



THE BUGLE

5/7 Cavalry Association News

<http://www.cav57.org>

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



December 2022; Vol 31.3

President's Report

Greetings Troopers and Family,

Veterans Day: We had another great Veterans Day gathering in DC at the Holiday Inn Crystal City. While reunion years normally see a reduced crowd in DC, we still had a good core group. Among the 61 at the dinner on November 10 were General (retired) Ray Gandy and his wife Alida, his son LTC Colin Gandy and wife Nancy. Julie Kink and Mike Sprayberry brought their friends Mike Jimison and his wife, Susan Clotfelter Jimison. Mike flew Cobras with the 361 AVN "Pink Panthers" in 1969-70 and served with Julie's brother.

I'd like to express my appreciation to our wreath presenters, Jack Thomas and Jim Miller, for braving the nasty weather to represent the Association at the 40th anniversary ceremony at the Wall. Also, special thanks to Mary (and Joe) McVeigh for their time and expense to make our wreath. And finally, my personal thanks to Ed Coon, who has for many years been my point man to set-up and tear down the Hospitality Room.

Unit Tribute. I am proud to report that our 5/7 Cavalry Unit Tribute marker was added to the Path of Remembrance leading up to the National Museum of the United States Army at Fort Belvoir, VA. The marker was erected on November 9, just in time for Veterans Day! This marker is the first to recognize the 7th Cavalry Regiment, and of course 5/7 Cav led the way! This project was a labor of love and a special mission that Howard Prince gave me prior to his passing, and I believe it's a fitting legacy to his service in 5/7 Cavalry. Thank you to each of you that helped us raise the money to cover the cost. You will find our tribute marker on panel 4 when you visit the museum.

Did you know? George Armstrong Custer was not the commander of the 7th Cavalry when he met his demise at Little Big Horn. True, he was the tactical leader of the regiment as it set off on the Sioux Campaign of 1876 and at the pivotal battle forever associated with him, but he was not the regimental commander. That would be one Colonel Samuel Sturgis, a Civil War former general who it is reported was found drunk while his soldiers attacked Marye's Heights at the 1862 Battle of Fredericksburg. Sturgis was also embarrassed at the Battle of Brice's Crossroads by a guy named Forrest. While Custer led the regiment in the field, Sturgis spent 1876 on administrative duty in St. Louis, MO. Sadly, his son 2LT James Sturgis, was killed on Custer Hill, his body never positively identified.

Please keep the families of Larry Nunez and Hank Thomas in your prayers, as well as so many of our brothers who are currently struggling with health issues.

Garry Owen!
Cliff Wheeler
President, 5/7 Cavalry Association



1st Vice President's Report

Time has flown since the last Bugle Deadline. Among other things, I could not travel to DC for Veterans Day for personal reasons, and I have been appropriately scolded by a few of my '68 A Shau pals – Laurich, and Sprayberry. Having contributed little to the cause for the past three months, this item will be very short.

Special KUDOs to Jack Thomas and Mitch Mason. Jack for his great day long visit with the Squadron in Ft. Stewart. And, congratulations to Mitch Mason for his 33 years of active service. Sounds like he is just getting warmed up for his work on suicide networking for the Iraq/Afghanistan troopers. The association should jump on this issue, not unlike with Agent Orange and PTSD 'back in our day. Perhaps those of us who did all the networking to create this association in the 90s can pool their techniques and ideas with Mitch and the other leaders of the next generation group on networking, in general. In other words - finding and contacting troopers. (There probably is more going on in this regard than I know about.) Just from my one short time in Iraq, I suspect platoon is the main building block for their conflict. Maybe not.

Garry Owen!

Charlie Baker

Krazy Karl's Report



5/7 Cavalry Troopers attending the funeral of Larry Nunez with Larry's wife Sheryl. Larry (C Co '66) passed away on November 20, 2022. Larry was a member of the 5/7 Battalion when it was first deployed to Vietnam in 1966. After the military, Larry joined the Disney Company and rose to the rank of Vice President of Disney Animation in Argentina. Larry and Sheryl have been very active members of the association. He and Sheryl were regular attendees at our reunions and Veterans Day gatherings in DC.

From left to right: Ian McCalister, Alan Thompson, Dick Baker, Art Perraza, Karl Haartz, Frank Vargas, Abe Ayala, Jerry Voskeritchian, Sheryl Nunez, Doug Truedsdale, Richard Bigelli, & Andy Hernandez

Chaplain's Corner

"Holidays"

The word "Holiday" is a compound word that takes the word "Holy" and the word "Day" and combines them. In the Middle East, "Holidays" are still called "Holy Days". This particular season and Holy Day is Christmas which is another compound word: "Christ" and "Mass". Words do not lose their meaning simply because they are overused or commercialized. The same is true for Soldiers or in our case, for Troopers. Soldiers/Troopers don't lose their meaning simply because they are medically retired, honorably or dishonorably retired, or ETS. You are still meaningful and useful.

Last week, I spoke to Soldiers arriving at a new unit here in Hawaii. The room of 45 Soldiers represented brand new Soldiers straight out of basic training and Advanced Training and old NCOs and Officers. Within the next year they will be deploying.

Last week, I also learned that my time in the Army is finally coming to close and I will be signing out by or before the end of year. My 33 year career will come to close. The military is all I have ever known. I'm a military brat, went into JROTC in High School, and joined the Army through the delayed entry program August of 1989. Six months after Basic Training and AIT, I deployed to Desert Storm and the rest is my military history.

Those new Soldier's I briefed...their worth is no less or more than mine after 33 years. You and I are worth far more than we anyone can know this side of heaven. And that is a priceless gift.

Like the compounded/combined words of Holiday and Christmas, you and I are compounded and combined with every new Soldier and every old one. We are accountable to and for each other and our Oath doesn't end just because we no longer serve directly.

Following is the list I promised two newsletters ago. These are 10 of our own Troopers who have volunteered to be available 24/7 for our Troopers. Not just over the Holidays but from now until our last breath or Valhalla.

As you reflect upon your own worth this season, be sure to place these contacts in your phone, computer, or write them down and keep them in your pocket.

Whatever you do, understand that you are an amazing gift and worth every effort to stay connected.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you and yours this holiday season. You are a gift worth listening to.

CH Mijikai "Mij" Mason

Warpaint Shepherd Ancient, 2004-2008

Gary Owen!

808-650-1850

24/7 Volunteers

Preston Tilden LV, NV 725-502-3346	Angie Caberera/Torres Woodlake, CA 559-731-2442	Bryan James Midland, TX 806-252-0042	Nick Steers Tudumnc Co., CA 209-206-8132	Shane Propst San Antonio, TX 210-274-3959
CH Mijikai "Mitch" Mason Oahu, HI 808-650-1850	D. J. Kagan Denison, TX 214-504-6367	Nate Schelling Vancouver, WA 360-936-2132	Bradley Feltman Hinesville, GA 912-271-2969	Macon Brown Savannah, GA 910-619-9128

5/7 Squadron Update

WARPAINT

Troopers

–

Past,

Present,

and

Future!

The focus of the Squadron over the past few weeks has been Soldier risk mitigation and long weekend closeout for Thanksgiving, Expert Soldier Badge pre-requisite testing, and Marne Week preparation and execution. In true Squadron fashion, many of our leaders hosted Troopers at their residences for Thanksgiving and others dropped off food to the barracks to help Troopers feel more at home during the holiday period.

As we continue to train fit, disciplined, and cohesive teams the Squadron conducted an expert physical fitness assessment for 51x Expert Badge candidates. Each candidate passed the tests and moved to the diagnostic 12 mile ruck march and M4 rifle qualification in the next two weeks prior to winter break.

Finally, the Squadron is fielding 100% of our allotted Marne Week team slots and looks to contribute to the Raider BDE Marne Week Victory that is sure to come! Raiders First!

Hero of the Week:

WARPAINT's Heroes of the Week are 2LT Drew Litynski and SSG John Patterson. These two leaders have planned, rehearsed, and resourced Marne Week's Winterfest. They've coordinated with brigade, division, and installation since September and have attended multiple meetings with senior leaders across Fort Stewart. I am incredibly impressed with the maturity and attention to detail these junior leaders have demonstrated throughout the planning process and the way they have represented the Squadron and Raider BDE.

Squadron Highlights:

On 21NOV22, the Squadron held their annual Turkey Bowl. Darkhorse Troop was denied a third consecutive championship by Apache Troop, who won the coveted Turkey Trophy with a phenomenal late quarter drive.

We also had SGT(R) Jack Thomas attend the Turkey Bowl. Jack is a Vietnam Veteran who served in 5-7 CAV from '69-70 and took part in the Vietnam War's Cambodian Incursion that attempted to sever North Vietnamese supply lines along the Ho Chi Min Trail. Jack spoke to the squadron about the importance of staying connected with your buddies and invited each Soldier to join the 5-7 CAV Association.

On 28NOV, we began Marne Week 2022. The Squadron began Marne Week preparations in late October and consistently practiced throughout November. Warpaint is poised to maximize points in each sport and help win Marne Week for the Brigade.

Training Highlights: Bradley New Equipment Training; preparatory training for the Expert Infantryman Badge, Expert Soldier Badge, and the Expert Field Medic Badge; Physical Security Inspections, leader professional development on the Squadron Maintenance SOP, Marne Week Sport preparation, Winterfest preparation, a Commander & 1SG course and simulation gunnery training.

Apache Troop conducted land navigation training, vehicle maintenance, property inventories, and cleared their excess equipment.

Blackfoot Troop conducted M4 rifle training, land navigation classes and sent soldiers to complete their [Expert Medical Badge](#) pre-requisites.

Comanche Troop conducted Team situational training exercises, thereby increasing squad lethality and mitigating atrophy in dismounted tactical maneuver. **Darkhorse Troop** conducted long weekend close out activities and assessed Soldier well-being, specifically their high and medium risk population. Darkhorse conducted an Army Community Services financial readiness class that focused on budgeting and holiday expenditures, investing, and saving.

Diesel Troop (Modernization) conducted dining facility operations, vehicle and shop maintenance, fuel and water support, and distribution operations. They also participated in Bradley new equipment training. **Horseman Troop** conducted IV and blood transfusion didactic training with the 160th SOAR. The troop had also supervised, graded, and trained for Expert Field Medic Badge events.

Squadron Update (cont'd)



Jack Thomas' Visit to 5/7 Squadron

A little about me. I was born into a military family, my dad being a career NCO in the Army. I enlisted in 1968, not into the Infantry, but the Signal Corps. That didn't exactly go to plan, quickly realizing that electronics was not for me. The Army had a need and I soon found myself in Tiger Land, Ft. Polk. From there it was off to Ft. Benning for the NCO course and in September of 1969 I found myself in Sunny Southeast Asia, and my new home with Bravo Company, 5th Bn, 7th Cav. Serving under no less than four Battalion Commanders, three Company Commanders, and four platoon leaders during my tour. Capt. Mullineaux, and Lt 's Cohn, Wood and Bauer did their best to see that I got home in one piece. Like you, I have fond memories of some of those who lead us.

Upon DEROS I found myself getting married to the love of my life, Emilie, who has stood by my side thru all these years. I have two wonderful sons, one who is a Persian Gulf Marine veteran, and two equally wonderful grandchildren. I finished up my military time at Ft. Dix, with the help of a Staff Sargent at the replacement company who had a sense of humor. I was assigned as a cell block NCO at the stockade, very different from the jungles where I has spent the last year.

In the mid 80's I became a life member of Vietnam Veterans of America, ultimately at the Chapter, State and National levels and served on many National committees within the organization. I returned to Vietnam in 1998 with their Veterans Imitative program. I am also a life member of the DAV and currently serve as Jr. Vice Commander of my post and Chapter service officer. I had a career in the body and fender business, with heavy trucks, and retired in 2014. I have been involved with 5/7 since 2004. Hobbies include home repair, performance automobiles and at 74 I still play with trains.

I doubt there is anyone left to find who wants to be found, but my soap box is always ready to talk to anyone about the benefits of belonging to such a fine organization, and the camaraderie I have found since becoming a part of it. This has not been a "those who served only" group but one which is also welcoming of the spouse/significant other into the fold as well. Where would many of us be without that companion who shared the ups and downs of our service and helped us thru troubling times. Those partners are as big a support group as our brothers are and many encourage our participation in this organization.

The big job now is to pass along our legacy and the commitment to the younger generation of 5/7 Veterans, for some day this will be their organization. With that being said.....

After our gathering on Veterans Day in Washington D.C., Emilie and I ventured a bit farther south to visit our son in Florida who had just weathered hurricane Ian. Being in the neighborhood, I thought it might be a good idea to try and visit the current 5/7, while they are home, at Ft. Stewart Georgia.

With assistance from Cliff Wheeler, I was put me in touch with the current Squadron Commander, LTC. Andrew Marsh who was carbon copied on Cliff 's reply to me. LTC Marsh responded before I even had a chance to write a request, with an invitation to visit.



On November 18th at 10:30 hours the red carpet was rolled out for this old soldier and his chosen to visit his former "home". I would like to thank LTC. Andrew Marsh, Maj. Trevor Barrett (S-3) and CSM Jose Padilla-Guzman for the honor and hospitality that were shown to us.

We toured Squadron HQ and the legacy museum that they are constructing there. Quite impressive! I contributed in the form of the three documentaries that Norman Lloyd made about the 5/7. It was nice to see a few familiar faces on the walls in the form of former Battalion Commanders and Medal of Honor Recipients. After some discussion with Maj. Barrett (S-3) and CSM Padillia-Guzman on the then and now, we were escorted to the playing field where the "Turkey Bowl" tournament was in progress. This is a touch football game for yearly bragging rights of the winning Company. Thru process of elimination the contest this year was between Alpha and Delta, with Alpha taking home the prize trophy.

It was enjoyable to see the inter-company rivalry and the camaraderie that the young troopers have. After the game, during the award ceremony, LTC. Marsh gave me an opportunity to speak to the entire Squadron assembled on the field.

With soapbox on hand, I spoke to the Squadron about the Association. I told them of the need, sometime in the future, to reconnect with those with whom they served with both in peace and battle. I further stated the benefits that I have had the good fortune to receive in belonging to this Association. Reuniting, after many, many years with those with whom I shared beers and tears. Our association is the way to stay connected. They are young, and have a full life in front of them, but I stressed the importance of belonging and staying connected.

I also asked on behalf of Cliff Wheeler, a former Squadron Commander, to assign a liaison from them to us to keep us regularly informed of the goings on of the active-duty troops. LTC. Marsh promised someone would be assigned that task and help bring the Association up to speed.

It was a wonderful experience, something to remember for a lifetime. It was difficult to fathom an O-5 calling an E-5 Sir.,but I understand. Thank you LTC. Marsh and all who listened. It is my hope that we get some more of the younger generation to come into the fold and become involved.

I stand in service to you my fellow 5/7 Veterans, and to your family in any way I can help. To all, have a Happy Holiday Season.

Garry Owen

Jack Thomas

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Shirts Men/Women		Claymore Mine	\$3
Twill Shirt Blue Denim Short Sleeve - XL	\$25	Combat Medic Badge (mini)	\$3
Men's White Polo No Snag - Large	\$25	"Shit Burner"	\$3
Men's White Polo No Snag - XL	\$25	7th Cav Crest (mini)	\$3
Men's White Polo No Snag - 2XL	\$25	K-9 Corps	\$3
Ladie's White Polo - Medium	\$15	Least They Be Forgotten	\$3
Ladie's Heather Gray Polo - Medium	\$15	Army Meritorious Unit Citation Ribbon (mini)	\$3
Hats		Combat Cavalry Badge (mini)	\$3
Otto Ball Caps Black 5/7 Logo	\$15	Combat Infantry Badge (mini)	\$3
Otto Ball Caps White 5/7 Logo	\$15	Combat Infantry Badge (regulation)	\$3
New Challenge Coins Vietnam/Iraq/Afghanistan	\$12	1st Cav Patch (mini)	\$3
Flags		Silver Star Medal (mini)	\$3
POW/MIA 3'X5' Flag	\$15	M-16	\$3
5/7 Cav Crossed Saber Pins	\$4	Purple Heart Medal (mini)	\$3
ALL HAT PINS \$3 each!	\$3	ARCOM (mini)	\$3
"Dinky Dau"	\$3	Vietnam Campaign Medal(mini)	\$3
"Hue City"	\$3	NDSM (mini)	\$3
Chinook Helicopter	\$3	The Wall	\$3
"An Khe"	\$3	Air Medal (mini)	\$3
"Khe Sanh"	\$3	POW/MIA	\$3
Army Aviator (silver)	\$3	Vietnam Veteran (cap style badge)	\$3
"Pleiku"	\$3	Combat Action Badge (black,mini)	\$3
"Cavalry"	\$3	OIF Vet	\$3
"Cambodia"	\$3	M-113	\$3
UH-1 Huey Helicopter	\$3	Humvee	\$3
60mm Mortar Tube	\$3	"In Honor" (folded flag)	\$3
Brothers Forever	\$3	Air Assault (mini)	\$3
M-60 Machine Gun	\$3	Enduring Freedom Vet	\$3
"Agent Orange Victims"	\$3	Combat Action Badge (silver,mini)	\$3
Vietnam Service Ribbon	\$3	M-2 Bradley	\$3
7th Cav Crest (regulation)	\$3	18th ABN Corps	\$3
I (heart) My Vietnam Veteran	\$3	3rd Infantry Div (mini)	\$3
Army Good Conduct Medal (mini)	\$3	P-38 Can Opener (Don't leave home without it!)	\$3

* The PX is receiving an upgrade with exciting new items coming soon!

Dues Paid This Period

Marc	Folden	\$30	2022-2024
Ray	Gandy	\$30	2024-2026
Wayne	Gibbs	\$20	2024-2025
Robert	Gwinn	\$30	2022-2024
Bubba	Johnson	\$100	2016-2025
Rolf	Kellerman	\$50	2023-2027
Charles	Lynn	\$20	2022-2023
Patrick	McDonough	\$20	2025-2026
Van	Norris	\$50	2023-2027
Joseph	Roberts	\$100	2023-2032
Joseph	Sanchez	\$20	2022-2023
Eric	Sleeper	\$50	2022-2026
Stanley	Storm	\$50	2023-2027
Tommie	Whitemore	\$20	2023-2024
Alan	Wilenken	\$30	2022-2024
Johnny	Zimmerman	\$10	2023
		\$780	

Financial Summary

August 2022 Balance	\$89,837
Income	
Dues Received	\$780
Donation	\$230
PX Sales	\$30
Reunion Reg Deposits	\$0
Unit Tribute Donations	\$1,280
Interest Earned	\$15
Income Total	\$2,335
Expenses	
PX Purchases	\$0
Funerals	-\$452
Bugle	-\$965
Reunion Refunds	-\$360
Veterans Day	-\$1,700
Reunion	\$0
Expenses Total	-\$3,477
Nov 2022 Balance	\$88,695

Financial Report by Dick Baker

Our cash balance is \$88,695 compared to \$94,511 at the end of the July reunion and \$88,686 at the beginning of the year.

The Unit Tribute, coordinated by Cliff Wheeler, was installed in time for veterans Day. If anyone would like to visit, the address is National Museum of the United States Army at Fort Belvoir, VA.

The planning team is heading to San Antonio, TX in March 2023 to check out the venue for our 2024 reunion. If all goes as planned, it is scheduled to take place the week of May 20 through May 25 at the Holiday Inn San Antonio Riverwalk.

With the passing of several of our 5/7 Cav Brothers since the reunion, we need to reach out and keep in contact with each other.

Don't forget to update your dues, your mailing address and your email. Send your updates to editor@cav57.org. That way you will be able to stay up to date with our frequent news updates sent out by email.

Your updated mailing address allows you to receive a printed copy of the newsletter if you don't have an email account or just prefer the printed version.

Garry Owen,
Dick Baker
5/7 Cav Association
Treasurer

Donations

Willie	Gore	\$180
George	Banks	\$50
		\$230

Unit Tribute Donations

Jack	Fleming	\$180
B Co, 1st Plt	1970-1971	\$500
Paul	Boyle	\$50
Ray	Gandy	\$150
Joseph	Roberts	\$200
David	Seabolt	\$100
Tom	Spalding	\$50
Stanley	Storm	\$50
		\$1,280

IN MEMORIAM—MEMBERS THAT HAVE PASSED IN THE LAST 5 YEARS

2016

Danny Grinder E 68-69
Van C Mandakunis E 69
Andrew Hulse D 68
William N Dane D 69
Arlyn E Wood H 69
Danny W Noth B 68
Richard Hawksby A 68
Randy R Simpson C 70
Claude B Jarrett B 67
Johnnie L Smith B 67
Willie G Middleton B 68
Harold Kline B 68
Robert J Rivers B 70
Willie Wilson H 70
Royce Vick H 66

2017

Charles Bunton C 66-67
Lawrence T Sarginson B 68
Gary J Creek C 66
Lotis J Horton, Jr C 69
Peter G Olsen H 70
Dale J Rhodes H 70
James L Ledbetter B 69
Cecil S Kiser B 69
Stephen R Allen B 67
David W Greathouse B 69
George Myrick B 69
William D Chapman C 69
William Mintz A 68
Leroy Canty A 70
Wallace Duggins H 70
Larry Reel A 66

2018

James S Goemmer B 68
Jerry Adkins A 69
Terry D Dillon C 68
Raymond A Judy B 66
Charles K Reber B 66
Hugo Lopez H 66
Billy E Fisher D 68
David W Condran A 70
Charles L McQuerry H 67
Ron Logterman C 66

2019

Larry D Fennern B 69
David Baker C 66
Marvin R Deckard C 69
William L Parsons D 70
Peter Ballo C 67
Carol D McIntosh C 67

David Crowe C 66
Richard Gonzales C 66
James D Harmon C 66
Thomas D Lent C 67
Vincent B Mesa C 66
George R Clifford D 66
Robert C Henzy D 69
John Zepeda B 66
Larry Vanderveen D 68

2020

Melvin M Augustyniak A 69
John M Lary B 67
Everett E Easterday C 68
Michael "Hippie" Shurley D 67
Maurice "Moe" Goulet C 66
Raymond Barraza C 66
Benjamin B Weedman C70
Edward R Canady A 66
Thomas Blue A 69
Harold Baker B 68
Walter "Frenchy" Bossuot B 67
Kenneth Kuykendall A 68
Vardell Nesmith C 67
Harold Powell B 68
Pat Malinka A 69

2021

Howard Prince B 68
Edward Salisbury D 70
Caesar Perez C 66
Gene Gargile D 68
Bill Hussong A 67
Steve "Mutt" Shear A 68
Edd Lewis A Co 70

2022

Daniel Dilloway C 68
Rod Henning D 67
Albert Tapia C 67
Bob Greenwood C 67
William Lerch D 04
Larry Nunez C Co 66
Hank Thomas D Co 67

Please mail dues and reunion checks to the address below:

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5th Battalion
7th Cavalry

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