Camp Milwaukee kicks off our tour on 28 August. The day before many “boat people” will embark on special ops in Wausau compliments of the Historical Society and the Vietnam Graffiti Project.

A “short time GI,” eighteen days later, we will laager-up for the 25th Annual FB Barker in Indy and (olive drab) Greentown, Indiana. The biggest party night, complete with Cavalry Communion is **Saturday, 20 Sep 14**. We promise the best chop-chop cuisine south of the DMZ! Ironically, for many of the Indiana boys, our first day in the Army was 20 Sep 66. We offer a very casual, up-close-and-personal mini R&R stand-down.

Remember how fresh and exciting our first reunion experiences were? Elaine and I strive to keep it that way year after year. Long ago we were Cavalry brothers. Today we are a vibrant extended family. Our friendships and love continue to endure. WE MISS “YOU PEOPLE!”

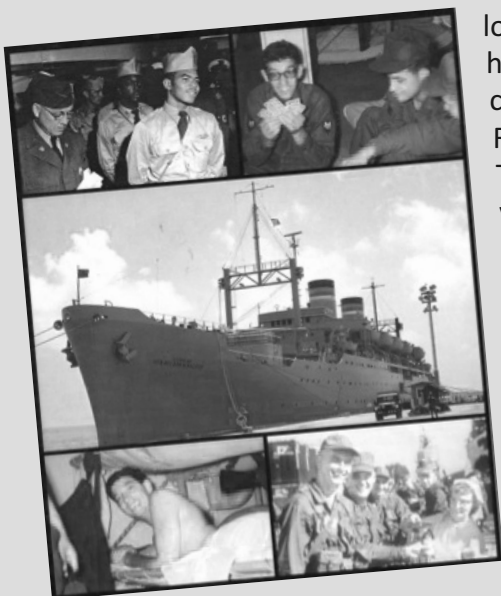
There are so many magic moments. Last summer at Firebase Stu McDiarmid and Stan Hudson reconnected for the first time since the war. Now Stan is gone, conducting aerial recon for us all at Fiddler’s Green.

As always, we would appreciate ETA and egress information to assist in planning. There is one hotel change: Comfort Inn has been remodeled into a Holiday Inn Express (317) 554-0900.

Please contact us with any questions, requests, or information: firebasebarker@gmail.com or (317) 607-8015. Imagine...25 firebases ago...grand children now the ages of our children then...and...Still it’s A JUNGLE OUT THERE!!!

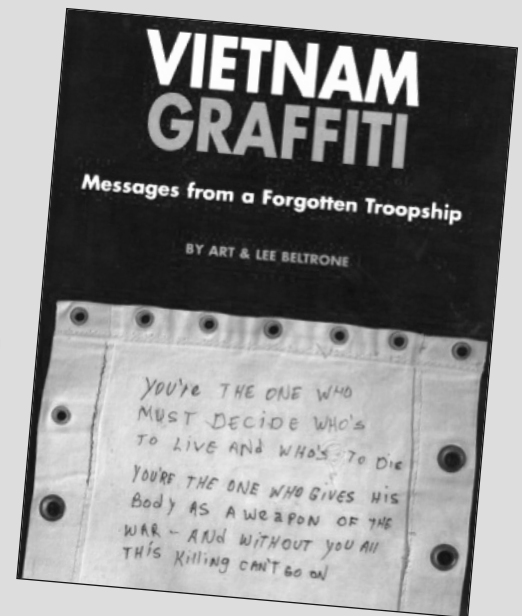
Update: Voyage to Vietnam Walker Exhibit

The “Marking Time: Voyage to Vietnam” Walker graffiti and voyage exhibit will be at the Marathon County Historical Museum now through February 2015. The Museum is located at 410 McIndoe Street in Wausau WI which is about a 3 hour drive from



our August 2014 CAV Reunion location in Milwaukee. We have set a time in conjunction with the Reunion when several Troopers are planning a visit. This will be on Wednesday, August 27 at about 1PM. The Museum would like to know

approximately how many people to expect for their planning and staffing purposes so if you can work this into your travel plans, please contact Jerry Barker at 317-607-8015 or Dennis Scott at 989-224-2601 so we can let the Museum know. If you are one of the “Boat People” or if you would like to know what it was like to travel to Vietnam by boat, this exhibit will be of special interest to you.



Fiddler's Green

ARTHUR S. BROWNSWEIGER, JR., 65, of Lebanon, passed away Thursday, December 6, 2012, at the Lebanon VA Medical Center. Born in Lebanon, PA on May 7, 1947, Arthur was a son of the late Arthur S. Sr., and Vivian Brownsweiger. He had worked as a mechanic. Arthur was a U.S. Army veteran, having served in the Vietnam War era. He is survived by a son: Kevin Brownsweiger, and a daughter: Tammy Mader. 4 grandsons: Royce Mader IV, Gage Mader, Chase Mader, and Vance Mader.

Services are private at the convenience of the family. Thompson Funeral Home, Inc., Lebanon is entrusted with the arrangements. Please share your thoughts and memories with the family at our online guest book at www.thompsonfuneralhomelebanon.com

DARRELL W. GAY was born on October 15, 1951 and passed away on Saturday, November 16, 2013. Darrell was a resident of Gowen, Michigan. He served with C-Troop in 1970. Darrell was an engineering technician and master electrician with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Afghanistan Engineer District-South.



HARRY "BUGS" JOHN MONTOU, JR., 65, of Westlake, LA died on Friday, September 13, 2013 in a local hospital. Mr. Montou was born August 14, 1948 in Oberlin, LA and was raised in Oberlin, LA. He lived a number of years in Lake Charles and in Westlake, LA since 1999. He served his country in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War. He was a carpenter by trade and worked for the Calcasieu Parish Police Jury in the Parks and Maintenance Department. He also served as a counselor at Boys and Girls Village for four years. Mr. Montou was an active member of Glad Tidings Assembly of God. He will always be remembered as a jokester and loved making people laugh. He was an avid LSU and Saints fan. He was also a loving husband and father and will be missed by all who loved him.

He was preceded in death by his father, Harry John Montou, Sr.; mother, Beulah Mae Marcantel; step-father, Darrell Marcantel; and brother, John Wayne Montou.

Mr. Montou is survived by his wife of twenty-one years, Jan Montou; children, Kalisha Montou and fiancé Rosamando Velazquez, Dacia, Chanda, Christopher and Jordan Montou; sisters, Nita Ruth Whitley, Jean Gidlow, Jane Hidalgo, Sue Marcantel, Nan Strother, and Sherry Baggett; brother, Odrey Montou; and grandchildren, Shelby Solano and Brannon Montou, and soon-to-be, Armando Velazquez.

WILLIAM A. FARRELL, was born on April 15, 1947 and passed away on Tuesday, February 18, 2014. He served as LT. with HHT and B-Troop. William was a resident of Ambler, Pennsylvania. His service was held Tuesday, February 25, 2014 at St. Christopher Catholic Church in Philadelphia, PA.



HERMAN GENE ROBERTS, C-Troop 1967-68, age 74, of Elizabethtown, Kentucky, passed away Tuesday, February 18,

2014, at the Jewish Hospital in Louisville, Kentucky.

Funeral services were held Saturday, February 22, 2014, at 2 p.m. in the chapel of Pine Knot Funeral Home with Rev. William Kilby officiating. Special music will be provided by Judy Redden and the Neal Family. Burial will be at the Pine Knot Cemetery with military honors by the U.S. Army. The family received friends Saturday from 11 a.m. until time for services. Herman was born in Strunk, Kentucky, on July 31, 1939, to the late Lewis and Geneva (Spradlin) Roberts. Besides his parents, he is preceded in death by a brother Thurman Roberts, a sister Frances West and a grandson Nicholas Roberts. Surviving family include his wife of 50 years Shirley (Johnson) Roberts of Elizabethtown. They were married November 16, 1963. Herman and Shirley had two sons; Kerry (and LeAnn) Roberts of Elizabethtown and Terry (and Annette) Roberts of Radcliff, Kentucky, and a sister Reva (and Ronald) Ball of Strunk, Kentucky. His four surviving grandchildren are Amber Marie Roe, Devin Nichole Roberts, Jessie James Roberts and Courtney Hope Roberts. Herman was retired from the United States Army. He was a self-employed auto body painter and had worked at South Kentucky Mack Trucks for 10 years. The 2/1 CAVALRY was represented at the service by Dennis and Janet Scott, Tom and Linda Schluchter, Jerry and Elaine Barker, Jesse and Diana Watson and Tom Fey.

(continued on page 6)

Fiddler's Green



JERRY SISSON, 63, of rural Geneseo, died on Saturday, April 20, 2013, at his home. Cremation has been accorded, and a

private family memorial service will be at Stackhouse-Moore Funeral Services. Jerry Ray Sisson was born on July 31, 1949, in Kewanee, the son of Amos L. and Rosemarie Moulton Sisson. He was educated in Cambridge and East Moline schools and graduated from United Township High School in 1967. Jerry attended Palmer Junior College in Davenport and received an associate degree in engineering. He served in the U.S. Army from 1969 to 1971 and had a tour of duty in Vietnam. His marriage to Linda Holtz Steele took place on April 19, 2001, in Cambridge.

His employment was at the Rock Island Arsenal from 1972 until retiring in 2004. He was a member of the Don Cherry Post 350, VFW, Geneseo, and the Colona American Legion Post. His hobbies included NASCAR, hunting and fishing.

Those surviving are his wife, Linda; two sons and a daughter-in-law, Matthew Robert and Grace Sisson, Colona, and Joseph David Sisson, Moline; two grandsons; and his mother, Rosemarie Sisson, Geneseo. Other survivors include a stepdaughter and her husband, Kimberly and Nate Pierce, Bettendorf; two stepsons, Hartwell Steele III and his wife, Kimberly, Rock Island, and Nathan Steele, and sister-in-law, Judy Howell. His father, a sister and a brother preceded him in death.

Condolences may be expressed by visiting Jerry's obituary at stackhousemoore.com.



AARON (SONNY) PICKENS JR. of Archer, Florida born to Aaron and Lila Pickens Sr. on April 23, 1947.

He passed away on September 6, 2013. Aaron was a goodhearted and loving man and will be dearly missed by many.

A celebration of life was held at Archer Community Center 16671 Southwest 137th Ave. Archer, FL 32618. Served with B-Troop 1968-69.



RONALD W. GABRIC, passed away on Aug 14, 2013 at Sarasota Memorial Hospital. He was born on Feb 26, 1946 in Akron, OH to John and Margaret Gabric. Ron graduated from Norton High School in Akron, and later joined the US Army. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War as a non-commissioned officer. After his service, Ron trained in sheet metal fabrication and later started his own business, Gabric's Fabricating. On February 24, 1978 Ron married

the love of his life, Marla Jo Bailey in Newark, OH. They were blessed with a son, Bryan Ross, on June 24, 1980. The family moved to the North Texas area in 1984, where they lived for the next 26 years. Ron and Marla moved to Sarasota in 2010 when Ron retired. He is survived by his wife, Marla and son, Bryan. Internment is in the Sarasota National Cemetery.

VERNON A. CLOSE passed away on Saturday March 29, 2014 in Phoenix, Ariz., from complications due to his 13 year battle with lymphoma. As a result of his exposure to Agent Orange, he also suffered from many other diseases. Vern served two years in the Army (1966-68) and was a Vietnam veteran. He was a graduate of Northeast Missouri State and received a master's degree from UMD. Vern worked for State Farm Insurance Company for 28 years (13 years in Duluth). Vern and his wife Edie were residents of Phoenix, Ariz., for the past 13 years. They enjoyed their summer home on the North Shore of Lake Superior with family and friends. Vern was a member of Saint Joan of Arc Church in Phoenix. His deep faith sustained him especially through the difficult times. He was devoted to his large family and friends. Vern obtained his pilot's license at the age of 16 years and enjoyed flying in upstate New York as well as Duluth. He loved driving his 1980 MGB, as well as fishing with friends. He was a passionate Phoenix Suns fan and had many t-shirts to prove it! He is survived by his beloved wife, Edie; stepson Erik and four grandchildren of Knife River, Minn.; his brothers Larry (Phyllis), Zimmerman Minn., Stephen (Lori) Painted Post, N.Y.; Edie's family (seven sisters, brother and brothers-in-law); numerous nieces and nephews and their families, aunts and uncles. Vern's many nieces, nephews, their families, aunts and uncles. Vern was also blessed with many dear friends. He will be deeply missed by all. If you wish, donations may be made to Vietnam Veterans Association.



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 financially able, we suggest annual dues of \$10 to help operate the Association and to get the *Blackhawk Bulletin* printed, published, and mailed twice each year. 2014 dues and donations are accepted at any time during the year and your contributions are very much appreciated. Please make your check or money order payable to:

2/1 CAV and mail it to PO Box 87, Bay City, MI 48707-0087.

CAV Merchandise

By *Jessee Paul and Diana Watson*

We still have a supply of Dragoon, Blackhawk and Firebase Barker t-shirts in stock. They are \$8.00 each for the small-XL and \$10.00 for the 2X-5X, plus the postage to mail items. We also have some of the dark green polo shirts and tan hats from the 2012 Gettysburg Reunion. Shirts are \$12.00 each for the small-XL and \$15.00 for the 2X-3X, plus postage. The hats are \$8.00 each, plus postage.

We can also order sweatshirts (crewneck, hoodies, or zip front) or denim shirts. We don't keep these in stock, but would be glad to special order them. If ordering youth sizes, we need your order prior to July 24th so it can be filled and shipped. If you are interested in any of these items or have suggestions for us, you can e-mail us at jpd_watson@hotmail.com or call us at 660-537-5833 (Paul) or 573-289-8197 (Diana).

We would also like to thank everyone that has bought 2/1 CAV merchandise from us. Thank you so much, we consider it a privilege to be able to provide this merchandise for you. We hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and that 2014 brings you all health and happiness. Look forward to seeing you in Milwaukee

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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