



AIRMOBILE



News of the 5th Battalion 7th Cavalry

<http://www.cav57.org>

September , 2002; Volume 11 Issue 3

President's Report

By John Long

What a great reunion! Over 330 troopers, family members and friends met at St Louis over the 4th of July for what many of the old timers felt was the best reunion yet. It may be my imagination but the goodbyes at these reunions seem to be getting longer and harder. The hugs are stronger and the tears flow freely. Maybe it's the threat of mortality rearing its ugly head. A lot of new faces were there; some contacted by buddies only after arriving at the reunion themselves. We had two "Black Hats", Pathfinders, who came by not quite knowing what to expect and concerned about their welcome. They left with promises to contact more of their group for the next reunion. This was the second reunion at the Renaissance Hotel and we will be returning in the future. It has splendid facilities that meet all of our needs at the right price.

We were honored to have General John Wickham as our guest speaker. He told us the things we needed to hear and made us feel good hearing it. He was presented our 5/7 Cav jacket. He told us later by Email that he had received many compliments as he wore the jacket home

through the airport. Bret Coulson and Gen Wickham spoke at a LZ Colt seminar that was well attended and shed light on the background of the battle from both the enemy and US sides. The Memorial Service was held in a park overlooking the Mississippi River. This year the names of troopers that have passed on since Vietnam were read. Unhappily, that list will continue to grow. I had the privilege to present a Man of the Year statuette to Don Shipley for 2001. Don stands alone in his absolute dedication to locate every last one of the troopers assigned to the Bn. John Goodpaster received the award for 2002 for his outstanding efforts at running the PX during the off years and then hauling everything to St Louis to sell. His garage was his warehouse. Allen Patrick received the President's Award for his outstanding efforts as Editor of the Airmobile, Webmaster for our Internet web site, www.57cav.org and for his putting together a splendid reunion.

The success of the reunion resulted from the contributions of many but some of the most critical workers were: Jasper Catanzaro, who worked closely with Patrick and handled all of the finances, Charles Brueggemann, who managed the Hospitality Room, Don Shipley, who made daily supply runs, Carol Haartz, Wanda Goodpaster, and Lynette Sierer who managed the raffle and did so much more. Willie Mercer and Don Diggs, whose voices inspired us to tears with their singing; Ted Swett who always ensures that the Memorial Service is conducted with dignity, Jerry Houston and Ed Coon who take care of all the little things behind the scenes. To James Mitchell who ensures that the raffles are honest.

Thanks to all of the folks who made or donated items for the very successful raffles. Congratulations to the Valdez family who took home most of the raffle prizes.

Thanks to a vote by the troopers at the reunion, we have ordered a regimental flag that we expect to have debut on Veteran's Day.

The next event to look forward to is the annual pilgrimage to D.C. and the Wall on Veteran's Day, November 11, 2002. See COL Swett's article regarding specific information and the place to stay. Suzy and I hope to see as many of you that can make it at our home Sunday evening, Nov 10th. The guys at the hotel will have directions or call or e-mail me if you need directions. Stay tuned for announcement of our next reunion site.

NOVEMBER 11, 2002
VETERANS DAY



Finding fellow troopers from the 5th battalion 7th Cavalry — Do you have a name, address, service number but you still can't locate your old buddy? Let us know and we'll try to help with your search. Send a note to the Editor using the return address on this newsletter or e-mail the editor using the following e-mail address: editor@cav57.org.

BATTALION DIRECTORY

REUNION VI: AFTER ACTION REPORT

By Jerry Houston

5th Battalion 7th Cavalry Association Secretary

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HHQ Joe Dzikas	203-934-9688 jd250f@aol.com
Battalion Historian Patrick Dockery	410-488-4930 vvdoc@erols.com
Memorabilia Bill Brown	816-746-6384 missouribill@juno.com
Video Phil Sierer	210-914-2203 oldrebel@texas.net

It is hard to believe that Reunion VI has come and gone. For those of you that missed it, it was another astounding success. While we had a great time we also conducted the business of our associations. A summary of our two business meetings are as follows:

Thursday, July 4, 2002 1000 hours.

John Long, our association president called the meeting to order. After the pledge of allegiance the officers of the association made their reports. The Battalion Secretary, Jerry Houston, reminded everyone that we were incorporated in Tennessee as a Non-Profit Organization and that we were recognized by the IRS as a Non-Prophet organization for tax purposes. Jasper Catanzaro, Battalion Financial Secretary, gave an update of our short financial and membership status. (Check out the Financial Report in this issue and you will get Jasper's latest report.) Allen Patrick, Vice President for Communications, outlined the remaining schedule for the Reunion with emphasis on the Company and Battalion Business meetings and the LZ Colt seminar Friday afternoon. Allen also thanked everyone for their patience in getting through the reunion registration process.

There were two By-Laws amendment approved by unanimous vote. The first amendment added the method we will use for election of officers and the second changed the names of a few officer positions and reworded their duties to be more in line with the way we actually functions.

John Long read a list of proposed candidates for election. Most officers and board members had agreed to serve another two year term. The two changes recommended were Don Shipley for the vacant Vice President for Membership position and Harold Dannewitz for Sergeant at Arms to replace Willie Mercer who is retiring. John mentioned that nominations were open until the vote at Friday's business meeting.

The main purpose of the Thursday business meeting was to introduce issues surrounding future reunions. This would allow the Companies to discuss the issues at their business meetings on Friday. The results of the Company meetings would be reviewed at the Friday Battalion Business meeting.

There was a general discussion about the reunion sites. There must be an effective ground team available in the local area

to support the reunion site. Price of hotel rooms and other cost are a major consideration. There needs to be easy access by air and car to the site.

Ted Swett had a special message from the 1st Cavalry Division. They are very interested in us taking part in their reunion which normally takes place at the same 4th of July week that we have our reunion. Unlike our reunions theirs are conducted every year. This year they are in Colorado Springs. Next summer they will be at Fort Hood. They alternate one year away from Fort Hood and the next at Fort Hood. One of the aspects that would be of some interest to us would be attending one of their reunions at Fort Hood because this is the current home of the 1st Cavalry Division. Unfortunately, their Fort Hood schedule is during the years we do not have reunions scheduled.

There was a considerable amount of general discussion. Some of the key points made were that our association is unique because of the way we trained and went to Vietnam. That initial legacy stayed with the unit throughout the years we were in Vietnam. We are sort of like a very large family and that helps make our reunions very special events for our members. There was general concern that we would lose some of this camaraderie if we had our reunion with the 1st Cav Division.

Some of our members had attended 1st Cav Reunions and enjoyed them but not as much as they enjoyed our reunions.

Another issue discussed at length was the time of year that we hold reunions. There has been some discussion in the past about moving to another time of the year and get away from the hot summer months.

Locations for the next reunion were discussed. There was a general comment that sites we had already used could be used again. The success of St Louis is a good example. Military installations could also be an alternative. Meeting with the 1st Cav at Fort Hood could be an option but we would have to change our two year cycle. The facility is perhaps one of the major requirements. The Renaissance Hotel

(Continued on page 5)

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I want to express my appreciation to all those who made the St. Louis 5th/7th Cavalry reunion a wonderful experience for me. Growing up, whenever I saw the 1st Cavalry patch on a military uniform or car, I would wonder what it meant and whether by some chance the person connected to it knew my father, Col. H.T. Long (KIA 1/28/68). I never had the courage to ask. Finally, two years ago I became connected by luck and a miracle with Jim Thomas, who listed his toll free number and the names of the three BN CO's for whom he acted as radio operator on the 5th/7th website. Through Jim I heard firsthand the story of my father's death. He also helped me find several other soldiers who have been able to tell me stories about my Dad, who died the day before my 9th birthday. Another soldier came to visit me soon after that, Charlie Baker. Being able to attend the reunion gave me the opportunity to meet in person the people with whom I had corresponded.

So many people helped me along the way in my efforts to learn more about my father. I'm afraid to list them all for fear I will forget someone. What stands out about all of the wonderful 5th/7th Cav members is the feeling that they all cared, even after 30 years.

Thank you all from the bottom of my heart.

Chris Long Henson

Dear Editor,

This gift of \$100 to the welfare of the 5/7 members is in memory of Nick Kokalis "Greek" KIA 10/28/67 A Company 1st platoon 3rd squad – team leader. I would like his past wife and child to know he's still in the hearts and minds of 5/7, especially 3rd squad. He was killed by a land mine. That day will always be with others and me as he represented the meaning of "patriot" in every aspect. I also feel that I wouldn't be here today if not for his dedicated leadership in the squad.

I feel very proud, also honored, to have served in the 7th Cavalry. The unit was invincible due to the leadership with its courageous and dedicated patriots in the idea of freedom. We made a difference during our time.

I attended Reunion IV in 1998 with my oldest son and realized devoted comradeship never dies but lives on in the spirit and minds of the 5/7th Cavalry.

Garry Owen, Wayne R. Gibbs
A Company 67-68

Dear Sir:

My father was Colonel Donald Gelke, the last Bn Co of the 5/7 in Viet Nam. I recently stumbled upon your website and saw his name list with date of death unknown. We lost my Dad back on 16 May 86 due to complications following coronary surgery. He always loved the Cav and had particularly fond memories of his days with the 5/7.

By the way, I followed my Dad's footsteps and served my country from '79 - '84 as a combat engineer with the 101st ABN. I'm extremely proud of my service and even more proud of what you and the other Sky Soldiers did during some very difficult times. Thanks. You guys are the greatest. Keep up the fire.

Garry Owen, Kurt Gelke, President, Neo/SCI Corporation kgelke@neosci.com

Note!

The Vietnam Veterans of America, the only Vietnam veterans organization chartered by Congress is planning a March to Remember on November 11, 2002, honoring units that fought in Vietnam in celebration of the 20th Anniversary of the dedication of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

Marching units will follow a mile-and-a-half-long route in Washington DC enroute to The



Wall.

Check out the details in Ted Swett's article on page 5.

Also check out the June—July issue of the VETERAN — VVA's bi-monthly magazine. It features a documentary telling the story of the 5th Battalion 7th Cavalry Association.

The web site link follows:

**[http://www.vva.org/
TheVeteran/2002_07/
band_of_brothers.htm](http://www.vva.org/TheVeteran/2002_07/band_of_brothers.htm)**

Vice President's Report

by Karl Haartz

Scribbling from "Krazy" Karl

I wish who ever told me being your 1st. Vice President was going to get easier as we progressed was here. After being away at the reunion and on vacation, I returned home 130 e-mails with 5/7 questions to be answered. I have this pretty much under control again and waiting for the next group.

With the success of reunion VI behind us, we can look forward to reunion VII and business at hand.

For those of you unable to attend Reunion VI, I have a short quote from Peter Ballo. Pete was a Forward Observer with the 1/21 Artillery. My wife Carol and I had a late flight leaving St. Louis. I cruised the lobby of the hotel all morning saying thanks for coming, good by, and see you in 2004 or on Veteran's Day in DC.

I notice Pete dragging his ---, AH!, suitcase across the lobby. I walked over to say goodbye. As we shook hands Pete said, "Krazy Karl, I knew when I came to St. Louis I was going to have a good time. It was even better, I had a great time and the Association should be very proud of everything it has done." Thanks Pete from all of us in the 5/7.

Pete will be joining us in D C on Veteran's Day.

I want to say Thank You to all those troops, family members, friends and guests that attended. It couldn't have happened without your support. We had many new members attending, some actually making first contact in St. Louis. During the banquet Friday night and having my 3rd piece of chocolate cake, I was told there was a new trooper over by the door. Going to the back of the banquet hall I found Richard Vest, D Company 67, and his wife Debbie. Richard had been contacted by Norman "Doc" McBride earlier in the year. "Doc" was the medic, who put Richard on the medivac chopper back in Vietnam. "Doc" was told Richard was there and a reunion was held. In this moment one realizes what our reunions are all about. Real Soldiers have real tears and this was one of those unforgettable occasions for this soldier.

This reunion brought out the real camaraderie between the Medics, Forward

Observers, and the Pathfinders, with the rifle companies. These troops spent most of their time in country attached to the rifle companies and not their own units. Henry "Tar bucket" McDonald, F O with C Co. in 67 told me that he only spent 1 week with the artillery battery he was assigned to. Therefore if you know or can remember any of these people let's find them and bring them to the association.

The new member search is on going. We have located 5 new troops since the reunion. Don Shipley is relaxing this summer so some of you guys can get a head start on him in the search category. Don has been our main stay in location of new troops for the past few years. So let's get a little fire going and knock him off that trophy. His address is Donshipley@aol.com. If you are having trouble locating someone or need help as to how to start a search and where Don will be glad to give you some guide lines.

E-MAIL E-MAIL

All troops that are on line and would like to get their newsletter that way send your address to Jasper Catanzaro, jacatanza@ford.com. This will help defray the cost of the newsletter.

Anyone that is not getting an e-mail update from me every couple of weeks send me your address.

Crazykc@eagle1st.com.

To all that e-mail me would you include your company and year so I know where to look for info you request. Thanks

INFORMATION REQUEST

Harold & Beverly Page, A Company 69 —The Pages found a book with a picture captioned Chow Line FSB Wood, home of the 5th Bn. 7th Cav 1970. They would like to know a little about firebase Wood. Address is 702 Gatewood Dr., Roebuck, SC 29376. brp1@prodigy.net

VETERAN'S DAY

The 1st. Cav Assoc. Hospitality Suite will be at the Hilton Crystal City, Arlington, VA. There is a special 1st.Cav room rate of \$99 per night. Hotel # is 703- 418-6800 and reservations have to be made before September 20. you can also book through Hilton national reservations at 1-

800-774-1500.

There is a Days INN 2 blocks away and the # 703-920-8600. No special rate here. I have found in the past it depends on the day what you can get for rates in the capital area.

That's about it, if I can think of any more I send it along. Are you going to have a place for newly located troops?

GARRY OWEN
'Krazy' Karl

Membership Notes:

Check out the address label on the front of this newsletter. Printed after your name is your Cav 5/7 Company, the year you first served in Vietnam with the Cav 5/7 and the year through which your dues are paid. If the year is '01 or earlier your dues are not up to date.

Dues are \$10 per year. You can stay up to date by sending your dues to Financial Secretary, 5th Battalion 7th Cavalry Association, 23346 Mystic Forest, Novi, MI 48376.

In the future if you would like to view your newsletter on the Internet please indicate so on your dues check. We can save about \$1.25 for every newsletter we don't have to mail.

Our web site is :

www.cav57.org

Hope to see you in Washington D.C. on November 11 for Veterans Day 2002

Editor



VETERANS DAY IN WASHINGTON D.C.

Veterans Day activities this year will feature **A March to Remember**, a march by Vietnam veterans from the vicinity of the Capitol Building to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Vietnam Veterans of America, the only federally chartered VN veterans' organization, is sponsoring the march in commemoration of the 20th Anniversary of the Memorial. The VVA is inviting organizations which served in the Vietnam War to participate.

The 5thBn 7thCav Association has accepted the invitation. Those of us who will make the Veterans Day pilgrimage this year, and who wish to march, will proudly follow our own Regimental Flag and the National Colors in remembrance of those whose names appear on The Wall. We will especially be remembering and honoring our own Garry Owen comrades who made the supreme sacrifice in battle long ago.

We usually have twenty or so 5/7Cav vets at the Veterans Day ceremony. As the word

got around during the St Louis reunion, we realized that we might have as many as 40-50 of our troopers at the ceremony this year. It will be a short march, and our hope is that those attending will want to march, if physically able to do so.

The assembly point for the march is at the intersection of 7th Street NW and Constitution Avenue NW. We will assemble there at 8AM on November 11 in order to get organized for the march. From the assembly point the marchers will continue on Constitution Avenue to 17th Street NW, where they will disband and proceed through the Reflecting Pool area to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

The First Cavalry Division Association has arranged for a room rate of \$99 per night at the Hilton Crystal City Hotel at Reagan National Airport, 2399 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA. To make a reservation, phone 800-774-1500 or 703-418-6800 and identify yourself as a First Cavalry Division veteran.

Make your reservations ASAP, as room availability is limited. The special rate is in effect from Thursday, November 7 thru Monday, November 11.

If you wish to attend the Ia Drang Valley dinner on Saturday evening, November 9, the cost is \$50 per person. Make your check payable to Ia Drang Dinner, c/o Joe Galloway, 809 Hillwood Avenue, Falls Church, VA 22042. Both LTG (Ret) Hal Moore and Joe Galloway will be at the dinner. Many of you will remember that they both have been guest reunion banquet speakers for us; General Moore at Reunion II and Joe Galloway at Reunion IV.

And don't forget the gracious invitation of John and Suzy Long to gather at their home for supper on Sunday evening, November 10. (It is rumored that there will be *close order drill* instruction at the Longs, to shape us up for the 8AM *First Call* the next morning.)

Garry Owen, Ted

After Action Report (continued)

(Continued from page 2)

in St Louis is almost tailor made for the way we run reunions.

Before closing John Long mentioned that Bernie Grady had passed away the previous year. His wife had found a two boxes of his book, On the Tigers Back, and that they were for sale in the PX. He also mentioned that Pat Dockery had finished his book about daily life in Vietnam and had copies with him for sale.

There was also mention that we were working on a parade for Veterans Day in Washington DC. It was hoped that a large number of our members would attend.

The Business Meeting was adjourned.

Business Meeting Friday, July 7th at 1000 hours.

After call to order and pledge of allegiance, we went directly into our election of Officers and Board of Directors for the next two years. Ted Swett agreed to conduct the elections as a disinterested party. There were no additional nominations and the officers and board members were elected by acclamation. You will find a list of those elected in this newsletter.

A summary of issues coming out of the company business meetings was used as part of the discussion.

The first issue was whether or not we wanted to have a joint reunion with the 1st Cav Division. Although there was a gen-

eral consensus that we would not mind a reunion with the 1st Cav at Fort Hood we did not want to change our successful string of reunions held on our own. There was an encouragement to have a large group of our membership attend the Fort Hood reunion next summer.

The time of year to hold the reunion was voted on. 90% wanted to stay in the summer. 50% indicted the Fall or Spring would be ok. 5% said they would not mind having the reunion in the winter.

The next discussion was a site for the next reunion. A group from A Company strongly recommended Cincinnati. They had a ground team and believed that all the other attributes needed for a successful reunion were there. A hand vote was conducted after a few other site comments. The order was Cincinnati, Colorado Springs, Washington DC area and Nashville.

LTG Vaught pointed out that the association officers should have the latitude to make the final decision based on their best evaluation of each site.

New Business There was a general discussion about trying to obtain a set of Battalion Colors for the association. LTG Vaught indicated that we should be able to get the original battalion colors from the Army. Larry Hilton indicated that he had been successful in getting colors made in

Korea for other organizations. A motion was made, seconded and approved by voice vote to obtain a set of colors using association funds. John Long mentioned that it would be great to get the colors done in time for Veterans Day.

There was a discussion about the memorabilia room. We have acquired a large collection but we need to protect it. The problem is not at the reunion but storage and transportation between reunions. There was a motion made, seconded and approved by voice vote to have Bill Brown, the Battalion Historian for Memorabilia, acquire storage containers designed and built to protect our collection using association funds.

Papa Doc, our Veterans Affairs Advisor, mentioned that there was an ongoing study on Type II diabetes and that we should all stay aware. Philip Sierer mentioned that people who served in Vietnam were demonstrating an unusually high number of cases of hepatitis, cancer and heart problems.

The meeting was adjourned.

St Louis was great but I am already looking forward to our next reunion.

**Garry Owen,
Jerry**

*Have you changed your mailing address recently? Remember to send your change of address to:
Editor, 1149 Southwood Ct., Ann Arbor, MI 48103*

5th Battalion 7th Cavalry PX

Baseball Cap 5/7 embroidered	\$10.
Miniature Garry Owen Crest pin	3
1st CAV cloth shoulder patch	5
1st CAV window sticker (no Vietnam)	3
1st CAV Div. challenge Coin	10
Full size CIB	4
1st CAV Hat pin (1")	3
Combat Medic pin (new)	3
Air Medal Pin (new)	3
M16-A-1 Hat pin (new)	4
Combat Cavalry pin (gold wreath - new)	4
5/7 Guidon bumper sticker (new)	2
Garry Owen/American flag pin (new)	4
7th CAV Crossed Sabers (no 5)	3
Reg. Garry Owen Crest Pin	3
Miniature CIB pin	3
AnKhe Hat pin	3
5/7 porcelain tie bar pin	5
1st CAV Div. Flag 3x5'	15
Raised letter CAVALRY pin (new)	3
1st Cav Hat pin (5/8") (new)	3
UHI Huey pin (new)	3
Miniature Purple Heart pin	3
M60 Machinegun pin (new)	4
Huey Hat pin (black/gold)	4
5/7 Crossed Sabers lg. pin (new)	4
Claymore Mine Pin (new)	4
Corgi HUEY Medivac or Gunship Reg. \$59. All Metal Const.	35
White Polo shirts button-up with collar Embroidered 5/7 Cav. and Garry Owen Crest all short sleeved, order by size	23
5/7 Cav Denim Shirts Embroidered with Garry Owen Crest. Order by size, color is Denim Blue; Men or Ladies; Short Sleeves or Long Sleeves	25

PLEASE ALLOW THREE WEEKS ON SHIRT DELIVERY.

PLEASE INCLUDE \$2.00 POSTAGE ON ALL SMALL ITEM ORDERS AND \$3.00 ON ALL SHIRT AND HELICOPTER ORDERS.

SEND ORDERS TO:

JOHN GOODPASTER
303 CORA DRIVE
CARLISLE, OHIO 45005-3268

PHONE #937-855-7475

EMAIL: goody@infinet.com

VETERANS ADVISOR

Garry Owen,

First of all thank you all for allowing me to carry on the duties of Veterans' Advisor for our Association. It seems like a lot of years since Col. Swett came up with the idea and wanted me to get it started!

By the time you receive this article I will have under gone two major surgeries. The first was Aug 9. That one was to replace an artery in my right leg from hip to knee. Options for the doctor: 1. rotor roter, 2. by pass, 3. removal of the leg. The importance of the leg first instead of the heart is (funny ha! ha!). It's like removing a potato from the tail pipe thus relieving the pressure on the engine!

I am continuing the steps of claims program:

ADVOCACY: it is an essential part of your step to a successful claim. This is where you select a trained legal person/s to assist you in presenting your claim. Most service groups state they can do this with trained counselors at no cost to you, i.e. American Legion, VFW, Disabled American Veterans, etc.

Also you need to obtain a paralegal (at your own cost). Their mission is to obtain pertinent facts from you, glean the essential facts, and present their findings to the Veterans' Administration board.

One Note: Check on track records of service groups who have successfully obtained good, proper claims. Willie Mercer has a wealth of knowledge and knows the frustration that can be a part of this whole process..

RECORDS: Military and Civilian --- Most soldiers left the service not knowing they may have a simple claim of 10% because of hearing loss that is combat related. Many went on to jobs that further impaired hearing. Still the first source is what is called a **COMBAT RELATED SOURCE**. Therefore it can be considered a valid claim particularly if your exit physical showed such a loss. A hearing test shortly after discharge is another possible source of hearing loss verification. Dig up those old records. Write down your own thoughts on where this injury might have occurred. I am sure there are a few machine gunner/mortar troops out there.

Recently some of you have told me that they received a purple heart for wounds received but they never received the award or the paper work was never completed. This may take a trip down memory lane. First of all it takes one of the following: An officer or a senior NCO or a Medic, or two or more troops to make a statement testifying on your behalf as to your wounds received including time, place, and nature of injury!

Be prepared, the claim process with the government is long, arduous, and mentally trying. If you're a beer drinker have a few (it's good for cleaning out the kidneys) and get on with your resolve!!

If you need help other than what is printed above please feel free to contact me:

M.D. (PAPADOC) MAXWELL
3404 Duncan St.
St. Joseph, Mo 64507-1927
Phone: 816-364-5158 (before 9 p.m.)
E-mail: papadocmaxwell@aol.com

GOD BE WITH YOU TILL WE MEET AGAIN

WHERE TO FIND VETERANS INFORMATION BY PHONE:

VA Benefits*****	1-800-827-1000
VA Health Benefits*****	1-877-222-8387
VA Education benefits*****	1-888-442-4551
VA Life Insurance*****	1-800-669-8477
VA Debt Management*****	1-800-827-0648
Mammography Hotline*****	1-888-492-7844
Telecommunication Device for the Deaf (TDD)*****	1-800-829-4833
CHAMPVA*****	1-800-733-8387
Headstones and Markers*****	1-800-697-6947
Gulf War & Agent Orange Help line*****	1-800-749-8387

Health Eligibility Center 1644 Tullie Circle, Atlanta, GA 30329-2303*
1-404-235-1257 or 1-800-929-8387

BY COMPUTER:

The VA Federal Benefits booklet and other VA information is available on VA's World Wide Web Home Page at: <http://www.va.gov/>

VA also has a toll-free bulletin board, called VA ON LINE, which can be reached at 1-800-US1-VETS (8387).

HEALTH CARE RESOURCES ON THE INTERNET

Check out the 5th battalion 7th Cavalry web site (<http://www.cav57.org>) to get up to date links to important health care web sites for veterans and their families.

TREASURER'S REPORT

By Jasper Catanzaro

I would like to thank all of you who came to St. Louis and participated in the reunion. What a great time! The Renaissance Hotel in St. Louis treated us like we owned the place. The 12th floor was perfect for our needs. Too bad all hotels don't have the same facilities. We had almost 170 troopers show up for the reunion. At the Friday night banquet we had almost 350 people attend. The Saturday BBQ had about 300 attend. I hope you all enjoyed the reunion. For those who didn't attend, we missed you and hope you can attend the next one.

I have to admit that I never realized the full impact of this job. During the reunion, we collected thousands of dollars, and paid thousands of dollars in bills. (Please review the financial statement. Most of the bills have been paid, a few are outstanding.) It was a real job trying to keep track of all the people coming in to register, pay for meals, pay dues, etc. I want to thank all of you who helped at the registration desk. Allen Patrick did a fantastic job and he had some help in Karl Haartz, Will Mercer, and a few others. Without them, the registration desk would have been too much to handle. Again, I want to thank those of you who helped - whether it was for 10 minutes or 10 hours. We also have to thank all the people who donated the prizes for our raffles. As usual, the raffles made us money. Without those of you who took the time to make or purchase items for the prizes, well, let's just say our costs would have been higher to pay for the extras we got during the reunion. Again, thanks to all of you. Finally, I have to thank Charles and Jane Brueggemann for the many hours they put in each day in the hospitality room. They too had lots of help but they were responsible for making sure we had coffee, donuts, sandwiches, beer, pop, etc. each day. Please let me know who helped with the raffles, the hospitality room, the PX, etc. We want to mention everyone's name in the next newsletter.

At present we have 600 active members with good addresses. We also have 745 more good addresses of troopers who haven't joined yet. So, that means we have 1345 active and found members. We have 285 on the KIA list plus 178 who died after we returned. That makes a total

of 1,808 troopers we have located. Plus we have another 232 people who have moved, etc and we need to re-find these people. With a little effort we could find these people again. Many have phone numbers that still work. I have actually called a couple. The phone number was correct but there was a mistake in the address. We have 1,960 names without addresses or other info. Anyway, if you add all the numbers we have exactly 4,000 names in the database.

Finally, the P.O. Box in Novi is closed down and anyone wishing to send in dues, etc should send them to me at 23346 Mystic Forest, Novi, MI 48375. You also can page me at 888-624-4915. If I'm near my phone and can call, I will call right back.

Garry Owen,
Jasper

Financial Report

Balance		
April 30, 2002		\$22,825.46
Income		
Comedy Theater		
Boyce, William	\$80.00	
Catanzaro, Jasper	\$80.00	
Coit, Harry	\$80.00	
Daves, Herman	\$40.00	
Diggs, Donald	\$80.00	
Goulet, Maurice	\$40.00	
Haartz, Karl	\$120.00	
Hawksby, Richard	\$80.00	
Hirschuber, James	\$80.00	
Hunt, Laddie	\$40.00	
Klein, George	\$80.00	
Litvjak, William	\$160.00	
Long, John	\$80.00	
Martin, Darrell	\$80.00	
Matulac, Roberto	\$80.00	
Olson, Roger	\$80.00	
Patrick, Allen	\$40.00	
Phares, Donald	\$80.00	
Schneider, Fred	\$80.00	
Shiple, Don	\$80.00	
Sierer, Philip	\$80.00	
Vaught, James	\$80.00	
Weedman, Benjamin	\$120.00	
Westmoreland, Wes	\$120.00	
Willet, William	\$40.00	
Wright, Robert	\$80.00	
Total		\$2,080.00

Donations		
Flag Pins		\$39.00
Gibbs, Wayne		\$100.00
Hilton, Larry		\$50.00
Hinkle, Barry		\$5.00
Hospitality Room		\$2,764.00
King, James		\$40.00
Pembleton, Jerry		\$30.00
Smith, Thomas		\$5.00
Vaught, James		\$80.00
Westmoreland, Wes		\$20.00
Wickham, John		\$200.00
Wright, Dorothy		\$10.00
Wright, Robert		\$10.00
Total		\$3,353.00

Dues and Fees			
Ackzien, Jim	04-05		\$20.00
Baker, Charles	03-04		\$20.00
Barger, Terry	02-05		\$40.00
Baskins, Gene	02-03		\$20.00
Beaupre, Michael	02-03		\$20.00
Berry, Joseph	02		\$10.00
Bodoh, Patrick	02-03		\$20.00
Boulden, Jim	03-05		\$30.00
Bowers, Walter	02-03		\$20.00
Bowyer, Tim	02-03		\$20.00
Boyd, Donald	02		\$10.00
Bruns, Alan	02		\$10.00
Burt, James	02-06		\$50.00
Canady, Ed	02-04		\$30.00
Carfora, Joseph	02		\$10.00
Cathcart, Sam	02		\$10.00
Caudill, Bealer	01-03		\$30.00
Cherep, John	02-03		\$20.00
Colby, Edwin	02-03		\$20.00
Cole, Thomas	02		\$10.00
Coulson, Bret	02-03		\$20.00
Cramer, Gary	04-05		\$20.00
Creech, William	02		\$10.00
Cross, Gene	02-05		\$40.00
Curry, George	02		\$10.00
Dagel, Dennis	02		\$10.00
Dagenhart, Ralph	02-04		\$30.00
Dannewitz, Harold	02-05		\$40.00
Davidson, Michael	02		\$10.00
Davis, John	02		\$10.00
DeFino, Frank	02-03		\$20.00
Dieffenbacher, Paul	02-03		\$20.00
Dieker, William	02-03		\$20.00
Diggs, Donald	05-07		\$30.00
Dillon, Terry	02		\$10.00
Donaldson, Ronald	02		\$10.00
Dowser, James	02		\$10.00
Dyer, Afton	02-21		\$200.00
Dzikas, Joe	03-04		\$20.00
Erdley, Richard	02		\$10.00
Erleben, Gary	02		\$10.00

Continued on Insert

5th Battalion 7th Cavalry Assoc.
1149 Southwood Ct.
Ann Arbor, MI 48103

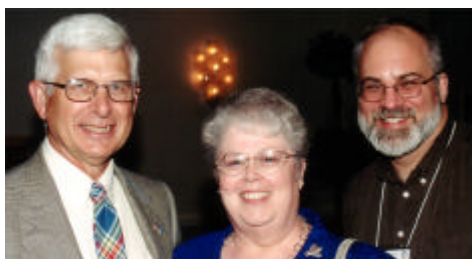
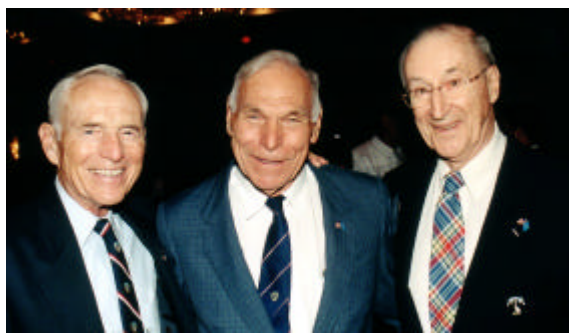
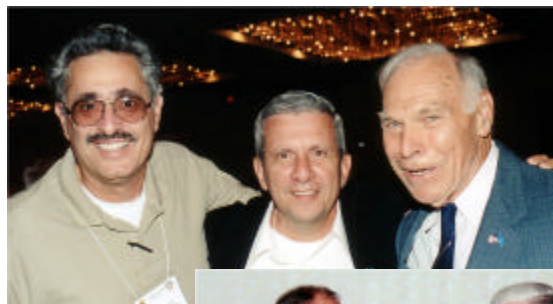
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5th Battalion
7th Cavalry



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Financial Report (continued)

Etscheid, Michael	02-06	\$50.00	McKibben, Steven	92-05	\$140.00	Vollmar, Thomas	02-03	\$20.00
Evans, Laren	02	\$10.00	Mecaskey, Michael	02	\$10.00	Walenticonis, Wayne	02-03	\$20.00
Ferrall, John	02	\$10.00	Mercer, Willoughby	04-05	\$20.00	Ward, David	97-04	\$80.00
Fillion, Michael	02-04	\$30.00	Meskimen, Clarence	02-03	\$20.00	Weedman, John	02-11	\$100.00
Foreman, Howard	01-03	\$30.00	Meyer, Neil	03-04	\$20.00	West, Robert	02-03	\$20.00
Frazier, Rudolph	02	\$10.00	Mezich, Ernie	02	\$10.00	Wetzel, Norman	02-03	\$20.00
Friedt, James	02	\$10.00	Middlesworth, Steve	02-03	\$20.00	White, Tom	02-03	\$20.00
Garbark, John	02	\$10.00	Miller, Davy	02-03	\$20.00	Whittemore, Tommie	03-04	\$20.00
Garrett, Jerry	02-03	\$20.00	Moore, Bill	02-03	\$20.00	Wiker, Charles	02-03	\$20.00
Gatsis, Andrew	02-07	\$60.00	Mothersbaugh, Larry	02-06	\$50.00	Willett, William	02	\$10.00
Gautcher, Charles	97-06	\$100.00	Moyer, Frank	02-03	\$20.00	Williams, Russell	02	\$10.00
Geary, Mike	01-03	\$30.00	Murgatroyd, Richard	95-04	\$100.00	Wissman, Robert	02	\$10.00
Gonzales, Richard	99-07	\$90.00	Murray, McKinley	02-06	\$50.00	Wood, Arlyn	02	\$10.00
Gore, Willie	02-03	\$20.00	Newborn, William	02	\$10.00	Wood, Edwin	02	\$10.00
Gottesman, Harold	01-04	\$40.00	Norris, Van	02	\$10.00	Wright, Robert	01-03	\$30.00
Gramer, Tom	02	\$10.00	Oliver, Doug	02	\$10.00	Yeater, Joseph	02-03	\$20.00
Greening, Jim	02	\$10.00	Osler, Boyd	02	\$10.00	Young, Clifford	02-03	\$20.00
Hambree, Johnny	02	\$10.00	Page, Harold	02-03	\$20.00	Total		\$5,010.00
Hamrick, Truman	02-07	\$60.00	Patrick, Lee	02-03	\$20.00	Other Income		
Hanson, Bob	05-06	\$20.00	Pembleton, Jerry	03-04	\$20.00	Interest - Savings Account		\$84.89
Hardenburgh, Jim	03-07	\$50.00	Perry, Gary	02	\$10.00	Pizza Night 50/50 Raffle		\$510.00
Harmon, James	03-06	\$40.00	Perry, Lewis	02-03	\$20.00	Friday Raffle Donated Gifts		\$1,948.00
Hawksby, Richard	00-02	\$30.00	Phares, Donald	02-04	\$30.00	Saturday Raffle Donated Gifts		\$1,768.00
Heckley, Bill	02	\$10.00	Plassio, James	02-03	\$20.00	Silent Auction		\$244.00
Heckley, Bill	03-04	\$20.00	Poundstone, Robert	02-06	\$50.00	Hospitality Room		\$2,670.00
Henning, Rod	04-05	\$20.00	Pretlow, Edward	02-06	\$50.00	Total		\$7,724.89
Henson, Chris	02	\$10.00	Profit, Tommy	02	\$10.00	St. Louis Reunion # 6		
Hertz, David	02	\$10.00	Purdy, Bill	02-05	\$40.00	Ackzien, Jim		\$150.00
Hilton, Larry	04-08	\$50.00	Rape, Eddie	02-05	\$40.00	Arnold, Joseph		\$120.00
Hinkle, Barry	01-02	\$20.00	Ratcliff, Hugh	02-03	\$20.00	Baker, Charles		\$240.00
Hlinton, Joseph	02-11	\$100.00	Ravese,	01-02	\$20.00	Belt, Richard		\$60.00
Hirschuber, James	03-04	\$20.00	Rebholz Richard	01-04	\$40.00	Bossout, Walter		\$120.00
Hoatland, Robert	02	\$10.00	Reed, Jerry	02	\$10.00	Bowyer, Tim		\$60.00
Houston, Jerry	97-03	\$70.00	Reidinger, George	02-03	\$20.00	Breeding, Claude		\$240.00
Huber, Earl	02-03	\$20.00	Roper, Columbus	99-03	\$50.00	Brostrom, Gerhard		\$60.00
Hynes, William	02-09	\$100.00	Rosdahl, Roger	05	\$40.00	Brown, Bill		\$65.00
Jenkins, Ronald	02-11	\$100.00	Ruegg, Doug	02-03	\$20.00	Brueggemann, Charles		\$240.00
Jillard, William	02-03	\$20.00	Rundles, Don	02	\$10.00	Bunton, Charles		\$120.00
Kapetanakis, George	02	\$10.00	Russell, Bruce	02-04	\$30.00	Canady, Ed		\$120.00
Keller, James	01-05	\$50.00	Sanford, Terry	02-04	\$30.00	Catanzaro, Jasper		\$120.00
Kihara, Robert	01-03	\$30.00	Segner, Victor	02	\$10.00	Coit, Harry		\$120.00
King, James	02	\$10.00	Shimek, Michael	02	\$10.00	Coon, Ed		\$120.00
Kizar, Ron	02-03	\$20.00	Sierer, Philip	03-06	\$40.00	Coulson, Bret		\$35.00
Klapperich, Reid	02-07	\$60.00	Silvernagel, Myron	02-03	\$20.00	Cramer, Gary		\$120.00
Laduke, John	02	\$10.00	Sinn, Charles	97-04	\$80.00	Cross, Gene		\$120.00
Latty, Bradford	99-02	\$40.00	Smith, Steven	02-03	\$20.00	Dagenhart, Ralph		\$120.00
Leishner	02-04	\$30.00	Smith, Thomas	02-03	\$20.00	Dannewitz, Harold		\$25.00
Lent, Thomas	01-03	\$40.00	Sprayberry, Mike	02-03	\$20.00	Deckard, Marvin		\$120.00
Lewis, Edd	02-04	\$30.00	Stack, Dan	02-04	\$30.00	DeFino, Frank		\$150.00
Lewis, Mike	02-06	\$50.00	Strong, Larry	02	\$10.00	Dieker, William		\$120.00
Lillicrap, Bruce	02-06	\$50.00	Sullivan, Sam	02-03	\$20.00	Duttera, John F. Jr.		\$120.00
Lopez, Hugo	02-04	\$30.00	Thomas, James	02-03	\$20.00	Dzikas, Joe		\$60.00
Martin, Curtis	02	\$10.00	Tillman, Bobby	99-08	\$100.00	Eastland, Bobby		\$60.00
Massaro, Peter	02	\$10.00	Trujillo, Greg	02	\$10.00	Eaton, Buddy		\$120.00
Mattuccilli, Paul	02	\$10.00	Turchi, Carmine	02-06	\$50.00	Erleben, Gary		\$120.00
Maxwell Donald	03-06	\$40.00	Turner, Craig	02-04	\$30.00	Evans, Laren		\$120.00
McDonald, Henry	02	\$10.00	Valadez, Frank	00-03	\$40.00			
McIntosh, Carol	02	\$10.00	Vest, Richard	02-03	\$20.00			

Financial Report (continued)

Farrington, Robert	\$60.00	Seabolt, David	\$60.00	Battalion Dinner	-\$9,547.75
Foreman, Howard	\$180.00	Silvernagel, Myron	\$120.00	Bugler Fee Memorial	-\$35.00
Fuller, W	\$60.00	Sinn, Charles	\$60.00	Bus Rental -Comedy Theater	-\$250.00
Gautcher, Charles	\$60.00	Sprayberry, Mike	\$30.00	Bus Rental- Memorial Service	-\$2,104.00
Geary, Mike	\$195.00	Tyson, Lloyd	\$120.00	Cash Bar Costs	-\$159.86
Gibbs, Wayne	\$60.00	Valadez, Frank	\$240.00	Comedy Theater Actors	-\$600.00
Goethals, Ron	\$120.00	Vaught, James	\$120.00	Comedy Theater Dinner	-\$1,129.26
Gonzales, Joe	\$120.00	Vollmar, Thomas	\$80.00	Hospitality Room Expenses	-\$3,200.00
Gonzales, Richard	\$60.00	Walker, Mike	\$120.00	License Plate Frames	-\$251.13
Gore, Willie	\$120.00	Westmoreland, Wes	\$30.00	Meeting Costs	-\$83.13
Hambree,	\$120.00	White, Tom	\$120.00	Meeting Costs	-\$121.50
Hamrick, Truman	\$240.00	Whittemore, Tommie	\$120.00	Microphone, Printer Cartridge	-\$95.53
Hannaforde, George	\$60.00	Willet, William	\$60.00	Plaques and Mailing	-\$201.08
Hanson, Bob	\$50.00	Williams, Russell	\$30.00	Pizza Get-together	-\$730.00
Hardenburgh, Jim	\$240.00	Wright, Robert	\$120.00	Lapel Pins - Gifts	-\$1,541.99
Hawksby, Richard	\$120.00	Total	\$11,025.00	Total Reunion Expenses	-\$28,256.68
Heckley, Bill	\$120.00				
Henning, Rod	\$30.00	PX Sales		Reunion Refunds	
Hernandez, Andrew	\$120.00	Best, Joseph	\$44.00	Ackzien, Jim	-\$50.00
Hirschuber, James	\$120.00	Brennan, James	\$28.00	Cramer, Gary	-\$60.00
Holloway, Greg	\$120.00	Casteel, Ronnie	\$28.00	Hamrick, Truman	-\$120.00
Houston, Jerry	\$60.00	Crum, Jerald	\$9.00	Jamison, Ed	-\$60.00
Ippolito, Fred	\$60.00	Dannewitz, Harold	\$23.00	Koutrouba, Bill	-\$50.00
Jamison, Ed	\$90.00	Gibbs, Wayne	\$30.00	Lewis, Mike	-\$60.00
Jett, Gary	\$120.00	Goodpaster, John	\$35.00	McQuerry, Charles	-\$60.00
Knapp, Jerome	\$60.00	Gottesman, Harold	\$28.00	McVeigh, Joe	-\$120.00
Koutrouba, Bill	\$120.00	Goulet, Maurice	\$47.00	Rape, Eddie	-\$50.00
Kozuh, David	\$60.00	Kihara, Robert	\$13.00	Tisdale, Mike	-\$120.00
Kruetzkamp, John	\$60.00	Klein, George	\$84.00	Tobias, Richard	-\$50.00
Lasher, Vernon	\$120.00	Lee Carlton	\$28.00	Wise, A.J.	-\$120.00
Lewis, Edd	\$120.00	Lent, Thomas	\$101.00	Wright, Dorothy	-\$30.00
Lewis, Mike	\$210.00	McClung, William	\$100.00	Zimmerman, Walter	-\$120.00
Logterman, Ron	\$60.00	Mitchell, James	\$28.00	Total	-\$1,070.00
Lopez, Hugo	\$60.00	Nechanicky, Paul	\$68.00		
Lopez, Hugo	\$60.00	PX Sales at Reunion	\$3,631.00	Total Expenses	-\$32,372.49
Mathews, Wilford	\$180.00	Sierer, Philip	\$35.00		
Matulac, Roberto	\$180.00	Ward, David	\$10.00	Balanced Ending	
McBride, Norman	\$120.00	Total	\$4,325.00	July 31, 2002	
McConnell, Jim	\$120.00	Total Income	\$33,017.89	Savings Account	\$16,029.01
McDonald, Henry	\$60.00			Checking Account	\$8,218.55
McHenry, Charles	\$145.00	Expenses		Total Accounts	\$24,247.56
McIntosh, Carol	\$150.00	Airmobile / Other Costs			
Meister, Roger	\$60.00	Special Mailing	-\$308.40		
Mitchell, Jimmy	\$120.00	Airmobile June Costs	-\$1,900.32		
Morgan, Thomas	\$80.00	Rich Pasquale Flowers	-\$95.40		
Moyer, Frank	\$60.00		-\$2,304.12		
Murgatroyd, Richard	\$60.00	PX Costs			
Page, Harold	\$120.00	Shirts	-\$503.20		
Parker, Thomas	\$60.00	Lapel Pins	-\$143.09		
Patrick, Allen	\$60.00				
Pearson, Connie	\$120.00				
Powell, Howard	\$60.00				
Purdy, Bill	\$240.00				
Rape, Eddie	\$120.00	Reunion Expenses			
Rasmussen, Michael	\$120.00	5/7 Cav Bumper Stickers	-\$471.99		
Ratcliff, Hugh	\$120.00	Bag Piper For Memorial	-\$200.00		
Rebholz, Richard	\$120.00	Battalion BBQ	-\$7,534.46		
Sanchez, Joe	\$120.00				

