



# Thunder Run

Vol. 18 – NO. 2

“Together Then – Together Again”

2nd Quarter, 2003

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

### BLACKHORSE EUGENE

*(EDITOR’S NOTE: The following was taken from an email sent from Trooper Hughes to John Sorich. It is inspiring to get a glimpse of the fine young people serving our country today. Thanks to both John Hughes and John Sorich for allowing us to share this.) CEG*

#### Flying Today’s Troops!

*By: John C. Hughes  
(A Troop, 1/11, 69 – 70)*

I just finished my first CRAF (Civil Reserve Air Fleet) trip. American Airlines has five airplanes dedicated to this: three 777s and two 767s. I flew a group of Air Defense guys from Ft. Bliss to JFK where we had to do a crew change, and another flight crew took them on to Frankfurt, and then another crew to the gulf. The American Airlines flight crews are all volunteers. It was a hard emotional trip for me. My First Officer and I stood in the door and welcomed as many of these kids as possible aboard.

They were young, oh so young. They had that look on their face of fear and going off on the great adventure of their life. They were very happy to know that they were going to be flown

Please turn to **FLYING** on page 3

*By: Adrian Vaaler,  
Eugene Reunion Chair*

Summer is here for the 18th annual reunion of the 11thACVVC. I hope you will be able to come to Eugene. The major events have been scheduled, including the Memorial Service, Banquet and Bunker parties. Other events will include membership meetings, VA service presentations and side tours

Here’s a rundown by day of presently scheduled activities.

■ **Wednesday, July 30** - Side tours offered for early birds.

■ **Thursday, July 31** - Side tours offered. Bunker Party at the Eugene Hilton with free beer and pop. An area will be set-aside in the Bunker for those who wish to show slides and/or videos. A sign-up sheet will be available in the Bunker.

■ **Thursday, July 31** - 12th Annual Marty Ognibene Golf Tournament at Tokatee Golf Club up the McKenzie River about an hour from Eugene (rated one of the top 25 public golf courses in the country). Joe Coopet is Golf Tournament Director (Phone: 651-578-2857). The MOM Golf Tournament is not a sponsored event of the 11thACVVC.

■ **Friday, August 1** – Special meetings

and veteran benefit presentations will be available. Bunker Party with finger food at night at the Eugene Hilton. Free beer and pop will be available. No side tours offered.

■ **Saturday, August 2** - Memorial Service at 2pm in Skinner Butte Park with music by the Eugene Symphonic Band and a special speaker. Banquet (6pm No Host Cocktails, dinner at 7pm) in the Eugene Hotel. Banquet Speaker is General Sunnell. A DJ will provide music after dinner and program. No side tours offered.

■ **Sunday, August 3** - Church Service at 10am in Eugene Hilton. Side tours offered for those lingering a little longer in Eugene.

Hilton Reservations:

Thu 7/3 .....231 rooms reserved  
Fri. 8/1 .....Sold Out  
Sat. 8/2 .....Sold Out  
All other days .....plenty of room

For Eugene Hilton Host Hotel Reservations (downtown Eugene): 1-800-973-6660 or 541-342-2000 (Both local Eugene numbers).

Overflow Hotel: Doubletree Inn (Gateway Mall) – Phone 541-726-8181 (Preferred Reservation Number)

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# From The Command Track

By Ollie Pickral, President



Ollie Pickral, President  
11th ACVVC

**L**ike most of you, I've been glued to the TV set, watching a war take place live in real time. I see streams of ACAVs, Bradleys and M1 tanks as far as the eye can see on a road and it brings back memories from

1968-69 for me. Some vehicles are sitting herringboned to protect their flanks. Some of the ACAVs have .50 caliber gun shields on them, just as ours did. Take a look at the film being shown as these tankers "kick butt" and the bravery, ah, these soldiers are showing the results of the great training they had prior to going to liberate Iraq. These soldiers got their training in the desert war games with the elite 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, specifically the Opposing Forces (OPFOR) at the Blackhorse base camp at Fort Irwin. Our soldiers in Iraq got the best training in the world from our Blackhorse Troopers and it shows. It makes one proud doesn't it?? One other thing that brings back memories... I received my weekly magazine and the writer describes how the 3rd ID did a Thunder Run going into Baghdad... what ?? Are they stealing our phrase from the numerous Thunder Runs we made from our base camp near Xuan Loc up to the Cambodian border (and back)? One of those reporters must have seen a copy of our newsletter and used it... nah... He's lucky we don't sue him for name infringement.

As I write this, we are fast approaching three months until reunion time. If you haven't already, be sure to get your hotel reservations with the hotel and your registration fees in to us and get prepared to have a great time in the great Northwest at Eugene, Oregon. The Reunion Committee and the site chairman, Adrian Vaaler are completing their planning and are preparing for at least 1,000 attendees. This is your chance to see another beautiful part of our great country. Eugene is a beautiful city and great sights and things to do surround the area. You'll see all the info and sign-up forms in the follow-

**I received my weekly magazine and the writer describes how the 3rd ID did a Thunder Run going into Baghdad... what?? Are they stealing our phrase ...**

ing pages.

We are certainly proud to have as our guest speaker at the reunion, Major General Robert J. Sunell. General Sunell is the 48th Colonel of the Regiment. General Sunell will be bringing his wife for the event. We are pleased to have them in our Blackhorse family.

Here are a list of things our Officers and Directors completed while at our mid-year meeting in SW Texas: Complete editing our Reunion SOP; participate in the repairing the top of our memorial at Fort Knox; increase reunion budget by \$2,000 (for additional food for Friday night Bunker Party); review current insurance policy for adequacy; transfer 20% of CD funds to a money market, and 20% to 25% of CD funds to Treasury bonds; recruit professional auditor to audit 11 ACVVC financial statement annually and recruit backup members for our committee heads; continue to gather information on a possible 11th Cav "traveling" memorial and continue getting information for possible 11th Cav headstone markers. Find out more about what, when and why by attending our business meeting at the upcoming reunion.

I want to "throw" some numbers out there to you about our 2002 financial statement. For our Business account, we brought in \$86,122.85 and had expenses of \$68,178.74. For our Scholarship account, we brought in \$50,293.50; gave scholarships and paid administrative expenses in the amount of \$

46,552.58. For the Reunion account, we received \$74,246.19 and paid out \$70,352.48 in expenses; our Assistance account has a balance of \$3,799.16. Our CD's (Life Memberships) totaled \$349,862.45; total assets at the close of the calendar year 2002 amounted to \$469,813.40.

We need volunteers to continue giving our members the best service in providing information and assistance at the upcoming reunion. We always need volunteers at our registration desk and at our Quartermaster Store. Please contact Gene Johnson if you can provide a few hours at our registration desk – for the ladies, contact Barb Moreno to assist at the registration desk and/or assistance at the Women's Meeting. Barb is also needing assistance in decorating and setting up of the banquet hall for Sat. night. The registration desk will be open on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. The Quartermaster Store is open on Thursday and Friday. Call or email these folks if you can help:

Gene Johnson at (702) 456-3218 or email him [Gene677@aol.com](mailto:Gene677@aol.com). Barb Moreno can be reached at (608) 372-6325 and email her [Moreno@Tomah.com](mailto:Moreno@Tomah.com). Rod George, our Quartermaster can be reached at: [RHG1EKG2@aol.com](mailto:RHG1EKG2@aol.com). In another area, we are still needing a volunteer to handle our Membership system. If you have the time and the expertise with computers, give us a shout.

I hope to see and meet each of you as you attend the upcoming reunion. Be prepared to have a great time!!!

Until next time,

ALLONS !!!

## Show Your Pride



Charles Phillips (H Company, 2/11, 67 – 68) shows his pride at the Drag Way in Monrovia, MD. Charles's '78 Grand Prix quarter mile drag racer attracts a lot of attention from other racers and spectators!

## EUGENE from page 1

National Phone: 1-800-222-8733 (TREE) Please mention the 11th Cav reunion when making reservations.

Side tours include a rafting trip down the McKenzie River, trips to ocean beaches and a local winery tour. See application elsewhere in this issue.

Airline Discounts (Check elsewhere for details) United Airlines is the official Reunion airline.

Rental Car Discounts: Avis, good for 7 days before and 7 days after the reunion. Avis (AWD) CODE D086507. Toll free Number is 1-800-331-1600

I welcome everybody to Eugene and hope we have another memorable reunion. The hotels and visitor's bureau are ready to help us out in anyway.

Allons,

*Adrian*

## FLYING from page 1

by veterans. The 11th. ACR has a lot of mileage with these guys. We seem to be known as a class outfit. Some of them were so young that you just wanted to protect them rather than them protecting us. I did a PA for them thanking them and telling them how happy the whole crew was to be flying them, how proud we are of them! I also told them about 30 years ago when I was sitting in the same seats on my way to South Vietnam as an E-5 and that American Airlines stood ready to very happily fly them home! Through a piece of ATC (Air Traffic Control) luck we got to fly over Manhattan and I gave them a good view of where the World

Trade Center had stood. On an amusing note, when the officers came aboard, the First Officer and I started to refer to the lieutenants as "LT".

## "Well I shot down two Scuds and a drone carrying Anthrax."

One young lady getting aboard in her very squared away gear with Lieutenant's bars on her Kevlar looked like the girl next door. She's in a Patriot battery! Years in the future some one is going to interview her for a job and ask her what she did in the service. "Well I shot down two Scuds and a drone carrying Anthrax." Stop and think about that. Wow! Think about the Arabs. Our women beat your ass! I love it. I have not flown a trip all the way to the gulf yet but I'm in the rotation so hopefully I can get there before the war. I would really enjoy flying these kids back from the gulf however!

## 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. All correspondence or inquiries should be made in writing to: Editor, "Thunder Run," C.E. "Bill" Gregory Jr, 720 Ashbrook Dr., Hixson, TN 37343-1285 <Battle46A@comcast.net>

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# Editor's Corner

C. E. "Bill" Gregory, Jr.

I know you saw some of the news reports about the actions in Iraq. My goodness aren't those young soldiers and marines magnificent!! Their conduct both as warriors and as good people make this old Iron Horse Cavalry trooper so proud I could just burst. They have not only won a difficult war in short order – they did it with a lot of class. Some of these wonderful young people are the sons and daughters of Blackhorse Troopers, and I pray they are all safe. From a grateful nation – THANK YOU!

Hard as it is to believe, it is almost time for another reunion. Seems like only yesterday that we were in Nashville. Like everything else these days, the time between reunions just seems to fly. I am personally really looking forward to the Eugene Reunion, as I have never been to that part of the western United States. Many people have put, and will continue to put, a lot of effort into making it a successful reunion, and from what I can tell – it will be. Our speaker this year is a distinguished Blackhorse Trooper, Major General Robert J. Sunell, USA, Retired; the 48th Colonel of the Regiment. The Benefits Seminar portion of the reunion should be even better than last year, if you are in Eugene it will be worth your effort to attend. Hope you can join us.

This issue of "Thunder Run" has a lot of information you will need to make the trip to Eugene more enjoyable. Be sure to register in advance, and I checked with the tour people – they really recommend advance registration for their tours. Elections are this year and we want to have the most participation possible in them. Look for Ollie Pickral's article on elections, and if you can give the time and effort required, consider accepting an office, either elected or appointed. The people doing the work now need the help, and some of them have to move on to other

things. There is probably a place the 11th ACVVC can use your talents. Please consider volunteering to serve on a committee such as the Scholarship or Membership Committees, (see Chuck Schmidt's article for details) or you can find many other chances to serve. Our President's "Command Track" article has a lot of good information about the reunion and what took place at the Mid-Year Officers and Directors meeting, do not miss it. Please also look at Steve Page's article on how to get your favorite city considered as the host for a future reunion.

I hope that you enjoy this issue of your newsletter. We have tried to make it both informative and entertaining. Again we did not have as much room for member articles as we wish, but we never do. Next issue there will be more room, I am sure, so send your articles in and we will try to get them in.

ALLONS!!

We're ready for Eugene...

## Reunion Notes

By Stephen Page  
Reunion Committee Chairman  
Hello Fellow Troopers,

We are now about 90 days until our next reunion. The final preparations are being made for another outstanding get together. If you haven't already done so it is time to make hotel and flight reservations.

The reservation form has been published for all the tours we hope you will take advantage of them. Adrian has done a tremendous job in getting this event together. Help is always welcome and appreciated. The registration staff is ready to move you efficiently through that process. Meetings and Seminars are scheduled.

We all look forward to seeing old friends and to serving the membership to make this a memorable event. Hope to see you all in Eugene.

### EUGENE REUNION REGISTRATION FORM

Thursday, July 31 thru Sunday, August 3, 2003

Registration fees are \$ 55 per person, regardless of age. This \$ 55 fee is required for attendance to one or all of the scheduled program events, inclusive of Thursday and Friday Bunker Parties and Saturday Banquet. The Registration fee is \$70.00 after July 15 and when paid at the door (Only if space is available)

Please Print All Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone No: \_\_\_\_\_

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

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit Assignment: (list **only one** Troop/Company) \_\_\_\_\_

This will be your seating assignment for the Saturday night banquet dinner

Years in Country (ie....1966-1967) \_\_\_\_\_

Attendees

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Banquet Meal Selection:(choose one per attendee):  Chicken  Beef

Special dietary needs \_\_\_\_\_

Wheelchair requirements:  Yes  No

Send Check or Money order (no cash please) for the full amount, payable to

11 ACVVC Reunion XVIII, C/O Gene Johnson  
4054 Venitia Ct., Las Vegas, NV 89120-1442

### Newsletter Deadlines

The following are the due dates to submit articles for *Thunder Run*

- First Quarter.....Jan 15
- Second Quarter.....Apr 15
- Third Quarter .....Aug 15
- Fourth Quarter .....Oct 15



# Scholarship 2003 – 2004

By John Sorich, Vice President

## The 2003 Calendar

I would like to thank the Trooper's, their Wives and our friends who sent in a donation for the 2003 Calendar. This is the first phase of fund raising for the 2003-2004 Scholarship. I am pleased to inform you that our membership has exceeded what they have done in the past. Your generosity to this cause shows all just how important we, of the 11thACVVC feel about helping our children with their educations. Here is the reason you, our membership, deserve a respectful THANK YOU! In 2002, 870 folks contributed \$15,373.70 to the calendar. The new record is in, 2003, 946 contributions totaling \$19,581.41.

## The Raffle

The second phase, the raffle in the mail & contributions are coming in. Here once again, to the benefit of our kids, I hope we will also set another record in giving. Remember there are 4 cash prizes to the winners, \$ 500.00, \$ 300.00 & two at \$ 100.00. The expenses to print & mail the Calendar the Raffle are usually about ten to eleven thousand dollars. Time after time the same folks show their generosity. From handling your checks & money orders I feel like I know you all.

## The Silent Auction

The final phase of funding for Scholarship 2003-2004 will culminate with the silent auction. This will take place at the reunion in Eugene, on Friday August 1st when the Silent Auction (on Friday & Saturday) items will be on dis-

play. The event causes a great deal of curiosity & fun. Many ONE OF A KIND items will be donated & the highest bidders will take possession of them just prior to the reunion dinner on Saturday August 2nd.

## I Need Your Help!

Everything from unique works of art to Blackhorse embroidered hats, jackets and so much more will be there to bid on. Make sure to stop by the Silent Auction area, which is usually easy to find. See what folks have donated. Think about what you may have or can get to put in the Auction. Please consider donating & bidding. Last year there was over 100 items to choose from, we raised \$5,100.00 during this event.

Send items to: 11thACVVC Silent Auction, C/O Adrian Vaaler, 2610 Baker Rd., Eugene Or. 92403

Any questions to: johnnydiamond@mindspring.com

In this my last season as your Vice-President & Scholarship Chairman I want to express to all my thanks for making my job a very gratifying one. With all of us working we have accomplished a great deal. I ask you to continue the spirit of this event; all of us doing what we can makes it happen. I feel compelled to ask ALL of our membership to dig in & help, if they can.

Thanks!!

John Sorich, Chairman  
Scholarship Committee

## Procedures for...

# Hosting a Reunion

By: Steve Page

Reunion Committee Chairman

All members of the 11thACVVC are encouraged to submit proposals to host one of our Annual Reunions. The process is quite simple and help is available from the Reunion Committee, Past Reunion Chairmen, and the President and Officers of this Organization. The Site selection process begins at least one year before the reunion at which your proposal is to be presented.

- Request the Site Proposal form from the Reunion Committee Chairman. All the information that you will need for the Visitors and Convention Bureau as well as for the hotels will be sent at this time
- Select a city that you would like to host our reunion
- Contact the Visitors and Convention Bureau in that city they can be of much assistance
- Contact the hotels that you would want to use. Talking with more than one hotel will give the best prices, as they will bid against each other.
- Follow the time line that will be provided, the dates that are listed for the submission of forms are very important

Site submission forms have been received for the cities of St Louis, Mo., Long Beach, Ca., Kansas City, Mo., Phoenix, Az., and El Paso Texas for our 2005 Reunion we thank all those members who are doing the work to host our reunions. The deadline for proposals for 2005 has passed.

If you are interested in hosting a reunion it is not too early to begin the process. The site selection for 2006 will be made at our 2004 Reunion in DAYTONA BEACH, FL.

For Information and or site proposal forms please contact

Stephen Page  
396 Pleasant St.  
Holyoke, Ma. 01040-2527  
Tel. (413) 534-0720 Fax (413) 534-0720  
e-mail stephen.r.page@verizon.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, Warren Swinford, 2300 W 400 S., Clayton, IN 46118.**



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

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

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

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

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

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

## 11 ACVVC Trooper Assistance Fund

**History:** In 1989, the Officers and Directors of 11 ACVVC agreed there was a need for monies to assist our troopers in getting to a reunion. Prior to this date, the organization got many calls for assistance directly from the trooper needing assistance or a buddy of a trooper hoping to get his buddy to the reunion. It was decided then that during the meeting of its members, a “passing of the hat” would take place and with those funds, we could assist in getting some troopers who might otherwise not attend because of monetary limitations.

**Purpose Statement:** The purpose of the Trooper Assistance Fund is to assist troopers who served with the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment in Vietnam and the kingdom of Cambodia, attend a reunion sponsored by the 11th Armored Cavalry’s Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia. Qualified candidates will be given one and perhaps more than one of the following items, depending on the number of requests, funds depletion, and the degree of assistance required: 1) a room at the host hotel for one or two nights during the reunion weekend; 2) funds to purchase fuel for auto, tickets for airfare or other means of transportation such as bus fare or train fare; 3) registration fees; 4) meals.

**Maintenance of Funds:** Funds collected through direct donations or the “passing of the hat” at the annual membership meeting shall be maintained and accounted for by the Treasurer. The Treasurer shall include the Trooper Assistance Fund as a separate reporting item on the quarterly financial report. The Treasurer shall disperse funds from this account as directed by the Officers and Directors of 11 ACVVC.

**Rules of Acceptance:** To be accepted for consideration for assistance, the trooper may be required to: show proof that he is or was a member of 11 ACVVC or eligibility that he is qualified to become a member; describe his monetary situation, i.e.... job, salary, family, etc. Troopers will only be allowed to accept this assistance one time. Exceptions to the one time only use of the Trooper Assistance Fund will be addressed on a case-by-case basis and will require a unanimous vote of the Officers and

Continued on page 7

## Volunteers Needed

### ■ Scholarship and Membership Committees need volunteers

*By: Chuck Schmidt, COL USA (Ret)  
Member, Board of Directors,  
11thACVVC*

The 11thACVVC has thrived on our ability to attract outstanding volunteers to serve on various established committees. Two of our most important functions and activities involve the Scholarship and Membership Committees. John Sorich, Vice-President, and Warren Swinford have ably chaired these committees over the past several years.

John is only the second chairman of the 11thACVVC Scholarship Committee (as it operates today) having taken over in 2000 upon his election as Vice-President. In 1996 the 11thACVVC established its own Scholarship Program (separate from the Blackhorse Association which had administered the program to that point) and for the first four years 1996-1999, Bill Lewellen, then serving as Vice-President, chaired the committee, building on the outstanding work begun by Ben Hotchkiss and others. From a modest beginning with virtually no funds, the hard work of Ben, Bill, and John has enabled the fund to move from awarding 5 annual awards of \$2,000 to last year’s record of 16 awards for \$3,000 each! Fund raising for the program consists of donations, the annual 11thACVVC Calendar sales, the Annual Raffle, and the recently instituted Silent Auction conducted during the Annual Reunion. Last year these activities raised a record of more than \$48,000 before expenses.

As is evident from the above, the Scholarship Chairman has a full time job year ‘round and serves additionally as the organization’s Vice-President. The committee needs some volunteers to take over parts of the fund raising program. Ideally, a volunteer would be available for each activity—Annual Calendar, Annual Raffle, and the Silent Auction. This would free up the Chair (who will probably continue to be the Vice-President) to coordinate the fund raising activities and still administer the rest of the program to include receiving applications, overseeing the selection process, publicizing the program and its criteria, and communicating with applicants and colleges, universi-

ties, and other educational institutions.

Equally or more important is the Membership Committee. Mike Kennedy, Alan Hathaway, and Warren Swinford have been our most recent Chairmen, but a host of others have worked far beyond the call of duty to find and contact the thousands who served with the 11th Armored Cavalry and attached units in Vietnam and Cambodia. The duties of the Chairman of this committee, like the Scholarship Committee, are more than we should ask of a single individual. Warren currently maintains the database of all members and their current addresses as well as that of ALL located Troopers! This is a monumental job and requires many, many hours each week. The Membership Committee additionally conducts the renewal of Annual Memberships (we encourage ALL to convert to Lifetime Memberships to reduce the workload – and, it costs less in the long run), provides address information for all mass mailings (including the 1st Quarter Thunder Run Newsletter to ALL located Troopers—about 17,000), posts all changes of address, as well as many other individual transactions monthly!

Just as for the Scholarship Program, the task of Membership Committee Chairman has become too much for any one individual to perform on a part time basis. Because of the time consuming requirements, we have been unable to conduct a concentrated Membership Drive for new members for a number of years. Additionally, Warren has indicated to the Officers and Directors that he needs relief from the hours and hours he has to devote to the job weekly. So we are looking for volunteers for the position of Committee Chairman as well as others to assist specifically to chair and conduct a Membership Drive over the next couple of years to increase membership, to inform the many Troopers of the benefits of membership, and to re-instate those whose membership may have lapsed.

Troopers, the pay is lousy—zero—, the hours long, but THE REWARD IS GREAT in the satisfaction of serving your Brothers-in-Arms. WE NEED YOUR HELP! To volunteer, notify our President, Ollie Pickeral, Warren Swinford, John Sorich, or any of the Officers and Board Members listed on page three or on the Web Site.

# 11 ACVVC Election Process

## By-Laws (rev. Oct. 9, 2001)

by Ollie W. Pickral, President

At the upcoming reunion in Eugene, Oregon, the active members of 11 ACVVC will vote for its future Officers and Directors. All positions except one Director position will be up for vote. All positions require you to be able to communicate via the internet and will occupy many hours of conducting 11 ACVVC business. Candidates are asked to take our elections seriously and to elect qualified troopers who want to serve their brothers. Below are the requirements as per our 11 ACVVC By-Laws:

### ARTICLE VII: ELECTIONS

#### Section 1. Nominations

(a) Nominations for officers of the 11th ACVVC may be mailed to the Secretary who will place them on a preliminary ballot.

(b) Nominations can also be made in person from the floor at the meeting.

(c) Any nominee not in attendance at the business meeting must have previously submitted to the Secretary a letter of acceptance of nomination as candidate for the office to which he is nominated.

#### Section 2. Elections

(a) The President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary shall be elected biennially at the annual meeting in odd numbered years to serve a two year term starting on January 1 of the following year and terminating at midnight, December 31 of the next year.

(b) One Director will be elected annually to a three-year term after the election in 1995 of three Directors to one, two and three year terms.

(c) Officers shall be elected by a majority vote of the dues-paid members in attendance at the business meeting.

#### Section 3. Successive terms

(a) An Officer may succeed himself no more than two consecutive terms, with the exception of the incumbent Treasurer and Secretary who may run for re-election to those offices without term limitation.

#### Section 4. Vacancies in Office

(a) In the event of a vacancy in any office, or inability or refusal to serve, the office shall be filled pro tem by a majority vote of the remaining Officers.<sup>1</sup>

#### Section 5. Eligibility

(a) Candidates for office must be dues-paid Life members and present proof of discharge under medical or honorable condi-

tions.

(b) Candidates for the office of Treasurer must provide notarized documentation of both eligibility and intent to be bonded.

<sup>1</sup> Amendment approved by majority vote of the Officers on 4 Aug. 2000.

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### ASSISTANCE FUND from page 6

Directors available for voting. Exceptions will rarely be granted and will never be allowed in consecutive years. (The Secretary will maintain a listing of those who have been assisted and will pass on to successive Secretary(s). The President will also maintain a copy). The trooper requesting for assistance must do so in writing to the Secretary or the President and must also provide evidence of service in Vietnam and/or Cambodia with the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment. The Officers and Directors of 11 ACVVC will vote on whom and how much assistance will be given to a trooper, by a majority of those Officers and Directors. The Officers and Directors shall not divulge the names of those assisted troopers to anyone other than another current Officer and/or Director.

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## Unidentified Troop Assignments of our KIA

Dear Troopers and Friends,

Thanks to your efforts, we have made significant progress in identifying the troop assignments of our brother KIA troopers. Over the last three issues of Thunder Run, of the 173 names on the list, we have placed all but the 30 listed below. Please see if you can help us find the troop assignments of these fallen brothers so our records can be updated.

PFC Melvin Wallace Anderson,	12-1-66	Little Fork, MN.	SP4 Robert Leroy Morgan Jr.,	4-18-69	Reno, NV.
PFC Donald Edward Walters,	5-22-67	Des Plaines, IL.	SP4 Donald William Noel,	4-26-69	La Crosse, WI.
SP4 Edward Arnold Stahl,	5-25-67	Westphalia, KS.	SP4 Edwin Turk Jr.,	6-18-69	Elgin, IL.
1stLT.Garland D. Whitmore,	9-5-67	Harrisonburg, VA.	SP4 William Thomas Haney,	10-17-69	Pontiac, MI.
SSgt Robert Clarence Howard,	11-4-67	Beaver Falls, PA.	SSgt Charles M. Russell, III.,	11-24-69	Pembroke, GA.
PFC Bruce Westley Dudley Jr.,	1-23-68	Cayce, SC.	CPL Donald Henry Majkowski,	1-22-70	Chicago, IL.
SP5 Julius William Morris Jr.,	1-25-68	Houston, TX.	SSgt Orland Thomas Lloyd,	4-7-70	Augusta, GA.
SP4 David Isom,	2-23-68	Cottongim, KY.	CPL Raymond Williams,	4-9-70	Neoga, IL.
PFC Donald Reece Irby,	3-9-68	New York, NY.	PFC Ernst Thorson,	4-26-70	Minneapolis, MN.
PFC Santiago Torres Jr.,	3-9-68	Houston, TX.	SFC William Lester Wilhelm,	9-6-70	Covington, OH.
SGT Richard Elsworth Vincent,	3-9-68	Danville, WV.	SFC James Grady Conley,	11-7-71	Calhoun, GA.
SP4 Theodore Mazon,	3-18-68	Sacramento, CA.	SP5 Albert Simon Robalin,	12-28-71	San Antonio, TX.
SP5 Danny Kaye Rich,	5-6-68	Roseville, CA.			
CPL Kenneth Wayne Floyd,	5-7-68	Raeford, NC.			
WO Douglas Woodrow Collins,	8-21-68	Cusseta, GA.			
SFC Robert Arthur Gregory,	9-19-68	Northville, MI.			
PFC Nolan Daryl Byrd,	12-03-68	Hagerstown, MD.			
2nd LT. Daniel Michael Leahy,	4-18-69	Manchester, NH.			

Send information you may have to:

John Sorich or to C. E. "Bill" Gregory, Jr  
5037 France Ave. So 720 Ashbrook Drive  
Minneapolis, MN 55410 Hixson, TN 37343-1285  
johnnydiamond@mindspring.com Battle46A@Comcast.net

## 2003 CALENDAR DONORS

945 Donations to the Scholarship. Grand total is \$17,664. Thank you very much. John Sorich 11th ACVVC Scholarship Chairman

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		Robert Wagg, Jr.	Joseph Hessbuig	Ronald Chamberlain	

# Incoming...

The following information has been provided by our Troopers:

♦♦

From **Andy O'Mera, Jr.** Andy who served with the 11th ACR (68-69) and as an advisor to the ARVN 1st Cavalry Regiment has had his book, *Accidental Warrior*, published by Elderberry Press. It is available from Amazon.com or by calling (800) 431-1579.

♦♦

From **John Effinger** (L Troop 67 – 68). *Update: Blackhorse Helicopter to be Restored and Displayed at Fort Irwin.* The Huey helicopter (tail #66-0528) was transported to Fort Irwin in September 2002. A cosmetic restoration taking 6-8 months is planned. Upon completion, the helicopter will be placed at the Vietnam Memorial Park at Fort Irwin, California. This is the same Huey that SFC Rodney J. Yano was aboard on 01 January 1969. He lost his life in combat that day and was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for his courageous actions.

♦♦

From **Donald Spencer** (Air Cav Troop 68-69). I need some help with some information for my VA clam. In 1968 and 1969 at Bien Hoa Air Cav Troop, 11th ACR, it was the day the VC attacked the base. VC bullets were bouncing all over the flight line; there was shack right off the flight line and some bullets hit right next to the shack almost hitting me. I said "Oh shit!" and a man on the other side of the shack said, "Are you hit?" I said "No". Could that man send me a statement about that situation? My name is Donald Spencer, 3740 South 7200 West, Magan Utah 84044. Allons !!

♦♦

From **David L. Stedman** (27th Engineers June 67 – Aug. 68). David (nickname: "The Kid") is seeking anyone, especially Jimmy Riddle, Billy Martin, David Howard, or SGT Hagek (Hagley?). He needs help with his PTSD claim. Contact David L. Stedman, 1110 Westchester Drive, Lynchburg, VA 24502. Telephone: (434) 239-9187.

♦♦

From **Travis Bradshaw**, son of **Trooper Kim Bradshaw** (37th Med, 1968). "I would like for anyone who knew my father to please contact me at farvarules@yahoo.com or mail me at 5515 Leopard St. #8, Corpus Christi, TX 78408. I would like to know anything about the way he was or any pictures. I just really want to know what he was like back then. I have only heard bits and peices of his life back then. I am planning on writing a biography for my family of his life. Thank you for your help. God bless you."

♦♦

From **Daniel Romero** and his son **Daniel Romero, Jr.** "I am writing on behalf of my father Daniel Sr. He served in Vietnam from Dec. 1968-69 as a 11D20, SP4. I recently took my dad to the VA clinic to see if he was authorized any compensation for his Agent Orange contact while he served. He also mentioned that he had shrapnel enter his hand during a firefight and the medic bandaged it and his commander, William "Bill" Tutt was going to put him in for a purple heart. He said during all the commotion he must have forgot about it and continued to move forward on their patrols. To this day he still has the shrapnel in his hand and is afraid to remove it because of possible nerve damage.

I am trying to track down either his commander, 1SG Osbourne, platoon leader 2LT John Slater, or platoon sergeant, SFC Fredericksburg, or any fellow buddies of his who may remember him or may have witnessed the event. He served with either 1st or 2nd Platoon, I Troop, 3 Squadron, 11ACR from DEC 68-69. Any info on any of these members will be greatly appreciated. If you are not able to give out personal info I will post my fathers as well as mine.

Thank you for your help. Daniel Romero Jr. 13232 Lexington Lane, Balch Springs, TX 75180 H: (972) 286-0540 M: (469) 682-1113. Daniel Romero Sr., PO Box 64, San Isidro, TX 78588, H: (956) 481-3693

## WANTED: REUNION VOLUNTEERS

**Your reunion committee needs you.** Volunteers are needed to help in every aspect of your reunion. Drivers for a 15 passenger van, eugene airport greeters, amtrak station greeters, memorial service guides, registration desk, silent auction.

The success of these events depends on the assistance of all members. If you are willing to assist and still have a great time at the reunion. Please fill out the form below and send to the people listed.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date and hours available \_\_\_\_\_

Type of work preferred \_\_\_\_\_

Contact number, e-mail address or phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Adrian Vaaler, Site Chairman

2610 Baker Blvd.

Eugene, OR 97403 (E-mail: blackhorseeugene@aol.com)

All replies will be sent on to Bob and Barb Moreno, Volunteer Coordinators

## Show Your Pride



Richard Gibbs' (Hq & Hq Aviation Platoon, 68 – 69) daughter gave him the gift of his "ACAV11" tags for his truck, so he could show his pride. They get a lot of attention around the Burtchville, Michigan area.

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## 11ACVVC 2003 REUNION XVIII TOUR INFORMATION & REGISTRATION FORM

### OLD TOWN FLORENCE AND THE OREGON COAST

WEDNESDAY, JULY 30, 2003	8:00 AM – 4:00 PM	\$55 EACH	# PEOPLE CAVE___ DUNES___	\$ _____
THURSDAY, JULY 31, 2003	8:00 AM – 4:00 PM	\$55 EACH	# PEOPLE CAVE___ DUNES___	\$ _____
SUNDAY, AUGUST 3, 2003	8:00 AM – 4:00 PM	\$55 EACH	# PEOPLE CAVE___ DUNES___	\$ _____

A day at the Oregon coast is a treat to remember. Enjoy shopping in Old-Town Florence, then travel up scenic Highway 101 to the Sea Lion Caves, permanent home to about 200 Steller Sea Lions - **or** - take an exciting Dune Buggy ride over the world's most beautiful dunes, with views of the Pacific Ocean and the mouth of the Siuslaw River (approximately one hour). We'll have lunch at a suitable scenic location. Tour price includes box lunch, plus Sea Lion Cave Tour **or** Dune Buggy ride.

### McKENZIE RIVER RAFTING, HALF-DAY

WEDNESDAY, JULY 30, 2003	9:30 AM – 2:30 PM	\$75 EACH	# PEOPLE _____	\$ _____
THURSDAY, JULY 31, 2003	9:30 AM – 2:30 PM	\$75 EACH	# PEOPLE _____	\$ _____
SUNDAY, AUGUST 3, 2003	9:30 AM – 2:30 PM	\$75 EACH	# PEOPLE _____	\$ _____

Just an hour east of Eugene and Springfield, the McKenzie River offers a perfect sampling of spectacular Oregon scenery and heart-pounding whitewater thrills. Cascading through a canyon blanketed in pine and old growth forest, this river is a crystal clear jewel with an abundance of dancing rapids. The Lower McKenzie, a family favorite, has calm, scenic stretches spiced with exciting Class II and Class III whitewater. Tour price includes the guided river run, plus a box lunch.

### CENTRAL WILLAMETTE VALLEY WINERIES

WEDNESDAY, JULY 30, 2003	2:00 PM – 4:30 PM	\$35 EACH	# PEOPLE _____	\$ _____
THURSDAY, JULY 31, 2003	2:00 PM – 4:30 PM	\$35 EACH	# PEOPLE _____	\$ _____
SUNDAY, AUGUST 3, 2003	2:00 PM – 4:30 PM	\$35 EACH	# PEOPLE _____	\$ _____

Enjoy one of Lane County's premier wineries, on a tour and taste of award-winning offerings from the traditional to the exotic. You will learn about the broad range of wines produced in our lush Willamette Valley, and have the opportunity to sample – and buy – the best of Oregon wines. Tour price includes standard wine tasting fees.

TOTAL COST FOR ALL TOURS CHOSEN \$ \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE ENCLOSE YOUR CHECK OR MONEY ORDER, OR PRINT YOUR INFORMATION BELOW AND SIGN THE FORM TO PAY BY CREDIT CARD

CARDHOLDER NAME _____		BILLING ADDRESS: _____
VISA OR MASTERCARD NUMBER _____	EXP DATE _____	_____
SIGNATURE _____	DATE _____	_____

**ALL RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED AND PAID BY JUNE 15, 2003.** (CREDIT CARDS WILL BE DEBITED NO EARLIER THAN JUNE 15, 2003). REFUNDS CANNOT BE MADE AFTER THAT DATE, BUT SUBSTITUTIONS MAY BE MADE AT ANY TIME ANY TOUR WITH FEWER THAN 20 PARTICIPANTS MAY BE CANCELLED. IN THE CASE OF CANCELLATION, FULL REFUND WILL BE MADE. CHILDREN ARE WELCOME AT FULL FARE AND MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT. SOME TRANSPORT IS WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE, SO PLEASE PUT A NOTE IN THE MARGIN FOR ANY TOUR ON WHICH YOU NEED A LIFT-EQUIPPED COACH. ALL TOURS WILL BE VERIFIED AT THE TIME OF CHECK-IN AT THE REGISTRATION DESK.



## Freedom Birds – The Sequel

“What goes up has to come down” –Know why I say that? No? I’ll explain. You throw a ball up into the air and it’s going to come back down. Right? That’s natural. Bullets too. Shoot them up. They come down – somewhere. Same with airplanes. They go up and then they come back down. Agreed? Good thing too, because if they didn’t come back down you’d be a space alien from Earth.

Now here’s the point. It’s about the title of this article which is “Freedom Birds – the Sequel.” Remember when we talked about Freedom Birds? It was in the last issue of this paper. Maybe you didn’t get it. Maybe you forgot. Maybe you tried to forget but couldn’t. OK. Anyway, that article was about Freedom Birds and how great they were. A “Freedom Bird” being the airplane that took you to freedom. It meant getting out of Viet Nam permanently. It meant going back to the land of the Big PX. It meant being clean and safe and comfortable and riding around in cars instead of tracks (tanks, ACavs or any tracked vehicle). Mostly, it just meant going home to the good ole US of A. That was freedom and the Freedom Bird was how you would get there.

When that bird went up it was going to come back down on home soil. And that’s the sequel. Every one of us has a story of how we came home. Some got a Welcome Home! Some didn’t, sad to say. Homecomings were sometimes wonderful and sometimes not. For this story I’m talking about the good part of coming home that we all experienced. We’re not forgetting our buddies that didn’t come home. We’re not forgetting those who came home to the VA Hospital. We’re not forgetting other stuff that you and I will never forget. Concerning Freedom Birds, we talked before about how spectacular it was to see the tail of that Continental Airways, that TWA, that Pan Am airliner or that C141 as it cruised our way; how we got on board and how we went sort of berserk when we got out of Viet Nam airspace and headed home.

The sequel to all this about Freedom Birds taking off from the Nam was that they also came down where we wanted to be.

## Every one of us has a story of how we came home. Some got a Welcome Home! Some didn’t, sad to say. Homecomings were sometimes wonderful and sometimes not.

That’s what I’m talking about –taking off from Viet Nam being the story and landing at home the sequel. I won’t ever forget the feeling. I don’t even want to forget that feeling of landing at Travis Air Force Base on US soil. We disembarked (meaning we got off the airplane), went through the terminal and got on a civilian highway cruiser bus out at the curb. It was so cool in that wonderful bus. It rode so smooth. How luxurious it was to be inside a clean bus out there on that paved freeway in the Land of the Big PX –Home! I looked across the American countryside and it was so beautiful! I kid you not, all the way from Travis to the San Francisco Airport I saw not one single bomb crater. I saw not one single hole in the road blown by a land mine. I saw absolutely no soldiers guarding the bridges. I saw not one single red Honda 50 with three riders or smoky Lambretta with 15 passengers. I saw not one person in black pajamas who could have been a rice farmer by day and a VC by night. I saw not one ARVN check point. Why, and you don’t have to believe this, you would hardly have known from that wonderful bus ride that we were even in a war! Isn’t that remarkable?

But on to even more remarkable things: We got to the airport. Wow! Speaking of luxury! There were all these Americans running around and not one of them had a weapon –no M16s, no 45s, no steel pots, no grenades, no canteens either. Can you believe it? And speaking of wonderful –that airport looked as beautiful as a kings palace to me. And not a single bullet hole to be seen. I’m here to tell you, those first impressions when I came home to America were powerful and profound and you know what I mean. How long has it been since you thought about that?

I was truly overwhelmed to be home again. But I came home different from what I was when I left for the Nam. I had a new perspective on life and on being an American that I don’t want to lose. For starts, I was reminded that we have it real nice in this country. That’s easy to forget. Coming home

from a year in Viet Nam made me realize how much better we have it here than most of the world. I also realized how soft and complacent we can be if we forget who we are, how we got here and what we’re about.

These past few years, many have come to realize, more than before, just how blessed we are to be Americans. How blessed we are to be a part of the USA. How honored we are as vets that we made our contribution to the greatness of this land. Most Americans recognize the contribution of the Viet Nam vet even if some don’t. But I want you to recognize it. The fall of the Berlin Wall, Desert Storm, the liberation of Iraq, the surge of patriotism following 9/11, building memorials for WWII and Korean War vets and other good things have happened largely because of what we did in Viet Nam. I’m not blowing smoke. I mean these things and see that they are true. I hope you see it too.

So do you see what I mean by “Freedom Birds –the Sequel?” Our story about Freedom Birds taking off from Viet Nam is the story. Landing back in the USA –that is the sequel to the story. Clear? Each part of the story means a lot, more than just a take-off from Viet Nam and a landing in America, because each of us lived it. This country means far more for you and me than it would without the Viet Nam experience. We have a perspective on America’s greatness that the protected will never know. You know what I mean.

There’s another Freedom Bird coming for each of us too. It’s a lot more important than a C141 or a TWA airliner. I haven’t taken it yet. You haven’t either. Because it’s the last ride. It’s the end of the trail. Some call it crossing over Jordan. Some call it kicking the bucket. In Viet Nam we said his number was up. We can say he wrote the book. We can call it whatever we want. The fact is that that our last flight is coming. We all have our Freedom Bird from this life. It’s up to each of us what our sequel will be; where we’ll come down. I’ll be coming down in the Kingdom

of God, otherwise known as Heaven. This is the place Jesus described when he said, "I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you may be where I am." (John 14:2, 3)

Our Freedom Bird over thirty years ago was an unforgettable event following a profound experience. When the Freedom Bird came and took off, it was time to leave. I knew where I was going which was back home to the USA. It's where I started and where I knew I belonged. The sequel was when I landed. It was great to be home because it was the land I loved and where I wanted to be. When I take my last Freedom Bird, the one from this life, I know what that sequel will be too. I know where I'll come down. It will be in Heaven where I'll belong and want to be. I hope the same for you.

God bless you. God loves you. So do I.

*Larry Haworth,  
Chaplain, 11thACVVC  
LEHaworth@aol.com*



**From the  
Quartermaster...**

**Rodney H. George**

Greetings to all. It's springtime in the Rockies, which means your quartermaster doesn't have to freeze his tush to fill your orders! Snow is about gone and daytime temps are up to 55. Have to put heat in that garage some day!

Hopefully all of you that have ordered the documentaries are enjoying them. If you have ordered one and have not received it yet please let me know. All backorders for them have been shipped out. We have only about 100 of each format left and I am not sure that we will be getting any more.

The reunion is approaching and I would like to take this time to remind all that the QM store will be closed to orders from approximately two weeks prior to the reunion until I get items back after the reunion. Please remember there could be a delay in any orders you send during that time.

Hope to have some new styled shirts for the reunion. Some in Women's styles. Hope to see you in Eugene.

# THE 12<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MARTY OGNIBENE MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Thursday, July 31, 2003

Start time: 09:45

**Tokatee Golf Club**  
54947 McKenzie Highway  
Blue River, Oregon 97413  
Phone 1(800) 452-6376  
www.tokatee.com



## One of America's Top 25 Public Courses

\$55 per golfer includes greens fees, carts, balls, tees, lunch, beverage and prizes! Fill in the form and mail it to the address below with a check for \$55 per golfer (payable to Joe Coopet). Form and fee must be received in Minnesota by July 15, 2003 to guarantee your entry!

You don't need a foursome to enter. Include you average score for 18 holes and I'll pair you with a golfer of equal talent or include the names of all golfers in the group for whom you are paying. This outing is open to men and women. Don't delay!!! Mail today!!! FORE

## 12<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MARTY OGNIBENE MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Average Score \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Average Score \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Average Score \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Average Score \_\_\_\_\_

Mail Checks To: **Joe Cooper, Golf Tournament Director,  
9289 Parkside Drawe  
Woodbury, MN 55125**

Call 651-578-2857 if you have questions. You will receive confirmation in the mail if your registration fee is paid by July 15, 2003. All entries must be prepaid. This will be one of the nicest golf courses played since the inception of our reunion tournament. We look forward to your participation.

*The M.O.M. Golf Tournament is not sanctioned by the 11ACVVC.*



# Women's Corner

By Barb Moreno, 11th ACVVC Women's Coordinator

As of today (March 22nd) there are only 131 days until we meet again in Eugene, Oregon for this year's reunion. Are you registered yet? Do you have your hotel and travel arraignments done? It's sure to be another great time.

I think writing my article this month is one of the hardest articles I've ever had to write. So much is going on in our country. So much that I for one never thought I would have to see or go thru again in my lifetime.

I mourned with the rest of the country as we learned about the space shuttle. I sat and cried as I watched the memorial service for the astronauts. I remember thinking "that could have been me having to sit there with my heart ripped out". You see one of my children always wanted to be an astronaut (thankfully he went into computers instead), and the time frame for his age, college education and astronaut training would have worked out to be about now. So this disaster really hit me.

Then came all the increased activity on post. As many of you know I work in a commissary on a military base. Well, we are one of the primary sites for those shipping out to Saudi Arabia, Turkey and other "hot" spots. Usually this time of year for us is a very slow time, but with 5000 plus troopers in, we have been swamped. It has been both exciting, and heart wrenching to talk to a lot of these young troopers.

I find myself wondering just really

## Show Your Pride



**Again I am coming to you dear friends to ask for your help. We are starting to set up the schedules for people to help out at the registration table, silent auction tables and the quartermaster store.**

how well prepared they are for what they are about to face. Not so much in their military training, but in their mental preparedness. So many of them seem as if they are barely out of high school. Most of them are away from home for the first time and don't know what to expect. All are scared of their future tour of duty.

Bob and I share an office at work and we have the only office with a window. The window looks out to the railhead and so we can see them loading up all the vehicles and troop equipment everyday. When we were stationed in Germany, I used to love to watch the precision and swiftness of the troops as they loaded the trains to pull out for training. I knew they were leaving, but I also knew they would soon be coming back safe and sound. As I watch it now, my heart aches and sometimes I feel a tear running down my face. I wonder to myself, when will they be back and will they all return safe and sound. I can only hope and pray that they will.

On a happier note – Reunion is just a short time away.

Again I am coming to you dear friends

to ask for your help. We are starting to set up the schedules for people to help out at the registration table, silent auction tables and the quartermaster store. Hopefully we can find enough help that we will be able to schedule folks in two-hour shifts. So you will still have lots of time to visit with your friends and take some of the tours that are being offered. Please, Please let me know if you can help. Just e-mail me at [Moreno@Tomah.com](mailto:Moreno@Tomah.com).

Rick O'Dell will be joining our ladies again this year to answer any additional questions you may still have about PTSD, Agent Orange or questions that were perhaps not answered at the Veterans Seminar the day before. So I hope you will plan on joining us. We had such a wonderful turnout last year and I know we can do it again. Remember there will be a prize for one of you returning ladies who bring a new comer. There will also be a door prize this year.

So come prepared to have some fun and also with any questions you might have.

See you all soon in the great Northwest.

*Oregon of Bust!*

*Barb Moreno  
Moreno@Tomah.com*

### Want Ads/Announcements

- Illiterate? Write today for help.
- Dog for sale. Eats anything and is fond of children.
- Stock up and save! Limit one per customer.
- Man wanted to work in dynamite factory. Must be willing to travel.
- Three-year-old teacher needed for preschool. Experience required.
- Tired of cleaning yourself? Let me do it.
- Have your house exterminated. Get rid of aunts.
- Honest man will take anything.
- Used cars. Why go elsewhere to be cheated? See us first.
- Our bikinis are exciting! They are simply the tops!

Robert R. Lee (D Company, 1/11, 69 – 70) shows his pride around the Maynard, MA area with his Dodge truck.



# Quartermaster

## ORDER FORM

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

Product Description	Code	\$ Amt	Size	Qty	\$ Total
Coffee Mug, white 11oz w/full color Blackhorse insignia .....	C	10.00		_____	_____
Hat, Black Poplin adjustable w/full color direct embroidery Blackhorse insignia. ....	B	10.00		_____	_____
Key ring, 1.5 " Acrylic square w/full color Blackhorse insignia .....	A	3.00		_____	_____
Bumper Sticker "I Rode With The Blackhorse w/full color BH insignia .....	A	2.00		_____	_____
Window Sticker, full color BH insignia and Vietnam service ribbon .....	A	2.00		_____	_____
History Book, "Blackhorse Regiment in Vietnam" .....	C	25.00		_____	_____
Watch, BH insignia on face, leather band (indicate choice) Man's Woman's .....	B	20.00		_____	_____
Blackhorse Shoulder Patch, (indicate choice) colored subdued .....	B	4.00		_____	_____
Blackhorse Challenge Coin, Antique silver 1.75" BH insignia/VN map on faces .....	B	12.00		_____	_____
Blackhorse 100 year memorial coin, 1.75" crossed sabers/BH insignia new .....	B	12.00		_____	_____
Belt Buckle, solid brass w/crossed sabers & BH insignia .....	C	20.00		_____	_____
Flag, indoor/outdoor 3'x5' with color insignia .....	B	50.00		_____	_____
Lighter, "Zippo" style brushed chrome w/full color BH insignia .....	B	15.00		_____	_____
License Plate, metal red & white background with crossed sabers & 11 .....	B	5.00		_____	_____
License Plate Frame, metal, black w/Blackhorse 11th US Cavalry in white .....	C	6.00		_____	_____
Attache Case w/shoulder strap 11.5" x 15.5" w/dir emb. BH insignia & VN rib .....	C	30.00		_____	_____
Tote Bag, white, 12x12x6 w/full color BH insignia new .....	B	20.00		_____	_____
Barbeque Apron, white, 24x30 w/full color BH insignia new .....	B	25.00		_____	_____
Blackhorse Pin .....	A	3.00		_____	_____
11th ACR Regimental Creast .....	A	3.00		_____	_____
Pin, "Xuan Loc" .....	A	3.00		_____	_____
Pin, "Quan Loi" .....	A	3.00		_____	_____
Pin, "100 Year Anniversary of 11th Cav" .....	A	3.00		_____	_____
Blackhorse Cavalry Pin, brass, 11 over crossed sabers .....	A	5.00		_____	_____
Reunion pin (indicate choice), Indianapolis, Las Vegas, Appleton New Orleans, San Diego, Buffalo .....	A	1.00		_____	_____
Blackhorse Women's Pendant w/chain, 10k gold w/full BH insignia .....	B	70.00		_____	_____
Gear Bag, red with color BH insignia (11x11x21) .....	C	35.00		_____	_____
Men's Ring, 10k gold w/full color BH insignia on face (specify size) .....	A	275.00	_____	_____	_____
Blackhorse Patch Temporary Tattoo .....	A	3.00		_____	_____
Blackhorse Video (based on book) (specify format) <input type="checkbox"/> VHS <input type="checkbox"/> DVD .....	B	30.00		_____	_____

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

Blackhorse Tshirt, 100% cotton, preshrunk, full color BH insignia. Specify color: <input type="checkbox"/> Ash <input type="checkbox"/> Black (check one) .....	B	16.00		_____	_____
Henley Shirt, 100% cotton, short sleeve, round neck w/full color BH insignia and VN ribbon. Specify color: <input type="checkbox"/> Red <input type="checkbox"/> White .....	A	20.00		_____	_____
Golf Shirt, 100% cotton w/full color BH insignia on left front. Specify color: <input type="checkbox"/> Red <input type="checkbox"/> White (check one) .....	B	30.00		_____	_____
Blackhorse Sweatshirt, 50% cotton, 50% acrylic w/full color BH insignia. Specify color: <input type="checkbox"/> Ash <input type="checkbox"/> Black (check one) .....	B	25.00		_____	_____
Blackhorse Jacket, 100% Nylon, snap front, quilted lining w/full color BH insignia, (6" back), crossed sabers (front right) and Allons insignia (front left) .....	B	75.00		_____	_____

Shipping Costs: A items = \$3.00; B items = \$5.00 (max shipping is \$7.50 per order); C items = \$7.50

**Subtotal** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Shipping and Handling** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Total** \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
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 \$7.50. Checks or Money Orders should be made payable to "11th ACVVC." Allow six weeks for processing and delivery. **Prices effective until 07-01-03. Previous price lists invalid.** Mail order to: **11th ACVVC Quartermaster, c/o Rodney H. George, 21450 West Nine Mile Road, Huson, MT 59846.**



# Journey to Fiddler's Green

We're sorry to report the following Troopers have taken the journey to Fiddler's Green. Our deep-felt sympathy and sincere condolences to their families and friends.

**Ronald L. Atwell** who served with D Company, 1/11 ACR (1969) passed away on June 6, 2002 from complications related to pancreatic cancer. Ron was a faithful worker for the Military Order of the Purple Heart until his death.

**Harold Scott Bonsper II** who served with the 541st MID (69-70) passed away on May 25, 2001. Trooper Bonsper was a retired Police Officer.

**Kim W. Bradshaw** who served with the 37th Medical Company (1968) passed away on July 24, 2001. Kim was a life member of the 11th ACVVC.

**Ronald F. "Brownie" Brown** who served with C Troop, 1/11 ACR (68 - 69) passed away on February 17, 2003. Brownie was 54 years old.

**Kenneth D. Campbell** who served with D Company, 1/11 ACR (1970) passed away from injuries received in an airplane crash in Michigan on March 10, 2003.

**Narvel H. "Shug" Foster** who served with E Troop, 2/11 ACR (66 - 67) passed away on October 21, 2002.

**Larry M. Magie** who served with K Troop, 3/11 ACR (67 - 68) passed away in August of 2002 as the result of a heart attack.

**Walter John Marski** who served with K Troop, 3/11 ACR (67 - 68) passed away on June 3, 1996.

**Raymond J. Matus** who served with the 541st MID (66 - 67) passed away in 2002. Ray was one of the original "boat people" and a life member of the 11ACVVC.

**Richard V. Norris** who served with G Troop, 2/11 ACR (1968) passed away in April 1993. Richard's home was in Colorado.

**James T. "Bo" Shortt** who served with the 11th ACR passed away on January 27, 2003. His home was in Bristol, Virginia, and he was retired from the Virginia Department of Corrections. Bo was 55 years old.

**Russell L. "Russ" Young** who served with HOW Battery, 1/11 ACR (66 - 67) passed away December 12, 2002. Russ resided in Indianapolis, Indiana.



## Blackhorse in Vietnam

In the words of the men who fought



### The Documentary Film Release

Produced in Hollywood, California, by Blackhorse Productions corporation with the assistance of Otis Carey, of the 11thACVVC.

The documentary film is almost two hours in length. You can order the video in DVD or VHS format. This project is our opportunity to tell the truth, about the valor, courage, and the sacrifices made by the Blackhorse Troopers in Vietnam. We deserve to be remembered and our stories told to future generations.

The documentary contains excerpts from over 32 interviews of Blackhorse Troopers, excerpts from hundreds of never before seen photos, and live recorded audio and video footage of combat in Vietnam. Some of the Troopers interviewed include, Homer Pittman, Monty Montelongo, Harold Fritz, Thomas White, families of men KIA, and many others. The film is both entertaining and educational for the whole family and contains the greatest musical hits during the Vietnam war.

To order your copy, please fill out this form below and mail it to our Quartermaster.: 11th ACVVC Quartermaster, c/o Rodney H. George, 21450 West Ninemile Road, Huson, Mt. 59846

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Please select what type of format you want and how many of each.

Shipping is \$5.00 for one or \$7.00 total for more than one.  
(The max per order shipping is \$7.50)

Number of DVD's \_\_\_\_\_ X \$30.00 each = \_\_\_\_\_

Number of VHS's \_\_\_\_\_ X \$30.00 each = \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping Cost = \_\_\_\_\_

**Total =** \_\_\_\_\_

**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) \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks/money orders payable to: **11th ACV VC**. Mail this form with your check or money order (no cash) to: **11th ACVVC Membership, Bill Holford, 8515 Shoal creek Blvd., Apt. #108, Austin, TX 78757-7548.**

☆☆☆ **Membership is Our Strength** ☆☆☆  
**It's not the price you pay to belong,**  
**It's the price you paid to become eligible to join**



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