



# Thunder Run

Vol. 32 – NO. 1

“Together Then – Together Again”

1st Quarter, 2017

## The 11th Armored Cavalry’s Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia

# ORLANDO 2017

By Steve Page, Board Member and Reunion Chairman

It is amazing how time flies. It seems that only yesterday we were closing the San Antonio reunion. Now we move on to the next reunion in Orlando on September 6-10. There are many attractions in the Orlando area. Plan extra time before or after the reunion to take advantage of these activities.

Over the past couple of years we have encouraged you to make hotel reservations early. You have listened and hotel reservations are looking very good. Nearly 60 percent of our room block has been reserved.

We now encourage you to make reunion registrations early. There are two major reasons for this; 1) to help make planning easier and, 2) to ensure that you have a place at the reunion. Use the reunion registration form in this issue or register through our website.

A new policy is in effect for this and all future reunions. There will be a registration cutoff 28 days before the reunion. **The cutoff date for Orlando is August 9, 2017.** There is also a cutoff date for refunds. This policy is listed in this issue of *Thunder Run* and will be followed. We want everyone to attend but this is up to you. Please make sure that you read and follow this policy.

### Reunion Registration Deadline and Cancellation Policy

The purpose of this policy is to document and standardize reunion registration cutoff dates.

Effective with the 2017 reunion, and all future reunions, the cutoff date for reg-

Please turn to **ORLANDO** on page 6

# Blackhorse Hoofbeats

Echoes from the Regiment’s Service in Vietnam 1966-1972

By Don Snedeker,  
11th ACVVC Historian

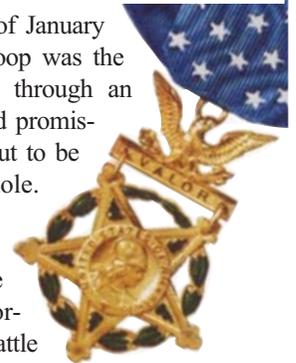
### Blackhorse Medal of Honor – Corporal Jerry Wickam

Since starting Operation Fargo in the middle of December 1967, Second Squadron Troopers had been looking for the enemy around Loc Ninh. But the recon troops and tank company just couldn’t seem to pin the enemy down. There had been plenty of mines, RPG teams, and sniper fire, but nothing substantial. The Hotel Company commander, CPT Don Saari, recalls that “we had contact on a daily basis”, but these did not develop into major contacts. The intel specialists kept saying that there were at least three regiments of the 9th (VC) Division out there – somewhere. But day after day, in unrelenting heat and choking dust, the sweeps kept coming up empty.

On the 5th of January 1968, Echo Troop was the latest to move through an area that looked promising; it turned out to be another dry hole.

The area was near a small village near the Cambodian border. But the Battle Squadron commander, LTC Garland McSpadden, was determined. He knew there was something in there; his gut feeling was confirmed by the results of an airborne radio direction finding flight that same day. So he told his operations officer to work up a plan for the whole squadron to search the same area the following day.

Please turn to **WICKAM** on page 10



## Random Recognition



Like Purple Heart recipients, the Blackhorse patch is a nationally recognized badge of honor. Story on page 9

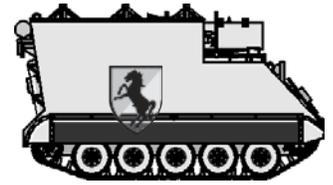




Allen Hathaway  
President

# From The Command Track

By Allen Hathaway, President



This first issue of *Thunder Run* for 2017 is being mailed to the nearly 14,000 on our mailing list. *Thunder Run* is published four times each year, February, May, August and October.

For those of you who have not yet joined as members, this issue will give you an opportunity to catch up on some of the activities of the past year as well as those planned for 2017. We encourage you to join the thousands of others before you and become members of this organization. Visit our website and our Facebook page. Both sites have an abundance of information, photographs, stories and other interesting tidbits of information. Are you looking for an old friend? Just contact any of the volunteers listed on page 3 and we'll try to help you. I guarantee, it's rewarding to reconnect with an old friend. Even though it may have been decades since you last saw or talked with each other, that span of time will seem like minutes. WE WANT YOU AS A MEMBER! So, use the membership form in this issue and become a member!

The first leg of our annual Scholarship fundraising project began in December with a mailing of the 11th ACVVC calendar to all members. This is the 22nd year for the very popular calendar. The calendar features 12 new photos along with many significant dates and historical notations in the history of our regiment.

The calendar is one of three fundraising projects that benefits our Scholarship Fund. The Scholarship Fund is a separate, stand alone account which relies solely on your donation in order to continue. All scholarships, as well as all printing and mailing cost associated with the calendar, are paid directly from donations made for the annual calendar. While the calendar you received is unsolicited, we ask that you make the most generous tax-deductible donation that you can. Your donation, regardless of the amount, will help benefit the scholarship program and ensure that we can continue to mail you the calendar year after year.

In September we will hold our annual reunion at the beautiful Rosen Centre Hotel

For those of you who have not yet joined as members, this issue will give you an opportunity to catch up on some of the activities of the past year as well as those planned for 2017. We encourage you to join the thousands of others before you and become members of this organization.

in Orlando, Florida. Orlando and the Central Florida area offer a number activities. This is perfect opportunity to combine the reunion with a vacation.

The reunion is an excellent place to meet with old friends, to make new friends, to share your experiences and renew your pride in serving with our great regiment. We all have a common bond of having served in the Blackhorse Regiment in Vietnam. From the minute you walk in the door at a reunion and see the first Blackhorse insignia, you feel "at home" and among friends. They are all Blackhorse Troopers who have been the same places, talk the same "language", and experience many of the same things.

Over 1,600 attended the 2016 reunion in San Antonio with more than 80 troopers attending their first reunion. We expect another large turnout in Orlando so make your plans soon.

On Memorial Day and again on Veterans Day we will meet at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial to lay a wreath to honor all Blackhorse troopers. This tradition began in 1986 and has continued every year.

Veterans Day, November 11, 2017, will mark 35th anniversary of the dedication of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. As part of the commemoration, each of the more than 58,000 names listed on the Wall will be read by volunteers over a four day period. It's an honor to be a volunteer and help read names. More information on how you can volunteer will be posted on our website and in *Thunder Run* when it becomes available.

Are you moving? Do you have a seasonal address? (north in the summer, south in the winter). Help us keep our records up-to-date and notify us if you change addresses. We receive 150-200 changes of address every three months, but we also have 25-35 maga-

zines returned marked "moved - no forwarding address". We don't want to loose any of our members! Notify the post office then use the convenient change of address form in every *Thunder Run* issue or submit your new address through our website.

As president, I am pleased to report that the overall state of the 11th ACVVC is excellent. Once again, we continue to be successful in many areas: treasury, membership, reunion attendance, newsletter, website, scholarships and quartermaster sales to name a few.

Our treasury is solvent. All accounts including the General Business Account, Scholarship, Reunion, Reunion Assistance and Memorial Account are all in excellent condition. Our primary sources for operating income are membership dues and quartermaster sales.

We continue to find new Blackhorse troopers every month. Over 150 new members joined in 2016. Many annual members choose to renew as LIFE members. Over 97 percent of our members are LIFE members.

Our reunions are well attended. Over 1,600 attended the 2016 reunion in San Antonio. We encourage anyone who has never attended a reunion to give it a try.

Our quartermaster store continues to be very popular with our members and offers a variety of insignia products. The insignia items instill pride in our service to our regiment AND help "spread the word" by attracting other Blackhorse troopers.

The investments made over the years guarantee the organization will be in a good financial position for many years to come. At some point it may be necessary to begin to draw on these investments to supplement operating expenses if membership dues or

Please turn to **PRESIDENT** on page 7



## 11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia (11ACVVC)

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*Thunder Run* covers present and future interests of the organization that includes membership and reunion information, various fund raising activities, and other items relative to the membership. Submissions are welcome and encouraged. Correspondence and inquiries concerning *Thunder Run* should be made in writing to: Editor, "Thunder Run," Allen Hathaway, 13194 Rettew Dr., Manassas, VA 20112-7800.

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# 12th ACVVC Annual Reunion XXXI (continued)





# Editor's Corner



**C.E. "Bill" Gregory**  
**Carlos Edward "Bill" Gregory, Jr., age 70, of Soddy Daisy, Tennessee was called to rest by the loving Father on Saturday, December 3, 2016.**

A resident of Soddy Daisy, Bill retired from Tennessee Valley Authority after 25 years of government service. He was born in Knoxville, the son of Carlos Edward Gregory, Sr. and Clara Rebecca Grimstead Gregory and was raised in Knoxville and Anderson County, Tennessee. He was a graduate of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville and held a Master's Degree from University of Tennessee Chattanooga.

He served in the US Army in the Vietnam War in 1969-70 as a 1st Lieutenant with H Company, 2nd Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment (the Legendary Blackhorse Regiment) being honored with several decorations for his service. He was the editor of the award winning "Thunder Run" magazine from 2002-2005 and 2011-2016 and was a Life Member of the 11th ACVVC.

Bill is survived by his loving wife of 50 years, Patricia; daughter and son-in-law, Susanne C. and Brian Moseley; granddaughter, Mysty Moseley, all of Soddy Daisy; sister and brother-in-law, Sandra and Pat Gang; nephews, Charlie and Jimmy Gang, all of Knoxville.

## ORLANDO from page 1

istration will be twenty eight (28) day prior to the first Wednesday of the reunion.

**The cutoff date for Orlando will be August 9, 2017. All registrations must be received by this date. Any registration received after this date will be returned to sender. This policy will be posted in all Thunder Run issues that contain reunion information. Postings will also be made on our web site.**

Cancellations and Refunds: Registration refunds will be paid in full to our members if cancellation is received by the Treasurer at least **Five (5) days prior to the first Wednesday** of the reunion.

# The 2016 Silent Auction

By Greg Mason

Thanks to all who participated in the Silent Auction during the 2016 reunion. A special thanks to all those who donated items. The auction is totally dependent on your support and those who participated came through once again. A total of 193 items were donated this year generating \$10,020 in gross receipts for the Scholarship Fund. This amount is equivalent to two full scholarships and half of a third. Many of the items had a military or 11th Cavalry theme; which are always very popular. We also had many hand-crafted items. To those of you who made these items, a very special thanks as many of them were ones that had the highest bids. We hope you will continue to make and donate these items.

Special thanks to Ron and Janet Krueger

(HHT, 1/11), Paul and Teresa Gissible (G Troop, 2/11), Tom and Terri Morrison (E Troop 2/11), Joe and Yolanda Gerhing (I Troop, 3/11), Fred Sheetz (919th Engineers), Kathy Phillips, Joanne Mason, Ed Brown (A Troop, 1/11), Russell Nelson, Harry Nelson (I Troop, 3/11) and Vincent Sinervo (HHT 3/11) for helped in collecting, organizing, tagging items, setting up and monitoring the silent auction. Thanks to Bob Moreno and his staff for receiving items in our absence and for assistance at the end of the auction in processing credit card payments. All of these folks helped make the auction a success.

The following is the list of donors for our Silent Auction in San Antonio, many who donated more than one item. Start thinking of items that may be donated for next year's reunion!

## 2016 Auction Donors

- 11th ACR (9 items)
- 3/11 Howitzer (1 item)
- Anonymous (2 items)
- Bailey, David & Linda (3 items)
- Beamon, Jerry (1 item)
- Beck, John (2 items)
- Bell, Ed (2 items)
- Berry, Timothy (2 items)
- Boyce, Roger (1 item)
- Brune, Ervin (2 items)
- Cofty, Dee (1 item)
- Creal, Dennis (3 items)
- Dearing, Terry (1 item)
- Deege, Leo (1 item)
- Dillingham, Michael (7 items)
- England, Patsy & Bill (2 items)
- Enloe, Ernie (3 items)
- Fahr, Randy (2 items)
- Foreman, Jim (4 items)
- Foust, Ronnie (1 item)
- Fox, Sharon (1 item)
- Gallegos, Dennis (1 item)
- Gehring, Joe & Yolanda (1 item)
- Gerlach, Kevin (2 items)
- Gissible, Paul & Teresa (6 items)
- Graham, James (6 items)
- Green, Jack (3 items)
- Hamilton, Bill (1 item)
- Harold, Rex (1 item)
- Hofstaedter, Thomas (2 items)
- Hogan, Sean (1 item)
- Hopkins, Bruce (2 items)
- Huffman, Arlene (1 item)
- Jankel, Ken (4 items)
- Kaszubowski, Linda (1 item)
- King, Jeff (1 item)
- Krueger, Ron & Janet (9 items)
- LaFontaine, Don (2 items)
- LaPoint, Albert (1 item)
- Leesmann, Dale & Patricia (1 item)
- Luke, Craig (1 item)
- Malewski, Bob (1 item)
- Maly, Robert (1 item)
- Malone, Walker (1 item)
- Martin, Ron (1 item)
- Maurer, Jamie (1 item)
- Mitchell, Jerry (1 item)
- Mollhoff, Wayne (4 items)
- Moreno, Barb & Bob (6 items)
- Morrison, Tom & Terri (3 items)
- Moses, Jim & Lily (2 items)
- Myers, Sheryl (3 items)
- Naidas, Kenny (10 items)
- Newton, Eric (3 items)
- Noetzel, Al (1 item)
- Penn Sports Embroidery (5 items)
- Platt, Cherry (2 items)
- Poorman, Clair (2 items)
- Price, Don (1 item)
- Quin, John (5 items)
- Rich, Curt (2 items)
- Rio Rio Cantina (1 item)
- Rosendahl, Myron & Judie (5 items)
- Rusteberg, Homer (4 items)
- Sholz, Susan (4 items)
- Schumann, Wanda (1 item)
- Sheetz, Fred (6 items)
- Simmers, Vince (1 item)
- Sinervo, Vincent (5 items)
- Smith, James (1 item)
- Solid, David (3 items)
- Sonnenberg, Roger (1 item)
- Thienes, Georgia & Mike (1 item)
- Uzzi, Gerald & Georgia (1 item)
- Weachter, Dennis & Patricia (4 items)
- Weynand, Mike (1 item)



# From the 67th Colonel of the Regiment

COL Joseph D. Clark



Greetings to the Troopers of the Best Damn Regiment. Our Regiment has just returned from Holiday leave and we are eager to get back to the business of training U.S. Army Brigade Combat Teams.

The Regiment completed the 20th Annual Long Walk to the Barstow Veterans Home, December 13th, where our troopers shared stories with veterans of each of the armed services. Our visit this year to the veteran's home was special, as this is the 20th year that the Blackhorse Regiment has conducted this tradition, which also marks how long the veteran's home has been in operation.

Our partnership with this great organization will continue to grow as we pass along the stories and history from one generation to the next.

The Regiment is now preparing to conduct Rotation 17-03, when the National Training Center will host 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division out of Fort Wainwright, Alaska.

The Blackhorse will provide the best operating environment available to train in as our capabilities continue to evolve, making our Troopers better, while also enhancing the training for the rotational unit. During Rotation 17-03, the 11th ACR will partner with the USMC's 2nd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion out of Camp Lejeune, North Carolina.

This joint capability is another example of how the Blackhorse Regiment is working to improve the training experience for every Army BCT that comes through the NTC. Additionally, this expands our capabilities by providing our Troopers the experience of working in a joint environment.

The Regiment recently conducted a War Council with the endstate of creating the Blackhorse Vision, which reads: "We are the best Regiment! Together, we shoulder the challenge of making our Army better by developing masters in our craft, and Troopers of character."

Given all that we are doing here in the

Mojave, you would be hard pressed to find a superior, better prepared, combat unit in the Army. I am extremely proud at how this Regiment has bonded with the common goal of creating a lasting legacy, while celebrating the Troopers that came before us.

As a reminder, Fort Irwin and the 11th ACR will be celebrating and honoring our Vietnam Veterans in the 50th Commemoration of the Vietnam War here, February 11th, 2017. All are welcomed to attend and as we continue to plan this event, we will provide you additional details.

For more information on the Blackhorse Regiment, please visit and like our Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/11th-Armored-Cavalry-Regiment-Blackhorse-158715460811763/>

ALLONS!

*The 67th Colonel*

## Newsletter Deadlines

Due dates to submit articles for *Thunder Run*

- 1st Quarter .....Jan 15
- 2nd Quarter .....Mar 25
- 3rd Quarter .....Jun 25
- 4th Quarter .....Oct 1

All submissions for publication must be sent to: Allen Hathaway, 13194 Rettew Dr., Manassas, VA 20112-7800; email [11thcav1966@comcast.net](mailto:11thcav1966@comcast.net).

## MOVING?

We want you to get your copy of *Thunder Run* without a lot of trouble. Complete this form and mail it to: 11th ACVVC Membership Update, Allen Hathaway, 13194 Rettew Dr., Manassas, VA 20112. Email [11thcav1966@Comcast.net](mailto:11thcav1966@Comcast.net)



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Old Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

New Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Effective Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## PRESIDENT from page 2

quartermaster sales begin to decline.

*Thunder Run* continues to keep our membership informed with a variety of interesting articles and activities. Many articles are submitted by our members and we encourage you to continue to write about your experiences. Our website continues to be another source of information for our members. The website offers a central location for current information about this organization.

We have many dedicated volunteers who work every day to ensure the continued success of this organization. On behalf of all those volunteers, it is a pleasure to serve this great organization. The most important factor, however, is the support from you, our members. Your support throughout the years has helped this organization continue to grow and succeed in every area. This support is a result of the pride we all have from serving in the best unit in the United States Army!

Keep those serving in uniform in your thoughts and prayers. If you see someone in uniform, take a minute and offer your hand to thank them for their service. ALLONS! It's good to be "Together Again".

# 2017 11th ACVVC Calendar Appeal

Pete Walter, 11th ACVVC Vice President

By now all dues-paid members of the 11th ACVVC should have received their personal copy of our 2017 calendar. If you have not received a calendar please contact Allen Hathaway (11thcav1966@comcast.net) or me (basepiece70@verizon.net). The 2017 calendar features fourteen color photographs, all submitted by members of the 11th ACVVC. In addition it includes historical information on significant dates in the history of the United States and your Regiment. We have received many compliments on the 2017 calendar along with many generous donations and we thank you for your continued support!

This full-color calendar is the first of our 2017 Scholarship fundraising efforts. The calendar you received is yours to keep and enjoy whether you donate or not. We do however, ask for your support with the most generous tax-deductible donation that you can make to assist the children of

11th ACVVC members to begin or continue their post-secondary education. The scholarships can be used for college, trade school, or any other educational training following high school.

You donated over \$68,600 to the 2016 calendar appeal; we have awarded a total of approximately \$1,264,000 in scholarships to the children of members of the 11th ACVVC! Every member of this organization can be proud of their service with the legendary Blackhorse Regiment in Vietnam and Cambodia; almost fifty years later we continue to serve and show our pride by our generous support of the children of our Blackhorse brothers.

As of Jan 14, 2017 we have received donations of \$64,354 from 1,615 of our members. This is an incredible average of almost \$40 per donor! Many of you write a check for \$100 or more and this is generosity at its best. But I am still bewildered by the ~5,300 member, (or 77%) who choose not to donate. Almost 8 of 10 of

our members contribute nothing to the annual calendar which is our premier fund-raising project. If any member can offer a viable suggestion as to how we can improve participation in this project, I welcome your input. Eventually we may have to resort to simply offering the calendar for sale as a QM item. Please consider donating \$5 or \$10 to this worthwhile project if you haven't done so.

We need your photos. A comment and request on the future of our calendar is in order. It is imperative that you the members of the 11th ACVVC continue to search through your old photos and submit the best quality photos you can find to be considered for inclusion in future issues. We transitioned to the full-color version three years ago and to continue to publish a full-color calendar we need a large pool of high quality color photographs. The best photos for reproduction purposes are high quality 35mm prints or slides showing groups of Troopers performing every-day combat missions and chores along with images of the landscape, hamlets and indigenous Vietnamese. If you have the capability of electronically scanning photos at a resolution of 300 or 600 dpi, you can send them to me as attachments to an e-mail. This is the easiest, cheapest, safest and quickest way to submit images. Additionally, I will have a high-resolution flatbed scanner at our 32nd Annual Reunion (September 6 – 10, 2017) this summer in Orlando, Florida. If you bring your photos I will scan them and return them to you in minutes. If you choose to mail your images, please send copies and retain your original. Information describing the subject matter, identity of Troopers, date, location, etc., is appreciated. This calendar shows your service, your history...please help me continue to make it a great production that we can all be proud of! Thank you. ALLONS!

## 11th ACVVC Calendar



# 2017

**11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia**

The 11th U.S. Cavalry was formed on February 2, 1901 at Ft. Myer, Virginia. In December it was assigned to duty in the Philippines where, in 1902, the 1st Squadron would earn the first of the Regiment's many battle streamers, "Samar 1902."

In the Mexican Expedition of 1916-17, the 2nd Squadron engaged Pancho Villa's men on May 5, 1916 at Ojo Azules, Mexico, killing forty-two enemies in the last mounted cavalry charge in U.S. History.

The Blackhorse Regiment would see action in World War II where it earned five more battle streamers, but the Regiment's finest performance would be in the Republic of Vietnam and the Kingdom of Cambodia. Blackhorse Troopers served there for 2,040 days and earned eleven battle streamers.

From December of 2004 to January 22, 2006, the Blackhorse deployed to Iraq earning the Regiment's most recent battle streamer for Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The 11th Armored Cavalry returned from Iraq in January 2006, and has once again assumed the challenging task of training America's Army in the desert environment of Fort Irwin, California. Although the primary mission is preparing units for deployment to the war in Iraq, our Regiment is simultaneously training intensely to remain the best Regiment in the United States Army! During the recent deployment fighting in "Operation Iraqi Freedom III," the famed Blackhorse Regiment continued to uphold the great legacy established by Troopers who fought the war in Vietnam and Cambodia.

<p style="text-align: center; color: red; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">←</p> <p style="margin: 0;"><b>Philippine Insurrection</b> Samar 1902</p> <p style="margin: 0;"><b>Mexican Expedition</b> Mexico 1916-17</p> <p style="margin: 0;"><b>World War II</b> Normandy Northern France Rhine/land Ardennes-Alsace Central Europe</p> <p style="margin: 0;"><b>Vietnam</b> Counteroffensive Phase II Counteroffensive Phase III</p>	<p style="margin: 0;"><b>Tet Counteroffensive</b> Counteroffensive Phase IV Counteroffensive Phase V Counteroffensive Phase VI Tet 1969 Counteroffensive Summer-Fall 1969 Winter-Spring 1970 Sanctuary Counteroffensive Counteroffensive Phase VII</p> <p style="margin: 0;"><b>Operation Desert Storm</b> Southwest Asia Cease Fire</p> <p style="margin: 0;"><b>Operation Iraqi Freedom</b> Iraqi Governance 2004-2005</p>
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# Random Recognition

By Blandin W. Karabinos, Chaplain,  
HHT 2/11 (71-72)

Part of our common cultural coin is the story of the Red Badge of Courage. Many of us read the book in grade school, some may have seen the movie, but all of us know the story. In the book, the Red Badge is the blood staining a soldier's uniform proving that he overcame fear and faced the enemy and death head on. Today that badge is the Purple Heart.

Many a Blackhorse veteran wears that pin or hat — or limps. But the Military Order of the Purple Heart members were not the only ones to stand tall, move forward and face the enemy. An even greater number of veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia, and younger lads from Desert Storm and Iraqi Freedom Operation served and moved forward to face the enemy head on and were mercifully spared. Not all. We have a list on the back of our calendars of the more than 700 brave men who were not spared.

We believe, as least I do, that besides those troopers that wear the Purple Heart or those troopers who paid the ultimate price there are still thousands of other Blackhorse veterans who proudly wear the red badge of courage. And we do. Our badge is the red and white shield back-lighting a rearing black horse on our regimental patch.

Like Purple Heart recipients, the Blackhorse patch is a nationally recognized badge of honor. You have all experienced that recognition. I am willing to bet that you have experienced someone stopping you and saying — Blackhorse! Many will also say: “you saved our [derriere].” Damn Straight!

Walking the streets of Warsaw's old city on a trip to Poland last year, I heard a shout from a block away. Another Vietnam veterans ran across to embrace me because I was wearing a jacket with the Blackhorse emblem. He was from Connecticut and not of our regiment but he revered the 11th Cav. Here in Virginia, at our church, a retired artillery officer with a limp and purple heart greets me every week because the Blackhorse saved

## **Wear your Blackhorse emblems with pride. You know you'll be excited when someone shouts out: “Blackhorse.”**

him (already wounded) and his battery in Vietnam.

I know I benefit more than once a week because of your courage.

You guys have made me feel patriotically proud so often, even when I have to confess that I wasn't behind a turret firing a .50 caliber machine gun or flying a Cobra or busting jungle with a tank. But I sure am proud that I was a Blackhorse chaplain.

God rest Bill Gregory. I always look forward to his piece in *Thunder Run* that urges us to show our pride; and I enjoy seeing cars and trucks, barns and garages, mail boxes and flag poles festooned with the Blackhorse patch.

On trips to Washington to participate with our veterans of the 11th Armored Cavalry at wreath laying ceremonies, I feel good walking across the Memorial Bridge or onto the hallowed grounds of Arlington Cemetery wearing my Blackhorse jacket or hat and being greeted with deference and admiration. As a chaplain I should be a lot more humble, but how can I be, being a trooper of such a proud and renowned regiment.

Wear your Blackhorse emblems with pride. You know you'll be excited when someone shouts out: “Blackhorse.” It seems I meet someone who either served in the 11th Cav or someone who knows the Blackhorse label as well as a Yuengling label every week. I still get

goose bumps when active duty troopers come to our gatherings in Washington or to our reunions wearing spurs and Cavalry hats and saluting us older veterans of a war gone-by. I make sure that when I attend a funeral of a veteran or some civic function, meeting or parade that I proudly sport my Blackhorse insignia and am not surprised when a stranger approaches and says: “Blackhorse”.

I'll not forget my first year at Fort Knox and serving as the Armor School Chaplain while General George Patton, III, was the Armor School commandant. He had a certain gruffness about him that masked a caring heart. He even asked me as I was about to leave for Vietnam: “what unit will you report to, Chaplain?”. Not being a dummy, and noting the Blackhorse regimental patch on his shoulder, I stood up smartly and said: “hopefully your regiment sir, the 11th Cav.”

When I arrived in Bien Hoa at o-dark-thirty (under rocket fire), we were quickly assigned bunkers. A few hours later an officer walks into the bunker with a manifest in hand and calls my name and two other returning troopers. He said “grab your gear and hurry up, a chopper is waiting to take you to Phu Loi and the 11th Cav.”

As Leroy Jethro Gibbs often says: “I don't believe in coincidences.” ALLONS!



### **Membership is Our Strength**



**It's not the price you pay to belong, it's the price  
you paid to become eligible to join**

Team Hotel (one tank platoon and two recon platoons) was selected to lead the 2/11 advance on the 6th. The team's mission was to move down an old French colonial outpost trail in the direction of the Cambodian border. This was the area – based on the previous day's radio intercept – that held the suspected enemy base camp. CPT Saari decided to let his organic tank platoon (three M-48s) lead the column. He placed his own and the first sergeant's tanks behind the lead platoon, followed by the platoons of ACAVs from Fox and Golf Troops.

First Lieutenant Ed Jones' 1st Platoon, Fox Troop was cross-attached with Hotel Company for the mission. Eight of the platoon's ACAVs were operational on 6 January. Two scout ACAVs led the platoon, followed by the LT in his ACAV (F-16). CPL Jerry Wickam was the track commander (TC) of ACAV F-10 immediately behind the platoon leader.

About three-quarters of an hour into the mission, the second M-48 in the column was hit by an RPG-7 just as it entered a large clearing. The enemy gunner's aim was true; the rocket entered the turret on the left side – just below where the loader was standing. He was killed instantly as the warhead penetrated the turret and sent shrapnel bouncing around inside. The TC was severely wounded (but survived). The undamaged tanks immediately returned fire, as LT Jones' ACAV crews visually searched the tall grass. The RPG team was, however, long gone.

The contact ensured that everyone was alert and looking for bad guys left and right as they moved out again. Past the clearing, the vegetation grew right up to the edge of the trail. Visibility was cut to no more than 10-15 feet, giving the enemy a decided advantage; they were experts at camouflage. Nonetheless, the lead tank crew spotted another enemy position about 200 meters further down the trail. A sharp-eyed Trooper saw movement in one of the small bunkers that were located along the trail's edge. First Sergeant Macon Haynes directed his driver to crush the bunker with his 50-plus ton tank, which he proceeded to do.

CPT Saari herringboned his M-48s on the trail and told LT Jones to dismount some scouts to check out the area to the north. CPL Wickam dismounted, then said to SP4 Charles Henry: "Let's go Henry,



Cpl Jerry Wickam, MOH

let's go check out this bunker." They found an enemy soldier who had been killed apparently trying to exit the bunker. They pulled his body from the hole. That's when they heard, in Charles Henry's words, "a popping sound and a sound like a fuze burning". Jerry Wickam recognized it as the sound of a Chinese grenade being charged. Someone was still alive inside the bunker. Jerry yelled "Get back Henry, he just pulled a grenade" and pushed his buddy out of the way. He threw his own body across the entrance just as the grenade went off. Fortunately, neither Trooper was wounded by shrapnel, but the same could not be said of the enemy soldier. He unwittingly committed 'grenadacide'.

About the same time, a side gunner on F-12 noticed a second bunker on the south side of the road. He fired a magazine's worth of M-16 ammo into the hole. Jerry Wickam came running and added another clip's worth from about six feet away. LT Jones and SSG Don Carter dismounted and joined them on the ground. Jerry pulled one body out, only to discover a second enemy soldier playing possum inside. As SSG Carter covered him with his pistol, Wickam pulled the enemy soldier – an assistant RPG gunner from the 2nd Battalion, 88th (NVA) Regiment – out of the hole by his collar and made sure he wasn't armed. They found an RPG launcher and four live rounds inside the position; these would never be used against a Blackhorse tank or ACAV.

Just at that moment, Ed Jones remembers, "all hell broke loose". The tanks and ACAVs came under intense automatic weapons, RPG, and 75mm recoilless rifle fire from the left (south). The response was instantaneous; 90mm canister, caliber .50, and M-60 machine guns blasted the jungle in all directions.

About this same time, the air support CPT Saari had requested arrived. Four F-4s

dropped their bombs and napalm into the jungle, followed by a flight of Huey gunships, miniguns blazing. Artillery was next, although it hit so far in the jungle that it could not be seen, only heard. The jungle was so thick that even the accompanying Zippo could not burn off enough foliage to see what was hidden amongst all that green.

The Blackhorse Troopers had stirred up a hornet's nest, and CPT Saari wanted to see what else was in there. LT Jones organized a 14-man dismounted patrol, with CPL Wickam volunteering to take the lead. Jerry's father had taught him to hunt deer and pheasant while he was growing up in rural Illinois, so he knew what he was doing. He wasn't about to let someone without the right skills be on point. For SP4 Phillip Parrish, who served with Wickam for five months, this was typical for Jerry. "He always was looking out for other people, to see that everyone was alright. He always took the most dangerous missions to protect his men."

As they moved deeper into the jungle, they found numerous empty spider holes and fighting positions. Soon, however, the trees and vines and underbrush grew so thick that visibility was cut to a foot or two. Moving in a crouch with weapons at the ready, the dismounted Troopers advanced cautiously. The patrol came under small arms fire and went to ground. LT Jones moved forward to be next to his pointman.

Jerry's eyesight was better than most in the jungle, despite the thick black-framed Army glasses he wore. He was the first to spot the two-man bunker about ten meters away. He pulled the pin on a grenade and let it fly into the entrance of the hole. LT Jones recalls counting the seconds, hoping that the enemy wouldn't throw the grenade back at them. They didn't. After the explosion, Jerry Wickam and Don Carter rose to charge the position. They immediately came under heavy and effective AK-47 rifle fire. Jerry Wickam was hit in the side, grunted, and fell to the ground. Don Carter rushed to his aid. His Silver Star citation relates: "Although only a few meters from the enemy positions, Sergeant Carter gallantly gave first aid to the dying man and began to pull him back to safety through heavy automatic and semi-automatic weapons fire. While engaged in his mission of mercy, Sergeant Carter was hit four times

by sniper fire and seriously wounded.”

Other members of the platoon were able to rescue SSG Carter, but for Jerry Wickam it was too late. The medic tried mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, but he was already dead.

Shortly after his death, MAJ Don Martin, the Second Squadron Executive Officer, began the process for the award of the Medal of Honor to Jerry Wickam. He interviewed some of the Troopers who had fought alongside him. Many years later, MAJ Martin reflected on what he learned.

My only knowledge of Corporal Wickam had come through hearing his fellow soldiers speak of his behavior on that fateful day. I can still hear the inspiration in their voices as they described his courage and leadership... I don't know what went through Corporal Wickam's mind as he faced a determined, well-armed enemy manning camouflaged bunkers only a few meters in front of him. I do know that he ran the race of a soldier with honor, leading the assault on bunker after bunker, even when severely wounded, until he collapsed on the field of battle... I do know that he exhibited at that moment of crisis the utmost faithfulness to his comrades-in-arms, to his unit and to his country.

When she was in Washington to receive Jerry's posthumous Medal of Honor from Vice President Agnew on 18 November 1969, his widow, Suzanne Wickam, was quoted as saying that “even if the war came to an end today, I still would not feel that Jerry had died in vain. He believed in what he was fighting for, and that's all that matters.” She explained further that after Basic and AIT, Jerry was sent to Germany. The couple was childless at that point, but they both wanted to raise a family. “He asked God to give us a son”, Suzanne told a reporter, “and he made a promise that he'd volunteer for Vietnam if the prayer was answered... I was for it. I knew how much it meant to him. He couldn't have lived with himself if he hadn't gone.” Four months into his Germany tour, their prayers were answered, and Jerry was true to his pledge. He volunteered for duty in Vietnam.

John Maville said of his best friend and high school classmate: “Jerry had what few young people have today, discipline and responsibility.”

Amen, brother!

# Combat The Dog

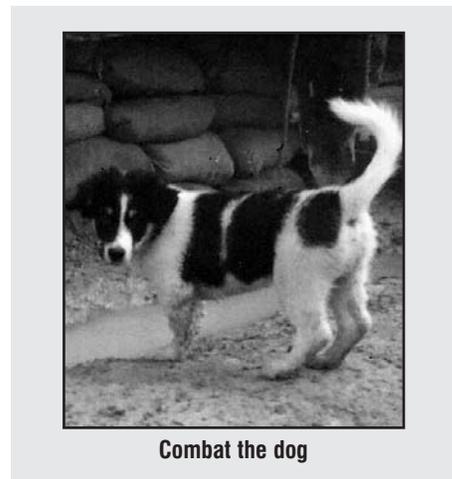
*Don Snedeker, 11th ACVVC Historian*

**B**lackhorse legend has it that an unknown Trooper from Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, Regiment, smuggled a dog aboard the USNS Sultan before it departed Oakland Terminal for the long voyage to Vietnam in August 1966. The dog's name was Combat. He earned his name by extending his tour of duty in the war zone six times.

Combat first came to the attention of the ‘authorities’ when he showed up in the Long Binh Staging Area in early September – just after the Boat People had arrived. He became well-known to the veterinarians attached to the 37th Medical Company, as well as to the HHT Mess Daddy. Allen Hathaway recalls: “He was a little black and white dog except for his legs which were red from the clay dirt. Combat liked to hang around the field kitchen begging for handouts. Of course this gave the cooks and medics fits because of sanitation concerns. (Yeah, right, sanitation. LOL!)”

Over the course of the next four and one-half years, Combat earned campaign credit in War Zones C and D, the Iron Triangle, Gia Ray, Claymore Corners, the Catcher's Mitt, the Michelin Plantation, Thunder Road, and Cambodia. Combat moved where the Troopers moved – to the new Blackhorse Base Camp, Quan Loi, Di An, and Bien Hoa. He rode on jeeps, ACAVs, and command post vehicles. From Junction City to Tet '68 to Montana Raider, Combat was there.

When the Regiment stood down in early 1971, the official policy was that all mascots had to be left behind in Vietnam. But Combat was special – he'd been in country longer than any other Blackhorse Trooper. And he had the scars to prove it. John Sherman Crow was the regimental opera-



**Combat the dog**

**Combat liked to hang around the field kitchen begging for handouts. Of course this gave the cooks and medics fits because of sanitation concerns. (Yeah, right, sanitation. LOL!)”**

tions officer at the time, and he recalls that “Combat was no longer white, he was the color of the red dirt, with a number of scars. We all loved him to death.” The 43rd Colonel of the Regiment prevailed on his boss at US Army Vietnam to make an exception to the rule for Combat. The special request was submitted and approved, a Trooper volunteered, and took Combat home when he DEROSed in March 1971.

Were you the Trooper who brought Combat to Vietnam on board the Sultan? Do you know who did? Are you the Trooper who took Combat back to The World four years later? Or maybe you just have a Combat war story or pictures you would like to share. If you do, please contact Don Snedeker at [blackhorse4@verizon.net](mailto:blackhorse4@verizon.net).

## 11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia

### Reunion Attendance

2010 .....Washington, DC.....1,275	2015 .....Columbus, GA.....1,265
2011 .....St. Louis, MO.....1,063	2016 .....San Antonio, TX.....1,622
2012 .....Orlando, FL.....1,150	2017 .....Orlando, FL.....TBD
2013 .....Indianapolis, IN.....1,024	2018 .....Grand Rapids, MI.....TBD
2014 .....Las Vegas, NV.....1,499	



Let's talk about R&R's for a while. Did you go on R&R when you were in Vietnam? Where did you go? Can you name all the locations you had to choose from? As I recall they were Hong Kong, Kuala Lumpur, Manila, Sydney, Hawaii, Bangkok, Singapore and Taipei. Right? If I'm wrong you're welcome to let me know. On the other hand, did something happen so you couldn't go? Were you a casualty or what? I hope you came through OK.

No one doubts that everyone needed the rejuvenation. So it was too bad when Victor Charlie got active at exactly the wrong time so a few of you missed out on R&R. You had to stick around to shoot back at the bad guys. But, hey! (or Hay!). Anyway, if you got your R&R as planned, you would have known how great it was to get out of Vietnam for a few days see the beautiful side of things. Every one who went made their own experience on their time away from the war. Everyone had their own "holidays, vacations, R&R's" (Everyone except those who got a bad break, like I mentioned). Some who went to Australia went back again. They had met a "nice girl" who dated them but didn't fool around. They fell in love. Now they were going back to marry her and they did.

Have I told you about my handlebar mustache? No? Well, officially, if you wanted to sport a mustache (Navy excepted) you had to have it trimmed in a very precise way. Out in the bush no one much cared about detail. We thought they looked pretty cool (we didn't call it cool, then, we called it something else like "neat" or "bitchin"). So when my turn came, after about six months in country, I went on R&R. When I went to check in at Tan Son Nhut, the clerk told me I had to cut my handlebars off or I wouldn't get orders to go. Well, I didn't think that was cool so I went to see the commander to get a better opinion. Bad move on my part - my opinion didn't count. I decided I wanted to go on R&R more than I wanted the handlebars - they became trash and I went to Sydney.

R&R was very important (right?). I'll go with the Rest and Recreation definition

**A hallmark (means very important thing) of combat in World Wars I and II, was a front line, a specific place where you know the fighting was happening...In Vietnam there wasn't any front line.**

for R&R, which I think was the official name. A hallmark (means very important thing) of combat in World Wars I and II, was a front line, a specific place where you know the fighting was happening. Soldiers who were fighting on the front lines were rotated to the rear from time to time for some R&R to get a breather. It help keep their heads together and to keep them from going completely berserk, instead of going just partly berserk. It was a practical matter. In Vietnam there wasn't any front line. The battle line could have been at the rear where the barber or mama-san or monthly girl friend could be a Viet Cong. Pressure was everywhere, so troops were sent out of country for R&R. We got clear out of Nam to remove, regroup, renew, regenerate, relax, recharge, review, recuperate, recreate, reconstitute, get renovated, and then return (what did you expect?). Short-term R&R centers in country were helpful too, like China Beach or Vung Tau, which most troops in the bush never saw. Out of country R&R's were in a bigger league, much bigger.

I didn't go to all R&R places, being in Vietnam for only two tours. However, I was fortunate to go to three: Sidney on my first tour, Manila and Bangkok on my second. I don't remember why I got two during my second tour except that it was happening at the time. I went to Bangkok because Hong Kong was more popular and filled its quota first. But Bangkok was fine too - I got rested, rejuvenated and somewhat recreated too. I observed many soldiers using the same benefits. I did observe some soldiers using a few extra benefits. Being a chaplain, I just let them pass. I'll just let it pass since if you were there you already know.

I'll tell you a story about Sydney which you'll enjoy. Not everyone went to Sydney. Others went somewhere else. But Sydney was very popular and in high

demand. We all know what a lot of troopers were after when they went on R&R, and Sydney was no exception. But Sydney was special because the people were about the same as Americans. (They drove on the wrong side of the road, but you couldn't drive anyway so it didn't matter - it just looked funny to have traffic driving on the left side of busy streets). Anyway, I guess there were enough "ladies of the night" available to satisfy the "need". However, there were many nice young ladies who registered at the R&R center in the lobby of the Kings Cross Hotel. They made themselves available to have a date with a soldier (or airman, sailor, marine) to go to dinner, a movie, a concert or whatever. They were nice girls, they were well behaved, and didn't mess around. (Like I already said, there were some who did mess around.) The men must have appreciated them. That's because all the way back to Vietnam they were so happy about meeting such nice girls. Most places guys would have been talking about their sexual exploits and adventures. (these weren't conquests because many were bar girls who easily conned the soldiers into buying their expensive diluted tea drinks and then took their bucks for a roll in the hay.) I couldn't count how many guys wanted to go back to Sydney to marry the nice girls they had dated. Some actually did. A Vietnam vet friend of mine went back and married the girl he met on R&R. They're still married. Isn't that great?

That's a quickie R&R story. I don't have time to talk about more stories like the time I got lost in the Philippines or a soldier in Bangkok who convinced a salesclerk into offering him a bronze dinner set for dirt cheap. Then the soldier left without the set but the exasperated clerk crying.

I'll add one more rest and recuperation source before I sign off. In the old days, life could be real hard. Life can still be

hard so I'll hope you'll consider this additional R&R resource. The word on it comes from Jesus Christ, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." (Matthew 11:30-30) This

is the big R&R.

R&Rs were good times. I'm sure you still need one once in a while. So take an R&R from time to time. When it comes to the recreating and storing of your mind and soul - take the but R&R all the time. This one is forever. God bless you.

*God loves you. So do I.*

## Just One More Day

**"Not everyone who lost his life in Vietnam died there, not everyone who came home from Vietnam ever left there."**

by Robert "Bob" Kickenweitz

September 23, 1967. For the past 36 hours or so I've been very anxious as I had already turned in my helmet, flak jacket, and my M-16. I left Blackhorse base camp for the last time on my way to Long Bien, South Vietnam for final out processing. With all my paperwork completed, I sat around all day on pins and needles. At two thirty or three o'clock, we were sent over by truck to Bien Hoa Air Base, again we had to wait until about four o'clock. They called out our flight, and as we got to the person at the gate we had to call out last name, first name, and service number. Then we got on board the Intercontinental Airlines 707 (the Freedom Bird). As I boarded the plane with about another 160 guys you could cut the anxiety with a knife, nobody wanted to be this close to getting home and then have something happen. You could have heard a pin drop in that plane. NOBODY was talking, I mean NOBODY! As I sat in my seat on the port side of the plane, the sun shone through my window. I could see my reflection in the window, and I can remember thinking to myself this is like a scene out of a movie. I also remember thinking that now that it's over, that year went fast. The door closed, and the plane started to roll toward the end of the runway. Engines revved up and we started rolling down the runway, then the nose lifted and under full throttle we took off. We climbed at a very steep angle to get

altitude quickly and still NOBODY is saying a word. After a minute or two the pilot came over the loud speaker and said "Gentleman we have left South Vietnam air space" and all hell broke loose! After 11 months and 21 days I was out of there and on my way home, I made it!

So here I am 49 years later, and although I'm not physically in Vietnam I'm still there mentally. If you have never been in a war zone you probably have no clue to the anxiety level that is felt on a 24/7 bases for an entire year. The anxiety is always there, even if you don't realize it. It's always hiding somewhere in the shadows or over your shoulder but it's there. War is strange, one minute you could be bored out of your mind, and the next you're fighting for your life. You never want to let down your guard even when you're bored, if you do, you go home in a body bag. You just want "One more day Lord, just one more day." That's what you pray for every night "Just one more day." I'm so blessed to have the family I have, especially my wife Patti. They may not know what I'm thinking about at times, but they know it's somehow related to Vietnam and they are always supportive of me. Someone once wrote, "Not everyone who lost his life in Vietnam died there, not everyone who came home from Vietnam ever left there." One thing I have come to realize is that you can never forget Vietnam, so you might as well embrace it.

**The last farewell...**

## 11th ACVVC Honor Guard

By Pete Walter, Vice President & Funeral Honor Guard

Most of us have heard of the mythical "Fiddler's Green", the "... good old time canteen" located "Halfway down the trail to Hell". Legend has it all Cavalrymen stop here for a drink with departed comrades and never leave.

In reality, we will all leave this world at some time. The loosely organized and informal 11th ACVVC Funeral Honor Guard renders the last respects for fallen comrades by simply attending the viewing or funeral service of our fallen brothers.

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**... I need to be informed whenever you know of the death of a Blackhorse brother.**

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Any member of the 11th ACVVC who lives within an hour's drive of the funeral service might get a call or e-mail from me asking that they attend a viewing or funeral service. All I ask or expect of attendees is that they dress neatly, introduce themselves to the family, tell them you served with the regiment in Vietnam and are paying your respects and expressing your condolences to the family of a fellow Blackhorse Trooper.

To accomplish this last farewell, I need to be informed whenever you know of the death of a Blackhorse brother. Please contact me directly at the number and/or email below. If you can provide date/time/details of the viewing and funeral service, it will make the task easier. I've been doing this for many years, and have received callbacks and notes from Troopers who were contacted for the first time to attend a funeral service - all were honored to do so and reported the family was very grateful that we never forget our brothers. It is the last service we can provide. "ALLONS!"

Pete Walter: Phone- 609-261-5629  
E-mail- BasePiece@verizon.com,



## Plans underway for Orlando meeting

Happy New Year 2017! The New Year gives us something to look forward to: The 32nd Annual 11th ACVVC Reunion at Orlando, Florida, scheduled for September 6-10. This reunion promises to be another great time of brotherhood, friendship and family.

If you are a family member – spouse, significant other, son, daughter, grandchild, family member or friend – who has never attended a reunion, you are missing an experience so special there aren't words to express it.

If your trooper has not yet attended a reunion, please encourage him or her to do so. He will come home with another family in his heart because that's what the 11th ACVVC is, a wonderful family.

**Orlando Plans:** Looking ahead to Orlando, Blackhorse Women will have something to look forward to as well. At this time the Women's Group is working on an idea presented to us by those who attended our meeting at San Antonio last August.

We're presently in the planning and pricing stages of a possible event for Blackhorse women who attend the 2018 reunion at Orlando, Florida.

I'll have further details on the event and its registration for it in the next *Thunder Run*, so please stay tuned.

Another idea that came from the San Antonio women's meeting is a fun activity that's already planned for our Saturday morning Orlando meeting! Cherry Platt, one of our board members, has volunteered to teach us how to make gorgeous red, black and silver beaded Blackhorse bracelets!

Cherry assures us these bracelets are easy to make, taking about a half-hour or so. Of course, if you have fumble fingers like me when it comes to crafty things, it might take a little longer. However, we'll have the time and we'll be working on these together as a group and help one another out! Cherry has already been purchased the needed supplies on sale.

**Fundraising:** Looking ahead, we will once again offer our site-specific lanyards as our fundraising project. Our fundraising chair, Renee Majors, said we won't offer an additional fundraising item at Orlando because it is a vacation wonderland with so much to offer. Renee added that we will, however, be offering another item at the 2019 reunion in Michigan.

**Our Causes:** Presently, the Blackhorse Women's Group fundraises for two very worthy causes: The Prayer Shawl Project and Wreaths Across America. Funds raised assist with materials and postage for the prayer shawls, and to make a donation for wreaths for graves at Arlington National Cemetery each Christmas.

Cherry Platt, Prayer Shawl Project chair, sees that a prayer shawl or sometimes a lap robe is sent to the family of 11th ACVVC troopers who have passed on to Fiddlers Green "IF" we are made aware of the loss. I say if, because if no one notifies the 11th ACVVC of the loss of a trooper, the Women's Group is also

unaware.

So please remember to pass this information along to the organization. Special thanks to Allen Hathaway for being Cherry's contact for this information. Sadly the number of loss continues to grow, and so does the need for prayer shawls. Cherry has more than 20 ladies who volunteer their time to help with this.

"My thanks to all who have made these wonderful shawls. You have brought love and comfort to many," Cherry said.

Prayer shawls are made at the home of those who volunteer to make them so if you live across the country from Cherry, you can still help. If anyone would like to volunteer for this or wants further information about the project, please contact Cherry by email at [fredplatt@att.net](mailto:fredplatt@att.net) or call her at 770-445-7534. You can also contact me or any Blackhorse Women's Group board member.

At the Orlando reunion I'll be sharing information about possibly adding another worthy cause to share our funds with. More on that later.

**Volunteers:** We will be calling upon volunteers to take shifts at our fundraising table, both at Orlando and in Michigan. Shifts are not long and the more we can get to take a turn, the more everyone can enjoy the reunion. The prayer shawl and wreath projects make a difference in the world of others, a simple reminder that volunteers are important to a group like ours.

**Newsletter:** Speaking of volunteers, our newest volunteer, Laurie Allen, will be helping us put together a short newsletter that will be emailed to women who have given us their email address. We are excited that Laurie has offered her knowledge and time to this endeavor.

The newsletter will have little updates as available, throughout the year as needed. By the way, the idea of an occasion newsletter in between *Thunder Run* articles came from a woman who has faithfully attended our annual women's meetings for several years. It was an idea I had tossed around for a while in my head but this woman was the fuel to get it off to a start. I thank her for spurring the idea forward (you know who you are)!

We are using email, at least to begin with because postage is expensive. The Blackhorse Women's Group has email addresses of those who have given them to us at our women's meetings. However, if you have never given us your email and would like to be included on the newsletter list, please mail or email them to me at my email address below or in the *Thunder Run* on the contact page.

If you do not use email, perhaps you have a family member who would gladly allow you use their email address and print it for you. If the newsletter is a success, we may be able to look into mailing to those who have no access to email. But that is in the future for now.

**Blackhorse Women Losses:** Sometimes it takes the unexpected to remind us of life and all we hold dear. Last year the Blackhorse Women's Group received sad news when we were

told of the passing of a faithful volunteer, Sarah Belcher. At that time we realized that we need to begin to recognize the loss of Blackhorse Women.

To rectify this, we begin by officially honoring Sarah's memory in our group, her smile, her caring and her endless requests to ask what else she could do for us as a volunteer. We will do so by honoring her name, the Blackhorse woman who brought us to this realization. The first on the list of women who will go on a list of honor that will this day forward will be known as Sarah's Angels.

Sadly we know others will follow Sarah on that list. We have two names already. Beginning at the Orlando Women's Meeting we will take a few moments for a prayer lead by Prayer Chair Jan Beamon. Jan will also read the names of those women who have passed beginning with January 2015 and forward. (Sorry, it would be too difficult to go back further than 2015.)

If you know of a Blackhorse woman who has passed since January 2015, whether she attended our meetings or not, we ask that you notify us. Please contact Prayer Chair Jan Beamon with information of a loss. Jan will need her name, husband's name and troop, date of death, and address. All losses need to be verified so if you have a link to an obituary (or one that can be

emailed) that would also be appreciated. Contact Jan by email at [janwowwe@gmail.com](mailto:janwowwe@gmail.com) or by phone at 903-780-5621. Or you can contact me or any other Women's Group Board member.

Contact information for Women's Board Members can be found on the men's website at <http://www.11thcavnam.com> and then go to the area marked "Messages" in the middle of the home page. Click on "Messages." That will take you to the next page where you can click on Blackhorse Women's News, then click on Women's Board Members for contact information.

**Audit of Account:** Treasurer Marguerite Austin reports that the health of the Blackhorse Women's account is in good standing, as audited by Zilda Ritchie, (wife of Kenron Ritchie, K Troop) of Baton Rouge, Louisiana. We truly appreciate Zilda's time and thank her for sharing her extensive financial knowledge with us. We have very few transactions each year, but having our books audited is important for the health of any organization. We will continue to do so every two years.

Should you have any questions or need to contact me for any reason, please do so anytime at 701-870-6868, leave a message if no answer, or by email at [kathy.tandberg@yahoo.com](mailto:kathy.tandberg@yahoo.com).

Until next time!



## SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM UPDATE

by Mike "Doc" Rafferty, Director and Scholarship Chairman

The 11th ACVVC Scholarship Program has awarded **390 scholarships totaling \$1,264,000** to children of our members and KIAs since its inception in 1996. **In 2016, we were able to award 15 scholarships totaling \$62,000** to children of our members. Every scholarship dollar paid to these deserving applicants was donated by YOU, the members of this great association of Blackhorse combat veterans!! You will find a usable copy of the current Scholarship Application in this issue of *Thunder Run* (page 20) and also on our website.

Our Scholarship Guide provides more information on the scholarship process and contains detailed assistance on completing the scholarship application. Applicants planning on attending graduate school programs are eligible to apply for a scholarship, however undergraduate applicants will be given preference in the judging process. You can print a copy of the Guide and the Application at [www.11thcavnam.com](http://www.11thcavnam.com). **If you have a child (natural, step child or adopted) who is planning on attending a college, community college or trade school this fall, please encourage them to apply for a scholarship.**

Beginning in 2008, each recipient's Scholarship Award has been dedicated to honor a specific 11th Cavalry "Blackhorse" Trooper who was Killed in Action (KIA) in Vietnam or Cambodia. The Blackhorse KIAs to be honored each year will be selected on an impartial and random basis. An attractive certificate suitable for framing containing information about the trooper in whose honor their scholarship is dedicated is sent to each recipient.

In addition, each year, one recipient is selected to receive a special Colonel Charles L. Schmidt Leadership Scholarship award in honor of former 11ACVVC President Chuck Schmidt

for his leadership and devotion to the 11th Cavalry "Blackhorse" Troopers of the Vietnam War. Chuck died on Veterans Day 2007 as a result Agent Orange-related cancer shortly after being elected to his third term as President. Chuck's widow, Mrs. Bonnie Schmidt, selects the recipient of this award from the list of scholarship winners.

### A scholarship applicant must fall into one of the following categories:

- A child, stepchild, or adopted child of an 11th Armored Cavalry Trooper who was Killed In Action
- (KIA), Died of wounds (DOW), or died as a result of the Trooper's service in Vietnam or Cambodia.
- A child, stepchild, or adopted child of a current member of the 11thACVVC in good standing.
- A child, stepchild, or adopted child of an 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment veteran who served in Vietnam or Cambodia but is not a member of the 11th ACVVC may apply after their father joins/rejoins the 11th ACVVC.

There is no age limit for applicants. Grandchildren of members are not currently eligible. The criterion to include Grandchildren as eligible for scholarships is reviewed annually by your 11th ACVVC board of directors.

**Please inform your eligible children that applications and grade transcripts need to be sent to me by May 15, 2017. E-mail me at [platoonmedic36@gmail.com](mailto:platoonmedic36@gmail.com) if you have questions. If you do not have access to e-mail you may reach me at 575-915-2921.**



Mike 'Doc' Rafferty

# 11<sup>TH</sup> ACVVC DONATIONS

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Petrusko, Donald  
Phillip, Edward  
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Anderson, Philip  
Anderson, Robert  
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Anonymous  
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Bell, Gregory  
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Christenson, Dennis  
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Cirjak, John  
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Clark, Joe  
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Easter, Larry  
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Grunloh, John	Huggins, Ronald	Kujawa, Theodore	Masiella, Anthony	Moses, James	Plummer, John
Guaderrama, Jose	Hughes, Randall	Kulpa, Norman	Masley, Jon	Moughmer, Dave	Poland, Duane
Gumpf, John	Hulik, Edward	Kunego, Donald	Massengale, Glen	Mowery, Robert	Portagallo, Thomas
Gunn, Michael	Humbertson, John	Kunst, Cornelius	Mathias, Terry	Mulrath, John	Posak, Nicholas
Guzowski, Frank	Huml, Michael	Kurihara, Harry	Matthews, James	Murphy, Dennis	Poundstone, John
Gwinn, Ted	Hunt, Robert	Kwiecinski, Paul	Mc Dowell, Peter	Murphy, Don	Powell, Marvin
Haberer, John	Hunt, Francis	Lakari, Walter	McBryde, Jerry	Murphy, James	Pressgrove, Fletcher
Hadfield, William	Huskey, James	Lamb, Larry	McChesney, Thomas	Mussche, Harry	Price, Henry
Hagood, Robert	Hutchins, George	Landsteiner, Paul	McCluskey, Wayne	Mutter, John	Pritzl, Noel
Hahn, Michael	Imeidopf, Robert	Lane, Earl	McCollum, Christine	Nagel, John	Proctor, Jay
Haines, William	Ingram, Alvin	Laneve, Louis	McCullough, LeRoy	Naidas, Kenny	Puccio, Roy
Hainley, Norman	Inman, Henry	Lang, D.R.	McDole, Harry	Neal, Bobby	Pudelek, John
Hains, James	Iseman, William	Lang, David	McDonald, David	Neary, Sheldon	Putchaven, Cletus
Halama, Ronald	Ivey, John	Langley, Rickey	McDonough, John	Nelson, Bryant	Quandt, Geraldyn
Hall, Leonard	Ivey, Walker	Lanphier, Ronald	McEvoy, Stephen	Nelson, David	Quinn, Richard
Hall, William	Jablonski, Chester	LaPoint, Albert	McFarland, Tom	Nelson, Jack	Raes, William
Hall, Rick	Jacques, Tine	Laridon, Michael	McFee, Thaniel	Newcomb, Dale	Rafferty, Michael
Hallmark, James	Jaime, Daniel	Larson, Ken	McGarrity, Thomas	Newlin, Ronny	Ralston, William
Hamm, John	Janairo, Antonio	Laternus, Simon	McGinnis, Peter	Newman, Leslie	Ramirez, Grable
Hammond, Bruce	Jankel, Ken	Lawless, James	McGowan, Bernard	Newton, Boyce	Ramnytz, Samuel
Hammond, Kip	Jaquith, Larry	Laws, James	McGregor, Stewart	Nissen, Lewis	Raper, Ronald

Raspberry, Jesse  
 Raseman, Kim  
 Reardon, Maurie  
 Reasor, Robert  
 Reed, Jackson  
 Reed, James  
 Reed, Robert  
 Reed, Ronald  
 Reeves, Edward  
 Reeves, James  
 Refshauge, Charles  
 Reichgeld, Blake  
 Reichley, Barry  
 Reiterman, John  
 Relyea, Mark  
 Retzlaff, Jerry  
 Reynolds, Phillip  
 Rhyner, Robert  
 Ribota, Richard  
 Rich, C.H.  
 Richard, Alfred  
 Richmond, David  
 Richmond, Randy  
 Rideau, Michael  
 Riggsby, Oakley  
 Riley, Ira  
 Ringstad, Michael  
 Ritter, Jim  
 Roberta, James  
 Roberts, Joe  
 Roberts, Larry  
 Robertson, Melvin  
 Robotham, Robert  
 Rogers, James  
 Rogers, Richard  
 Rogers, Sammie  
 Rolfson, Ronald  
 Roller, Arthur  
 Roman, Irving  
 Rose, James  
 Rossi, Frank  
 Rubas, Ronald  
 Ruffner, John  
 Runion, Jack  
 Russell, David  
 Russell, Dean  
 Russell, Richard  
 Russell, Ronald  
 S., Elmer  
 Sack, Richard  
 Salerno, Alan  
 Samala, Juan  
 Sanders, David  
 Sandlin, Robert  
 Sartor, Donald  
 Sawwell, Gary  
 Schaefer, Adrian  
 Schamberger, William  
 Schaunoland, Donnie  
 Scheetz, Phillip  
 Schmersahl, Thomas  
 Schneeman, Frederick  
 Schneider, David  
 Schnetter, Robert  
 Schorr, Gerard  
 Schreck, Dennis  
 Schruers, Derek  
 Schultz, Lane  
 Scott, John  
 Scott, Marlene  
 In Memory of Dale Scott  
 Seeley, Martin  
 Seese, Harry  
 Selch, William

Self, Gary  
 Selman, Bruce  
 Selvitella, Dennis  
 Sevelius, Arthur  
 Severeid, Ralph  
 Sevey, David  
 Sexton, James  
 Seyller, Philip  
 Seymour, David  
 Shafer, Howard  
 Shakow, Raymond  
 Sharpe, Terry  
 Sheldon, Dennis  
 Shepler, Mike  
 Sherman, Dale  
 Shire, Philip  
 Shuey, Lawrence  
 Sieminski, Edmund  
 Sikora, Thomas  
 Silvermail, Marion  
 Silverthorn, Robert  
 Sinclair, Robert  
 Sisco, Claud  
 Slinker, William  
 Slone, Kermit  
 Smith, Art  
 Smith, David  
 Smith, Doyle  
 Smith, James  
 Smith, Paul  
 Smith, Russell  
 Smith, Sherman  
 Smith, Thomas  
 Smith, Willard  
 Smith, Paul  
 Snapp, Larry  
 Snell, Isaac  
 Soehnlén, Nick  
 Spahr, Thomas  
 Spangler, Robert  
 Spaulding, David  
 Spitze, Jim  
 St. Clair, Harold  
 Staffieri, Eustacchio  
 Stafford, Edmund  
 Stamey, Charles  
 Stampley, James  
 Stamp, Robert  
 Stanley, John  
 Stanley, Gary  
 Staples, Thad  
 Stark, John  
 Sterba, John  
 Stevens, Billy  
 Stevenson, William  
 Story, M.F.  
 Stottsberry, Kenneth  
 Strickland, Melvin  
 Struble, Ron  
 Sucato, Richard  
 Sullivan, John  
 Summers, Carl  
 Sutton, Gordon  
 Swanson, George  
 Swanson, James  
 Sweningson, Bruce  
 Tandberg, Lauren  
 Tankovich, James  
 Tarr, Raymond  
 Tate, Ben  
 Taylor, Douglas  
 Taylor, F. Robert  
 Taylor, Clarence  
 Tear, Raymond

Temple, Billy  
 Tenik, Joseph  
 Terlecky, Slofko  
 Terry, Hardy  
 Thaim, Gary  
 Thayer, Paul  
 Thompson, David  
 Thompson, Limmie  
 Thompson, Louis  
 Thor, Thomas  
 Thrasher, Harrison  
 Tiedeman, David  
 Tighe, Michael  
 Tips, George  
 Titschinger, Mark  
 Tobias, Manuel  
 Toddy, Dale  
 Tonks, Glenn  
 Toole, Larry  
 Torno, Charles  
 Torsok, Michael  
 Totaro, Lawrence  
 Townsend, Frank  
 Trabanco, Andrew  
 Trahan, Vernon  
 Traw, Gary  
 Traylor, Douglas  
 Treleaven, Thomas  
 Trocha, Cynthia  
 Trottier, Raymond  
 Trujillo, John  
 Truner, Courtney  
 Tufankjian, Haig  
 Tumlin, R.M.  
 Turopolac, Stuart  
 Uebelher, Francis  
 Ungurean, Jerry  
 Upton, P. Richard  
 Valdez, Anthony  
 Valenti, Thomas  
 Van Matre, Jerry  
 Vanderbogat, Kirk  
 Vante Vyver, Michael  
 Vargas, Luis  
 Varljen, Frank  
 Vaughan, Travis  
 Vega, Ramon  
 Venhoff, John  
 Verbeke, Russell  
 Vicario, Raymond  
 Violet, J.W.  
 Virusky, Edmund  
 Waddell, Darrell  
 Wagner, Dewitt  
 Wagner, William  
 Wait, James  
 Wakeham, David  
 Waldron, Hilmon  
 Waldrup, Clinton  
 Walker, James  
 Walkner, Thomas  
 Wallech, Joseph  
 Walter, Raymond  
 Walton, Ron  
 Wampler, Loretta  
 Ward, Bruce  
 Ward, Bobby  
 Warf, Roger  
 Wasdovitch, Joseph  
 Waters, Larry  
 Wathen, Bob  
 Watkins, George  
 Watrous, Antoinette  
 Watters, David

Watts, George  
 Weachter, Dennis  
 Webb, Gary  
 Webb, Kenneth  
 Weege, Henry  
 Weeks, Keith  
 Wehrle, Hubert  
 Welch, Dennis  
 Weller, William  
 Wells, John  
 Welmon, Harry  
 Welton, Floyd  
 Weltzien, James  
 Wemhoff, Gregory  
 Wentz, Darrel  
 Werker, Frank  
 Werner, James  
 Werner, Ronald  
 Werner, Warren  
 Wertz, Edward  
 Wesley, James  
 Westerberg, Victor  
 Weynand, Mary  
 Wherley, Steven

Whitener, Ernest  
 Whitlock, August  
 Whorton, Charles  
 Wierema, Ronald  
 Wiese, Tim  
 Wilcox, John  
 Williams, James  
 Williams, Lyndal  
 Williams, Roy  
 Williams, Terry  
 Wilson, John  
 Wilson, Mike  
 Wing, Shayne  
 Wisdom, Scott  
 Witek, Joseph  
 Witt, Marvin  
 Wize, William  
 Woellner, David  
 Wolan, Daniel  
 Wolas, Theodore  
 Wolf, Kurt  
 Wolfenden, William  
 Woodson, Roddy  
 Woolley, Stanley

Worley, Dennis  
 Worley, Richard  
 Worthey, Kenneth  
 Wright, Robert  
 Wright, Stephen  
 Wynne, William  
 Yeaman, Kenneth  
 Yeider, Tim  
 Yirsa, Harold  
 Yochum, Thomas  
 Yoder, Kenneth  
 Yost, Michael  
 Young, Paul  
 Zaiontz, Lee  
 Zajac, Eugene  
 Zamojda, Bronislav  
 Zamora, Sherry  
 Zaremba, John  
 Zaub, James  
 Zillner, Robert  
 Zimmerman, Danny  
 Zimmoro, Richard

## “Find an Old Friend”

Many of you troopers believe that when you registered with the 11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia and placed on our “Master Roster” that you were automatically placed in “Find an Old Friend,” NOT TRUE. A lot of you, when filling out the registration form, did not enter an e-mail address. Why, because at that time you didn't have an e-mail and you cannot be entered in “Find an Old Friend” without one. The whole file is based on your buddy finding your name on the file and sending you an e-mail. So, if you still don't have an e-mail address, send us your wife's email address, or one that you can access.

To register for “Find an Old Friend”, go to our website: [www.11thcav.com](http://www.11thcav.com) then go down the page till you see the matrix and look for “Find an Old Friend” in the left hand column and click it. Then again in the left hand column look for “Find an Old Friend Update” and click it. Fill in the data and click Submit Comments.

For those of you who did enter an e-mail address, IS IT UP TO DATE? Have you moved or changed provider, then you should also go to our web site: [www.11thcavnam.com](http://www.11thcavnam.com) then go down the page till you see the matrix and look for “Find an Old Friend” in the left hand column and click it. Then again in the left hand column look for “Find an Old Friend Update” and click it. Fill in the data and click Submit Comments. REMEMBER IF YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS IS INCORRECT, HOW ARE YOUR BUDDIES GOING TO FIND YOU?

Allons,

Bob Kickenweitz  
 Website Manager



# 11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam & Cambodia (11ACVVC) SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION *[revised January 1, 2017]*

➔ Please print the latest **Scholarship Guide** at [www.11thcavnam.com/scholar.html](http://www.11thcavnam.com/scholar.html)  
Scholarship Chairman Michael "Doc" Rafferty

➔ **Important:** A person who has been awarded an 11<sup>th</sup> ACVVC Scholarship is not eligible to apply for a second scholarship.

[1] **Applicant's** Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

[2] **Applicant's** Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Apartment/Unit # \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

[3] **Applicant's Qualifying Status:** (Check Only One):  Child of Deceased 11ACR Trooper who served in Vietnam or Cambodia  
 Child of a Current 11ACVVC Member

➔ [4] **Applicant's SPONSOR 11th Cav Veteran:** Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

[5] **Sponsor's 11th Cav Unit** in Vietnam: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates in Vietnam \_\_\_\_\_ 11<sup>th</sup> ACVVC Membership #: \_\_\_\_\_

➔ [6] **Name and Address of College or Trade School That You Plan to Attend:** Are you pursuing a graduate degree program? \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Have You Made Application?  Yes.  No. Have You Been Accepted?  Yes.  No.

[7] **Standard Test Score For Your State:** ACT \_\_\_\_\_ SAT \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_ Specify: \_\_\_\_\_

[8] **Estimated Expenses for the School Year:** Tuition & Fees \$ \_\_\_\_\_; Room & Board \$ \_\_\_\_\_;  
Books & Supplies \$ \_\_\_\_\_; Miscellaneous \$ \_\_\_\_\_; Total Exp. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

➔ [9] **Schools and Colleges Attended:** (10<sup>th</sup> Grade to Present)

Name	City, State	Dates From / To

Name	City, State	Dates From / To

➔ [10] You **must** attach a copy of your **grade transcripts** from your **last two years of education** in High School or College.

➔ [11] On **one** typed sheet of paper with **your NAME & EMAIL** and your **11ACVVC Sponsor/Father's** name at top of the page:

1. State the **Field of Study** That You Plan to Enter and **Why**.
2. Tell Us **Why** You Would Be a **Worthy** Recipient of the 11ACVVC Scholarship.
3. **Note:** Concentrate on **why you** should be awarded an 11ACVVC Scholarship. Focus on **your** qualifications and not your father's military experience. applicable, also describe **your** participation in veterans' affairs or events, if any.

I, the undersigned, give my permission for a copy of my High School / College Transcript to be submitted with this Scholarship Application. I understand that the selection process may involve a committee composed of individuals that are in the community at large.

[13] \_\_\_\_\_  
 ↑ Signature of **Applicant** Printed Name Date

[14] \_\_\_\_\_  
 ↑ Signature of **Sponsor Veteran or Guardian** Printed Name Date

➔ [15] Please Mail Your Completed Application with attachments for [10] and [11] above to the Scholarship Committee Chairman:

**Michael "Doc" Rafferty**  
 11ACVVC Scholarship Chairman  
 5837 Habanero Drive ● Las Cruces, NM 88012  
 Email: [platoonmedic36@gmail.com](mailto:platoonmedic36@gmail.com) ● Phone 915-792-2804 or 575-915-2921

➔ **QUESTIONS?** Email is Doc Rafferty's **PREFERRED** method of communication.

# 32nd ANNUAL 11th ACVVC REUNION

SEPTEMBER 6-10, 2017

**The Rosen Centre Hotel**  
9840 International Drive  
Orlando, Florida 32819



RESERVATIONS: 800-204-7234  
ROOM RATE: \$99.00 SINGLE - DOUBLE  
\$20.00 each additional person

- Rooms are reserved on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Rates are good three days prior to and three days after event based on availability.
- Complementary self parking.
- Complementary guest room internet.
- Complementary scheduled shuttles to Universal, Wet n Wild and Sea World Parks.
- Please make hotel reservations early.

Register online using the link on our website: [www.11thcavnam.com/](http://www.11thcavnam.com/)

**Hotel Reservations Must Be Made No Later Than August 27, 2017**

## THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

The United States Flag Code is a set of guidelines that lays forth proper American Flag etiquette for just about every scenario you can think of, including how to act during the singing of the National Anthem. Specifically we'll look at Title 36 of the US Flag Code, Section 301

Title 36 U.S. Code, Section 301, National Anthem, outlines the proper etiquette during the national anthem.

(a) Designation.— The composition consisting of the words and music known as the Star-Spangled Banner is the national anthem.

(b) Conduct During Playing.—During a rendition of the national anthem—

(1) when the flag is displayed—

(A) individuals in uniform should give the military

salute at the first note of the anthem and maintain that position until the last note;

(B) members of the Armed Forces and veterans who are present but not in uniform may render the military salute in the manner provided for individuals in uniform; and

(C) all other persons present should face the flag and stand at attention with their right hand over the heart, and men not in uniform, if applicable, should remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart; and

(2) when the flag is not displayed, all present should face toward the music and act in the same manner they would if the flag were displayed.

### So that his brethren shall know...

Please report the death of any member of The 11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia to Allen Hathaway, 13194 Rettew Dr., Manassas, VA 20112; Phone: (703) 791-6610; Email: [11thcav1966@comcast.net](mailto:11thcav1966@comcast.net); for listing in "Journey to Fiddler's Green."

# Orlando Reunion Registration

By: **Bob Moreno, Registration and Board Member**

**G**reetings, and welcome to 2017. As the new year begins we here at the Moreno home have started loading into our computers all the information we will need for our upcoming reunion to be held in Orlando, Florida in early September.

Already we have received registrations through our website. That's awesome and of course receiving them on-line is really the best way to register. Why? Well, by doing them on-line I receive them faster and there is a slightly less chance of them getting lost. When you send them to Ollie, it could take several days to get to him, then he holds them until he has 10 -20 built up before sending them to me. Plus it takes almost a week from the time he mails them to get to me. So think about that when you are ready to make your registration.

When you are ready to make your registration, be sure you note all the new changes to the form this year. Especially, the cutoff date. This year the cutoff date is the 9th of August. It is VERY important that you abide by it because those that are received after this date will be returned. After registering if you find that you must cancel for whatever reason, you will need to notify the Treasurer, Ollie Pickral, by September 1st in order to receive a refund. And don't forget about your hotel registration. Make it as soon as you can. It is my understanding that the hotel is about 60% full already. So we may be going to an overflow hotel before long.

Guest - you may bring as many guest as you like but they must pay the full registration fee. This entitles them to all the enjoyment of the reunion with the exception of the Membership Meeting. For this you must be a trooper as well as a paid member of the 11th ACVVC. This meeting is NOT open to spouses, children or guest, for any reason. In the past few years we have had to ask people to leave because they were not authorized to be in there.

Be sure to fill in the registration form

completely. This includes the unit you were with (remember this is also who you will be sitting with during the banquet) and the year(s) you were in Viet Nam.

Next, be sure you mark what your choice for your banquet meal is. Remember there are no children's meals or reduced rates for children. If this is not marked for each of you, then we will be making the choice for you. Along with this please note that once you decide what it is that you are eating, it cannot be changed. We have to turn in the meal count, days before the start of the reunion so once that is done there can be no changes.

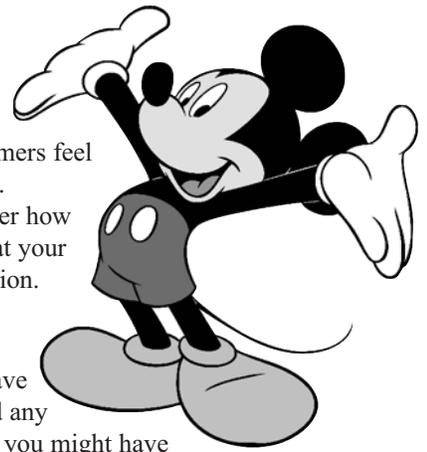
First timers, be sure you mark the 'first reunion' box if this is the first reunion you are attending. This is VERY important! And to all you 'seasoned' reunion attendees be sure you make all

the 1st timers feel welcome.

Remember how you felt at your first reunion.

Well folks I hope I have answered any concerns you might have about filling out the registration form. If you have any other questions concerning registration or the registration area on the web site (such as the list of who is attending) then please contact me at the information listed at the end of this article.

I look forward to seeing all of you in Orlando, the land of Mickey Mouse and Friends, in September. It will certainly be another amazing reunion.



## Reunion Assistance Fund

The purpose of the Reunion Trooper and KIA Survivor Assistance Fund is to assist Troopers who served with the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment in Vietnam and Cambodia, and family members of our troopers killed in action in Vietnam and Cambodia, to attend a reunion sponsored by the 11th ACVVC. Qualified applicants will be given one or more of the following items, depending on the number of requests, funds depletion, and the degree of assistance required:

1. A hotel room for one or two nights during the reunion weekend.
2. Transportation funds for fuel for auto, airfare tickets or bus or train.
3. Registration fee.
4. Meals or food allowance.

Funds are collected through direct donations by our members and are accounted for by the Treasurer. The Trooper and KIA Survivor Assistance Fund is a separate account and published in the 11 ACVVC financial reports.

To be considered for financial assistance from the fund to attend a Reunion of the 11th ACVVC, the Trooper or the KIA's immediate family members (defined as Parents, siblings, children, widows) making the request must...

1. Do so in writing to the Secretary or the President, and
2. Provide evidence of the Trooper's service in Vietnam and/or Cambodia with the 11th Armored Cavalry "Blackhorse" Regiment.

The applicant Trooper or KIA survivor should describe his/her need for monetary assistance, briefly stating his/her financial situation. In addition, the Trooper may be required to become a member, of the 11th ACVVC. The Officers and Directors of 11th ACVVC will decide by a majority vote on whom and how much assistance will be given to a Trooper or Survivor of a KIA. **Requests must be submitted no later than to July 15, 2017.**

A complete description of the Reunion Trooper and KIA Survivor Assistance Fund can be found on our website at: [www.11thcavnam.com](http://www.11thcavnam.com)



**32nd Annual 11th ACVVC Reunion**  
**Rosen Centre Hotel, 9840 International Drive**  
**Orlando, Florida 32819**  
**September 6-10, 2017**  
**Schedule of Events**



**Wednesday, September 6**

2:00 pm - 6:00 pm      Registration Open  
2:00 pm - 6:00 pm      Quartermaster Store Open  
2:00 pm - 6:00 pm      Silent Auction donations accepted  
2:00 pm - 12:00 am     Bunker Open (hospitality ballroom)

**Thursday, September 7**

6:00 am -                26th Annual Marty Ognibene Memorial Golf  
                                  Tournament (optional fee per golfer)  
2:00 pm - 6:00 pm      Registration Open  
2:00 pm - 6:00 pm      Quartermaster Store Open  
2:00 pm - 6:00 pm      Silent Auction donations accepted  
2:00 pm - 12:00 am     Bunker Open

**Friday, September 8**

10:00 am - Noon        Veterans Seminar (opened to all attendees)  
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm      Silent Auction donations accepted  
2:00 pm - 9:00 pm      Registration Open  
2:00 pm - 9:00 pm      Quartermaster Store Open  
2:00 pm -12:00 am     Bunker Open  
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm      Silent Auction

**Saturday, September 9**

8:30 am                 Raffle Drawing  
9:00 am - 12:00 pm     Annual Membership Meeting (members only)  
9:00 am - 12:00 pm     Women's Group Meeting  
2:00 pm - 3:00 pm      Memorial Service  
3:00 pm - 5:00 pm      Registration Open for Late Arrivals  
3:00 pm - 5:00 pm      Quartermaster Store  
5:45 pm - 6:45 pm      Cocktail Hour  
7:00 pm - 10:00 pm     Banquet, Program, Presentations and "Blackhorse Salute"  
10:00 pm - 12:00 am    Dancing

**Sunday, September 10**

10:00 am - 11:00 am    Chapel Worship Service (Nondenominational)  
All Day                    Farewells and Departures

REGISTRATION FORM



32nd Annual 11th ACVVC Reunion
Orlando, Florida

September 6-10, 2017

Registration Deadline: Wednesday, August 9, 2017

Rosen Centre Hotel

9840 International Drive, Orlando, Florida 32819

Reservations: 1-800-204-7234



Registration fee is \$95.00 per person. This fee is required for attendance at the Wednesday, Thursday and Friday night Bunker Parties and Saturday evening banquet dinner.

All registrations must be received by Wednesday, AUGUST 9, 2017. Any registration received after this date will be returned. Registration refunds will be paid in full to our members if cancellation is received by the Treasurer no later than Friday, September 1, 2017.

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION
(print clearly or use mailing label)

Name Telephone No:

Address

City/State/Zip

E-Mail Address

Unit Assignment Dates in Country
(Example: B TRP, D CO - List only one unit. This is your banquet seating.) (Example: 1966-1967)

KIA Relative? Yes Name of KIA:

Relationship to KIA: Unit:

ATTENDEES, INCLUDING YOURSELF (please print)

Table with 2 columns: Name, Amount. Includes Total Registration Fee row.

Banquet Meal Selection (Indicate number for each selection) Chicken Beef Veggie

Is this your first reunion? Yes No Wheelchair or special needs seating? Yes No

Visa MasterCard

Card No. Exp. Date

Signature (Required for credit card)

Make checks payable to 11th ACVVC. Please mail registration form along with payment to:

11th ACVVC
C/O OLLIE PICKRAL
571 DITCHLEY RD
KILMARNOCK, VA 22482

# 2017 Silent Auction

By Greg Mason

The 2016 Silent Auction raised \$10,020 for the 11th ACVVC Scholarship Fund with 193 items donated and available for bid. The donated items included many hand-crafted items and one of a kind items with a Blackhorse theme. We look forward to another successful auction.

The auction process continues to be as follows:

1. Items are needed for the Silent Auction to be conducted during our 32th Annual Reunion in Orlando, FL. Items peculiar to the 11th Cavalry are always favorites, and any item of value is welcome, Cav related or not.
2. We will have a collection site set-up in the registration area to collect donated items brought to the reunion beginning on Wednesday from 2pm to 6pm, Thursday from 2pm to 6pm, and Friday from 2pm to 5pm.
3. You can ship items to Greg Mason, to collect, hold and bring the items to the reunion for display. If you plan to ship items, please use the convenient Silent Auction Donor Form printed in this issue. If you bring the items to the reunion, also complete the donation form and include it with the item.
4. The auction will be from 7pm to 9pm on Friday night with the bidding ending precisely at 9pm.

Winning bidders must be present and pick up their items and pay for them between 9pm and 9:30pm after the bidding is complete.

5. If the item is not picked up, the item will be awarded to the next highest bidder at 9:30 or auctioned off at 9:45pm Friday evening. The bid form will have a place for you to leave a cell phone number in case we need to call you to let you know to pick up your item.

6. We will be able to accept cash, checks, Visa or MasterCard for payment.

We do need volunteers to work the collection site and the night of the auction. We are setting up the collection site schedule in 2 hour shifts and if you would like to volunteer please contact me at [gregmason@aol.com](mailto:gregmason@aol.com) or 813-754-2980. I will respond to your email as I receive them. If you do not get a response, it is probably because AOL has a habit of putting stuff in their "junk" folder so feel free to follow-up with a phone call.

Our reason for requiring items to be picked up and paid for the evening of the auction is because of the difficulties we have had in prior years getting all the items delivered and paid for. We appreciate your understanding.

We look forward to seeing you in Orlando and thanks in advance to all the donors!

## 11th ACVVC Silent Auction

### Donated Items Information Form

Please provide the following information with your donated item. If you wish to donate anonymously, please check the box below.  
**Please print clearly.**

Description of item donated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name of Donor: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Donor: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # of Donor: \_\_\_\_\_ Value of Item Donated \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to remain anonymous (check box)

**Mail silent auction items to: 11th ACVVC, C/O Greg Mason, 4636 West Knights Griffin Road, Plant City, FL 33565**



# Fiddler's Green

We are sorry to report the following Troopers have taken the journey to Fiddler's Green. We send our heartfelt sympathy and sincere condolences to their families and friends. We honor their service to our country and to our regiment by posting their names. Funeral Honor Guard, please check daily at [www.11acr.com/hg.htm](http://www.11acr.com/hg.htm). We check over 500 U.S. Newspapers. The daily obituary keyword is 11th Cavalry. Information is then posted on our website to allow us to attend the funerals.

**Johnny Amador**, HHT Regiment (1969-1970) passed away on June 25, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Whittier, CA. He was laid to rest in Rose Hills Memorial Park, Whittier, CA.

**Darell K. Anderson**, E Troop, 2/11 (1968-1969) passed away on August 23, 2015. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Nooksack, WA.

**Dale A. Arbaugh**, E Troop, 2/11 (1969-1970) passed away on July 19, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Ronceverte, WV. He was laid to rest in Adwell Cemetery, Ronceverte, WV.

**Robert J. Argodale**, K Troop, 3/11 (1968-1969) passed away on December 5, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Sterling, VA.

**Donald H. Ayscue**, F Troop, 2/11 (1969-1970) and HHT, 2/11 (1969-1970) passed away on January 1, 2017. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Boonville, IN.

**William J. Barba**, HHT, 1/11 (1969-1970) passed away on October 13, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Glendale, NY.

**Gary W. Bonhomme**, HHT, 3/11 (1969-1970) passed away on August 18, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Ewa Beach, HI.

**Paul Burkett**, HHT, 2/11 (1969-1970) passed away on November 23, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Columbus, GA. He was laid to rest in Ft. Mitchell National Cemetery, Ft Mitchell, AL. He is also a veteran of World War II and Korea.

**Emmitt P. Cavalier**, Howitzer Battery, 1/11 (1968-1969) passed away on October 2, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Baton Rouge, LA.

**Robert L. Clark**, HHT, 3/11 (1969-1970) passed away on April 28, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Temple, TX. He was laid to rest in Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery, Killeen, TX.

**James K. Clem**, B Troop, 1/11 (1969-1970) passed away on November 14, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Roanoke, VA. He was laid to rest in Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery, Dublin, VA.

**John W. Cocke**, L Troop, 3/11 (1968-1969) passed away on January 9, 2015. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Lynchburg, VA. He was laid to rest in Spring Hill Cemetery, Lynchburg, VA.

**Thomas R. Dion**, I Troop, 3/11 (1965-1967) and I Troop, 3/11 (1970-1971) passed away on August 13, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Bondsville, MA. He was laid to rest in Massachusetts Veteran Memorial Cemetery, Agawam, MA.

**Jimmy R. Force**, K Troop, 3/11 (1966-1967) and HHT, 3/11 (1966-1967) passed away on December 23, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Canyon Lake, TX. He was laid to rest in Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery, San Antonio, TX.

**Joseph A. Gibbs**, H Company, 2/11 (1967) passed away on October 17, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Suffolk, VA. He was laid to rest in Albert G. Horton, Jr. Memorial Veterans Cemetery, Suffolk, VA.

**Stephen R. Gozora**, 37th Medical Company (1971) passed away on October 20, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Edison, NJ.

**Carlos E. Gregory Jr**, H Company, 2/11 (1969-1970) and HHT, 2/11 (1970) passed away on December 3, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Soddy Daisy, TN. He was laid to rest in Woodhaven Memorial Gardens, Powell, TN.

**Theodore B. Griffin**, I Troop, 3/11 (1968) passed away on November 11, 2016. He was a member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Port Washington, NY. He was laid to rest in Nassau Knoll Cemetery, Port Washington, NY.

**Edward L. Horton**, Air Cavalry Troop (1968-1969) passed away on August 7, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Palos Verdes Estates, CA.

**Winston A. Johnson**, 398TH Transportation Detachment (1971-1972) passed away on November 3, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Las Cruces, NM.

**David D. Kampe**, 919TH Engineer Company (1969-1970) passed away on December 12, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Buckeye, AZ. He was laid to rest in National Memorial Cemetery Of Arizona, Phoenix, AZ.

**Orm C. Kominek**, Air Cavalry Troop (1968-1969) passed away on November 13, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Port Richey, FL. He was laid to rest in Florida National Cemetery, Bushnell, FL.

**Cary M. Kuchenbuch**, F Troop, 2/11 (1968-1969) passed away on November 15, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Wilbur, WA. He was laid to rest in Wilbur Cemetery, Wilbur, WA.

**John A. Lanning**, 551st Maintenance Company (1967-1969) passed away on January 9, 2017. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Deming, NM.

**David L. Narrow**, I Troop, 3/11 (1970-1971) passed away on May 31, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Massena, NY. He was laid to rest in St Mary'S Cemetery, Potsdam, NY.

**Gary D. Nutt**, HHT Regiment (1970-1971) passed away on June 16, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Shawnee, KS. He was laid to rest in Shawnee Mission Memory Gardens, Shawnee, KS.

**Billy J. Olson**, K Troop, 3/11 (1968-1969) passed away on November 6, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Whitney, TX. He was laid to rest in China Springs Cemetery, China Spring, TX.

**Charles R. Parker**, HHT Regiment (1967-1968) passed away on June 2, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Pinellas Park, FL.

**Eugene J. Sabol**, K Troop, 3/11 (1969-1970) passed away on August 22, 2015. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in South Park, PA. He was laid to rest in Holy Trinity Cemetery, West Mifflin, PA.

**Earl B. Schonberg**, Howitzer Battery, 2/11 (1972) passed away on July 21, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Houston, TX. He was laid to rest in Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery, Killeen, TX.

**Sanford R. Sloan**, 919th Engineer Company (1968-1969) passed away on April 20, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Harahan, LA. He was laid to rest in Garden of Memories Cemetery, Tampa, FL.

**James A. Small**, Air Cavalry Troop (1966-1967) passed away on December 2, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Navarre, FL.

**Robert D. Spencer**, M Company, 3/11 (1969) passed away on November 22, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in White Lake, MI. He was laid to rest in Great Lakes National Cemetery, Holly, MI.

**John C. Stark**, HHT Regiment (1967-1968) and E Troop, 2/11 (1968) passed away on January 9, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Elk River, MN. He was laid to rest in Ft. Snelling National Cemetery, South Minneapolis, MN.

**Theodore W. Treadway**, F Troop, 2/11 (1967-1968) passed away on December 25, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Brookhaven, GA. He was laid to rest in White Chapel Memorial Gardens, Duluth, GA.

**Adrian H. Vaaler**, HHT Regiment (1969-1970) passed away on October 28, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Eugene, OR.

**Roy R. Williams**, M Company, 3/11 (1970-1971) and F Troop, 2/11 (1971) passed away on August 22, 2014. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Neeses, SC. He was laid to rest in North Pentecostal Holiness Church Cemetery, North, SC.

**Lester L. Woodruff**, H Company, 2/11 (1968-1969) passed away on December 25, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Tulsa, OK. He was laid to rest in Ft. Gibson National Cemetery, Fort Gibson, OK.

**Lucian E. Young**, HHT Regiment (1966-1967) and I Troop, 3/11 (1966-1967) passed away on October 14, 2016. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Louisville, KY. He was laid to rest in Kentucky Veterans Cemetery Central, Radcliff, KY.

**Timothy L. Zimmerman**, F Troop, 2/11 (1968-1969) passed away on August 18, 2015. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Riverton, WY.

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

### 11th ARMORED CAVALRY'S VETERANS OF VIETNAM AND CAMBODIA

Membership is open to all troopers who served with or were attached to the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment while in the countries of Vietnam or Cambodia from August 1966 thru March 1972. Membership is also open to the wives, parents and children of our Troopers killed in action.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

UNIT \_\_\_\_\_ DATES: FROM \_\_\_\_\_ TO \_\_\_\_\_  
(Troop, Sqdn) (Mo/Yr) (Mo/Yr)

SER NO RANK (during tour) \_\_\_\_\_ SSN NO \_\_\_\_\_

OTHER INFORMATION \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE MEMBERSHIP:  NEW  RENEWAL MEMBERSHIP NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

ANNUAL (\$15)  LIFE (\$100)

LIFE Plan (\$25 enclosed, plus 3 payments of \$25 in 3, 6 and 9 months)

IN ADDITION, PLEASE ACCEPT MY TAX DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTION FOR \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I authorize the release of my address/phone number to other Troopers who served with the 11th ACR

(Sign) \_\_\_\_\_

Visa  Mastercard Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks/money orders payable to: **11th ACVVC**. Mail this form with your check or money order (no cash) to: **11th ACVVC Membership, Ollie Pickral, 571 Ditchley Rd., Kilmarnock, VA 22482.**

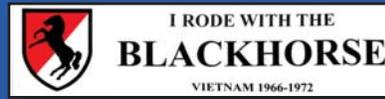
# The 11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia QM Store



#1 Coffee Mug \$15.00



#2 Key Ring \$4.00



#3 Bumper Sticker \$2.00



#5 Blackhorse Watch w/Leather Band (men's only) \$35.00



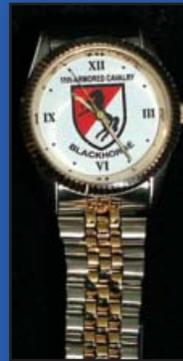
#7 Blackhorse Patch Colored \$4.00



#21 Small Magnetic Patch (5"x4 3/4") \$5.00



#4 Window Sticker \$2.00



#6 Blackhorse Watch w/Metal Band (men's only) \$35.00



#9 Cavalry Hat \$225.00



#11 Flag, Indoor/Outdoor \$60.00



#16 Tote Bag, Embroidered \$20.00



#10 Web Belt with buckle \$20.00



#15 Attache Case \$30.00



#17 Blackhorse Pin \$5.00



#14 License Plate Frame, Black w/white letters \$12.00



#13 License Plate, Blackhorse \$8.00



#12 30th Reunion Challenge Coin \$15.00



#19 Blackhorse Cavalry Pin \$5.00



#18 11th ACR Regimental Crest \$5.00



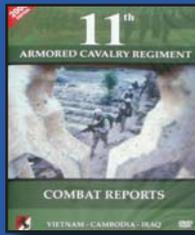
#20 Vietnam Blackhorse Pin, Wreath \$5.00



#25 Blackhorse Coin \$15.00



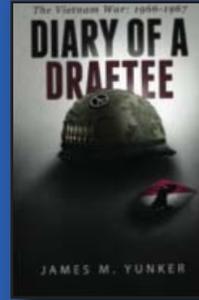
#26 Large Magnetic Patch (8" x 7 3/4") \$7.00



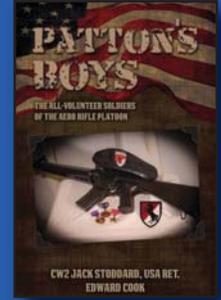
#28 Video (DVD) Combat Reports \$30.00



#23 Leather Gear Bag \$45.00



#32 Book: Diary of a Draftee \$22.00



#33 Book: Patton's Boys \$20.00



#22 Gear Bag, Red \$45.00

#8 Mouse Pad \$12.00



#36. Henley Sport Shirt w/ BH patch and RVN ribbon red in color, \$28.00

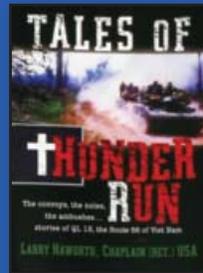
#34a



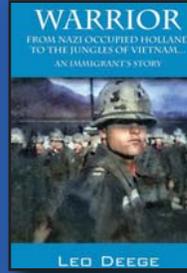
#34 Signs \$25.00



#34b



#37 Book, "Tales of Thunder Run" by Chaplain Larry Haworth \$11.00



#35 Book, "Warrior" \$15.00



#40 Golf Shirt, w/BH Insignia. Specify color: Red, White or Gray \$32.00



#38a



#38b



#38c



#39 a/b T-Shirt, Dark Gray & Sand \$18.00



#30 Car Flag \$25.00



#38d

#38 Poplin Hats \$15.00



#43 Windbreaker, black w/snap front & BH Insignia & VN Ribbon, \$35.00



#41 Denim Shirt, w/BH & VN Ribbon \$32.00



#42 Blackhorse Jacket, 100% Nylon \$95.00



#29 Ladies Necklace \$25.00



# From the Quartermaster...

Jerry Beamon

Jan and I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and started off with a Happy New Year. We are looking forward to another prosperous year here at your Quartermaster Store. We would like to thank everyone for all your support this past year.

The 2016 reunion went very well. So many of you showed up in San Antonio, surpassing all expectations. Jan and I hope you are making plans to be in Orlando this year. The reunion dates are September 6-10. We are looking forward to another great turn out and a great reunion as well. Stephen Page will have another great reunion planned for us. Make your hotel reservations as soon as you can because rooms will be going quickly. Register for the reunion as soon as possible.

For all of you who live in the EAST TEXAS area, our East Texas Roundup will be held on April 29, 2017. The location has been changed back to the Tyler State Park on F M 14 North of

Tyler TX. The Tyler State Park has nice camping for RV's and cabins that will hold up to 6 people. The dining hall is enclosed with heat and air condition and will hold up to 96 people. Make plans to come on out for a good time and some good food prepared by our ladies. Come early and camp out with us. You can RSVP Jan by mail here at the Quartermaster store address or call 903-780-5621 for more information.

Again, I am asking for you to remember to include your return address and a phone number on the bottom of the quartermaster order form. This information is important in case we need to contact you about sizes, colors or any other question about your order. PLEASE don't forget. Also, some items have been added and some prices have changed so check your order before you put it in the mail. Thank you so much for all your help. ALLONS!



## Welcome Aboard!

New Members of the 11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia (11th ACVVC) since our last issue of *Thunder Run*. Are you looking for an old friend? Please contact any Officer or Board Member listed on page 3 for help.

NAME	DATES	NAME	DATES	NAME	DATES	NAME	DATES
<b>HHT REGIMENT</b>		<b>595th ENGINEER COMPANY</b>		Henne, Charles A li	70-71	<b>F TROOP, 2/11</b>	
Dohm, David J	67-68	Horras, David O	67-68	<b>C TROOP, 1/11</b>		Peters, Gordon G	66-67
<b>AIR CAVALRY TROOP</b>		<b>919th ENGINEER COMPANY</b>		Robins, Milton	68-69	<b>G TROOP, 2/11</b>	
Dohm, David J	68-68	Bradford, Howard E	71-71	<b>D COMPANY, 1/11</b>		Roberts, Kenneth C	67-68
<b>7th ARMY POSTAL UNIT</b>		<b>HHT, 1/11</b>		Jaros, Lawrence A	69-69	Williams, Gale R	70-71
Miller, Bruce	67-67	Brown, William C	70-70	<b>HHT, 2/11</b>		<b>HHT, 3/11</b>	
<b>37th MEDICAL COMPANY</b>		Harris, Robert O Iii	68-69	Lovering, Joel H	71-72	Haley, Jackie L	68-69
Haley, Jackie L	69-69	Musick, Kenneth E	68-69	Walker, Glen L	70-71	<b>K TROOP, 3/11</b>	
<b>188th MAINTENANCE DET</b>		<b>A TROOP, 1/11</b>		<b>E TROOP, 2/11</b>		Weicht, Jerry L	69-70
Pilon, Terry	66-67	Musick, Kenneth E	68-69	Fogle, Willie J	65-67		
<b>409th RADIO RESEARCH DET</b>		<b>B TROOP, 1/11</b>		Hagenbucher, Edward C	66-67		
Boster, Dennis D	69-69	Harris, Robert O Iii	68-69	Petersen, Robert L	69-70		

## Book Reviews

**Armor Goes to War - The 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment and the Vietnam War, December 1965 to December 1966**

by John M. Carland.



This article appears in the Spring 2016 issue of *Army History* magazine published by the US Army Center of Military History. This is an excellent article covering the period when the 11th ACR was preparing to deploy to Vietnam through the first several months in country. The online version is available at:

<http://www.history.army.mil/armyhistory/index.html>

John Carland, formerly a historian at the Center of Military History (CMH), delivers a compelling narrative about the Army's use of armor during the early days of U.S. combat operations in Vietnam. Specifically, Carland highlights the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment as it moved into the country, established a permanent base, and began to engage the enemy. In 1965-1966, there were still many questions about the effectiveness of armor in the terrain and fighting environment of Vietnam. Changes to the unit's structure, armor complement, weaponry, and tactics were made in preparation for the perceived difficulties, but were as yet, untested elements.



# Quartermaster

ORDER FORM • 1st 2017

11TH ARMORED CAVALRY'S VETERANS OF VIETNAM AND CAMBODIA

Item No.	Product Description	\$ Amt	Size	Qty	\$ Total
1.	Coffee Mug, white, ceramic (glass) 11oz w/full color Blackhorse insignia .....	15.00	_____	_____	_____
2.	Key ring, 1.5" Embroidery square w/full color Blackhorse insignia .....	4.00	_____	_____	_____
3.	Bumper Sticker "I Rode With The Blackhorse" w/full color BH insignia .....	2.00	_____	_____	_____
4.	Window Sticker, full color BH insignia and Vietnam service ribbon .....	2.00	_____	_____	_____
5.	Watch, BH insignia on face, leather band (indicate choice) <input type="checkbox"/> Man's .....	35.00	_____	_____	_____
6.	Watch, BH insignia on face, metal band (indicate choice) <input type="checkbox"/> Man's .....	35.00	_____	_____	_____
7.	Blackhorse Shoulder Patch, Colored .....	4.00	_____	_____	_____
8.	Mouse Pads .....	12.00	_____	_____	_____
9.	Cavalry Hat (Brown in color, rope and pin included in price--round or oval head shape) .....	225.00	_____	_____	_____
10.	Belt: Military style 'web' trouser belt with Blackhorse buckle .....	20.00	_____	_____	_____
11.	Flag, indoor/outdoor 3'x5' with color insignia .....	60.00	_____	_____	_____
12.	30th Reunion Challenge Coin .....	15.00	_____	_____	_____
13.	License Plate, metal red & white background with crossed sabers & 11 .....	8.00	_____	_____	_____
14.	License Plate Frame, metal, black w/Blackhorse 11th US Cavalry in white .....	12.00	_____	_____	_____
15.	Attache Case w/shoulder strap 11.5" x 15.5" w/dir emb. BH insignia & VN rib .....	30.00	_____	_____	_____
16.	Tote Bag, red & black, 14x11x6 w/full color BH insignia and VN rib .....	20.00	_____	_____	_____
17.	Blackhorse Pin .....	5.00	_____	_____	_____
18.	11th ACR Regimental Crest .....	5.00	_____	_____	_____
19.	Blackhorse Cavalry Pin, brass, 11 over crossed sabers .....	5.00	_____	_____	_____
20.	Vietnam Blackhorse Pin w/wreath .....	5.00	_____	_____	_____
21.	Small Magnetic Patch "Blackhorse" (5" x 4 3/4") .....	5.00	_____	_____	_____
22.	Gear Bag, camouflage wwith color BH insignia .....	45.00	_____	_____	_____
23.	Leather Gear Bag w/Blackhorse Insignia and pull handle .....	45.00	_____	_____	_____
25.	Blackhorse Coin .....	15.00	_____	_____	_____
26.	Large Magnetic Patch "Blackhorse" (8" x 7 3/4") .....	7.00	_____	_____	_____
28.	Video: "Combat Reports" (DVD Only) .....	30.00	_____	_____	_____
29.	Ladies Necklace .....	25.00	_____	_____	_____
30.	Car Flag .....	25.00	_____	_____	_____
32.	Diary of a Draftee, by: James M. Yunker .....	22.00	_____	_____	_____
33.	Patton's Boys, by: Jack Stoddard and Edward Cook .....	20.00	_____	_____	_____
34.	Signs <input type="checkbox"/> 34a, <input type="checkbox"/> 34b .....	25.00	_____	_____	_____
35.	Book, "Warrior" by Leo Deege .....	16.00	_____	_____	_____
36.	Henley Sport Shirt w/ BH patch & RVN ribbon red in color. Size: <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/> XL <input type="checkbox"/> 2XL <input type="checkbox"/> 3XL .....	28.00	_____	_____	_____
37.	Book, "Tales of Thunder Run" by Chaplain Larry Haworth .....	11.00	_____	_____	_____
38.	Hat, Poplin adjustable <input type="checkbox"/> 38a, <input type="checkbox"/> 38b, <input type="checkbox"/> 38c, <input type="checkbox"/> 38d .....	15.00	_____	_____	_____
39.	Blackhorse T-shirt, 100% cotton, preshrunk, full color BH insignia. Specify color: <input type="checkbox"/> Dark Gray <input type="checkbox"/> Sand .....	18.00	_____	_____	_____
40.	Golf Shirt, w/BH insignia and VN Ribbon: Specify color: <input type="checkbox"/> Red <input type="checkbox"/> Dark Gray <input type="checkbox"/> White .....	32.00	_____	_____	_____
41.	Denim shirt (men's) .....	32.00	_____	_____	_____
42.	Blackhorse Jacket, 100% Nylon, zipper front, fleece lining w/full color BH insignia, (6" back ), and ACVVC front left .....	95.00	_____	_____	_____
43.	Windbreaker, black w/snap front, BH insignia & VN Ribbon .....	35.00	_____	_____	_____
44.	OTHER: Sale Items, Etc. ....	_____	_____	_____	_____

Subtotal \_\_\_\_\_

Note: unless otherwise noted, all clothing items are available in size medium through size 3XL. Specify size and color preference of item requested.

Shipping and Handling \_\_\_\_\_

**Shipping Costs: (Includes multiple Items)**

Total \_\_\_\_\_

- A) \$4.00 — \$5.00 = \$3.00    C) \$15.00 — \$59.00 = \$12.50
- B) \$6.00 — \$15.00 = \$6.75    D) \$60.00 and over = \$17.15

Visa  Mastercard Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**\* If paying by check, please write your drivers license number on the check.**

\*Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\*Address \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

\*City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Check if address change

Please include the largest of chosen items S/H costs with your order. Maximum per order form charge is \$16.85. Checks or Money Orders should be made payable to **11th ACVVC**. Allow six weeks for processing and delivery. **ALL PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE**. Previous price lists are invalid.

Mail order to: **11th ACVVC Quartermaster, c/o Jerry Beamon, 15926 Cedar Bay Dr., Bullard, TX 75757. JerryLBea@aol.com**

**\* Required info to process your order**



**11ACVVC**  
**13194 Rettew Dr.**  
**Manassas, VA 20112-7800**  
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 JACKSONVILLE, FL  
 PERMIT NO. 3

## Are You A Member?

By: Allen Hathaway,  
 President and Membership Chairman, 11th ACVVC

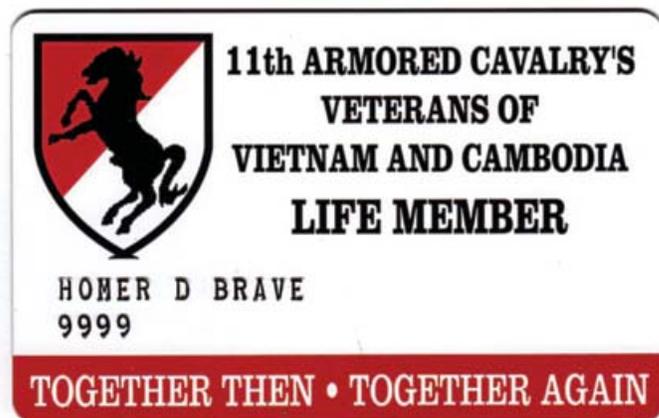
This issue of *Thunder Run* is being mailed to nearly 15,000 Blackhorse troopers who served in Vietnam. This includes members, lapsed members and those who have not yet joined.

If you haven't yet become a member of the 11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia (11th ACVVC), or if your membership has expired, this is a good time to take a minute and become a member or renew your membership.

If you are not sure of your membership status in the 11th ACVVC, take this time to check the mailing label above. If the words "FREE COPY" or "EXPIRED" are printed on the first line of the label, **take this opportunity to join or renew your membership.** Expired members will also have their membership number printed on the same line.

To join or renew your membership in the 11th ACVVC just fill out and mail the membership form printed in this newsletter. Make sure you give your full name, address, service number, unit(s) and dates in country including month and year. Also include any other information such as nickname, track number, platoon or section. This will help us match you with others that served in the same unit. We also encourage you to sign the release line at the bottom of the form. This gives us permission to give your address and/or telephone number to other troopers who may be looking for you. Your name, address, etc. are NOT sold or given out to vendors or anyone other than Blackhorse troopers.

**Membership dues are only \$15 per year, or \$100 for a LIFE membership.** Over 97 percent of our members are LIFE members. We also offer an easy



and convenient LIFE payment plan which divides the \$100 membership dues into four payments of \$25 each. We also accept Visa and MasterCard credit cards for all transactions.

Your membership dues provide you with this quarterly newsletter *Thunder Run*. The newsletter keeps you informed of your organization, its members, and the activities of the 11th Cavalry, both past and present. We pride ourselves on our continued commitment to bring the news to our members through this newsletter.

When you become a member or renew your membership you will receive your new membership card. All members are assigned a membership number that appears on their membership card. LIFE members receive a laminated membership card with their name and membership number and also a LIFE membership pin. All new members will be listed in the "Welcome New Members" section of *Thunder Run*. Show your support and join today!

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