



“THE IVY DRAGOONS DISPATCH”

Newsletter of the 3/8th Infantry, 4th Infantry Division - Vietnam War



President: Steve Edmunds

Volume II

Ivy Dispatch Editors: Ken Howe & Levie Isaacks

Summer 2007

A Great Quote...

“I now know why men who have been to war yearn to reunite. Not to tell stories or look at old pictures. Not to laugh or weep. Comrades gather because they long to be with the men who once acted at their best; men who suffered and sacrificed, who were stripped of their humanity. I did not pick these men. They were delivered by fate and the military. But I know them in a way I know no other men. I have never given anyone such trust. They were willing to guard something more precious than my life. They would have carried my reputation, the memory of me. It was part of the bargain we all made, the reason we were so willing to die for one another. As long as I have memory, I will think of them all, every day. I am sure that when I leave this world, my last thought will be of my God, my family and my comrades... Such good men.”

—Author Unknown—

President’s Message...

The big event of the year was our battalion reunion held June 7 – 10 in Nashville, TN. This was, without a doubt, the best reunion that we have had yet. (See the AAR in this edition) Once the reunion committee selected Nashville as the site there was much to do. And I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to Bill West (D/3/8 67-68) and Byron Adams (D/3/8 68-69), our “Boots on the Ground” who worked tirelessly in locating the hotel and making the preliminary arrangements. And once the reunion was getting underway, Bill made numerous trips back and forth to the airport and hotels shuttling folks around. Both, Steadfast & Loyal” Brothers. Also, I would like to acknowledge and thank our Brother, Richard Elam (B/3/8 66-67). Since he joined us in December 2004, he has located and added 37 B Co “boat people” to our roster. Many of them came to the reunion. Unfortunately, Richard was unable to attend due to an accident that his wife had just days before. With efforts such as this, our roster has grown to 785 Brothers. Membership in our chapter represents about 25% of those on the roster. I urge those of you who are not members to consider joining the association. As you are aware, the Greatest Generation of WWII veterans are rapidly dying off and it is up to us to pick up the torch and carry on with the traditions of the 4th ID. Remember that it is not the cost of the membership (\$20.00 annually), it is the price that you already paid to be eligible for membership. (See National 4th ID article in this edition)

Steadfast & Loyal
Steve Edmunds

THE WALL - Washington, D.C.

Veteran’s Day, 11/11/07 – Anniversary Hill 724 Dak To

Veteran’s Day this year has an even deeper meaning for members of the 3/8th 4th. Infantry Division Association, November 11th marks the 40th anniversary of The Battle of Dak To. November 1967 was a significant month in and around Dak To area of Vietnam. The NVA was engaged in battle with fighting units of the 1st Brigade; the 3/8th on Hill 724 (actual battle date of 11/4/67 -11/13/67), the 3/12th on Hill 1338 and a unit of 173rd Airborne on Hill 875 (Note: 173rd OPCON to 4th ID). The Dak To engagement with the NVA was the biggest battle to date in the Vietnam War.

Members of the 3/8th Ivy Dragoons Chapter of the 4th Inf. Div. Association will be participating in a wreath laying during The Veterans Day ceremonies in Washington DC at the Vietnam War Memorial. All members and friends are encouraged to attend this moving event.

For more information please contact Ed Goehring , e-mail address Gcoopersburg@aol.com
Submitted by Ken Howe, D/3/8 68-69

A Dragoon Down Under...

I now live in Australia and could not make it to the reunion in Nashville, but I was sent a shirt and cap that were embroidered with DRAGOONS, 4th Inf. Div. patch, a green map of Vietnam, the 8th Inf. Crest and 3/8th, 4th Inf. Div. RVN 1966-1970 underneath. A few weeks ago the USS Kitty Hawk came to Brisbane on her last ocean journey before retiring. My wife who works for the local government got us on board for a tour on Sunday at 3pm. I wore my shirt and cap. The last tent we had to go through we were checked by two navy NCO's, and one Lieutenant in dress blues was watching it all. He saw my cap and after reading it he came to attention and saluted me. This was good for me and I replied with a thanks back to him. So, I want to say thanks to my two brothers who sent me the stuff, Kurt "Doc" Nagl and Ron "Doc" Jacobs.
Bill "Doc" Ferguson, HHC/3/8 66-67
Greenbank, Queensland, Australia

Recycling Update...

Recently we were informed that due to the increase in postage, the company that we recycled thru will no longer be accepting those plastic pre-paid mailers. I had this clarified and they will not return to sender so we will not get any credit. This is bad news since I passed out sixty packs of fifty bags at our reunion. Please stop using the old bags. If anyone has any ideas as to what to do, please let me know.

Edward G. Goehring B/3/8 9/66 ~ 9/67 Call
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Memories to Find...

**Ivy Dragoons continue to support their fallen Brothers
and their families.**

**Welcome to Bonni Basford, daughter of Lon Dougherty, KIA 21
Feb 1970**

The January issue of the *Ivy Leaf*, the National 4th Infantry Div. Assoc. newsletter, had a letter from a lady asking if anyone knew Spec. Lon Dougherty, KIA in Vietnam, 21 February 1970, with the 4th Infantry Division. Lon Dougherty was her father and Bonni was born on 19 Feb 1970, two days before her father was killed. She knew little about her father and her mother never talked about the situation. Bonni grew up, married Dan Basford, an "army infantry vet" and has a 7 year old son, Justin. Yet, after 37 years, Bonni still longed to know something about her dad and "the grunts" who served with him in Vietnam. There was still a space in her heart that needed touching, needed some healing. Bonni and Dan spent several years pursuing a variety of channels to make contact with someone who knew her father in Vietnam.

This past January, I sat in the bleachers at my daughter's college swim meet in Chicago. As I read Bonni's letter my eyes filled with tears and my body became numb, goose bumps filled my arms and spine. Lon had been in my platoon and Bonnie lived near Buffalo, about 30 minutes from my mother's home. There was a somber sense to the rest of the day.

The next day I called Nick (Claus) Borgman in Texas who had been our platoon SSGT. Nick has sent me a letter in March 1970 telling me about Lon's death and other ugly stuff happening.

For several weeks I procrastinated calling Bonni, not certain what I would say, how I would begin the conversation. Finally, on 19 February 2007, I called Bonni and introduced myself as someone who knew her dad. Ironically, it was Bonni's birthday. She was born the same day I boarded a chopper and left the Vietnam jungle. Lon was killed the day of my ETS in Ft. Lewis, Washington, 36 hours after leaving Lon and rest of the platoon.

Since talking with Bonni in February, Nick Borgman has called her to provide more information about her father and she has exchanged emails with Steve Edmunds and Nick. Bonni was unable to make the Nashville reunion, but we promised to meet in August, during my return to Buffalo for a high school reunion. Given the nature of the meeting with Bonni, I knew we needed a special place. We met at The Anchor Bar, home of the original "Buffalo Chicken Wings". Bonni's red hair was our identification clue. Bonni and her husband Dan, joined my wife, Mary, and me for a memorable evening. We shared tears, we shared hugs, we shared quiet moments, we shared laughter...we shared feelings possible only because of "those who have made the ultimate sacrifice". We shared stories about Lon and what the 4th Infantry and A/3/8 was doing during his time in Vietnam. We learned how Bonni and her husband spent several years seeking to make contact with someone who knew her father in Vietnam. Lon arrived in Vietnam in November 1969, just in time for the monsoons! We laughed about that and re-viewed some old Kodak Instamatic pictures from a camera protected by "a battery bag". We could only assume Lon was like the rest of us when it came to our jungle experiences. I shared with Bonni how we did

(continued: last page)

Ivy Dragons Reunion AAR...

Date of Action: 7 June – 10 June 07

Location: Nashville, TN

Weather conditions...

Hot and humid with periodic thundershowers

Units and Personnel involved...

A/3/8: Col. William & Judy Babcock, A/3/8 69-70; Johnnie Bing & Jennifer Thompson, A/3/8 67-68; Stan Bode, A/3/8 67-68; Stephen Chopek & Carol Graham Orrell, A/3/8 68; George "Doc" Costa, A/3/8 68-69; Colin & Nancy Davis, A/3/8 67-68; Gordon Dixon, A/3/8 67-68; David & Virginia Dorn, A/3/8 68-69; Chris Dorney, A/3/8 66-67; Myron & Kathy Gwin, A/3/8 68-69; Ralph & Diane Haun, A/3/8 67-68; Jim Hill, A/3/8 66-67; David & Sherry Jack, A/3/8 67-68; Wayne Jackson, Jr., A/3/8 68-69; Sam & Cathy Jones, A/3/8 68-69; Nathan "Nate" & Charlyne Lanford, A/3/8 67-68; Julio Leon, A/3/8 68-69; Alan Linford, A/3/8 67-68; James & Mary McCarthy, A/3/8 69-70; Paul & Sandra Mims, A/3/8 68-69; Larry H. & Velma Poore, A/3/8 67-68; Steve "Doc" & Sandy Prince, A/3/8 66-67; Winfred & Iris Routh, A/3/8 67-68; Dennis Sanchez, A/3/8 67-68; Mark Towns, A/3/8 66-67; Davie & Hennie Wade, A/3/8 67-68; Felix "Buddy" Williams, A/3/8 68-69

B/3/8: Jim & Ruth Adams, B/3/8 67-68; Alex & Delia Alegria, B/3/8 66-67; Rellius "Bo" Boudreaux, B/3/8 69-70; John Cimino, B/3/8 67-68; Ron Collins, Memorial (Brother – SP4 John Collins B/3/8 KIA 11 Nov 67) & Guest, Paul Hughus; Jesse & Rita Colvin, B/3/8 65-67; William & Bonnie Cowell, B/3/8 67-68; Hubert & Marian Daniels & son, Marcus Daniels, B/3/8 66-67; Ken Ervin, B/3/8 66-67; Chris & Maryann Falcone, Memorial (Father – Capt John Falcone B/3/8 KIA 11 Nov 67); Don & Sharleen Fields, B/3/8 68-69; Bob Gamboa, B/3/8 66-67; Joe & Irma Garcia, B/3/8 67; Jim George, B/3/8 68-69; Ed & Mary Ellen Goehring, B/3/8 66-67; Tim Haslam, B/3/8 68-69; Larry & Paula Holland, B/3/8 66-67 and guests; Matt & Gage Holland, Kera & Dalton Hill; Ronyal "Doc" Jacobs, B/3/8 66-67; Larry & Charlotte Jumper, B/3/8 66-67; Carroll & Phyllis Merrell, B/3/8 66-67; Thomas & Roberta Moore, B/3/8 66-67; William "Bill" & Linda Mosby and granddaughter, Allechia Mosby, B/3/8 66-67; Kurt "Doc" & Sue Nagl, B/3/8 66-67; Richard & Yet Peters, B/3/8 67-68 & Guests, Jim & Joyce Truttman; R. David "Doc" Pickett, B/3/8 66-67; Ed & Josie Pippin, B/3/8 67 & Guests, William & Jo Ann Phillips; James & Evelyn Roberson, B/3/8 66-67; Tommy Jr & Patti Routh, B/3/8 66-67; Freeman Royal, B/3/8 66-67, Sam & Joan Shelton, B/3/8 66-67; Steve & Pat Shlagel, B/3/8 68-69; George "Tom" & Frankie Talton, B/3/8 66-67; Marion Valentine, B/3/8 68-69; Bob Walkowiak, B/3/8 67-

68; Fred & Carol Watson & Daughter, Abigail Watson, B/3/8 67-68

C/3/8: Clay & Sue Andrews, C/3/8 67-68; Juan Anzaluda, C/3/8 69-70; Wayne "Doc" Brown & Guest, Renee Himes, C/3/8 66-67; William J. Brune & Guest, Lloyd Schmidt – USMC, C/3/8 70; Mark Butler, C/3/8 67; Russell Campbell, C/3/8 66-67; Ross & Linda DeGrave, C/3/8 67-68; Steve & Elsie Edmunds, C/3/8 67-68; Gary & Georgeen Edwards, C/3/8 67-68; Jearld Fagg, C/3/8 66-67; Terry Faulkner, C/3/8 67-69; Skip Franges & Debbie Weaver-Higgins & Guests, Ophra Franges and her friend, Adele, C/3/8 67-68; Ronze & Kaye Gengo, C/3/8 67; Lewis "Mike" & Bobbie Glasgow, C/3/8 67-68; Gary Holliman & mom, Bernise Holliman, C/3/8 67-68 and guests; Brenda & Roy Grinder; Richard "Doc" Jackson, C/3/8 66-67; Ron Jennings, C/3/8 67-68; Guest, Kimberly Johnson (Father – Richard Johnson C/3/8 68-69); John Kell, C/3/8 70; James Kreisel, C/3/8 66-67; Bob Longwell & Guest, John Johnston, C/3/8 66-67; Monte "Doc" Lunde, C/3/8 67-68; Pat & Lynda McClelland, C/3/8 67-68; Robert & Eileen McElroy, C/3/8 66-67; Myron & Joy Mleziva, C/3/8 66-67; Richard E. Myers; C/3/8 66-67; Byron & Hazel Perry, C/3/8 66-67; Ivan & Gail Pierce, C/3/8 67-68; Bob & Wuanda Richards, C/3/8 67-68; Robert & Mickie Rohan, C/3/8 66-67; Ronnie & Debbie Salzer, C/3/8 70; Larry Skoglund, C/3/8 67-68 FO; Ellis "Moon" Sopson, C/3/8 67-68; Rea "Sparky" & Betty Sparks, C/3/8 67; Bob White & Guest, Marilyn Jude, C/3/8 67-68; Bob Williamson, C/3/8 67-68

D/3/8: Byron & Debbie Adams, D/3/8 68-69; Jerry Alford, D/3/8 67-68; David R. Ballard, D/3/8 67-68; John & Anne Bauer, D/3/8 68-69; Terry & Anita Bell, D/3/8 67-68; Michael & Polly Boxer, D/3/8 68-69; Wayne Brown, D/3/8 67-68; Arthur & Diana Butzgy, D/3/8 67-68; Dan Grzyb, D/3/8 67; Ken Howe & Lynne Menard, D/3/8 68-69; Jimmie Howell, D/3/8 67-68; Grover & Linda Jackson & Peggy Bourgeois, D/3/8 68; Byron Kinnan, D/3/8 67-68; Ken & Lorraine Kinsey, D/3/8 67-68; Gary McCluskey, D/3/8 67-68; John & Sue McMillian, D/3/8 68-69; Pat & Alice Ann McNulty, D/3/8 67-68 FO; Gene & Mary Lee Melhorn, D/3/8 67-69; Darold & Doris Muhs, D/3/8 68-69; David Parsano, D/3/8 68-69; Alex Quintanar, D/3/8 67-68; Gabriel & Aida Stefania, D/3/8 68-69 & Guests, Frank & Joan Pandoli; Eleanor Tate Blackwell, Memorial (Brother – Lt Todd Tate III D/3/8 KIA 4 Dec 67); Ray Taylor, D/3/8 67-68; Dale Van Winkle, D/3/8 67-68; William West, D/3/8 67-68

E/3/8 & HHC/3/8: Rick "Doc" Arouzet & Guest,

HHC/3/8 Recon 66-67; **Doug & Suzanne Belnap & Jean Lipton (Belnap)**, Memorial (LTC Glen Belnap BN CO KIA 20 Dec 67); **George & Lori Casiano**, HHC/3/8 Recon 66-67; **Jackson Day**, HHC/3/8 68-69; **Chris & Joan Dressler**, E/3/8 Recon 69; **Lionel & Joyce Dudley**, HHC/3/8 66-67; **Dennis Fitz-Patrick**, HHC/3/8 69-70; **Charles B. & Kathy Flood**, HHC/3/8 66-67; war correspondent/author; **LTC Phillip & Clara Gabbard, Ret.**, HHC/3/8 66-67; **Jim & Becky Jewell**, HHC/3/8 Recon 66-67; **Sam Kennedy**, HHC/3/8 Recon 66-67; **Leo C. & Carolyn King**, HHC/3/8 Recon 66-67; **Daymon & Linda King**, HHC/3/8 Mortars 66-67; **Chuck & Carmen Kiser, Jr.**, HHC/3/8 67-70; **M/Gen Tom "Charger" & Katchie Lynch**, BN CO 66-67 & grandsons, **Ryan Sturdevant & David Grogan**; **James "Ronnie" & Annie Pierce and daughter, Kanisha Duffy**, E/3/8 Recon 67-68; **Reuben C. Plachy**, E/3/8 Recon 69-70; **Ed. Sleichert, E & B/3/8 68-69 & Guest, John Kapior**, B Troop 1/10 Cav 66-67; **Bruce "Tom" & Ann Thompson**, HHC/3/8 Recon 66-67; **William Varnado & Guest, Shirley Brown** HHC/3/8 Recon 66-67; **Maj Evrod C. & Constance Warner**, HHC/3/8 69-71;

June 7 1000-2200 hrs A squad secured the Donelson Room and established a perimeter and set up the CP. Registration was underway for what would become one of the most memorable reunions we have experienced. Memorabilia, photo albums and catalogues containing copies of our archives were displayed on the tables to be perused at ones leisure. All enjoyed the camaraderie and fellowship. A number of our group took a dinner cruise down the Cumberland River aboard the General Jackson Showboat. It has a capacity of 1200 plus crew. This showboat is a 300-foot-long vessel styled in the grand tradition of the paddlewheel riverboats that cruised the rivers in the 1800s. The seating was at The Captain's Tables where the group enjoyed a fine dinner followed by entertainment from a 5-piece show band. During dinner the MC announced that we were attending as a group and we received a very loud ovation. Later that evening, we took a stroll on deck just as the lights of Nashville passed in review.

June 8 0800-1600 hrs A small detachment re-secured the Donelson Room and we continued with the registration for the late arrivals while others enjoyed the camaraderie of their brothers who filled the hospitality room. In the early afternoon, the hotel staff joined the rest of us to make a presentation. First of all, they wished to thank us for our service and then proceeded to distribute Moon Pies, Goo Goo Clusters and RC Cola. It was a very nice gesture and appreciated by us all.

1700-1800 hrs An advance party moved out and secured the McGavock Ballroom in preparation for our Banquet Dinner. A no host bar was setup to provide refreshments as a preliminary to the main event.

1800-1930 hrs Once everyone was seated, a color guard led by SFC Charles Rhea Jones posted the colors. This was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance which was led by Ryan Sturdevant and David Grogan, the grandsons of MG Tom "Charger" & Katchie Lynch, Ret. The colors were retired and Pastor Jackson Day provided the benediction. After a few words from Steve Edmunds, the battalion broke for chow and lined up in one of the two buffet lines. A feast befitting the heroes and their families that paraded through the chow line and certainly a vast improvement over C-Rations.

1930-2300 hrs The program got underway with the introduction of MG Tom "Charger" Lynch. Earlier this year, "Charger" celebrated his 80th birthday, so a belated rendition of Happy Birthday was sung to commemorate this event. Elsie Edmunds presented "Charger" with a gift of a portrait that she had made. Our first guest speaker was Pastor Jackson Day. Jack served as Battalion Chaplain in RVN 68-69. During his tour, he held a number of memorial services and provided spiritual support to the members of the battalion as necessary. March 1969 was a particularly difficult time for the battalion and Jack seemed to have suppressed those events from his memory? He shared that making the connection to members of the battalion in recent years has helped fill in the missing pieces to this complex puzzle of dealing with those memories. While he left Vietnam in 1969, a piece of Vietnam remained in his heart and had called out to him over the years. He, finally, made a return trip where he was able to lay the demons to rest. Our next speaker was Felix "Buddy" Williams, a platoon leader with Alpha Co in RVN 68-69. Buddy shared some of his experiences, the most memorable being in March 1969. Buddy still feels the pain of those men lost during this most difficult time. Buddy retired from the military after 26 years as a LTC and then continued to serve his country with the Sheriff's Department. Our next two speakers were from a different point of view. We would soon learn what it is like to live with one of us. The first speaker was Betty Sparks, the wife of Rea "Sparky" Sparks, C/3/8 67. Betty shared from her heart what it has been like to be married to Rea for the past 38 years. She was followed by Elsie Edmunds, the wife of Steve Edmunds, C/3/8 67-68 with a wife's perspective about a relationship that was not as long in duration and preceded by multiple marriages by Steve. Both, provided an enlightening message to the wives and significant others in the audience. We took a break in the program to conduct drawings to pass out some of the raffle prizes that were donated. One of the gifts, a hand made wooden bowl with the 4th ID patch inlaid into the bottom was donated by the craftsman, Ed Goehring B/3/8 66-67 and was one in a silent auction by Jim McCarthy, A/3/8 69-70. A live auction was held for two framed pictures of "The Grunt" created and

donated by Alex Quintanar, D/3/8 67-68. One went to Mark Butler, C/3/8 67 and was immediately given to Jim Kreisel, C/3/8 66-67. The second one went to Paul Mims, A/3/8 68-69. In addition, each person who attended received an elegant key chain; the center of brushed steel engraved with the 4th Div patch, a map of Vietnam and the 8th Inf. Reg. crest, framed in brilliant polished stainless steel. Every veteran, also, received a brass Ivy Dragoons Challenge Coin embossed with the 4th Div patch on one side and the 8th Inf Reg. crest on the opposite side. This coin was first introduced at our reunion in 2005. Both of these keepsakes are compliments of the chapter. We moved into the next segment of our program consisting of a special presentation to several family members of our KIA Brothers in remembrance of their sacrifice and to acknowledge they shall always be remembered by their Brothers. The presentation included a framed picture of their loved one and a ID Challenge Coin. This presentation was made to the following: Chris & Maryann Falcone (son of Capt John Falcone B/3/8 KIA 11 Nov 67); Ron Collins (brother of SP4 John Collins B/3/8 KIA 11 Nov 67); Jean Lipton (Belnap), Doug & Suzanne Belnap (wife & son of LTC Glen Belnap Bn CO HHC/3/8 KIA 20 Dec 67) and Eleanor Tate Blackwell (sister of Lt Todd Tate III D/3/8 KIA 4 Dec 67). Immediately following was the Flame of Remembrance ceremony where each of the preceding family members lit a candle for their loved one. Eleanor Tate Blackwell sang a beautiful rendition of "Amazing Grace" which was followed with the closing prayer led by Pastor Ed Pippin, B/3/8 67 and the playing of "Taps" by an anonymous bugler. Photo-ops followed.

June 9 0900-1100 hrs A squad arrived early to re-secure the Donelson Room so the battalion could conduct the business meeting. By a unanimous vote, the present officers were elected to another term of office: President & Treasurer – Steve Edmunds; Vice-President – Jim Hill; Vice-President – Ed Goehring; Secretary – Monte "Doc" Lunde; Sgt at Arms – Bob Gamboa. Editors of the *Ivy Dragoons Dispatch* are Ken Howe and Levie Isaacks. Webmaster – Jim Bury. Ed Goehring announced that there was a plan to have the Dak To survivors (40th Anniversary) attend the 25th Anniversary of the Vietnam Memorial in Wash DC over Veteran's Day to participate in a wreath laying ceremony... more details will be available on our website. It was decided that our next battalion reunion will take place the summer of 2009 in Colorado Springs, CO. Davie Wade agreed to make himself available to help or offer advice to Brothers with their VA claims. He has a great deal of experience in these matters.

0900-1100 hrs The Ladies held their Continental Breakfast in the Bellevue Room. Before the reunion, I tried to call as many of the ladies as possible because I wanted those who were joining us for the first time to feel

that they knew someone, let them know what to expect and prepare them for the Ladies Breakfast. Our breakfast grew from 22 attendees in 05 to 71 this year. Our two hours of fun rolled into almost three hours. Betty Sparks, Bonnie Cowell, Mary Ellen Goehring, Lynda McClelland, Alice Ann McNulty, Wuanda Richards and Mary McCarthy were my elves this year. I needed and appreciated all of their help. We also had two Moms; Bernise Holliman(Gary) & Ophra Franges(Skip) & her HS classmate, Adele, join us this year. Suzanne Belnap, Jean Lipton(Belnap) & Eleanor Tate Blackwell were there representing their loved ones. Ruth Adams led off with a prayer and a little spirituality followed by Alice Ann who spoke, briefly. Our ice breaker was so much fun, one of the men described us as a pile of hens cackling and said we were so loud they had to close their door. That was pretty funny coming from hard of hearing "grunts" that have mastered not hearing a word we say. I think they were jealous. We had to kick a couple roosters out of our henhouse. We were missing a few sisters this year, but rest assured ladies, we thought about you. Our new guests fit in perfectly and are now residents in our asylum. (Contributed by Elsie Edmunds)

1200-1600 hrs After an LZ was secured in the Atrium and two chow lines were set up to serve a BarBQue Luncheon befitting the battalion and their guests. After the meal, the program continued with Tim Haslam, B/3/8 68-69 spoke of his tour and the book he authored, *Stars & Stripes and Shadows*, which reflect his remembrances of his tour in Vietnam. Tim brought copies of his book for sale and autographed each copy. Proceeds were donated to the chapter. Our next speaker was Wayne Jackson, A/3/8 68-69. He shared his experiences and how he met his cousin, Alan Linford A/3/8 67-68, when he arrived in Alpha Co. What a surprise!! Wayne shared a poem, *Paper Snow* that members of his squad wrote during Xmas 1968, as well as a poem authored by Alan titled, *Viet-Nam*. Wayne spoke from his heart reflecting on the memories of those in his platoon that were KIA in March 1969 and was here in Nashville to be reunited with some of the survivors. On the lighter side, we continued with the raffle drawings from the night before. We had many gifts, yet, to give away.

1800-2300 hrs The hotel provided transportation to members of the battalion and their guests to the early show at the Grand Ole Opry. The performance is simulcast on both, local radio and a national cable network. It was an evening to remember for all. A lucky couple in our group, Mike and Polly Boxer, were chosen at random from the audience to enjoy ring-side seating in the wings on stage. Early in the show the emcee acknowledged the chapter's presence and we were given a standing ovation. That was an emotional moment for every vet in attendance. For

those remaining behind, the hospitality room was opened in the Donelson Room where we continued to enjoy talking story and sharing pictures with one another.

June 10 The past few days have been great!!! ... and it is now time to say our goodbyes.

Lessons Learned: We need to reconsider our dates for the event. If we are going to hold it in June, it needs to be later in the month, as there were some who could not attend due to school graduations, etc. Group photo ops should be taken before the meal. We lose a few when we try to take the pictures after the banquet dinner.

Reunion Followup...



L to R: Richard Peters (B/3/8 67-68) presenting quilt to our webmaster Jim Bury (B/3/8 67-68)

Reunion Comments...

I just got back from Nashville and had to try and convey just how grateful I am for all the work you guys did to make this a memorable time. I had a chance to talk to you and could tell just how committed you are to the cause you have undertaken. I also tried to let your wife know just how important things like this are. I think she could see threw the tears I was trying so very hard not to show. A simple pat on the back and I could tell she understood. This was my first reunion and nether me nor my wife knew just what to expect. I met old friends and made new ones. We laughed and cried. We shared stories heard different points of view. The other women made my wife feel comfortable and part of the brotherhood we all share. She would also like to thank you for helping her to better understand me. I'm sure your getting a lot of mail so I'll close by saying welcome home brother you nave surely made my welcome home memorable.

Ronnie Salzer, C/3/8 70

Great reunion and a very memorable one. They just seem to get better every year.

Clay Andrews, C/3/8 67

I just wanted to let you know that Charlyne and I had a great time at the reunion. You and Elsie did a terrific job in

organizing the event. From our view it went off without a hitch. The accommodations and food was good. It was a great turn out.

Nate Lanford, A/3/8 67-68

Thanks to all of you for the hard work. It was a great reunion.

Bob Richards, C/3/8 67-68

Thanks for a great 2007 reunion! All three members of the Belnap family really enjoyed the reunion visit and developed a clearer understanding of what each and every Vet experienced and witnessed in Vietnam. You are each blessed and hold a special place in our hearts. We will never forget. It is our pleasure to be associated with such a fine collection of "Heroes". I look forward to our next meeting. Thank you!

Doug Belnap, (son of LTC Glen "Saber" Belnap, Bn CO KIA 20 Dec 67)

Thanks for the work you did on the reunion. I had decided to attend, knowing that I probably would not know anyone there. The roster had maybe one name that sounded familiar. As it turned out, two of the people I worked closest with also attended. One I had lost contact with many years ago and the other I never had any contact with. I am glad they heard about the reunion and attended. (Major Evrod Warner and Dennis Fitz-Patrick). I found out that it really is a "Band of Brothers".

Reuben Plachy, E/3/8 Recon 69-70

Bill and I just wanted to let you know how much the past week has meant to us. We met some wonderful people. On our drive home Bill told me several stories about his time in Vietnam - I think he talked about those days more that day than the 36 years of our marriage. I've always told him that if he wanted to share things I was there, but he never really talked about it. Being with everyone and able to share things was so good for Bill. We will remember the time with fond memories.

Thanks again.

Bill & Bonnie Cowell, B/3/8 67-68

Thanks from Diane & I for a GREAT reunion. Really great!!

Ralph Haun, A/3/8 67-68

Nashville was my second reunion and I thought it to be a great success. I attended Vegas in 05. As much as I would like to mention all of you by name I know I would forget some and that would be unfair to you. So to all whom I had the pleasure to see again and meet for the first time including the spouses and friends, it was a great pleasure to be in your company and spend time with you. My only regret was our time together was too brief. To the very few who unselfishly gave of their time to put this reunion together I say THANK YOU

Ken Howe, D/3/8 68-69

Many thanks to you and Elsie for all your work on the reunion. I know how hard it is to pull off an event like that. If I can ever help in any way, let me know. Chris is inspired to find some of his E Co guys before the next reunion.

Chris & Joan Dressler, E/3/8 Recon 69

The reunion in Nashville was great. The turn out of brothers was fantastic, around 150 if I would guess, not counting wives and a few friends. To my brothers who attended that I served with, just great to see you guys, to the brothers who I met at prior reunions from other companies great to see you again and to the new brothers who came out for the first time, welcome home. To those who worked so hard putting this together, I salute you. This was my 3rd reunion and looking forward to the next one. Keep in touch brothers it is so important. "Welcome Home" to all once again.

Michael Boxer, D/3/8 68-69

Chaplain's Corner...

Greetings in the name of the Lord

There has been much excitement over the summer and it has been a hot one. It reminds me of when the monsoons stopped. Water was rationed and we went on not realizing just how hot it was going to get later on, weather-wise and otherwise.

I pray all is going well with all members of the 3/8th. Now it is time to reflect on faces gone by and continue to pray for the families who are grieving as our age is rapidly catching up with us. Many members are sick and some gone. I will miss Charlie Brown and other Brothers. Charlie wrote me a letter for the VA in pencil thinking it might help. I wish we could have talked one more time. God's speed Charlie Brown.

We have our illnesses, worries, trial and tribulations, but by faith in a Living God through Christ Jesus, we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. We desperately need a Divine Touch. As we express our love to one another, we would be careful not to leave out of our prayers those who, through forty years of pain and heartached of body and mind realize that the battle will be in not too many years a distant memory. As we pray, let us all make our peace before the Lord. Then, as old soldiers for the Lord, we will be able to lay down our rucksacks of life and finally get some rest.

I pray you know Him as Savior.

In Christ's Service

Bro Ed Pippin, B Co 3/8th Dak To Nov. 67

TAPS...

My name is Tommy. I am the son of Rex & Vada Walker. I just wanted to let you know that mom passed away June 11, 2007 after a bout with lung cancer. She was diagnosed in March 2007. It was an up and down hill battle thereafter. Thanks for all your correspondence with mom. Also thanks for being a friend and looking out for my dad during the war. Note: William "Rex" Walker passed away 8/1/99. If you have any information that you haven't shared with mom, if you would please e mail me I would like to keep in touch.....thanks.

Tommy Walker

Call 828-437-0513 or email: walker2119@bellsouth.net

TAPS....

Terry Lee Peukert, 62, of Bevier, MO. died Friday, April 20, 2007 at University Medical Center in Columbia, MO. from complications due to emphysema and pneumonia. Survivors include a daughter and a sister, Beth Hall. She indicated that Terry had often talked about the mini-reunion held by members of the Recon platoon in 2004 and that this was one of his highlights in recent years. Some of the letters he had received were found at his bedside at home. Funeral services were held at 1 p.m. Monday, April 23, at Greening-Eagan-Hayes Funeral Home in Bevier, MO. Burial with full military honors was conducted at the St. Charles Cemetery in Bevier. Terry served with HHC/3/8 Recon 66-67 in the RVN and was a member of the Ivy Dragons Chapter of the National 4th Inf. Div. Assoc.



Rest in Peace Terry. You will always be remembered by your Brothers. Recon Platoon and Ivy Dragons Viet Nam Veterans Association

Submitted by Jim Jewell, HHC/3/8 Recon 66-67

***IVY DRAGOONS DISPATCH
2212 SHADY HILLS DR.
DIAMOND BAR, CA 91765***

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Continued: **Memories to Find)**

not want to take off our boots during the monsoons because they were so hard to get back on our soaked and swollen feet. We talked about the re-supply problems because of the cloud covers that grounded the choppers. We talked about the challenges of keeping our M-16s free of rust.

Talking with Bonni and Dan, I sensed that we were talking with American patriots, the backbone of our country. Good, hard working individuals striving to raise a family, do what is right and live an American dream. Bonni and Dan had already earned the inherited American rights and privileges we enjoy in our country and many take for granted. In addition to Bonni's sacrifice, Dan served in the army infantry. While he was on a "peace keeping mission Panama, he had a best friend killed. Dan is still active in the Buffalo "Am Vets".

Bonni was presented an Ivy Dragoons "Brothers" plaque provided by Steve Edmunds. The plaque included both an etching and a picture of her father's name from the "Wall" in Washington, DC. She was also provided with an Ivy Dragoons, 4th Infantry coin and Ivy Dragoons Vietnam key chain. I also gave Bonnie a copy of SSGT Nick Borgman's March 1970 letter telling of Lon's death, the death of several others and the "pre-Cambodia stuff" that was erupting for A/3/8.

We owe much to Steve Edmunds and the Ivy Dragoons founders for making possible such events that remember our Brothers, even 37 years later. For some Vets, serving one's country and serving others is a way of life. They never stop giving. One seldom knows when, or how, they touch the lives of others.

Bonni and Dan are already planning for the 2009 Ivy Dragoons reunion in Colorado where they can meet more of her father's 4th Infantry Brothers. Their extended family just grew exponentially. Notably, Bonni and Dan's car has an "infantry" license plate on the front and "U.S. Army" license plate frame on the rear. American Patriots! If anyone wants to contact Bonnie, she can be reached at 716-507-4589 or email: danbon@adelphia.net. Submitted by Jim McCarthy (A/3/8, '69-'70).

Following is an email to our webmaster, Jim Bury. Hi Jim, I just wanted to let you and Steve know that I met with Jim McCarthy and his wife Mary last night. It was a very good visit, a tearjerker, but a good one. I received the key chain, Dragoons medallion and picture frame with my father's wall rubbing on it. All that combined with just being there with someone who knew my father made everyone at the table cry including my husband. I wanted to let you and Steve know how thankful I am, I will treasure the things that you all had given me and also I wanted to THANK YOU BOTH, If it had not been for you then I would have never been in touch with Jim McCarthy. From the bottom of my heart, Bonni Basford (Dougherty)

TAPS...



CSM Jose V. Guerra, Ret. passed away June 17, 2007 at his residence in Harker Heights, TX.. He was 74 at the time of his death and is survived by his wife Yolanda; sons Joe and Martin; daughters Cha-Cha and Joy. Joe served with HHC/3/8 Recon 66-67. He did a second tour in RVN with the 101st Airborne. After retirement he

stayed at Fort Hood doing background checks on civilian workers. Harper-Talasek Funeral Home handled the services. Joe was a great person and a great leader in the army. I was fortunate to meet him at Fort Lewis in Washington State 1966-1967. Then to Vietnam and my scout leader of the Recon platoon. I was just a young 19 year old. He took care of me and brought me home safe. Had lots of fun. He would talk about his Yolanda all the time, take his pictures of her and show them to us all the time. He stopped by our farm in Oct. 1967 coming home from Vietnam and spent a couple of days. I lost track of him and 38 years later found him. Our reunion in Kansas City in 2004 was really great. I am very sorry for the family's loss. Joe was a GREAT, GREAT person and I will miss him. God be with you Joe!

Always Your Point Man, Tom Thompson, Everett, Washington

TAPS....

It is with sadness that another of our Brothers has passed on. James E. Sturn, age 60, passed away at his home in Menasha, WI. on Wednesday, March 14, 2007. Jim was born on June 6, 1946 in Neenah, WI, the son of Clarence and Evelyn (Meyer) Sturn. He had been employed by the City of Menasha Public Works for about 34 years. Jim had been retired for almost 6 years. During his military service in the US Army, he served with Charlie Co 3/8th Inf Reg 4th Inf Div in Vietnam from 8/66-8/67. He enjoyed going to the casino and belonged to many card clubs. He enjoyed fishing and hunting. Jim is survived by his parents; the love of his life Pam; his son, Brian; his brothers and sister and numerous nieces and nephews. A celebration of his life was held on Sunday, March 18, 2007 at the Redliner. Burial with full military honors was performed by the American Legion William Verhagen Post 60.

Submitted by John Schmidt, C/3/8 66-67



TAPS...

Timothy "Tim" G. Kettle, age 58, of Janesville, died on Saturday, May 26, 2007 at home. He died from liver/pancreas cancer. Doctors think it may be from Agent Orange. He was born in Janesville on April 22, 1949, the son of Theodore "Ted" and Margaret (Dockhorn) Kettle. Tim served

in the U.S. Army from April 1969 until March 1971. Tim served with E/3/8 Infantry RECON, 4th Infantry Division 11/69 – 4/70 in RVN where he received two Purple Hearts. He received a degree in Business Accounting from UW Whitewater in 1976. He married Lorrie L. Thompson on October 31, 1981 in Rockton, IL. He was employed by Marling Lumber for over 30 years. Tim was a member of St. John Vianney Catholic Church, Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 236, Kienow Hilt VFW Post 1621, 4th Infantry Division Association, Disabled American Veterans, and Military Order of Purple Heart. Tim is survived by his wife, Lorrie; 4 children: Michelle (Donavan) Brandenburg, Christopher Kettle, Andrew Kettle and Matthew Kettle all of Janesville; 1 grandson, Zachary Brandenburg; his mother, Margaret "Marg" Kettle of Janesville; 2 brothers, Tom (Sandy) Kettle and Larry (Lucy) Kettle both of Janesville; and 2 sisters, Margy (John McDonald) Kettle of Mosinee, WI and Joanie (Bob) Maves of Janesville; many nieces, nephews, and other extended family members. He was preceded in death by his father, Ted Kettle. Funeral Services were held on May 31, 2007, at St. John Vianney Catholic Church, with Fr. Randy Timmerman presiding. Interment followed at Mt. Olivet Catholic Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 236 Scholarship Fund. His gentle disposition and quick smile will be greatly missed. Tim was my brother-in-law but we go back to grade school in 1956.

Submitted by Bob Maves, B Co. 2/35 4th ID 6/69 – 6/70.

TAPS...

Thomas J. McEachern passed away on April 17, 2007 at 60 years of age. Tom served with A/3/8 4th Inf Div in RVN 67-68. He was a resident of Jenison, MI at the time of his death. A memorial service was held at Matthyse-Kuiper-DeGraaf Chapel on April 21, 2007. A military tribute was presented by the Kent County Veterans Honor Guard. Internment took place at the Blendon Township Cemetery. Tom will be lovingly remembered by his wife of 38 years, Bonnie (Ruddick) McEachern, other family members and friends.

Submitted by Bill Vigil, A/3/8 67-68

CHAPTER UPDATE...

The following is an update from Jan 1 – Aug 15, 2007

New... Michael A. Anderson, D/3/8 67-68; William J. Anderson, C/3/8 67-68; William J. Brune, C/3/8 70; Paul D. Burrell, C/3/8 69-70; George Casiano, HHC/3/8 66-67; Jesse A. Colvin, B/3/8 65-67; William H. Cowell, B/3/8 67-68; Charles Q. Cutshaw, U/3/8 64-66; Colin L. Davis, A/3/8 67-68; Carl J. Eisler, B/3/8 69-70; Kenneth H. Ervin, B/3/8 66-67; William "Doc" Ferguson, HHC/3/8 66-67; Vance A. Fink, B/3/8 66-67; Thomas C. Freitas, B/3/8 67-68; SGM Lewis "Iron Mike" Glasgow, Ret., C/3/8 67-68; Joseph A. Grudzinski, D/3/8 67-68; Jerry L. Guffey, A/3/8 68-69; Tim Haslam, B/3/8 68-69; Fredrick E. Helms, B/3/8 66-67; Ronyal "Doc" Jacobs, B/3/8 66-67; John "Sam" Jones III, A/3/8 68-69; Larry G. Jumper, B/3/8 66-67; Charles D. Kiser, Jr., HHC/3/8 8/67-7/70; LMSGT James D. Massey, B/3/8 67-68; Patrick J. McNulty Jr., D/3/8 68-69; Victor J. Melendez, C/3/8 69; Daniel Miller, C & HHC/3/8 66-67; Robert B. Ness, E/3/8 68-69; Larry D. Orr, B/3/8 66-67; James A. Steen, B/3/8 66-67; Richard V. Stone, B/3/8 68-69; Seay Weldon, B/3/8 69;

Renewals... Byron E. Adams, D/3/8 68-69; James C. Adams, B/3/8 67-68; Alex P. Alegria, B/3/8 66-67; Ruben W. Allen-Pinto, B/3/8 67-68; Rick "Doc" Arrouzet, HHC/3/8 66-67; Col. William P. Babcock, A/3/8 69-70; Joseph S. Balla, A/3/8 68-69; Dr. John F. Bauer, D/3/8 68-69; Ron Beckman, D/3/8 67-68; Lloyd "Doc" Bedik, HHC/3/8 67-68; Douglas Belnap, Memorial (Son – LTC Glen "Saber" Belnap Bn CO KIA 20 Dec 67); Stanley J. Benner, A/3/8 66-67; Johnnie L. Bing, A/3/8 67-68; Ronald D. Blust, A/3/8 67-68; Stanley R. Bode, A/3/8 67-68; Michael Boxer, D/3/8 68-69; Bruce R. Broenning, D/3/8 68-69; Dennis R. Bolman, B/3/8 69-70; Rellius "Bo" Boudreaux, B/3/8 69-70; Michael V. Buckley, A/3/8 68-69; Jim Bury, B/3/8 67-68; Roger G. Bury, Associate (Brother – Jim Bury B/3/8 67-68); Mark A. Butler, C/3/8 67; Richard D. Butterfield, D/3/8 68-69; Russell Campbell, C/3/8 66-67; Terry E. Campbell, D/3/8 69-70; Stephen J. Chopek, A/3/8 68; John L. Cimino, B/3/8 67-68; Joseph J. Coll, Memorial (Brother, Dennis J. Coll A/3/8 KIA 3 Mar 69); John L. Concannon, C/3/8 67-68; George R. Costa, A/3/8 68-69; Doug J. Crumley, HHC/3/8 Recon 66-67; John D'Agostino, B/3/8 69-70; William J. DeJonge, Memorial (Nephew – Joseph Muench B/3/8 KIA 4 Oct 69); Doug Dettman, C/3/8 67-68; Joseph J. Di Giovanni, ?/3/8 ??-??; Gordon D. Dixon, A/3/8 67-68; Arty L. Dovers, A/3/8 70; Chris R. Dressler, E/3/8 Recon 69; Gary R. Edwards, C/3/8 67-68; Richard A. Elam, B/3/8 66-67; Kenneth H. Elliott, B/3/8 67; Robert B. Evans, HHC/3/8 70; Terry Faulkner, C/3/8 67-69; David Fessler, C/3/8 67-68; Donald S. Fields, B/3/8 68-69; Sal

Finocchiaro, HHC/3/8 69-70; Charles B. Flood, HHC/3/8 66-67; Charles "Skip" Franges, C/3/8 67-68; Bernard A. Frolik, C/3/8 66-67; Robert A. Gamboa, B/3/8 66-67; Joe Garcia, Jr, B/3/8 67; Alfred M. Garron, C/3/8 67; Virgil A. "Sonny" Giles, ?/3/8 69-70; Christy Goldsmith, Memorial (Brother – Roger D. Goldsmith C/3/8 KIA 23 July 67); Robert C. Goss, HHC/3/8 67-69; Edward F. Gray, A/3/8 67-68; Walter Gross, D/3/8 67; Daniel V. Grzyb, D/3/8 67; Ronald L. Hamm, D/3/8 68-69; Roger D. Harrell, B/3/8 67-68; John M. Harris, HHC/3/8 68; Wonnie "Pappy" Harris, C/3/8 67-67; Ralph E. Haun, A/3/8 67-68; Ernest Hicks, A/3/8 68-69; Hugh D. Hosack, B/3/8 67-68; Kenneth A. Howe, D/3/8 68-69; Jimmie R. Howell, D/3/8 67-68; Paul L. Hundreiser, A/3/8 66-67; David Jack, A/3/8 67-68; Richard Jackson, C/3/8 66-67; Albert R. Jacques, Sr, A/3/8 69-70; Jim Jewell, HHC/3/8 66-67; Samuel Kennedy, HHC/3/8 66-67; Michael S. Kephart, C/3/8 66-67; Byron Kinnan, D/3/8 67-68; Robert Kirkland, E/3/8 69-70; Michael A. Leite, C/3/8 ??; Rick Letz, C/3/8 ??-??; Robert L. Levesque, D/3/8 69-70; Albert Llaugher, E/3/8 67-68; Monte "Doc" Lunde, C/3/8 67-68; M/Gen Thomas P. Lynch, Ret, HHC/3/8 66-67; John D. Maloch, E/3/8 68-69; Jacob "Doc" Marks, D/3/8 68-69; Gary J. McCluskey, D/3/8 67-68; Maynard "Gene" Melhorn, D/3/8 67-69; Carroll E. Merrell, B/3/8 66-67; Lawrence H. Molitor, A/3/8 66-67; Darold Muhs, D/3/8 68-69; Ralph E. Nagel, B/3/8 68-69; Kurt "Doc" Nagl, B/3/8 66-67; Julio Nazario, HHC/3/8 67-68; Roy S. Nussbaum, HHC/3/8 67-68; Terry E. Oliver, Memorial (Son - Charles E. Oliver C/3/8 KIA 23 Jul 67); David A. Orbell, A/3/8 67-68; Larry D. Orr, B/3/8 66-67; Richard A. Palentchar, D/3/8 70; Joe F. Pelfrey, A/3/8 67-68; John A. Perez, C/3/8 68-69; Byron L. Perry, C/3/8 66-67; James M. Peters, A/3/8 68-69; Terry L. Peukert, HHC/3/8 66-67; Richard David Pickett, B/3/8 66-67; Ivan N. Pierce, Sr, C/3/8 67-68; Col. James O. Pittman, HHC/3/8 69-70; Reuben C. Plachy, E/3/8 69-70; Hugh H. Ray, A/3/8 67-68; Dennis S. Reifsnider, A/3/8 69-70; Robert T. Richards, C/3/8 67-68; Jose A. Rodriguez, ?/3/8 ??-??; Philip Roncari, A/3/8 66-67; John E. Roy, D/3/8 68-69; Richard T. Schlafer, D/3/8 69; Weldon C. Seay, B/3/8 69; Samuel V. Shelton, B/3/8 66-67; Delbert L. Shores, Jr, C/3/8 66-67; Thomas L. Simon, HHC/3/8 67; Edward J. Sleichert, B/3/8 68-69; Robert A. Smith, A/3/8 67-68; Robert C. Stevson, B/3/8 67-68; Sidney Strickland, B/3/8 66-67; Bruce Thompson, HHC/3/8 66-67; Donald O. Tienhara, C/3/8 66-67; Mark B. Towns, A/3/8 66-67; Joseph C. Trankler, C/3/8 69-70; Bart F. VanValkenburgh, A/3/8 70; Bill E. Vigil, A/3/8 67-68; Robert G. Walkowiak, Jr., B/3/8 67-68; Fred A. Watson, B/3/8 67-68; James N. White, C/3/8 68-69; Robert J. White, C/3/8 67-68; Stuart White, E/3/8 67-68; Robert Williamson, C/3/8 67-68; Stephen P.

Wolff, E/3/8 67-67; Duane Zorn, HHC/3/8 66-67;

Paid For Life... Michael Alfieri, A/3/8 66-67; Wm. Clay Andrews, C/3/8 67; Ruben "Doc" Bonilla, A/3/8 68-69; Claus Borgmann, A/3/8 69-70; Steve Edmunds, C/3/8 67-68; James H. George, B/3/8 68-69; Edward G. Goehring, B/3/8 66-67; James R. Hill, A/3/8 66-67; Ronald P. Jones, C/3/8 67-68; John R. Kell, C/3/8 70; Nathan Lanford, A/3/8 67-68; Branko B. Marinovitch, B/3/8 66-67; James A. McCarthy, A/3/8 69-70; Joe T. McCook, E/3/8 67-68; Robert C. McElroy, C/3/8 66-67; Richard L. Peters, B/3/8 67-68; Edward E. Pippin, B/3/8 67; Steve Prince, A/3/8 66-67; Paul C. Romine, D/3/8 68-69; Alan P. Sellers, C/3/8 67-68; Rea L. Sparks, C/3/8 67; John J. Tadrzak, A/3/8 69; Alfred F. Thomas, B/3/8 66-67; James L. Vaughn, C/3/8 69-70; James M. Voshell, D/3/8 67-68; Davie D. Wade, A/3/8 67-68; Felix E. Williams, A/3/8 68-69;

National 4th Inf Div Assoc...

A decision was made at the 2007 national reunion in Colorado Springs to start a 3 to 5 year fund raising campaign. This campaign will have a goal of raising a minimum of \$200,000 to establish a permanent fund to assure the indefinite continuation of the 4th Inf. Div. Assoc. Once we have achieved this goal it is our intent that only the interest from this fund be budgeted to run the business (donations etc) of the association. We also plan to establish strict guide lines as to how and what these funds can be used for.

The association cannot continue to operate as we have in the past. As Wayne Brown stated in his treasurer's report, "we have lost money the last three years." We cannot continue to function on only dues and small donations! We need more money and members and we need them now. We can not let this great association with all its great history slowly die. It is our job to assure that we leave a legacy for the current troops serving.

Now having said this I must ask for your help! I can't do this all by myself. A few of you have already started to send suggestions for fund raisers like the following:

- 1 Raffles (chapter/national)
- 2 Sales of merchandise
- 3 Approaching business/corporation for donations
- 4 Members donations
- 5 Approaching "well off" individuals who may have served with the 4th
- 6 Insurance Beneficiaries

But we cannot stop there. No idea should be ignored no matter the scope or size, send them in. Along with these ideas I need people with the knowledge to handle these types of fund raisers to step forward and volunteer to help.

We need to strike while the iron is hot and we're all fired up from the reunion. Bob Babcock has already started to reproduce CD's of 4th history to be offered for sale in up coming Ivy Leaves. Mike May has agreed to look into the legal matters regarding fund raising communications. Another Issue is the tax classification of the assoc. I understand that we are a 501C(3) which does not allow for the write off of donations. If this is true, can we change and what must be done get the new status.

In summary, we need the following

- 1 A name for the overall fund raising campaign
- 2 More fund raising ideas
- 3 Info on how best to implement these ideas
- 4 People with the talent and knowledge to push this campaign to completion
- 5 Ideas on how to publicize this campaign
- 6 Information on how other organizations raise funds
- 7 People/chapters to help
- 8 **YOU**

Please feel free to send any suggestions or info to me at any of the addresses below. I'm sure that I can count on you to get this message out to the membership and let them know how important this issue is.

Steadfast & Loyal

Phil Menendez, Vice-President of Finance

A & E Co. 1/12 INF.

pmenendez6@comcast.net

(734)678-9694

27110 Jones Loop Rd #17

Punta Gorda, FL 33982



Reunion Alpha



Reunion Charlie



Reunion Bravo Co.



Reunion Delta Co.

Note: These were the only group pictures received prior to this publication.



Dragoon's Profile...

Joe Garcia, Jr. was inducted into the US Army on February 13, 1967 in his hometown of San Antonio, TX. He took his basic training at Fort Polk, LA. Upon completion of Basic and with a MOS of 11Bravo, he received orders to go to North Polk, LA. for AIT and walked through the portals of "Tigerland". When Joe arrived in Vietnam in June of 1967, he had orders for B/3/8 4th Inf. Div. and served in country for 5 months and 27 days before being severely wounded on Nov 11, 1967 on Hill 724 during the Battle of Dak To. After recovering from his wounds, Joe completed his service obligation at Fort Hood, Killeen, TX until his discharge Feb. 14, 1969.

Joe and Irma met and were married. They have 5 sons who are grown and married with families of their own and have given their parents 12 grandchildren. Joe is 100% disabled. His hobbies consisted of fixing up old cars and motorcycles. Joe has held membership in the Ivy Dragoons Chapter of the National 4th Infantry Division Assoc. since 2002. He and Irma have attended the Ivy Dragoons Reunions in 2003, 2005 & 2007. "They have meant very much to me, to see, and to be able to share stories of different events when we were younger and in war. And then, exchange stories of what happened to us there and how we have learned to cope, especially with the depression. And so happy to see to all my brothers that served and made it, especially those who were me at Hill 724. It makes me feel so happy to see them at our reunions and puts the biggest smile on my face. After each reunion, I leave happy and content to have had another chance to see them all again. It's very easy to make myself feel at home when I'm together with everyone and it makes me sad when we have to part. Then I start looking forward to the next one. Thank you brother Steve that we are able to reunite every two years because of you. Thank you for everything you do."