



THE BUGLE



5 /7 Cavalry Association News

<http://www.cav57.org>

Sept 2018; Vol 27.3

Vietnam 1966 -1971, Iraqi Freedom 2005-2010 & OEF Afghanistan 2012-2013

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Thanks to so many who worked long and hard to make the reunion in Pittsburgh so enjoyable and memorable in so many ways. For nearly two years the elected board of officers worked to find a great hotel to host our members and the Sheraton proved to be one of the best we have ever had. The Association is fortunate to have the expertise of Allen Patrick, Jerry Houston, Don Shipley and Karl Haartz who have done this many times before, along with Dick Baker who was doing his first reunion as our treasurer, and who were able to contract for everything we needed with the hotel and then managed daily to make everything run so smoothly. Bob and Joan Child kept our PX open long hours and sold lots of merchandise.

The success of the many program events was due largely to our ground team of Dolores and Walt Zimmerman and Jim Miller and Anne Meinert. From the Pirates-Cubs game to the somber trip to the Flight 93 Memorial through the magnificent memorial service our ground team gave us lots of wonderful things to do and coordinated the smallest details for all of us. Mary McVeigh and a wonderful team of volunteer ladies created beautiful floral arrangements for our tables for Friday and Saturday night.

And in his outstanding dinner talk Mike Davison helped us all see a way to confront the pain of the past so we can live better now and in the future while remembering two fallen heroes of Charlie Company—MOH recipient and POW Bill Port and Jimmy Castaldi.

All of these people and many others deserve one more great big Garryowen!

We started a new program of presenting very attractive lapel pins to Vietnam veterans and widows of Vietnam veterans along with certificates and presidential proclamations that we will continue at all future reunions including those on Veterans Day in DC. So if you missed this during the recent reunion or couldn't be there, come to a future reunion and let me know so you can receive your veteran's lapel pin or, if you are the surviving spouse of a deceased Vietnam veteran, the lapel pin and certificate as part of the recognition you too deserve.

Please plan to reunite in DC to celebrate our service and status as veterans at our banquet dinner on November 10 and assemble at the Wall on Veterans Day to remember all those whose names are inscribed there.

Garryowen!

Howard Prince

“KRAZY” Karl’s Report

Reunion XIV is in the record books.

I would like to thank everyone for the nice Vice President Emeritus recognition plaque and Cross pen & pencil set. It was with humble gratitude that I accepted these. We keep saying that the reunion can't get any better, but Jerry Houston blew it out of the water with the Memorial Service. If you check your program you won't find his name on it. Jerry deserves a standing O with this service. Way to go Jerry! With a few changes in registration it went a lot quicker and smoother. The high school students did a superb job in registration. It was easier than listening to yours truly. Everyone paid their dues (except I and that wasn't me).

The officers are all volunteers. We pay the same for the rooms, banquet, entertainment, etcetera as you do. It was brought to my attention that we should not make mistakes. WRONG, we are human, and we do screw up at times. There were 27 members (not total number of people) that made reservations for the BBQ on Saturday but had failed to make hotel reservations for Saturday night. To shorten the story, at 3 PM Saturday afternoon as the member was checking out I was no longer the fair haired VPE. No, I'm not sorry, just a humble volunteer. Now I have 2 couples in the association mad at me.

The 5/7 association started as a Friday & Saturday reunion. In 1998 we added “Get Acquainted Pizza Night” on Wednesday. Then in 2000 we had a Monday night General Jackson cruise for the real early birds. In 2002 in St. Louis it was a Tuesday night cruise put together by a member who needed to be reimbursed for his losses as it went bust. 39 tickets unsold. 2004 in Erlanger, KY, comedy show. 2006 get the picture. We have never planned anything for Thursday evening. Originally Thursday was lady's night. Listen to your wife and take her out. Thursday has always been an open night and will continue to be that way. Do what you want but don't ask us to advertise what you are up to. I personally feel that the dinner cruise on August 2, took away from our Banquet & BBQ attendance. Nobody has ever accused me of holding back on what I wanted to say. Again, I say nobody stood up to vote me out of office. Its hell being a volunteer.

Now that the Reunion XIV is behind us we will move on to Veterans Day in Washington, DC. Veterans Day info is on page 6 of this newsletter and on the web site. Same hotel as last year. Holiday Inn Express, National Airport.

I want to send thanks to all that attended the Pittsburgh Reunion. It is because of you, the membership, that the reunion is as outstanding as it is.

THE ROSTER – Our roster which contains some 5400+ names of those that served with the 5/7 in Vietnam and now some of the 5th Squadron is our life blood. Without the roster and our communication, we don't exist. The roster is only as good as the information that you provide us. The new information we received at the reunion was not included in the rosters that Don Shipley had in the Memorabilia Room. It is my personal feeling that those rosters were only 90% correct, due to many different factors. If you have a roster question, contact Allen Patrick as he is the only officer with a correct up-to-date copy. You can send info to Allen through any one of the trustees or officers of the association. It is super important that you provide us with your current info and any other info that we can check it for correctness.

Garry Owen,

“KRAZY”

BATTALION DIRECTORY

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Fiddlers Green

Command Sergeant Major Timothy Bolyard, 42, of Thornton, West Virginia, and the 5-7 Cavalry CSM from 2016-2017, was shot and killed with small arms fire on Monday, September 3, 2018 by a member of the Afghan national police during training in Logar Province.

He was serving as the Squadron Command Sergeant Major for 3rd Squadron, 1st Security Force Assistance Brigade, the Army's new combat advisory group.

Bolyard is the second SFAB soldier to be killed in an apparent insider attack during the high-risk unit's first deployment to Afghanistan. CSM Bolyard's service as the Squadron Command Sergeant Major from 2016 to 2017 left an indelible mark on the Squadron. He had been in the Army for 24 years and was on his 13th deployment when he was killed.



Membership VP's Report

The Pittsburgh Reunion was the 50-year anniversary for our Vietnam brothers that were there in 1968. The next reunion will be the big 50 for those who served in 1970.

We don't like to talk about it, but the reality of aging is cutting into our ranks. Based on the database numbers we keep track of, it appears we have lost one in every four of our brothers since we returned from Vietnam. This means staying on top of one's health is very important.

Don't forget to keep those Doctors' appointments. Take your spouse or partner with you to help you remember problems in your recent history and also to have a separate set of ears listening to what the doctors tell you to do to stay healthy. Often, we forget what's ailing us when we get in the doctor's office. The doctor will ask "How are you doing?" and you'll answer, "Doing pretty good!". Sound familiar! Even the VA behavioral people, if they don't live with you, won't automatically know what's bothering you. You need to speak up. They can't help you if you're not up front and willing to share what's bothering you.

We all know we have PTSD to some extent. I quote the late Jim Vaught: "*If you were ever a combat infantry man and don't have PTSD, you're not human*". A Quote from Ted Swett: "*Believe me our wives, children and grandchildren know, they have been tip toeing around us for years.*". I was told by several of the ladies that attended the Ladies Tea that they all learned: "*We vets are all more alike than any of us like to admit.*".

Note from Willie Mercer

Sorry I will not be able to be with you guys this time. But will be missing the good times in which we had, So here is a little donation to say, "wish we were there". Tell all the guys in "C" company I will miss them: Roger, Harman, Wes, Karl, Olsen, you & others. God bless & be safe.
Willie (Sgt) Mercer

Letters

To: Howard Prince, 5/7 Cavalry Association President

Saturday 04 August 2018, at 1000 hours was one of the most gratifying times in recent memory, having the opportunity to attend the memorial ceremony at the Soldiers and Sailors Museum in Pittsburgh, PA with the 5/7 Cavalry Association.

The setting, the Museum Hall, was elegant and dignified, with the Gettysburg Address inscribed on the wall above the stage. How appropriate, sitting in a beautifully decorated building, waiting for the memorial ceremony, and reading the best memorial speech of all time, the Gettysburg Address. How perfect was that! The music selection was awesome, and the performance was beautiful and haunting all at the same time.

The speakers and the context were spot-on. I listened to Col. Gary Fisher describe the emotional roller-coaster soldiers experience as they celebrate small victories, only to be followed by the profound grief when they lose someone. For those in combat, it's like the movie Groundhog Day; it keeps happening over and over.

I am not a combat vet; I am a peacetime vet. I try to imagine what it's like to be in combat, but it's only imagination. I imagine someone young, far from home and far from the security of family, friends and familiarization, now under fire, in miserable conditions, trying to stay focused and alive, while your mind is full of questions searching for answers. What's missing from my peacetime imagination is the actual terror, fear and uncertainty that a combat soldier must feel when they're under attack, or when they hear those dreaded words, 'we're going back out'. No amount of peacetime imagination can do it justice. I cannot think of another occupation or industry anywhere, that equals what combat soldiers live with day after day, campaign after campaign. And if they're lucky, they come home, but to a world unaware and often indifferent to what it was like to be a combat soldier. Then also, the paradox of being happy to be home and alive, yet the unhappy and sometimes lonely separation from a world only your combat buddies can understand. Like the combat soldier, that's uniquely unique.

But that ceremony carried that out to me, all of it, and I am grateful I had the opportunity to experience it. Regrettably, few Americans experienced what I witnessed that morning, and regrettably still, many, many Americans will never experience it or understand what I'm talking about.

I don't know who or how many were involved in planning that ceremony, but it was flawless. Each segment was perfectly synchronized, culminating with the Roll Call, Retiring the Colors and the eye-pudding and always heartbreaking sound of TAPS.

Thanks to all those who participated and put that event together, and thanks to the 5/7 Cav reunion organization for allowing me to attend and experience this unique event. I witnessed an incredible spectacle and a Garryowen job well done.

Dennis Gallagher

A Battery, 1/8th Field Artillery,
25 Infantry Division, '72-'75

REUNION 2018 - - - BITS and PIECES and THIS and THAT

by Vince Laurich

We had memorable adventure in Pittsburgh, a classy reunion with old friends and new friends. I get amped at these gatherings. A natural high. A walk in the past. Enjoying the present. Sharing the future (making fishing trip plans, etc.). Somewhere some smartass wrote that you can pick your friends but VN buds are simply thrust upon us by God, fate or good fortune. We can debate that later, but my Pittsburgh experience **reinforced how blessed and lucky I've been along the way.**

Jasper, Bill and others had a vision way back in Detroit. Probably never imagined the impact, numbers, years ahead. I drifted and wondered during their address about their thoughts today with 500+ attendees. However it happened, grew and so many have contributed, each and all have benefitted along the way. Thank you. And if you get nothing more from reading this know that I am thankful and believe you are also. Note to the YOUNG Bloods, fifty years from now you can be in the same place surrounded by your special folks, those who shared a unique life experience and still come together. That's a gift, one of life's treasures.

Some of the following may be repetitive. The leaders always share their reports post reunion. I try a diff slant, to tell the backroom stories, my spin after testing the spirits and hearing the tales. Amazing opportunity to hear the stories get enhanced with more detailed and enthusiasm each year. I won't name names they know who they are. I did my thing also, tried to listen, meet and greet. Even shared a few stories, corrected a few. As usual my A co guys were there: Mutt (who has never missed, with his Special Hat), Don, John Taylor, Tim P and Boyd together again. Connected w new folks, welcomed a few first timers: Dennis Wright from Gainesville, GA (oh no a Lake Lanier fisherman and I didn't get contact info.) Ken Futch and Leland Johnson, both "One of them guys" per RB. Leland was C5/7, CO, 68/69. Lt bashing is still a popular pastime for some with a smile. Of course, my special people; Bob Van Camp, Moe, Truman, Niagara and Grays Ferry gangs, Davy, Gerry. Ryan to name a few. The rest, I'll include you next time. Doc, CB and Frog we missed you. And The young guys turned out, are still smiling. Hell, they're only in their thirties. Remember when! Love my time with them, Examples of our past. Sadly, we old guys are their future. Ugh. But they got a hell of a life in front of them. Will Cooper, Joe Miechle, Pat Davis, JT, Beau, Cols Petery and Wheels. I missed Joel Jackson; maybe he grew a beard. My loss. Hope he and others make DC.

Table topics offer multi subjects including finance, sports, health, family and grandkids, heroes, character, etc. But Mike Davidson's address was discussed at length. Talk about character. He deviated from the norm. And took a risk with a unique personal witness and sharing. Beautiful. Upon reflection, all could relate. It hit home. It fit, touched many, and worked and certainly reinforced the value of our 5/7 brotherhood. Oh Yea, Yoga has been on my bucket list for many years. Think I just got the push I need.

Saturday Memorial Service at the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Bldg. Gettysburg address on the wall. WOW, one word applies, Amazing. Consensus, it was the best, ever. The venue, sound system, program, bagpipes and incredible musical performance by Ricky Manning all meshed to perfection. I'm not a music guy but the pace, tone, sound just was so right. Not many dry eyes in my row, probably same throughout the room. Danny Boy and Battle Hymn of the Republic will choke me up. Once the names came I was crying. Success is in the details. And planners hit the mark. Early bus riders got to set the mood w a tour of the museum collections and late comers had same opportunity after. It was a time to reflect and remember. Well planned and executed. Special kudos to the coordinators. They raised the bar. We thought the SERVICE was the WOW moment of the week. As it should be.

And another gem surfaced among us. Unexpected. One of those surprises. Unplanned event. A plus in any setting. He captured the microphone after winning a raffle prize. What? Be truthful. Think back. We all thought we're getting a quick thank you. After a few seconds you said "oh no" maybe the guy had too much wine. Then quickly, he had us hooked. We were attentive as he began to tell us a story from his days in D 5/7 in 1968. He had us laughing not at jokes or one-liners but at him and his woeful experiences. Smooth. Not one story but many all the same humor at his expense. Laughing for sure; many so hard that it brought tears. And then another surprise, ending with a motivational message: he dropped a name: SGT Westmoreland and the value of a kind word with reinforcement and self-confidence." I'm a great map reader". Incredible. And we all said who is this guy? Well, he is Ken Futch from Atlanta, GA, a platoon leader in D 5/7 back in the day (One of Them Guys). Today he is a Professional Speaker and an award winner. Do a Google search if you want to learn more and laugh and hear some funny stories. And I think our Board would be remiss if they fail to include Ken in future programs. He belongs on a platform. He's a winner and one of our own.

A special mention for Bookard Dooley and his ongoing commitment to the Memorabilia room. If you stopped in a few times you saw his energy and enthusiasm. He rarely left the room. **He wants to put stories together for all the fallen. Needs your help. Only you can make that happen. YOU HAVE A STORY. Remember your friends. Share it with him.** Ed Coon is still the 5/7 energizer bunny...behind the scenes nonstop Supply man. One of these years he'll get some public recognition for his efforts. For now Thank him when you can. And if raffle ticket sales didn't generate significant revenue, blame the buyers not Pam and her staff; they were nonstop. Even those little girls were hustling. Fun to watch. "Krazy" Karl you did good; we'll leave a light on for you. Norman, see you in DC.

Throughout the reunion and activities, we were reminded of our many blessings and unique diversity. The Memorial service this year touched many as never before. For me very powerful, still with me after a week. A beautiful happening to remember, sharing with brothers and others. A needed reminder of fellowship, humility and unselfishness. **Of course, many of our buds were missing. Health and other reasons. So, reach out to them today and share a reunion story, a photo, a kind word. Reconnect, share the wealth and you'll both feel good. OK, now pick up the phone.**

See you in DC. Keep the peace.

Garryowen and thanks, VINCE aka REDEYE

Photos from 2018 Reunion XIV



Photos from 2018 Reunion XIV



5/7Cav PX

Item Description	Quantity On Hand	\$ Price
Twill Shirt Khaki Long Sleeve - 2XL	1	25
Twill Shirt Forest Grn Long Sleeve - 2XL	6	25
Men's Forest Green Polo - Small	1	25
Men's Forest Green Polo - Medium	3	25
Men's Royal Blue Polo - Small	2	25
Men's White Polo - Small	2	25
Men's White Polo - Medium	3	25
Ladies' White Polo - Medium	8	25
Ladies' White Polo - Large	3	25
Ladies' Cornflower Blue Polo - Small	1	25
Ladies' Cornflower Blue Polo - Medium	5	25
Ladies' Cornflower Blue Polo - XL	9	25
Ladies' Pink Polo - Medium	4	25
Ladies' Heather Gray Polo - Small	1	25
Ladies' Heather Gray Polo - Medium	9	25
Ladies' Heather Gray Polo - Large	1	25
Ladies' Heather Gray Polo - XL	3	25
Ladies' Cardinal Red Polo - Medium	2	25
Note: Other shirts will only be available at reunions		
Otto Ball Caps Black	24	15
Otto Ball Caps White		15
Challenge Coins	28	12
Hat Pins \$2 shipping covers up to 5 pins		
An Khe pins 1/1/4 "	12	3
A Shau Valley	12	3
Cambodia	12	3
Hue City	12	3
1st Cav Vietnam/Airmobile 1 1/4" pins	12	3
Miniature Garry Owen	12	3
Regulation Garry Owen	12	3
Mini CIB	12	3
Regulation CIB	12	3
Combat Cavalry	12	3
1st Cavalry 3" Fridge magnets (new item)	12	3
Flags		
1st Cavalry 3'X5' Flag	6	15
POW/MIA 3'X5' Flag	6	15

PLEASE ALLOW THREE WEEKS ON SHIRT DELIVERY.

PLEASE INCLUDE \$3.00 POSTAGE ON HATS & ON SMALL ITEM ORDERS AND \$5.00 ON ALL SHIRT ORDERS.

ORDERS GO TO:

**"KRAZY" KARL HAARTZ
220 UPPER MAD RIVER ROAD
THORNTON, NH 03285
PHONE # 603-726-7080
cav571vpkk@roadrunner.com**

Veterans Day 2018

We will once again be hosting our Veterans Day Gathering in Washington, DC at the Holiday Inn National Airport (www.hinationalairport.com) in Arlington, VA (Crystal City area). The hotel is located one mile from the Reagan National Airport and three blocks from the nearest Metro station.

The room rate is \$114 per night plus 13.25% tax; parking is free; also, there is a free shuttle to and from the airport. The block of rooms (55 currently) and room rates are effective from Friday, November 9, 2018 through Tuesday, November 13, 2018. Check-in time is 4pm and check-out at 12pm. Self-parking is available on a complimentary basis.

Hotel bookings should be made with the hotel by Tuesday, October 9, 2018.

Any block rooms not reserved by that date will be released for general sale and reservations made after that date will only be accepted on a space available basis. The toll-free phone number for booking with the hotel is 888-294-5059 or you can call direct to the hotel at 703-684-7200.

Guarantee Policy

All reservations must be guaranteed for room and tax when making the reservation. Individual attendees may guarantee payment by the following methods:

Credit card – American Express, VISA, MasterCard, Carte Blanche, Diners Club, or Discover Card. Provide the number with expiration date by the cut-off date.

Check or money order for first night's room and tax must be received ten business days prior to arrival.

When making reservations you must identify yourself as part of the 5/7 Cavalry Association to receive the contracted rate. The hotel has provided the following web address, so you can book directly from the Internet:

[Reservation Link: 5th Battalion, 7th Cavalry Assn](#)

The hospitality room opens at 3 PM on Friday, November 9 and runs through Sunday evening, November 11.

The 5th Battalion, 7th Cavalry Association Dinner on Saturday evening, November 10, will be held at the hotel. Menu choices and dinner reservation instructions will be announced very soon.

All family and guests are welcome at the November 10th banquet/dinner. You do not have to stay in the hotel to join in and dress is casual.

Garry Owen, See you in DC!!!

Check Your Mail Label

Co B 69, Dues Paid Thru: 2009
Tom T. Trooper
Street Address
City, State Zip

The sample mail label on the left represents the label that appears on the front of your newsletter. It indicates the company/troop and year you initially served in the 5/7 Cav. The label also gives you the status of your dues. If "3000" appears in your status it indicates we have your status as "Active Duty". Dues payments should be mailed to our treasurer at the following address:
Dick Baker
PO Box 291
Bristol, NH 03222-0291

Treasurers Report

Financial summary: August 2018. Pittsburgh PA. Reunion

This year's reunion in Pittsburgh was a great success and I assume enjoyed by all.

Of particular note was Saturdays memorial service at the Soldiers and Sailors museum. It was outstanding and we will be hard pressed to match this venue at future reunions.

We had a net loss to the Association this year. Most of the excess cost was known and expected. Major contributors were :

- \$2,055	Wednesday Pizza night and the Irish Pretender band.
- \$3,908	Breakfast provided each morning.
- \$3,761	Ladies Tea on Thursday
- \$3,954	Audio visual equipment for the Friday banquet.
- \$2,068	Registration room expenses
- \$2,582	Saturday memorial service.
	Other net income: PX (+ \$2,071), Raffles (+\$402), Hospitality (+\$ 283) and expenses etc.
<u> \$666</u>	
<u> -\$17,662</u>	

Note that many of these costs were incurred thru out the year in preparation for the reunion. From a cash point of view we almost broke even given dues and donations received.

I will finalize the bank reconciliation at month end.

Until the next report.
Dick Baker





5th Battalion 7th Cavalry Assoc.
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5th Battalion
7th Cavalry

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5/7 Squadron Troopers
Enjoying the Hospitality Room