A hearty Garry Owen to you, Troopers!

Nashville, here we come! As I write this there are only four weeks until many of us will be gathering at the Nashville Airport Marriott for our fifth reunion. If you have not yet registered at the Marriott, please do so ASAP, as time is running out on our special room rate. Be sure to use the phone number you’ll find listed in Vice President Wes Westmoreland’s report, and mention the 5/7 Cav Reunion in order to take advantage of the special rate.

Please note: some of you may have registered with Financial Secretary Jerry Houston but not with the hotel, and others may have registered with the hotel and not with Jerry. Please be sure that you have registered in both places. In order for us to keep our special room rate, we must meet our minimum number of room reservations. We are 25 reservations short as of May 15; so don’t put off biting the reunion bullet any longer. Your being with us will make us all happy.

This reunion is particularly critical to the Association’s future. You will recall from reading recent issues of AIR MOBILE that we will be electing new Association officers in Nashville. Some of us have been in office for eight years, others for a shorter period but in especially demanding positions. I am deeply and very personally grateful for the dedicated work of each of the members of the Association’s Board of Directors, and especially for the commitment of the Executive Committee members. Without their loyalty to you and to me we would not have this finest of Vietnam veterans organizations. I will always treasure my relationship with each of them.

That said, I am convinced that we will all benefit from an injection of new ideas coming from committed troopers, proud to serve, who realize how beneficial the 5th Bn, 7th Cav Association has been in easing the emotional wounds of the Vietnam experience; troopers who are willing to assume responsibility for keeping the Association going in the same dynamic and positive way. This is another reason to make the decision to attend Reunion V now, if you have been undecided about joining us in Nashville until now.

Speaking of elections, a word of caution. Please take it to heart. We will be meeting at a time when final preparations for the national political party conventions will be underway. The Presidential, Congressional and local elections will be dealing with many tough, controversial and highly emotional issues. As veterans who fought for the system, which permits us to disagree openly on issues of conscience, we all have strong opinions about what is best for the United States. We cannot expect to agree on all of those issues. Lets just agree to disagree without being disagreeable. Reunions such as ours are for enjoying each other, for enjoying the bonding among us that has developed over the years, for enjoying the war stories and the peace stories of a reminiscing Band of Brothers. Let’s not let politics interfere with the enjoyment!

I am looking forward to being with you and your families in Nashville.

See you there!
### Battalion Phone List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Home Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Ted Swett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Wes Westmoreland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Vice President / Battalion Locator</td>
<td>George Hannaford</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd Vice President – Communications</td>
<td>Duke Frey</td>
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<td>Financial Secretary</td>
<td>Jerry Houston</td>
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<td>Battalion Secretary</td>
<td>Jasper Catanzaro</td>
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<td>Sergeant - At - Arms</td>
<td>Will Mercer</td>
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<td>Eddie Rape</td>
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<td>Jim Harmon</td>
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<td>Doc Maxwell</td>
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<td>Dept. of Army Liaison</td>
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### Mailing Label...

Remember to check the mailing label on the **AIR MOBILE**. It has information about you. If you see that it is incorrect please let George Hannaford know. Also, we would ask for any of you who can afford it to keep your dues paid up.

John Smith  
D 70 Dues 99 
123 Main St. 
Oak City, MI 48252 

Company and year you were in Vietnam.

Dues paid thru.

### Army Records?

How to Get the Copies You Need!

Do you want or need a copy of your DD214, medical records, 201 file, or a complete copy of all your military records? The National Personnel Record Center located in St. Louis, MO, is the place you need to write to: NPRC MPR, 9700 Page Boulevard, St. Louis, MO 63132.

When you were completely discharged from your military service your record was sent there for storage. They are waiting for you to write and request a copy. There is a large backlog of requests so it could take some time.

When you request copies of your records also ask for copies of your orders (Purple Heart, Bronze Star, Silver Star, Army Commendation Medal, CIB, Travel orders, anything with other 5/7 Cav names on it.) WE CAN'T FIND YOUR BUDDIES IF WE DON'T KNOW THEIR NAMES.

To request a copy of your military records fill out a SF180 and mail it to the record center. Your records will be mailed to you direct from the record center. I can't tell you how long it will take, because it depends on what you request and where your records are. Any questions please fill free to call or Email me: 227-9148 or Cav57@aol.com (put Garry Owen in the subject because I don't read my junk mail)

- **Ed Perry 922**
- **Cleta Dr.**
- **St Louis, MO 63021**

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**5/7 CAV**
Vice President’s Report
By Wes Westmoreland

This is the last newsletter before our Nashville Reunion V. Both Gerry and I are hoping you all will join us for a week of fun and relaxation. A week filled with the renewal of old friendships and the making of new ones. As in past reunions we will pay special attention to friends and loved ones who gave all. There will also be some short business meetings. As with all organizations, we have to have that structure that allows us to reach out and keep growing.

Time is down now to just a matter of weeks and the most often asked question I get is, what is the official dates of the reunion? The days are July 6, 7 & 8, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. I always tell the men to look at it as a three-day pass, just like when we were in the Army. This is your chance to forget about your job and just have fun. The deadline for making hotel reservations is June 5, 2000. After June 5 you can no longer get the special rate that was negotiated by Jerry Houston and his support team. You have to call and make your reservation by that date. The number to call is 1-800-770-0555. Make sure you tell them you are with the 5/7 Cavalry. In the past we have not asked the hotel to set aside rooms to take care of the association needs. This time we may have set aside too many rooms so we need your help in filling them. Come bring your best pal (roommate), family, children, and/or grandchildren. So far all our reunions have been a great family get together time. So come on make that call and come join us at Reunion V.

On Mothers Day, I talked to Col. Houston, the ground team commander and he informed me that everything is being put into place to take care of all our needs while we are in Nashville.

The 5-7 Cavalry PX is now full. All we need now is for you to go shopping. The PX catalog is listed in the newsletter and you can find it on the web site too (http://people.mw.mediaone.net/apatrick/home.htm).

The association is in good shape mainly because of the past support received from everyone. The financials are on solid ground due to the active member’s support. I mean YOU. This leads me directly to my next statement. I want to bring to everyone’s attention that some of us are not renewing our membership fees. So this is just a gentle reminder for everyone to double check to make sure they are current with their membership dues. Just $10.00 a year. Make your check out to the 5-7 Cav. Association and make sure you write on your check for dues and mail to:

5th Battalion
7th Cavalry Assoc.
P.O. Box 68150
Franklin, TN 37068-1504

My goal before my term ends as your vice president: I want to turn over to the next elected leadership group the best and strongest battalion association to come out of the Vietnam War (Currently over 1300 strong).

My last thought for this final newsletter is what I want to be able to say to each one of you in Nashville is: ‘I’m so glad you could come! Its great to see you! We are going to have a great time!”

Take care and keep in touch.

Garry Owen.
Wes

Volume 9 Issue 2

Medal of Honor

A display honoring 5th Battalion, 7th Cavalry troopers who were awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for extraordinary acts of bravery while serving in the Republic of Viet Nam from 1966 to 1971 is planned for presentation during Reunion V. Four of our troopers earned the distinction of wearing this prestigious medal. Recipients are Private First Class Lewis Albanese from Company B (1/12/66); Sergeant (then PFC) William D. Port from Company C (1/12/68); Captain (then 1st Lt) James M. Sprayberry from Company D (25/4/68); and Specialist Fourth Class Hector Santiago-Colon (28/6/68).

The Medal of Honor awarded for “conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of life, above and beyond the call of duty, in action involving actual conflict with an opposing armed force”, was born of conflict and steeped in controversy during its early years. It finally emerged, along with Great Britain’s Victoria Cross and France’s Legion of Honor, as one of the premier awards for bravery in the world.

The medal was created in 1862 during the Civil War as a re ward for gallantry in action and other soldier-like qualities. However, the reference to other qualities led to many awards for actions which would seem less than heroic. This included presentation of the medal to 864 members of the 27th Maine Volunteer Infantry for merely reenlisting. This number represented the entire membership of the Infantry unit.

The inconsistencies were apparently resolved in the early 20th Century when 910 names were removed from the lists (including those of the 27th Maine). At the same time, the statutes which govern the award of the medal were revised to reflect the present day criteria of “gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his/her life above and beyond the call of duty”.

The Army Medal of Honor was redesigned in 1904 and patented by the War Department. The medal, a five-pointed golden star lays over a green
Veterans Advisor

By Papa Doc Maxwell

This article will be short, just as time is short for our Reunion. Kathy and I are extremely happy it is in Nashville. We may not see it all, but we will give it a try. Thanks Jerry for all you have done.

Hopefully the PTSD program will be in place on a date and time convenient for all. I will not promise fulfillment of this mission as I know working with Government Agencies can be stressing due to conflicting schedules.

On a lighter note, and I know some will laugh and agree. I finally met Mister "Arthur", arthritis that is. As a young person especially working in the Medical field I did not understand those "older people" with knurled hands, moody dispositions, and painful looks. Most of us have it in one way or the other. I was told this last month I have rapid degenerative osteo-arthritis of the cervical neck, spine, hips and legs. I am here to tell you, that there are **bad days**. I used to love to take a ride in the country during fall season to see the trees change with their many colors, grateful to be alive and HOME. Now I pop pain pills and shorten the trips. I, like others, have balked at request for donations for support of M.S., Cancer, Arthritis, etc. foundations / research. Now I give when I can.

In conclusion, like Col. Swett, Wes, and others I feel it is time to step down from the office of Veterans Advisor. I am not sure if I have help anyone, just hoped I did. I know we have a couple of men who live near VA Regional Offices and can get access to these offices more readily than I can. One in particular has done an outstanding job in record research. Give it a thought. May God and our prayers be with you on your travel to Nashville.

**Doc**

Reunion Banquet Address

By Ted Swett

Major General (Retired) Robert S. Frix has accepted the invitation to deliver the traditional banquet address on the evening of July 7 at our Nashville reunion.

MG Frix is one of our own. As a Major, commencing in July, 1968 he spent seven months as the S-3 of the 5th Battalion, 7th Cavalry and saw some of its toughest fighting. He retired from the Army in 1995 and is now President of Dyncorp Tri-Cities in Richland, Washington. He is presently in charge of the Site Infrastructure which supports the Department of Energy’s cleanup of the Hanford Works Nuclear Site (Manhattan Project) near Richland, WA.

We had previously announced that General Barry McCaffrey, the Director of the United States Office of National Drug Control Policy, would be our banquet speaker. As Captain McCaffrey he had commanded a company in the 2d Bn, 7th Cav, in 1968. In inviting him I realized that, given the critical and demanding nature of his current responsibilities, his official duties could possibly interfere with our plan. Such was our understanding with him when General McCaffrey accepted the invitation.

That is exactly what has happened. One of the important not-for-profit anti-drug organizations, D.A.R.E, has claimed General McCaffrey as their banquet speaker that same evening. We both tried to work it out, but neither his schedule nor ours could be adjusted.

We are most fortunate that Bob Frix was able to change his schedule, as originally it had precluded his attending Reunion V. I know you will enjoy being with him and listening to his message.

Thank you, Bob. Garry Owen, Sir!

**Ted**
**Regimental Tie**

Troopers, we’ve been able to arrange for a special order of 7th Cavalry Regimental ties that come in a tartan design unique to the 7th Cavalry. The Regimental Pipe and Drum Band, organized by SSG Robert J. Scroggie in late 1954 at camp Haugen, Japan designed the tartan pattern. The tartan colors are dark blue and yellow to represent the U.S. Cavalry, light blue to signify the present day infantry role in the cavalry, red for action and white for honor. The 7th Cavalry Regiment is the only American Unit that has a registered tartan.

Total cost is $25.00 per tie. The price includes shipping and handling plus a small profit for the association.

To make this offer available to our troopers we need a minimum order of 50 and so far we have 27 on request. To order your tie, send me your name and address, number of ties you want and a check made out to The 5-7 Cavalry Association to the following address:

**7th Cavalry Ties**

C/O Patrick H. Dockery *
4728 Parkside Drive
Baltimore, MD 21206-6841

Remember we need a minimum of fifty orders to make the initial order. If we don’t reach the minimum we will return the orders and your checks. Each tie comes with a label on the back that reads: “The 7th Cavalry Regiment 1866 And the Legend lives On.”

Be proud, wear the tartan of the 7th Cavalry Regiment and “the legend lives on”!

---

### Financial Secretary’s Report

By Jerry Houston

Time is running out to make your reservations. If you do not call the Hotel by June 5, you will be unable to get our group rate. If you have been on the fence about coming to Reunion V, now is the time to go ahead, decide to come and call the hotel. Remember to call the group sales office at the Airport Marriott in Nashville 800-770-0555. Make sure you mention that you are with the 5th Battalion 7th Cavalry Reunion July 2-9.

Please remember to let me know how you would like your funds disbursed. This is especially important if your check should be split between Registration, member fees, Reunion V and donations. If you do not indicate how to disburse the funds, my rule of thumb is apply funds to current years member fee first. I then go back to previous unpaid member fees. If I do not get any other instructions, I apply the remainder as a donation. Please go over the financial report. Just let me know if you find something that seems to be in error. I have found as the years go by I may make a mistake or two.

My mailing address is:

5th Battalion 7th Cavalry Asso.
PO Box 681504
Franklin, TN 37068-1504

Garry Owen,

Jerry Houston

**General Fund Balance (05/16/00)**

-2,334.28

**Total disbursements**

-2,334.28

### Income

**Member Fees**

- Harry W. Colt 01 10.00
- Howard F. Forman 93-00 80.00
- William Purdy 00-01 20.00
- Larry Reel 98-02 50.00
- Otis Brooklyn 98-00 30.00
- Donald L. Friedenburg 01 10.00
- Robert R. Balicki 01 10.00

(Continued on page 7)
Reunion V is only one month away. There are over 150 members and 100 guests registered. Reunion V will be Sunday July 2, through Saturday July 8, 2000. It is being held at the Airport Marriott in Nashville, TN. It is important that you make your reservations at the hotel early. The association rate will only be good until June 2, 2000. If you register after that date you will have to pay the full room price. The phone number to register is:

1-800-770-0555

There is free shuttle service from the airport to the hotel. It runs every 20 minutes: 10 minutes to the hour, ten minutes after and 30 minutes after.

The Reunion V major events will be Thursday, Friday and Saturday July 6, 7 and 8. If you can only make a small part of the reunion these are the dates that you should try to attend.

The main event is the Friday night banquet. The other event attended by nearly everyone is the Saturday morning Memorial service. Our plans are to have the service at one of the Tennessee State Capital memorials downtown.

Thursday night we are planning a bus trip to downtown Nashville to take in some of the nightlife.

Thursday and Friday mornings are when we have our business meetings and election of officers.

The last event of the reunion will be our Saturday evening country style Bar-B-que outside in a picnic area behind the hotel. This is a time to really relax and say good-bye until the next reunion.

The first part of the week is a time to get together, see the sights and relax. We will open registration on Sunday afternoon the 2nd of July.

Monday will be the first day that things will start to happen. Each day we will open a hospitality suite from around 0800 until it closes sometime around 2400.

We will have coffee, donuts and orange juice for breakfast; sandwiches and chips for lunch; and a full range of beverages. It will be an open bar with donations accepted to help defray the cost.

The registration office and information center will be open each day from around 0800 until around 2000 in the evening. The memorabilia room will be open about the same hours.

There will also be a PX open early in the week. We are looking to have a few new items in the PX to include a nice polo shirt with the Garry Owen crest.

Sunday through Wednesday you will be on your own.

On Monday night we will offer an opportunity to take a ride on the Cumberland River on a paddle wheeler showboat named the General Jackson. It takes a one-hour trip down the Cumberland River to downtown Nashville, turns around and comes back up the river. During the ride you will enjoy dinner and a floorshow. Each ticket will run $49.50 and includes transportation to the General Jackson from the Hotel.

Tuesday is the 4th of July. We are recommending a trip downtown for concerts on the river, shopping and fireworks.

On Wednesday night we will have an icebreaker in the hospitality room where we will have free pizza. We plan to have it early because a number of members have asked for one night as a ladies night out and this will be on Wednesday night. On this evening the ladies will pick the place to go. It will be their night with no talk of the battalion, Vietnam, etc.

We will also have a golf tournament on Wednesday. These plans are all still in the development stages but look pretty promising.

The hotel has a health spa, indoor & outdoor swimming pools, lighted tennis courts, nice restaurant and an out of the way casual bar. It is close to the airport and has free parking. It is only fifteen minutes from downtown Nashville.

On the down side, Nashville does not have a good mass transit system. For those of you that want to get out during the day and see some of the sights a car will be an advantage. As in the past there are many folks who bring cars and love to share the ride from place to place with others.

We would like to try a new approach for Reunion V and are asking for volunteers to help for short periods of time during the reunion. That way we can share the load and not kill a few people.

The five general areas for volunteer help are: Registration and Information; Hospitality; Transportation and Logistics; Banquets and Meetings; and PX. There will be a manager for each group and then volunteers to help in each group on a shift basis. Each shift will be around four hours.

There is a place on the registration slip to indicate whether or not you would be willing to help and in what area. Please indicate on the form if you would like to help out.

The last thing is registration. We have had to raise the registration fee to $60 for this reunion. Your fee will pay administrative and overhead cost, the Friday night banquet, and Saturday night Bar-B-Que. If you or any of your guests will be unable to attend the dinners, the administrative Registration fee is $10 per person.

Please call and make your reservations at the hotel as soon as you can. Also send in your registration form as soon as you can. Be sure and complete as much information on the form as you can. The more information we have the better we can plan and prepare for the reunion.

I do not need your registration money right away if you would prefer to pay later. What we need now is your intention to attend and the information you can provide for planning.

We certainly look forward to having you join us in Nashville for Reunion V. See you next month!

GARRY OWEN,

Jerry
### (Continued from page 5)

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**Total Member Fee**: 1,220.00

**Donations**
- William Purdy: 120.00
- Laurel Zimmerman: 20.00
- Robert R. Balicki: 5.00
- Eugene T. Szewda: 20.00
- John A. Wickham: 40.00
- Robert F. Wright: 20.00
- Dorothy Wright: 20.00
- Larry Reel: 50.00
- Harold D. Sheumaker: 10.00
- Gordon R. Birmingham: 5.00
- James B. Vaught: 40.00

**Total Donations**: 240.00

**Other Income**

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**Total Other Income**: 429.40

**Total Income**: 1,889.40

**Total In General Fund**: 15,336.04

**Reservations this period**

- William Purdy: 120.00
- Gerald P. Fortuna: 120.00
- Robert F. Jennings: 120.00
- Don Maxwell: 120.00
- Melvin R. Powell: 120.00
- John F. Plourde, Sr.: 120.00
- Laurel Zimmerman: 60.00
- William F. Boyce: 120.00
- Vivian M. Day: 120.00
- Buddy Eaton: 120.00
- Roger G. Olson: 120.00
- Edward Jamison: 180.00
- Vincent M Laurich: 60.00
- Geoge Porod: 60.00
- Harold E. Dannerweitz: 120.00
- Robert J. Meadowcroft: 120.00
- Larry G Hilton: 60.00
- Billy Moore**: 120.00
- Loyd Tyson Jr: 180.00
- Frank DeFino: 150.00
- Ruth A. Lukkari: 120.00
- Paul D. Allen: 120.00
- Joe Cybulske: 120.00
- Robert F. Fieman: 120.00
- David Seabolt: 60.00
- Vernon Lasher: 120.00
- Michael J. Handley: 60.00
- Clarence Lyons: 60.00
- Rod Henning: 120.00
- Walter W. Zimmerman: 210.00
- Maurice Edmonds: 60.00
- Robert F. Wright: 120.00
- James D. Harmon: 120.00
- George F. Klein: 120.00
- James D. Watson: 60.00
- Sam Sullivan: 120.00
- Herman S. Daves: 120.00
- Larry Reel: 120.00
- John L. Goodpaster: 120.00
- Jack E Hurley: 120.00
- Orlando Marcano: 60.00
- Charles R. Baker: 60.00
- Daniel E. French: 120.00
- Harold D. Sheumaker: 120.00
- Willoughby Mercer Jr.: 120.00
- Duke Frey: 60.00
- Susie Swain Edelman: 60.00
- James R. Ragland: 60.00
- John F. Montalbano: 120.00
- Bob D. Lotto: 60.00
- Danny L. Smith: 60.00
- Harry F. Clark: 60.00
- Hugo Lopez: 120.00
- David A. Bland: 60.00
- Tom Martin: 120.00
- Gary Nordstrom: 120.00
- Darrell D. Martin: 120.00
- Clifton E. Miller: 150.00
- Kenny Baldwin: 120.00
- Richard C. Baker Jr: 180.00
- Irving E. Little: 120.00
- Pastor Willis T. Stone: 60.00
- Ron Stocker: 120.00
- Richard E. Rebholz: 120.00
- Norman McBride: 120.00
- Donald L. Fredenburg: 120.00
- Jose M. Sanchez: 120.00
- Howard F. Forman: 120.00
- James B. Vaught: 120.00
- Don Shipley: 120.00
- Richard Hawksby: 60.00

**Total New Reservations**: 7,950.00

**Reunion Donations**

- Laurel Zimmerman: 40.00
- Maurice Edmonds: 40.00

**Total Donations**: 80.00

**Total Reunion V**: 12,690.00

**Total in Bank**: 28,026.04

(Continued from page 3)

The display recognizing our Medal of Honor winners will be located in the 5th Battalion, 7th Cavalry Memorabilia Room in the Marriott Hotel throughout the Reunion. The display will have photos of the four recipients describing their acts of valor.

We look forward to seeing you at the Reunion so you can share this special tribute to our four troopers with us.

**Bill Brown**
5th Battalion 7th Cavalry
Reunion V
Nashville, Tennessee
July 2 through July 8, 2000