



AIRMOBILE



News of the 5th Battalion 7th Cavalry

<http://www.cav57.org>

September, 2005; Volume 14 Issue 2

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

by Maury Edmonds

HOOAH! Many of you already know that "Hooah!" is a sound used universally by today's troopers. It's a brevity code at its finest and it encompasses a message of the utmost importance, as some of you have heard me say before. That message not only expresses the trooper's agreement and support, it is - more importantly - the way that trooper says to all within hearing: *"I'm with you! You can count on me! I won't let you down! I'm your brother!"* It expresses a soldier's sacred creed.

While there was no such expression in our day, each of you lived that soldier's creed in the way you did all you were asked to do - and more; the way you looked out for each other; and the way you continue to offer support and comfort to the 5th Bn 7th Cav troopers of today as well as to each other. Thank you for who you are and what you do. I'm proud to serve with you.

Don Quick and Charlie Baker deserve our special thanks. They have led our effort to support our 5/7th troopers in Iraq. The Sponsorship Program has been a phenomenal success.

Hundreds of you have been in contact and have provided "care packages" to the trooper you sponsor. In some cases that trooper may not have responded as quickly or as frequently as you might have expected. I just ask that you be understanding if that's the case with the trooper you sponsor. Each one has long duty hours and their access to email is limited. As you would expect, we are not the at the head of their email or snail mail list. Just remember your time in combat and how hard it was to write just to your family.

Special thanks to everyone who helped gather and mail supplies for use by Iraqi children in those schools built in the Balad area by our Battalion troops. The response was overwhelming in support of a noble effort.

Now to shift gears.....The Association needs your help. There are still many of our fellow troopers from Vietnam and Cambodia whom we haven't located. Please renew your efforts to find buddies from your unit so we can bring them into our fold. Finding them is

the first step; then, we must persuade them to join the Association and show up for our reunions. It will be good for them and for us to renew those bonds of brotherhood formed so long ago.

And, I ask that each of you make a special effort to be at the Reunion in Colorado Springs next year and call a bunch of your buddies urging them to come also. It's the fortieth anniversary of our beginning and we hope to make it a special time.

We'll again lay a Wreath at the Wall in Washington on Veterans Day this year. Ted Swett and I are pleased to invite those of you who are there to dinner at Guapos on the evening before.

Please continue to pray for the safe return of all our deployed troops.

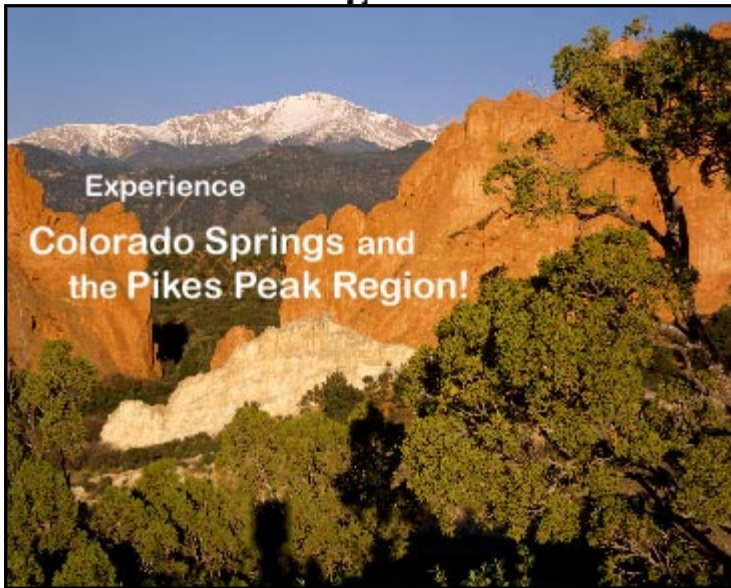
REUNION VIII COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 7/30/06 - 8/5/06

Start making your travel plans to Colorado Springs for the summer of 2006. We are planning a great get together for our eighth bi-annual reunion.

The Colorado Springs area has so many great attractions you're going to want to start checking them out early so you'll know which ones are for you and your family.

We have not confirmed the final schedule of the reunion events but we are going to try and keep the first three days of the week open so participants can see as many sites as possible.

Please check out the web site that is listed below the photo on this page. You can order a free copy of the official visitors guide and it will be mailed directly to your home.



If you don't have access to the internet call the Colorado Springs Convention and Visitors Bureau at 877-PIKESPEAK or 719-635-7506. and they will be happy to mail you a free copy of the guide. It has 80 pages of information on the attractions in the area.

The Academy Hotel is the official site for this reunion and you can find the address and contact information for the hotel on the last page of this newsletter.

VISIT THE OFFICIAL COLORADO SPRINGS
CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU WEB SITE
<http://www.experiencecoloradosprings.com/>

See you in Colorado Springs in 2006!!!

BATTALION DIRECTORY

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| President Maury Edmonds | 904-280-8448 moedmonds@bellsouth.net |
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| | |
|--|--|
| Video Phil Sierer | 210-914-2203 oldrebel@texas.net |
| Active Battalion Liaison Charlie Baker | 904-246-4958 Fastflanker3@bellsouth.net |

Vice President's Report

by Karl Haartz

GARRY OWEN ALL,

REUNION 8: We are in a count down of less than one year until reunion VIII. This means you should read the reunion page and call the hotel for reservations. CALL TODAY: 1-800-766-8524.

GETTING ACTIVITIES STARTED EARLY WILL MAKE FOR A GREAT REUNION

Reunion VIII Skydiving ---- Bealer Caudill D 66, wants to know if there are any troopers who would like to jump out of a perfectly good airplane while attending the reunion. Bealer has made contact with *Skydive the Rockies*, about group rates etc. You can contact Bealer at 719-265-9161 or via the following e-mail address: sarge_b6667@yahoo.com.

5/7 IN IRAQ SPONSORSHIP Your dedication to sponsorship program has made it an outstanding success. Your continued undivided support of 5th Bn 7th Cav in Iraq is still much needed. I have found the smaller the package the quicker it gets there. I use the priority box, which costs \$7.70. This one seems to work well.

IRAQ SCHOOL SUPPLIES We had an outstanding response to Capt. Mark Varga's request for school supplies. These go to the girls & boys schools near where the 5/7 stationed. There is still an on going need for these supplies. It seems like there is money to build a school, but no money to buy a pencil.

NFL POSTERS A request for NFL & Sports Poster for the mess hall in Iraq; we need to get at least one from everyone. Send them to Eddie Ratcliffe and he will box them and send to Iraq. Eddie Ratcliffe's address: 916 Champney Street, Simons Island, GA 31522, eddieratcliffe@earthlink.net.

5/7 VETERAN HONORED The Middle School in El Paso, Texas is going to be named in honor of Rafael Hernando, A Company 67 on August 30, 2005. Rafael was WIA 27 Oct 1967. He has been 100% disabled since 1967 and is in a wheelchair. This is the groundbreaking ceremony and the dedication will be in 2006. Please let me know if you would like to join a 5/7 Color Guard to be present at the dedication.

TARTAN NECKTIES I am working on a deal to have some of the Garry Owen Tartan (plaid) neckties made. I'm also talking about pocket squares, scarves for the ladies and a few golf caps. I am now waiting for the cloth to be woven in Scotland. If you would like a necktie, you can place a tentative order with me now. I do not have the price yet. As soon as it becomes available I'll publish it via e-mail and include it in an upcoming newsletter.

NEW TROOPERS & ADDRESS CHANGES

We need to get our locator groups together and start searching again. June 1 starts another year for the locator of the year plaque. He who locates the most new troops will have his name on the plaque.

Alpha Company

Ryan Sateren 68; 12597 Swallow Street NW, Coon Rapids, MN. 55448; change of address

Bravo Company

Darrell Antill 67; debbie.antill@lykinscompanies.com; e-mail address change
Mike Tisdale 69; 1890 ACR 442, Palestine, TX 58803; street address change

Charlie Company

Edward M Bryan 67; 2604 W. Colonial Drive, Boothwyn, PA. 19061; **NEW MEMBER;**
Edward.Bryan@kcc.com; 610-485-3124; located @ 7th Cav; **WELCOME HOME!!**

Delta Company

James E. & Aline Mitchell 67; mitchell97@bellsouth.net; e-mail address change

Headquarters

Charlie Baker 68; Fastflanker3@bellsouth.net; e-mail address change; Charlie is our liaison with the active 5/7 in Iraq. You can check out his articles written while he visited the 5/7 Cav in Iraq. Go to our web site: www.cav57.org to locate the articles.

DUES---- DON'T FOGET YOUR DUES

We all need to send our dues to our Association Treasurer, Royce Vick. Royce's address is 3724 Shelby Drive, Ft. Worth, TX. 76109-2733. Dues are \$10/ year and we will accept as many years in advance as you would like to pay. If you don't know much you owe send a note to me at the following e-mail address: cav571vpkk@adelphia.net.

GARRY OWEN
"Krazy" Karl

If you would like to be on Krazy Karl's e-mail updates list, please send him your e-mail address. Karl sends out news flashes and frequent updates. He does not forward your address. Karl's e-mail is: Cav571vpkk@adelphia.net.

Update from Membership VP

GarryOwen to all,

The Hotel Reservation Phone Line for Reunion VIII is now open. The hotel is expected to be filled to capacity so get your reservations in early. Colorado Springs is a favorite resort and vacation area for many people and for this reunion we need to be **extra** early on reservations. There are so many attractions to see and do in this area you will need all the time possible. and REMEMBER we have the Reunion activities in the middle of all the fun. The number to call for your reservation is **1-800-766-8524**.

After you make your reservations for Colorado Springs remind your friends (call them on the phone) that you want to see them there and that they need to make their reservations ASAP. Communications in the group is the key to having the FANTASTIC reunions that we have had and will continue to have, if we continue to communicate.

You are going to like the Academy hotel. It is an extremely nice hotel but due to its location in Colorado Spring, we expect this hotel to be filled to capacity early. There is another hotel next to the Academy hotel that has agreed to take our overflow should that be the case. This is another reason to get your reservation in early. Why stay in the no-reunion hotel when you can stay in the Academy hotel?

In recent weeks I have received a lot requests from spouses for information on PTSD (post traumatic stress disorder). In a recent announcement by the VA 65% of those involved in actual combat in Vietnam have PTSD at some level. The other 35% are deceased. Many of our group have adjusted extremely well and deal with their problems personally in exceptional ways to the average. As this group is growing closer in brotherhood and gets older, it appears our spouses are asking the questions we have failed to ask or talk about. It is a fact we the men of the 5/7 may need to communicate our thoughts with our spouses occasionally so they better understand us.

UPCOMING 5/7 CAV EVENTS ---

VETERANS DAY NOVEMBER 11, 2005: A large group will be in DC for Veterans Day this year. Plan to join us if you can. Ted Swett and Maury Edmonds are planning to host another pre-Veterans Day gathering at **Guapos Restaurant in Bethesda, MD** on the evening of Thursday, November 10. Most all the 5/7 Cav troopers and family that traveled to DC last year for Veterans Day were able to join for cocktails and dinner last year at Guapos and it was great fun. Put Veterans Day 2006 on your calendar now so we can all meet up in DC for this important gathering and memorial celebration.

RETURN OF 5/7 CAVALRY UNIT FROM IRAQ, EARLY 2006

We are expecting the 5/7 Cav to return to the US from Iraq sometime in early 2006 (actual date unknown at this writing). Some of the 5/7 association veterans are planning on being there when the planes arrives to give them the **WELCOME HOME** that we didn't get and that they so well deserve. Stayed tuned for more information on the return of the troops. As soon as we have something definite we'll get the word out so you can join in.

MEMORIAL DAY 2006 : A representative group of the 5/7 will be present for the laying of the 5/7 Cav Wreath at the Wall on Memorial Day 2006. Put this date on your calendar too and plan to join us if you can.

REUNION 8 IN COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO JULY 30 - AUGUST 5, 2006: The Academy Hotel, 8110 N. Academy Blvd., Colorado Springs, Colorado 80920. For reservations call **1-800-766-8524**.

Saddle Up Gals and Guys; I'm looking forward to seeing you all at these great opportunities to gather again,

GARRY OWEN ----- Don Shipley



Guapos Restaurant

(301) 656-0888
(866) 350-4400
8130 Wisconsin Ave
Bethesda, MD 20814



A VISIT TO THE WALL

Set in the grassy park of Constitution Gardens, the Wall is neither prominent, grand, nor imposing. Rather, it is simple, thoughtful, and profound. It is a place to remember those who served during a turbulent time in American history. It is also a place for the nation to heal its wounds.

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall contains the names of the 58,249 men and women¹ who were killed and remain missing from that war. The names are etched on black granite panels that compose the Wall. The panels are arranged into two arms, extending from a central point to form a wide angle. Each arm points to either the Washington Monument or the Lincoln Memorial in the distance to bring the Vietnam Memorial into an historical context on the National Mall. The Wall is built into the earth, below ground level. The area within the Wall's angle has been contoured to form a gentle sloped approach towards the center of the Wall. While entering the memorial at ground level from either end of its arms, the descent to the center reveals more and more of the Wall until it towers more than ten feet above the walkway. At the center, within the protection of the arms of the memorial and surrounded by the grassy slope, is a place of quiet, calm-

ness, and serenity.

Name after name after name appears in an almost never-ending account. The listing appears chaotic, just like war. But there is order to the chaos. The names are listed in the order in which the men and women died or were declared missing. The first name is located in the center of the memorial, at the top of the Wall, under the date "1959," the year of the first death². The names continue line by line down each panel, as if each was a page in a book, towards the right end of the memorial. The names resume at the left end of the memorial and continue toward the center. It is here, at the bottom of the wall, where the last death is recorded, next to the date "1975."

Other than the names, nothing on the Wall describes who the men and women were. No name appears any more meaningful or important than any other. The names are distinguished only by how the men and women were lost. A diamond next to a name indicates a person was killed. A plus next to a name indicates a person is missing. Over 1,000 of the names on the Wall are of people who are missing.

Every day, family and friends of those on the Wall, and the general public, visit the memorial. Often, they leave flowers and mementos to remember their loved ones. They leave letters to say thank-you, good-bye, "I'm sorry," and whatever else is in their heart. Some take pencil rubbings of the name of someone special.

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall honors all who served, and in particular, those who were lost. The memorial puts a human face on what was America's longest war.

Prologue: IN HONOR OF THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES WHO SERVED IN THE VIETNAM WAR. THE NAMES OF THOSE WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES AND OF THOSE WHO REMAIN MISSING ARE INSCRIBED IN THE ORDER THEY WERE TAKEN FROM US.

Epilogue: OUR NATION HONORS THE COURAGE, SACRIFICE AND DEVOTION TO DUTY AND COUNTRY OF ITS VIETNAM VETERANS. THIS MEMORIAL WAS BUILT WITH PRIVATE CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. NOVEMBER 11, 1982

INCLUDING THE SUNNIS

By Charlie Baker, HHC 5/7 CAV 1968

Editor's Note: Charlie Baker was an imbedded writer with the 5/7 Cavalry now serving in Iraq. He contributed several articles to his home town newspaper in Florida. This is one of Charlie's last articles before returning home in May this year.

If the enemy was hard to see in the early days of Vietnam, they are invisible in Iraq. I got there on April Fool's Day, and left in the middle of May. There was no war going on that I could see. Only a lot of endless driving around, tensing up in the back seat when going around certain curves, of seeing a lone car approaching at high speed.

Not a single American casualty in the Balad district due to enemy action from January until now. Our only casualties were in Baghdad while escorting some Iraqi VIPs back to the Green Zone. What a funny name – the Green Zone. Our Area of Operations was the green zone – rich with apple orchards, wheat fields and other crops. The dark muddy soil along the Tigris can grow anything. The incredible network of canals and irrigation ditches are just waiting for organized agriculture. Next to our area, the Green Zone in Baghdad is the Red Zone.

We stand out as American soldiers not just for our haircuts. No one goes anywhere without his armor and weapon. Throughout April and May we patrolled the roads with dominance. Down the center of the two lane roads at 45 mph in our 37 ton Bradleys and 6 ton armored Hummvees, scattering the town folk off the shoulders. We gathered intel from an increasing flood of informants and cooperating sheikhs. Our linking diagrams of suspected insurgents grew. Our raids netted increasing numbers of suspects with sufficient corroborating evidence to become detainees. We cordoned off villages and searched the homes. The first home I went into had an interesting tapestry hanging in the foyer – George Washington and the signers of the Declaration of Independence. We visited schools with everyone in full body armor, helmets on, weapons at the ready. It took my funniest face to bring smiles to the little girls in a school deep in Sunni territory. I made a point of stripping down to my Vietnam Era fatigue shirt for a school opening, and felt courageous, but one of their parents bombed us on the way out of the area. If our troops patrolled on foot among the people, stopping to chat and win a heart or two, I did not see it. If power is what they understand in the third world, we showed them power. And we busted some key people – such as the Tailor of Samarra who was a very big link to al Quaida. An American film maker of Iranian descent got caught in our net for a couple months. His cab tested positive for explosives. Now we are apologizing about it. Better safe than sorry, I would say. (Oh, by the way, whoever wrote the story lied about the guy being in a cab. Just thought you all deserved to know. Sort of like when the Italian Secret Agent tried to “shield the woman with his body” on the Airport Road. Yeah, sure.) We killed a couple people with errant warning shots fired at cars acting exactly like suicide bombers. Better safe than sorry, some would say.

On my first full day in Balad, three mortar rounds came into the base, the last of the mortar rounds. A few rockets were fired nearby in the first week, most were duds. The IEDs picked up though, going from 5 in my first week to 10 in the last week of April. After 9 more in the first week of May, it has gone down from there. IEDs are drying up like the mortars did. The car bomb seems to be the only weapon left to the enemy. It takes the strangers to perpetrate such heinous crimes - the foreign fighters.

The 1100 man battalion of the Iraqi Army is ready to take over the district. The Sunni farmers are coming in to join up – get that pay check. The bad guys are seeing the light. The local government officials are getting things done. The one hundred schools in the district are being flooded with school supplies, compliments of the Vietnam Veterans of the 5th Battalion 7th Cavalry. For what we are doing in Balad, one company could stay to work with the Iraqi Army and the rest of the battalion could go elsewhere. I believe this experience is mirrored throughout Iraq north of Baghdad, give or take Mosul.

I do not see the justification for the word “insurgency” here. To me, insurgency involves an effort by citizens to take over their own country. In Iraq the serious enemy are not from Iraq. Some Arab writers say the cause is tied to “globalization.” What a bunch of crap. They have to import fighters from the 5% mentally ill of the other Islamic countries. Their only cause seems to be hatred of the Infidels. Not much of a cause on which to build a government. It really has become a war against the terrorists, with Iraq being the battleground. To their

credit, the Administration has evolved to a strategy. Shame on them for the bullshit they served up when the situation was still foggy. But we have a plan now. It is Vietnam in reverse. We are increasingly protecting the population from the enemy within. In Vietnam, we evolved away from a strategy to chaos, and lost.

So we come now to the President's fine speech. And it was a fine speech. We have a plan. Two tracks. The Military is fighting the war to root out the terrorists. And “we” are working on the political front to establish democracy. The “we” in this case appears to be the military also, but maybe he didn't want to hurt Condi's feelings. And he made the public aware of our accomplishments. The President says “The terrorists, both foreign and domestic, failed to prevent the transfer of sovereignty.” You are correct, sir.

“They failed to stop Iraqis from signing up in large number with the police forces and the army to defend their new democracy.” You are correct again, sir.

“And they failed to break our coalition and force a mass withdrawal by our allies.” Well, yes sir. Estonia sent a scout platoon who patrols the streets of Baghdad, and the British, of course. But the Spaniards went home.

“They failed to stop the formation of a democratic Iraqi government that represents all of Iraq's diverse population.” Almost correct, sir. Hopefully, the Sunnis will vote in October. I believe many will in Balad.

“They failed to incite an Iraqi Civil War.” Sir, you might better hold up on that one.

Some of the junior officers and men of the battalion think that our departure will be followed by civil war between the Shias and the Sunnis. The people in the Sunni areas hoard munitions and arms. That is where all the caches are found. They must be saving the stuff for the civil war, so their thinking goes. It is noteworthy that only Iraq and Iran have Shiite majorities. Why aren't the Sunni radicals from the other Arab countries also pumping money and terrorists into Iran? Perhaps it is because there are no Americans in Iran.

I do not see any reason for our military strength to stay much longer in the areas of Iraq beyond Baghdad and the Syrian Border. Maybe some air bases and a naval base for the longer run. As soon as the Iraqis have a competent police force and a competent army, there is no reason to stay. The sixty four thousand dollar question is, what will happen when we depart? In the outer regions, the IEDs and mortar rounds may stop, at least initially, because they are all fired at US vehicles and bases. After that, if the new Iraqi Army becomes the enemy of the Sunnis, there will be a reactivation of blowing up vehicles and people. I have a feeling that the Iraqi Army will be a lot more effective rooting out the local die hard “insurgents” than we will ever be. They know a lot about them already. They grew up together. The more they are directly supported by the US presence, the more likely they will be targeted by IEDs just like we were. Whether the newly anointed government will continue to operate under democratic principles, I cannot say. Typical of the Third World, the population outside the cities is grossly uneducated and ignorant. They will follow whoever puts food in their mouths. Any benevolent rule is good for them.

But most of the population of Iraq lives in the cities, and they are not ignorant. I have been to the city council meetings and the district council meetings. I have seen the mayors, police chiefs, and other functionaries. They may not propel themselves madly forward, burning the midnight oil, like we Americans would have them do. But they seem capable. In our AO, the mayor of the main city seems quite capable, as does the District Chief. These Iraqi people are definitely capable of representative government, if only they can overcome the laziness that their culture is tagged with. Right now, they get things done “Imshallah” – God willing. Maybe they will learn to get things done because they are willing. Allah should be pleased to get that load off his back.

In my opinion, inclusion of the Sunnis is everything. If the Iraqi Army and National Police are manned and trained to the exclusion of the Sunnis, it can become an actual insurgency in which the Sunnis form up and use guerilla war

tactics. It could then become a quagmire for us if we insist in keeping our hand in. The temptation to do so will be greater for us this time around, because their “democratic” government will be “our baby”, as opposed to the inept and corrupt regimes we errantly supported in Vietnam. We have to guard against this temptation. If you ask me, it is time to concentrate the US military might in two places - Baghdad and the Syrian Border. We started this Iraq operation with a war that ended prematurely. We need to end our involvement with another war that crushes the Strangers. A violent war out to the northwest in which we echo the ill-fated words of a semi-famous woman journalist back in 1965 - when she said, “In the War in Vietnam there will be no privileged sanctuary.”

Then we need to get on home to the dwindling number of faithful wives and girlfriends.



SPONSOR A 5/7 CAV TROOPER IN IRAQ

What is a Sponsor? A Member of the 5th Battalion 7th Cavalry Association who develops a one on one relationship with a Trooper through e-mail and regular mail. Sponsors get to know the soldier, serve as someone to talk to, send cards and letters, and if desired, send occasional care packages.

Do all the Troopers in 5/7 Cav want or need a sponsor? So far 138 troopers, ranging from Private E2 to Captain, have requested to be included in the Sponsorship Program.

How do I become a Sponsor? Don Quick is the Association's coordinator for the sponsorship program. Contact Don at:

E-Mail: dquick@communicomm.com
Telephone: 334-863-4419

Alternatively, you can contact Crazy Karl at cav571vpkk@adelphia.net or Don Shipley at Donshipley@aol.com

What do Soldiers need in care packages? Don Quick will send you a list of ideas based on past experience of other units with similar programs.

***Have you changed your mailing address recently? Remember to send your change of address to:
VP Operations, 5th Battalion 7th Cavalry Association, 1149 Southwood Ct., Ann Arbor, MI 48103***

5/7Cav 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 |
| Garry Owen Canvas Tote Bag -- Great Xmas Gift | 7.50 |
| 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, colors are Blue, Khaki, Green; Men or Ladies; Short Sleeves or Long Sleeves | 25 |
| Irish Green Golf Shirt with Embroidered Garry Owen Crest. Black Cav 5/7 Lettering under Crest. Quality Jerzee Brand. M, L, XL, XXL | 25 |
| New Adult T-Shirt with large Carry Owen Crest screen print on front. M, L, XL | 10 |
| New Child's T-Shirt w/silk screen 1st Cav patch on left chest & "Cav Kid" lettering under patch. Sizes: 2-4, 4-6, 6-8, 10-12, 14-16. | 9 |
| Baby Brutus the Bear dressed in Army green sweater w/Garry Owen crest and 1st Cav patch. Pocket in front for favorite soldier's picture. | 20 |

PLEASE ALLOW THREE WEEKS ON SHIRT DELIVERY.

PLEASE INCLUDE \$2.00 POSTAGE ON HATS & SMALL ITEM ORDERS AND \$3.00 ON ALL SHIRT AND BEAR ORDERS.

SEND ORDERS TO:

**JOHN GOODPASTER
303 CORA DRIVE
CARLISLE, OHIO 45005-3268
PHONE #937-855-7475
EMAIL: Mrgoody@core.net**

SPONSOR PROGRAM

By Don Quick

The Sponsorship Program is now in its seventh month and is 99.9% complete. I have received many letters of thanks from troopers, sponsors, wives of troopers and commanders.

The troopers in the field are doing their mission and the "retired troopers" are doing a great job of supporting them.

I would like to say at this point that you have done an awesome job of support with school supplies, phone cards, candy, CAV pins, bed linens, Gatorade, chips, pillows, letters, emails, visits and letters to trooper's homes, computers, magazines, popcorn, birthday cakes, chewing gum, Kool-Aid and protein bars, just to name a few.

I know we have had a few bumps along the way, but overall, the sponsorship program has been a great success. So, keep up the great job!

GarryOwen,
Don Quick

If you have suggestions or want to be a Sponsor, please contact Don Quick at dquick@communicomm.com or call 334-863-4419

PHOTO FOM OPERATION HOMECOMING USA BRANSON, MO JUNE 13 - 19, 2005



The Branson Trip was great fun: Helicopter rides, Shows, Food, more food and just a good time.

Participants included:

Ed & Paulette Knapp
Connie & Connie Sue Pearson
Russ Williams
Don & Karen Shipley
Jack & Sherry Spencer
Don & Lanie Phares
George Hannaford
Danny Smith
John Long with guest Ken Thebes

Frank Valadez with guests Gary Cataldo & Sam Campero
Tommie & Dora Whittemore
Don Hoag
John & Wanda Goodpaster
Moe Goulet
Gary & Marianne Erxleben
Ed Perry
Eddie Ratcliffe
Bob Child
"Krazy" Karl & Carol Haartz

LETTERS

Hi All This was sent to me in answer to my e-mail about the sponsorship program. Ray was an F O attached to D 5/7 in 68-69. Thought you all should read it.

Letter from Ray Gandy

Karl, I am not sure how to forward this (feel free if you wish) but concur with the comments below. My son is an Infantry Platoon Leader about 50 miles north of Baghdad. When they first went in they received some battle hand off training from the 5/7th but no longer share a unit border with them.

My son just finished his R&R and his story is very similar to that below (ref. lack of internet, 24/7work load, etc.) As is true in all our wars the "line animals" are too far forward and too "busy" to get the goodies. We have told our son (who has a 40 minute round trip to make a phone call and no internet for the first five months they were in country) that after an 18 hour "day" at 120 degrees in over 40 pounds of body armor, K-pot, etc...that he should forget the phone call and just go to sleep.

What is very special to him and the men in his Platoon, Company, Battalion are these packages from veterans; especially we V.N. veterans. He grew up learning about how we took care of each other and he was very clear that a package from a V.N. vet who took the time to send even just a note meant something very different than a note from the wife, or Mom, or girlfriend.

We forget sometimes that we are positive role models for many of these young men and that their war is in many ways much more like ours than the ones their current chain of command has gone through (D.S./D.S., Panama, Haiti, Bosnia, etc.). They are touched and proud when they get notes from Veterans who often relate to them in ways their families never can (guess we know about this too, huh?). They also hope we of all groups can understand that they are often too busy staying alive to write thank you notes. I for one can remember how bad a job I did as a young LT in 'Nam.

Keep sending those cards and letters, they mean a great deal and are very special to the soldiers who receive them. Also continue to keep all of them plus the Garry Owen troopers in your prayers till we get all this generation of warriors home. As a two tour V.N. vet myself, I know how to count down and I am wearing out the prayer rugs for my 1LT for 156 more days.

Go For Broke! Garry Owen!
Ray Gandy
Scarlet Guidon Seven Zero
Delta 5/7, '68-'69

Letter from John Goodpaster to Rafael Hernando:

Rafael Hernando is a veteran of A Co '67. He was WIA on Oct 27, 1967. He is confined to a wheel chair and lives in El Paso, Texas.

Hello Rafael, great talking to you this evening.

It sure is wonderful to hear about El Paso naming a new school building after you. We Cav Troopers give lots of hours to our respective communities and sounds like your hours have been recognized gratefully by your community. We wish to be kept up to date with the happenings, dates and time of groundbreaking, dates and times of openings etc. and anything else we can find out to pass along to all the 5/7 troopers. I will be glad to help you put together a display of Cav memorabilia for the ceremonies if allowed the time to do so. Copies of this email are being sent to General M. Edmonds, Col. John Long and VP 5/7th Cav Karl Haartz.

Please keep us informed
John Goodpaster

This is really good to know.

Paramedics will turn to a victim's cell phone for clues to that person's identity. You can make their job much easier with a simple idea that they are trying to get everyone to adopt: ICE.

ICE stands for In Case of Emergency. If you add an entry in the contacts list in your cell phone under ICE, with the name and phone no. of the person that the emergency services should call on your behalf, you can save them a lot of time and have your loved ones contacted quickly. It only takes a few moments of your time to do.

Paramedics know what ICE means and they look for it immediately. ICE your cell phone NOW!

Dear Editor,

On August 4, 2005, 6 members of A Company: AJ Wise, Joe Williams, Jim Hardenburgh, Bill Purdy, Mike Walker and Jim Harmon traveled to West Point on a day that was "Vietnam hot." The West Point Museum housed galleries dedicated to the history of the Army and the evolution of small weapons. One display recognized the contribution of the 1st Cav to helicopter warfare and vertical envelopment.

Another exhibit compared the modification of the M-16 to the AK-47 over the years. The M-16, for example, has a reinforced barrel to accommodate a heavier bullet, and a larger stock housing a storage compartment for the cleaning kit. On the

other hand, as the M-16 got a bit heavier, design changes in the AK-47 have made it about a pound lighter, but did not solve its "rising" problem on automatic fire. The AK-47 now fires a 5.45 mm round, much smaller than its original 7.62 mm design.

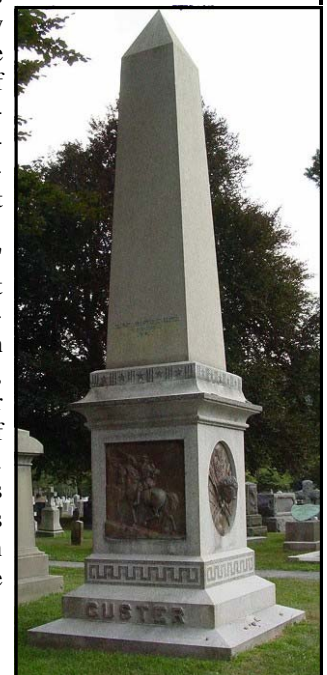
During the Revolutionary War, fortifications at West Point were established to prevent British control of the Hudson River which would have divided the colonies in half. The "A Company 6" drew upon their own experiences in critiquing the reasons for the success of the West Point tactical plan. Conclusion: Choppers would have been a plus.

The cadets were largely absent because they were away for summer training.

The last stop was at the West Point Cemetery. There, a visit was made to General Westmoreland's grave which was marked by a temporary headstone. A stone was left on the headstone as a gesture from the 5/7.

Joe Williams recalled that General Westmoreland came to visit him in the hospital after Joe was wounded. The General asked each trooper in a line of hospital beds where he was from and what unit he was in. When Joe told him that he was from the 5/7, the General stopped and spoke longer to Joe, telling him that he knew what a good job the 5/7 was doing. Others in the 5/7 may wish to share any stories of their encounters with General Westmoreland in or about Vietnam.

The "6" then spread out in proper formation with Joe on point, searching for the grave of George Custer. The recon was successful as can be seen from these photographs.



TREASURER'S REPORT by Royce Vick

| | | |
|---|--------------------|------------------|
| Acct. Balances as of 4/30/05 | \$23,575.79 | |
| INCOME 4/30/05 - 7/31/05 | | |
| Interest earned on CD's | \$89.89 | |
| Interest earned on Savings | \$1.82 | |
| PX Sales | \$260.50 | |
| Contributions | | |
| Westmoreland, H B (Wes) | \$40.00 | |
| Dues | | Paid Thru |
| Anstett, Raymond L | \$30.00 | 2005 |
| Balicki, Robert R | \$30.00 | 2005 |
| Beaupre Jr, Michael C | \$30.00 | 2006 |
| Bonner, James | \$20.00 | 2005 |
| Brown, William R (Brownie) | \$30.00 | 2007 |
| Budge, Larry D (MG Ret) | \$30.00 | 2007 |
| Child, Robert J | \$20.00 | 2006 |
| Collins, Larry | \$10.00 | 2005 |
| Deboard, Jacob B (Jake) | \$20.00 | 2008 |
| Eaton, Buddy L (Doc) | \$50.00 | 2009 |
| Edmonds, Maurice O MG | \$20.00 | 2010 |
| Edmonds, Neal J | \$10.00 | 2005 |
| Fox, William K | \$10.00 | 2005 |
| Gabbert, Barry A | \$10.00 | 2006 |
| Gomolka, Thomas | \$20.00 | 2006 |
| Hasson, Alain Victor Michael | \$20.00 | 2006 |
| Howlett, Chris F | \$10.00 | 2005 |
| Inniss Jr, Charles M | \$20.00 | 2006 |
| King, James | \$100.00 | 2012 |
| Kremer, Fred B | \$100.00 | 2014 |
| Leishner, Stanley L | \$50.00 | 2011 |
| Letts, Junior | \$10.00 | 2005 |
| Magie, William W | \$50.00 | 2012 |
| Marcano, Orlando | \$20.00 | 2006 |
| McDonald Jr, Phillip E | \$20.00 | 2006 |
| Mezich, Ernie J | \$30.00 | 2007 |
| Moore, Bill | \$30.00 | 2008 |
| Moore, James | \$10.00 | 2005 |
| Mullins, Larry | \$20.00 | 2007 |
| Neuse, Raymond | \$20.00 | 2006 |
| Parker, Tom | \$30.00 | 2006 |
| Sanchez, Jose M | \$10.00 | 2005 |
| Sheumaker, Harold W | \$30.00 | 2007 |
| Sullivan, Samuel (Sam) | \$50.00 | 2008 |
| Sweeney, Charles P | \$10.00 | 2005 |
| Vanbibber, Amos M | \$20.00 | 2006 |
| Wagner, Harold W (Sonny) | \$30.00 | 2007 |
| Zimmerman, Laurel G | \$30.00 | 2007 |
| TOTAL INCOME 4/30/05 - 7/31/05 | \$1,360.50 | |
| EXPENSES | | |
| May Newsletter | -\$772.20 | |
| Vietnam Memorial Wreath | -\$209.95 | |
| TOTAL EXPENSES 4/30/05 - 7/31/05 | -\$982.15 | |
| Acct. Balances as of 7/31/05 | \$24,045.85 | |

GarryOwen,

The Association's funds remain in a very solvent position. I have been able to arrange for deposits that carry no service charge and continue to earn a few dollars in dividends.

I would encourage everyone to have their dues current prior to our next reunion which is now less than one year away. You can check with Allen Patrick (allenbc66@comcast.net) as to the status of your membership. Allen maintains the master database and updates dues status monthly from the information I provide.

LTC Jody Petery, CO of the 5/7 Cav in Iraq, encouraged that we send school supplies to be used by his troops. The children that attended my church's Vacation Bible School brought items each day, i.e. socks, underwear etc. I requested that one day they bring me school supplies to be shipped to Iraq. The response was overwhelming. Some examples are over 1,200 pencils, 28 pairs of scissors, 352 ball point pens for a total of over 150 pounds. These were shipped on June 23rd. I am hopeful that they arrived safely to their destination.

Everyone I hear from is excited about the reunion. Be sure and register with the hotel as soon as possible.

**Garry Owen,
Royce**

Remains of 12 Vietnam War MIAs Identified

Associated Press, August 10, 2005

HANOI, Vietnam — The identification of the remains of a dozen U.S. servicemen who were listed as missing in action from the Vietnam War took years of painstaking investigation and cooperation among many people in the United States and Vietnam, officials said Wednesday.

The Defense Department on Tuesday announced that the remains of 12 servicemen missing when the war ended in 1975 have been identified.

"After more than 30 years ... sometimes the only thing that you have is the remaining teeth or very few number of bone fragments," said Gary Flanagan, a spokesman for the U.S. MIA office in Hanoi. "It's always a good feeling to hear that some of our work results in identification, and that's what we are here for."

The 11 Marines and one soldier recovered make up the largest single group of MIAs identified since the war, according to the military.

The Marines were killed during a 10-hour battle on May 9, 1968, on a football field-sized area in South Vietnam, said Larry Greer, a spokesman for the Pentagon's missing personnel office.

He said villagers, former Vietnamese soldiers and American survivors helped investigators narrow their search to three sites in 1998 and 1999, where the remains and other personal effects of the fallen soldiers were subsequently recovered.

After their recovery, the remains were flown to Hawaii for identification, but forensic researchers required several years to make the identification.

Hanoi has been cooperating with the United States since the late 1980s to search for missing servicemen.

There are more than 1,800 U.S. servicemen still unaccounted for. An estimated 58,000 Americans and 3 million Vietnamese were killed. Some 300,000 North Vietnamese soldiers are still listed as missing in action.

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5th Battalion
7th Cavalry

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**REUNION VIII --- COLORADO SPRINGS
JULY 30 - AUGUST 5, 2006**

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