



Thunder Run

Vol. 17 – NO. 3 "Together Then – Together Again" 3rd Quarter, 2002

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

"Over 1,300 attend a packed house"

11 ACVVC Nashville Reunion "Bursts at the Seams"

by John Sorich, Vice President

There were so many positive things happening in Nashville that it was hard to keep track of. First of all, there were the numbers. We were expecting about a thousand people to attend. We had somewhere over 1,300 attendees for dinner on Saturday night. Many of our troopers attending had never been to a reunion! A special effort was made to make all newcomers welcome. We had many who just walked in. We did our best to accommodate them all. The logistics of us saying "yes" to everyone who were halted on Friday by the banquet manager of the hotel who informed us "You are maxed out, and we have no more plates, tables or silverware." We still continued to say "yes" to our guests. We did have to inform them that there was no more room to serve them dinner but they were welcomed to join us anyway. To my knowledge, no one was left out because they could not be served a dinner.

On Thursday, we had a fun time at the Marty Ognibine Memorial Golf

...the banquet manager of the hotel who informed us "You are maxed out, and we have no more plates, tables or silverware."

Tournament. My hat goes off to John Stanley & Pete Walter who managed and organized this event. Neither John nor Pete lived in the area. Next year, we will have a new volunteer, Joe Coopet, to help. Joe has a wealth of golf knowledge and will be an asset to the golf team.

Events on Friday included a Veterans Seminar in which a person from the Veterans Administration conducted a 2hour seminar. This was the first of its kind. We plan on continuing this seminar to help our members. Subjects that were discussed were: PTSD, Agent Orange & other things that effect our trooper's welfare. I heard nothing but positive comments after the meeting was over. Later

Please turn to REUNION on page 4

"The Blackhorse in Vietnam"

■ The Documentary VHS/DVD by Otis Carey, Liaison to Blackhorse Productions, Inc.

Title: *Blackhorse Regiment in Vietnam* in the words of the men who fought there.

Just in time for Christmas! You have a copy of our book and now it's available in VHS or

DVD format. Produced in Hollywood, California with the assistance of Otis Carey of FTroop. Run time is almost 2 hours and the VHS/DVD is packaged in a nice Blackhorse cover.

This project is our opportunity to tell the truth, about the valor, courage, and sacrifice of Blackhorse troopers in Vietnam and the glorious history of the Regiment. We deserve to be remembered and our story told.

The documentary contains excerpts from over 30 interviews of Blackhorse Troopers such as Homer Pittman, Monty Montelongo, LTC. Harold Fritz and others. It contains never before seen combat footage, and audiotapes from the Blackhorse in Vietnam.

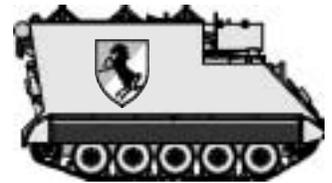
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Ollie Pickral, President
11th ACVVC

I'm still sitting around moping about missing our last reunion. This is the first of seventeen reunions that I have missed. I did however, get up to date reports

from the various Officers and Directors throughout the weekend.

The majority of reports were very positive with the understanding that we need to do a better job of the seating problem at the Saturday night banquet. Be assured that we are working the problem and hope we can solve the seating arrangements from here on out. Steve Page was our Reunion Chairman. He did a magnificent job of organizing and conducting a superb reunion. Steve was a recipient of our Outstanding Trooper Award as was Chaplain Larry Haworth, Craig Thomson, Rodney George, and Matt McKnight. We also awarded the very first Women's Award to Barb Moreno. She was shocked to say the least, as we had tricked her into believing that next year would be the first award to our great women in our lives. Many thanks for the service you all do for our organization!

At this year's reunion, our Vice President, John Sorich filled in for me. He did a magnificent job at our meetings and the banquet! What a great job he has been doing for our Scholarship fund as well! Over the last three years, he has literally had his hand in all of our pockets getting the necessary money to fund our great scholarship program. See his article about our Scholarship program in this issue of Thunder Run. John was the recipient of our celebrated Trooper of the Year Award for 2002. He certainly deserves it!

Many of you troopers attended our first ever Veteran Benefits seminar. Close to 300 attended the seminar for the veterans and they again spoke before the Women's Meeting where an estimated 90

Now that reunion XVII is over, we set our sights to our next reunion in Eugene, Oregon, July 31st, 2003 through August 3rd, 2003...

women participated. Pamphlets were given out to our attendees that will help them file for claims for problems caused by their military service. Many thanks to our Director, Chuck Schmidt (I Troop) and Rick O'Dell (919th Engr.) for the splendid presentation they made to both groups. The evaluation sheets gave nothing but praise for their knowledge and presentation. Many requested that it or something similar be done each year at our reunions.

I am happy to announce our new editor of Thunder Run, Trooper Bill Gregory, has agreed to lead our fine newsletter into the future with it continuing to be a quality newsletter. Many thanks go to Bill for volunteering for this "punishment." Bill served with H CO, 2nd Sqdn. 69-70 and HHT 2nd Sqdn. 1970. Thanks Bill! We all look forward to our future issues.

Now that reunion XVII is over, we set our sights to our next reunion in Eugene, Oregon, July 31st, 2003 through August 3rd, 2003 at the Hilton Eugene & Conference Center. Rooms are limited. So, call for yours *now* at: 1-800-937-6660. We are certain we will require overflow hotels so stay at the host hotel by making your reservations now (you can always cancel without penalty prior to the reunion date).

It's Time for the 12th Annual Blackhorse Picnic

Ron and Janet Krueger are your hosts again!

Everyone is invited and welcome at the 12th Annual Blackhorse Potluck/BBQ in Northern California. The date is Saturday, October 5, 2002, from 1100 am??? at Slidehill Park in Davis, California. Bring something to BBQ and something to share such as salad, dessert or other munchies, as well as your beverage of choice.

Here are the directions: Take I80 to Davis Calif. Take the Mace Blvd exit off I80. Proceed North around the bend (Mace becomes Covell Blvd). Take Covell Blvd. to Monarch Lane. Turn Left, then the 1st right on Temple. The park is one block ahead on the left. Watch for balloons and signs along the way. RSVP: Ron Krueger at 530-758-0351 or email at: ronkrue@hotmail.com.

Allons, Ron and Janet

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: _____

Nashville Reunion Report

by Steve Page,
Reunion Committee Chairman

Greetings to you all! The Nashville Reunion was a great success! There are some very special people who helped make this reunion a big success. Barb and Robert Moreno took charge of the registration desk under the direction of Gene Johnson. His daughter Jessica and beau Michael McKnight made the changes for the nametags. For all the great volunteers who helped out, a big *Thank You* for your help. You all made it run like a fine Swiss watch! Gene Johnson was also the Master of Ceremonies for the Banquet.

A special thanks goes to Matt McKnight for taking on the Memorial Service. He and Chaplain Haworth did a tremendous job. This was a service to remember!

There are some very special people who helped make this reunion a big success.

Matt also took on other tasks and his coordination was a tremendous help.

John Sorich ran the Silent Auction with his diligent work and attention to detail. The auction was a great success in collecting over \$6,000 that will benefit our children with two scholarships. Again, thanks to the Moreno's and others who assisted John.

A big thanks goes out to Chuck Schmidt and Rick O'Dell for putting on the Veteran Seminar that was very well attended and full of helpful information. These seminars will be added to our future reunions.

A special thanks goes out to Rod and Elida George who, over the last couple

of years, have sold just about everything they bring to the reunion. Sales were well over the \$30,000 range.

To all the people we spoke with, thank you for your suggestions and ideas as we appreciate your input.

To those "First Timers", we hope you had a great time and will try to make many more reunions.

To the members and guests who come every year, without your support, these reunions would never happen.

To the families of our KIA'S, welcome to our family. We wish that your attending a reunion could have been under different circumstances.

To the hotel staff of the Sheraton Hotel, you did a yeoman's job to help make this reunion a great success.

To my wife Lee, who encouraged and supported me in this immense task, you are fantastic!

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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on that evening, we had our Bunker Party/Silent Auction. For me, this is the highlight of my reunion—sitting around, looking at pictures, catching up with friends, having some snacks and beer, and meeting new troopers. This is what the “Bunker “ was intended for. It is true to its name. Everyone had a good time even up to midnight, which is way past my bedtime. Thank God, this only lasts for a few days!

Saturday was a day packed with events. At 8:00 in the morning, we boarded comfortable coach buses for the ride to downtown Nashville. The Tennessee Army National Guard Band made the Memorial site more memorable in that they extended their greetings to us. The band was a lovely addition to our service. Our Chaplain, Larry Haworth did his usual outstanding job, focusing the attention of our group’s service. The speaker was a retired General who worked in the area of Veterans Affairs and who had served two tours in Viet Nam. There were 3 horses, one riderless horse, bagpipes, a 21 gun salute, the band and then Adrian playing taps. We honored the memory of our fallen Brothers and their families. It was very moving as Larry guided us through it all. Larry, thank you so much for always being there for us!

At two in the afternoon, we had our Membership meeting. At the same time we were in our Membership meeting, our women conducted their meeting. Both meetings went very well; both ended at 4:00.

Festivities for our dinner started at 6:00. The Army band that played for our Memorial service was in the banquet lobby playing as we enjoyed cocktails. The rich sound of a big band is something that my Dad brought me up on. He was also a soldier. We certainly would like to express our gratitude to the members of the band for being there for us. They were *Great!* While they played, many attendees put their final bids on the Silent Auction items. When that was over, we had raised over \$6,700.00 for the Scholarship!

We tried to get as many of us in the

banquet hall as possible, but there were so many people. We will work on this problem to make things better in the future. Please understand, we do our best to provide seating for all. To be helpful in this endeavor, remember to *register early*. None of our membership wants to turn our brothers away. On the other hand, it is not possible to treat all walk ins as if they have registered early. Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

The Banquet Program was like the rest of the weekend—very positive! Col. Joe Moore, the current Commander of the 11th ACR, spoke to us about our legacy we have given to the Blackhorse from our service in Vietnam and Cambodia. We are the heroes that the young active duty men look up to. He inspired us. We cannot deny the single thread that binds us all as Blackhorse Troopers. Our evening guest speaker was Gen. Wallace Nutting who was the Commanding Officer of our Regiment in Vietnam in 1970. He had a long, distinguished career and retired as a four star General. I was impressed with General Nutting’s words. He is a man to be respected and I thank you, Sir.

During dinner, there was some great film footage that was mixed with slides to entertain us. The footage was of the 11th “horse” Cavalry and dated back to the 1930’s. This footage had never been seen until now. This new version of “The Blackhorse Salute “ met with great approval! It has been made easier to understand with new subtitles and new video effects. This combined with the producers from Hollywood, who are busy making The Blackhorse Movie, the producers showed the audience close to 4 minutes of what they have done so far. It was impressive!

Sunday, I rode the bus to the airport with the young men who are involved in our movie project. I asked them how they got interested in our story. It seems the cameraman’s Grandfather served with the Regiment under General “Blackjack Pershing “. All of us had a good time. Nashville really showed us some fine southern hospitality! Thank you....see you in Eugene next year!

Do You Remember How?

Using Your Headspacing and Timing Device

by O.D. Little
A Troop 1970-71

◆ **The M2 50 Cal HB machinegun (as well as the M38 30 cal) required headspace and timing be set.**

Headspace refers to the distance between the face of the chamber of the barrel and the face of the bolt. To set headspace the barrel was first screwed all way in to the barrel extension then backed off three clicks to establish a starting point. The headspace gage was then inserted into the opening between the barrel and face of the bolt. The gage has both a go side and a no-go side. If the go side went and the no-go side didn’t go you were OK. If not, then you screwed the barrel in or out one click at a time until the go went and the no-go didn’t go.

Timing refers to when the gun fired in relation to the round being seated in the chamber and the bolt and barrel extension being fully forward. The timing gage had a fire gage and a no-fire gage. To test for timing after headspace had been set the barrel extension and bolt assembly was pulled far enough to the rear to allow the no-fire gage to be placed in the gap between the bolt and barrel, release to go forward and attempt to fire the weapon. Again, the goal was to fire on the fire and not fire on the no fire. If the weapon fired on the no-fire gage, a simple acronym was used to adjust the timing. ELLR, stands for early left late right. Meaning that if the weapon fired with the no-fire gage in it was firing early (could blow up in your face) so you took the back plate off, turned the timing adjustment screw one or two clicks to the left, reassemble the weapon and start again. Firing late meant that the gun would not fire with the fire gage inserted.

I have a pretty good memory after all these years. I did work with the M2 after Nam, but it has still been almost 20 years since that time.

Unidentified Troop Assignments of our KIA

The following KIA troopers of the 11 ACR do not have their Troop assignment. Please inform 11 ACVVC if you know what Troop they served with.

PFC Dennis Springsteen	10/12/66	3/11	SFC Dick Hamilton	8/21/68		PFC Frank Hammond	1/23/70	
PFC Jimmy Williams	10/25/66	2/11	PFC Jerald Pretiatko	9/5/68	2/11	SP4 Donald Rice	1/23/70	
PFC Melvin Anderson	12/1/66	2/11	PFC Edgar Tomlinson	9/12/68	3/11	CPL Jesse Fray	2/25/70	
SP4 Frank Reynolds	3/4/67	2/11	SFC Robert Gregory	9/19/68	2/11	SP4 Thomas Lovley	3/2/70	
SP4 Hugh Best	3/14/67	1/11	MAJ Norman Cunningham	9/24/68		SGT Robert Smith	3/10/70	
SP4 James Ruffin	3/19/67	3/11	SP4 John Matuska	9/29/68	2/11	SP4 William Moorhouse	3/12/70	
SP4 Jose Quintero	4/17/67	2/11	WO William Rollins	9/29/68	2/11	SP4 George Patterson	4/1/70	
PFC Dale Tolbert	5/19/67	1/11	PFC Don Crane	10/27/68	3/11	SFC Mance Brown	4/3/70	
PFC Donald Walters	5/22/67	1/11	PFC Kenneth Faul	10/28/68	1/11	SSGT Orland Lloyd	4/7/70	
SP4 Edward Stahl	5/25/67	2/11	SP4 Robert Press	10/31/68	3/11	SSGT Robert Thompson	4/8/70	
PFC Francis Collins	6/5/67	2/11	CPT John Hayes	11/8/68	1/11	SP5 Craig Van Akin	4/8/70	
SP4 Willie Page	6/6/67	2/11	PFC Stephen Glore	11/11/68	1/11	CPL Raymond Williams	4/9/70	
PFC John Campa	7/21/67	3/11	PFC Robert Jasura	11/13/68	1/11	PFC Ernest Thorson	4/26/70	2/11
PFC Frank Cruz	7/27/67	1/11	SGT Alfred Small	11/24/68	3/11	SFC David Dash	5/2/70	
PFC Earl Long	8/15/67	1/11	1stLt Johnny Benton	11/25/68		SP4 Dionisio Carrizales	5/6/70	
1st Lt. Garland Whitmore	9/5/67		SP4 John Moulden	11/28/68		PFC PaduaLedesma	5/6/70	
SP4 Michael Gidvilas	9/7/67	1/11	PFC Nolan Byrd	12/3/68	2/11	SP4 Larry Morgan	5/8/70	
PFC James Lubas	9/22/67	1/11	PVT Earl Thomas	12/21/68	2/11	CPT Rhonald Durham	5/9/70	
PFC Lawrence Crawford	9/24/67	F/G Troop?	SP4 Thomas Bullard	1/11/69	1/11	SP4 Wiley Hooks	5/9/70	
PFC Erral Smallwood	9/24/67	F/G Troop?	SSGT Thomas Pilson	2/26/69	2/11	SP4 James Russ	5/23/70	
PFC Bobby Smith	9/24/67	F/G Troop?	SGT Frank Saracino	3/20/69		SGT Thomas Healy	6/8/70	
SP4 Joe Thomas	9/24/67	F/G Troop?	CPT Kenneth Bailey	3/22/69		PFC Thomas Cusson	6/20/70	
SSgt Johnny Hayes	9/26/67	1/11	SP4 Bill Moschetti	3/23/69	1/11	PFC Merrill Holt	6/20/70	
PFC Melvin East	10/14/67	1/11	SSGT Gary Gillis	4/7/69	3/11	PFC Thomas Griffin	6/20/70	
SSgt Robert Howard	11/4/67	2/11	SP4 Ricky Mauney	4/10/69		SP4 Burder Athey	6/21/70	
SP4 Walter Murphy	12/12/67	1/11	SP4 Larry Barfield	4/13/69	1/11	SP5 Buford Spencer	6/21/70	
PFC Juan Burgos	12/14/67	2/11	SP4 Kenneth Jensen	4/13/69		SP4 Michael Dadisman	6/24/70	
SP4 Michael Jones	12/17/67	2/11	2nd Lt Daniel Leahy	4/18/69	1/11	SP5 Greg Stevenson	7/24/70	
PFC Reginald Chun	1/4/68	3/11	SP4 Robert Morgan	4/18/69	1/11	SP4 Joe Fulgham	8/2/70	
SSgt Clarence Claycomb	1/13/68	1/11	SP4 Ronald Pongratz	4/18/69	1/11	PVT Joseph Marcantonio	8/10/70	2/11
PFC Bruce Dudley	1/23/68		SP4 Donald Noel	4/26/69	1/11	PFC Robert Rother	8/23/70	
SP5 Julius Morris	1/25/68	1/11	1st Lt Edward Powers	5/2/69	3/11	SGT William Wilhelm	9/6/70	
PFC Kenneth Grassl	1/29/68	1/11	PFC Wavel Powell	5/2/69	3/11	SP4 Kenneth Hendrix	10/26/70	
PFC Ricky Myers	1/29/68	1/11	SP4 Charles Case	5/12/69		SGT Donnie Cunningham	11/18/70	
SP4 John Zielinski	1/29/68	1/11	SSGT Gerald Hill	6/4/69		SP4 Jorge JourdanFont	11/27/70	
PFC Randall Gustafson	2/14/68	3/11	SGT Kenneth Pitre	6/7/69	1/11	SGT Carver Vaughn	12/27/70	
PFC Joseph Weaver	2/14/68	3/11	SP4 Carlos Collazo	6/11/69	3/11	PFC Roy Chaney	12/31/70	
SP4 Melvin Wangeshik	2/19/68	1/11	SGT Hollis Miller	6/18/69		SGT Alfredo Salazar	12/31/70	
SP4 David Isom	2/23/68	1/11	SP4 Edwin Turk	6/18/69	3/11	SGT Dennis Webster	12/31/70	
2nd Lt Clarence Roussell	3/6/68		SP4 Calvin Hunt	6/19/69	3/11	SP5 Raymond Enyeart	1/5/71	
PFC Donald Irby	3/9/68		1st Lt Bernard Pierce	6/19/69		1st Lt James Cartwright	1/8/71	
PFC Santiago Torres	3/9/68		SP5 John Cornwall	7/9/69		SP4 Loren Lebeau	2/1/71	
SGT Richard Vincent	3/9/68		SGT Jimmie Scrogum	7/9/69		CW2 Joseph Brown	2/18/71	
SP4 Theodore Mazon	3/18/68		1st Lt Thomas Ceres	7/10/69		SGT Willis Andrews	4/17/71	
SP4 Victor Mohr	4/25/68	1/11	1st Lt Robin Wetzler	7/10/69		SP5 George Orr	4/17/71	
SP5 Danny Rich	5/6/68		1st Lt Dennis Newman	7/15/69		SP4 Gary Reynolds	4/17/71	
CPL Kenneth Floyd	5/7/68		Sgt Charles Matthews	8/13/69		SP4 Fidencio Flores	4/23/71	
1st Lt Woodroe Warth	5/8/68	3/11	WO Terrance Ledden	9/5/69		SP4 Hilbert Teeter	4/24/71	
SFC Wallace Little	5/18/68	1/11	SGT Leo Hartsuff	9/7/69		PFC Herbert Barnes	5/19/71	
SP4 Allan Fredricksen	5/19/68	1/11	SP4 John Shannon	9/14/69		PFC Mickey Lane	5/19/71	
PFC Stanley Schroeder	5/19/68	1/11	SGT Anthony Standifer	9/18/69		SGT Jack Garnes	10/30/71	
PFC George Long	5/30/68	1/11	SP4 William Haney	10/17/69		SFC James Conley	11/07/71	
SP4 Thomas Edwards	6/20/68	1/11	SP4 Peter Mestas	10/19/69		SP5 Albert Robalin	12/28/71	
SP4 Dwight Hinman	6/23/68	1/11	SSGT Charles Russell	11/24/69		CPT William Clark	2/23/72	
PFC Thomas Williams	7/1/68	1/11	SP4 Barry Scott	11/26/69		CPT Joseph Harris	4/8/72	
SP4 Kurt Ward	7/18/68	1/11	PFC Donald Demond	11/30/69		SGT Mike Aguilar	5/10/72	
SP4 Charles Hamner	7/31/68	2/11	PFC Calvin Thompson	12/3/69				
WO Douglas Collins	8/21/68		CPL Donald Majkowski	1/22/70				

Scholarship 2002-2003 – The Final Report

by John Sorich,
Vice President of 11 ACVVC,
Chairman of the Scholarship Committee

I have just returned from our convention in Nashville and want to thank all that were present. I had a wonderful time. I was kept very busy with Ollie Pickral, our President not in attendance. He and his wife Debbie were attending his daughter's graduation ceremony at Stephen F. Austin State Univ. My best wishes to April, who now has a college degree.

I have the following to report about the Scholarship Committee. The 2002-2003 Scholarship is almost in the record books. Through the efforts of all, we were very successful. Including the Calendar, Raffle and contributions to the Silent Auction, the total for these events was \$ 45,708.70. Of this amount, there was over \$ 7,100.00 in expenses for printing, mailing and raffle awards. We gave sixteen scholarships to a field of twenty-seven qualified applicants. The total of the scholarships will be \$ 48,000.00.

The following are the names of the winners in our Scholarship Raffle:

1st. Place (\$500) – Dennis Van Alstine – E Troop; 2nd. Place (\$300) – Sandy Shenal (we don't have her phone or address – HELP if you know her); 3rd Place (\$100) – Tom Hoefstaedter – 37th Med.; 4th Place – Dick Sack – K Troop.

Many thanks to all for the donations!!

To the many that gave, you can be very proud of this fact. After expenses, it looks like we once again have managed to make enough money to make this program self sustaining. Last year, the Board of Directors voted to use interest monies from our CD's to ensure we would be able to maintain a level of at least 10 scholarships per year. It looks like using the interest money might not be necessary.

We are soon approaching my last season as Vice President and Chairman of our Scholarship program. I have worked as diligently as I could, but the real effort in this event belongs to you, our members.

Without your efforts, we would not enjoy such a vital Scholarship program.

See the names of the recipients in this issue of our newsletter. Look also for the list of contributors. The list may not be perfect, as much as I try to honor all that have sent us their dollars for this cause I am not perfect. I ask you to forgive me if you have made a contribution and somehow I have not got your name on the list. Never hesitate to remind me if this occurs.

Now I will be turning my mind and efforts to the Calendar for 2003. Send me your photos as they must be originals. They will be returned to you after the printer completes the calendar. Please supply names, dates, places, and a caption for each photo you submit. This will make for a great calendar.

Thank you each for all you do for our excellent scholarship program!

ALLONS

Committee Selects Sixteen For Scholarships

by John Sorich, VP 11 ACVVC

Many thanks to all our contributors to our coveted scholarship program. Because of your generosity, we are able to award sixteen (16) \$3,000.00 each scholarships for 2002 and 2003.

Congratulations to all our recipients! We hope that in a small way, we are able to help further your education.

Robert Thomas Griffin II Western Washington U Bellingham, WA.	Parents, Robert & Valerie, HQ 2nd Sqdn
Rebekah Diane Caldwell Southwest Baptist U Bolivar, Mo.	Parents, Ronald & Loretta, DCo.
Jena M. Henry Pacific U Forest Grove, Or.	Parents, Philip & Kim, How Bat. 1st Sqdn
Crystal Dawn Saxby U of Maine Farmington, Me.	Parents, Chris & Michelle, K Troop
Amy Bee Murphy College of Charlestown Charlestown, S.C.	Parents, Thomas & Robin HHT 1st Sqdn.
Marie Frances Mulcahey U of St. Thomas St. Paul, MN.	Parents, Michael & Margaret 2/11HHT
Thomas Walter Farmer Alliant Int. U San Diego, Ca.	B Troop
Amber Lee Ashley U W La Crosse	Parents, Roger & Marriane, 3rd How Btry.

La Crosse, Wi. Casen James Griffiths Carthage College Michigan	Parents, James & Marilyn, F Troop
Krista Marie Olson U of Minn. Duluth Duluth, Mn	Parents, John & Patricia, K Troop
Christopher Joseph Shogun Gonzaga U Spokane, Wa.	Parents, Alexander & Maureen, E trp
Joel N. Ruscher San Diego State U San Diego, Ca.	Parents, John & Patricia, HHT 3/11
Katrinka Jack Augsburg College, Minneapolis, Mn.	Parents, Fred & Kathy, HHT 3/11
Kathleen Marie Gleditsch U of Penn. Indiana, Pa.	Parents, Herbert & Karen, 919th Eng.
Todd Andrew Gilbert Tuffs U Medford, Ma.	Parents, Robert & Ellen, HHT 2/11
Bryenne Louise Craig Bethany College Lindsborg, Ks.	Parents, Michael & Ellie, F Troop

Congratulations to the 11th ACVVC Scholarship recipients. All of us, who have worked hard to provide you with this Scholarship, wish you the best!

ALLONS !!

Guide to the 11 ACVVC Scholarship Program

By John Sorich, 11 ACVVC Vice President
and Scholarship Chairman,
July 10, 2002

The 11ACVVC has a superb Scholarship Program designed for all members in good standing. The 11ACVVC will grant Scholarships to our Troopers' children, their stepchildren, and any children whose legal guardianship is accomplished by one of our Troopers, and to the Troopers themselves if qualified.

I would like to outline the procedures of the Scholarship Program so all members may understand them. This outline may also be used as a guide for the next 11ACVVC Scholarship Chairman. I am the third Scholarship Chairman. Preceding me were Ben Hotchkiss and after him, Bill Lewellen. I have talked with them in the past and expressed to them that as our organization continues, we need to update our policies and keep the Scholarship as a viable benefit for our membership.

The History

According to information gathered, it is believed that the 11thACVVC started collecting money at the 1989 Reunion in Minneapolis for the purpose of a Scholarship fund from the 11ACVVC members. We collected about \$1,000 and turned the money over to Bill Squires. Bill Squires distributed the Scholarship donations through the Blackhorse Association.

A motion was made and passed at the 1996 11ACVVC reunion for us to have our own Scholarship Program, separate from the Blackhorse Association's. Since that time, the 11thACVVC has awarded 46 scholarships in the amount of \$2,000 each. Two years ago, after much discussion, the Scholarship award was increased to \$3,000. This was done primarily because the cost of a college education has increased substantially since the start of the program. In fact, the national average for a college education is approximately \$21,000 annually.

We awarded a \$3,000 scholarship to 13 students in 2001. I am pleased to report that because of the efforts of many, we will be able to have 16 awards of \$3,000 each this year (2002). Last year, your Board of Directors voted to use the monies that have been generated by the interest from the association's Certificates of Deposit for the Scholarship Program. This will allow us to

maintain the level of awards at a consistent level. *The fund raising we participate in each year, including calendar sales, the raffle, and the silent auction are very important.* Your support is what makes this program work.

The Criteria for Qualification

Any candidate who wishes to apply for a Scholarship must be the child of a current, paidup member (or be the member himself) of the 11ACVVC. Applications will be accepted from students whose membership has lapsed by sending in one year's membership fee. We grant Scholarships to our Troopers, their children, their stepchildren and any children whose legal guardianship is accomplished by one of our Troopers.

The Applicant

The applicant must fill the Scholarship Form completely. The Scholarship Application must be in the hands of the Scholarship Chairman by the deadline, May 15 of each year. If an applicant sends in the application and it is not filled out completely, the applicant will NOT be considered as a candidate. The application is available on our website at: www.11thCavNam.com. It may also be obtained by request from the Scholarship Chairman.

Judging the Applicant

Prior to the 2001 Scholarship season, applicants were judged in three categories:

Grades

Essay

Completing the section on, "Why you would be worthy of the 11thACVVC Scholarship"

Financial need

To determine financial need required the scholarship committee to make a financial needs judgement or decision with very limited personal financial information available. Furthermore, divorces, varied costs of living, and salaries in different areas of the country made it almost impossible to have one standard to apply to all members. Some applicants felt rule III was often prejudicial against certain members. It was deemed unfair to some student applicants and also prevented many otherwise eligible students from applying. It was decided that the intent and spirit of the 11ACVVC Scholarship Program was to benefit the children of all members and members themselves if qualified. After a long discussion that took place

over several months, the third consideration of financial need was removed from the criteria, leaving the first and second judging categories the sole points of worthiness.

The Scholarship Chairman selects the Judges. The Judges are usually selected from the community where the Scholarship Chairman resides. The main goal in selecting Judges is that they must be impartial, educated and have a good idea of what it takes to succeed in college. The judges are asked to rate each candidate on a point system. The point total for a perfect score would be 20. Ten points coming from item number I and ten points coming from item number II. The total of the judges' scores are added up and in descending order the judging is completed. Only the applicants who are awarded the 11ACVVC Scholarship are notified. This is done in writing and is mailed to them by the end of June.

The Scholarship Chairman may be obligated to offer a priority to Children of those Killed In Action, those who Died of Wounds, and those Disabled members. These are the only criteria that takes precedence over judged items I & II.

Summary

This may be the first time our organization has formally stated the events and procedures that constitute the Scholarship Program. The Program is intended to benefit all the qualified people associated within our membership. We will continue to have the 11thACVVC Scholarship Program as long as our membership is interested in supporting the Program. Further, this report will serve as a guideline for future Scholarship Committees to provide continuity in the administration and execution of the Scholarship Program. It is important that this information is available to all members for their consideration and to help them fully understand how our Scholarship Program works.

A total of 87 applicants have been awarded our Scholarship since it started in 1996. I want to thank the thousands of Trooper's, their supportive families, loved ones and all who have contributed so generously over the years to make this program the success. All of us together, contributing what we can, have helped make this program one for which we all can be proud..... ALLONS !!



Women's Corner

By Barb Moreno, 11th ACVVC Women's' Coordinator

Well dear friends, once again it is time to sit back and think about the past couple of weeks. Friends meeting friends from their past, making new friends, looking at pictures which showed the guys when they were young and in some cases thin and had hair. Yes, reunion 2002 is now in our past and we turn our thoughts to the next one in Eugene, Oregon.

I want to congratulate Steve Page on a job "well done". Having worked with Steve this year I have learned what a super guy he is. I look forward to helping out again next year.

If you missed the ladies meeting, then you missed a good one. We had "80" ladies present. This is the most that I can remember since I first started coming to reunions in San Antonio.

Our meeting was started with a fun and informative get acquainted game. Each woman was paired with someone they didn't know and given 2 minutes to learn everything they could about each other. It was really funny to learn that we had so many long lost 'identical' twins, born of different mothers. It was really funny and fun and many of you left the meeting with a new friend. I hope you will all stay in touch with each other and with me. Your address books will be in the mail soon.

Our guest speaker this year was Rick O'Dell. Rick is one of our own Blackhorse Troopers and is very knowledgeable in the field of Agent Orange. He presented a very informative program and answered a lot of questions. I learned things that I had no idea were possibly related to having been exposed to Agent Orange. I for one am now going to be insistent that Bob receive his VA exam.

If you missed the ladies meeting then you missed a good one. We had "80" ladies present. This is the most that I can remember...

Rick, a very BIG thank you from me and from all the ladies in attendance. And we look forward to having you join us again in a couple of years.

My award – this came as a huge surprise to me. Ollie Pickral and I had discussed the possibility of a ladies award about a year ago. It was decided that this award would not take effect until 2003 and therefore giving me time to think about the requirements necessary for this award. The only thing I am sorry about is the fact that Bob (my husband) was out of the room at the time of the presentation and so therefore we have no pictures or even know what was said.

I thank all of you who make my job easier by being a sounding board or a shoulder to lean on. I truly enjoy doing this and look forward to the planning each year.

Well girls we just got back from Nashville this morning about 3 am so I think I'll sign off for now.

Until next time may each of you be happy and healthy. And don't forget to let me here from you soon.

Yours in friendship and love,

Barb Moreno

DOCUMENTARY from page 1

The documentary highlights the valor of all Blackhorse Troopers, and represents our history with honor, and dignity in a film the whole family can view. Our story will be told long after we are resting in Fiddlers Green.

We have preordered only 1000 Copies, so place your order soon so your copy will be delivered in time for Christmas. The documentary can be ordered from the Quartermaster Store Order Form in DVD or Video VHS \$27 + \$4 S&H. ... ALLONS

De Novo Review Speeds VA Claims

By Col John E. Howell, USAF (Ret)
jhowell@sperdutolaw

Reprinted from *Stars and Stripes*

Any veteran with a claim pending before the VA knows things are slowing down, due partly to the backlog resulting from the Veterans Claims Assistance Act of 2000. As you know, this law was a great step forward, but it has created huge backlogs at many VA centers. What is the VA doing to speed things up?

To its credit, the VA has formulated new proposals and procedures that will be implemented soon.

One of the most significant changes is the de novo review. Webster's says, "de novo" is Latin for "anew, afresh, again, from the beginning." (We lawyers all love Latin).

That is just what the new regulation, 38 C.F.R. /3.2600, "Review of benefit claims decisions," will do. It offers a new appeal procedure at the regional office level that should result in a quicker resolution of cases and cut down time-consuming appeals.

These first four steps in the disability claims process will stay the same:

Step 1 – You file your claim. The VA, performing its "duty to assist," says that you need something else, such as more medical evidence, evidence about your service, and so on.

Step 2 - You send them what evidence you have or can obtain.

Step 3 - The VA adjudicates your claim, denying or granting only part of it, and gives you a form with a description of you rights to appeal.

Step 4 - You disagree with the decision, so you file a Notice of Disagreement (NOD).

A New Right (Starting June 1)

Step 5 – You now have a choice. Under the old rules, when you filed a NOD, the VA did a Statement of the Case (SOC). If you still disagreed with their decision, you filed a VA Form 9 to appeal your case to the Board of Veterans Appeals. The VA then did a Supplemental Statement of the Case, and your case went to the board.

As of June 1, the VA will grant you a new right – the right to a de novo review. Note: You can ask for a de novo review when you

Newsletter Deadlines

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

- First Quarter.....Jan 15
- Second Quarter.....Apr 15
- Third QuarterAug 15
- Fourth QuarterOct 15

file your NOD, but you must disagree with their initial decision before the de novo review becomes available.

If you do not request a de novo review, you have 60 days from the time the VA mails you the notice to decide whether to accept same. If you turn it down, or do not reply within 60 days, the 60 days will not be extended and the VA will follow the old rules.

Note: If you want a *de novo* review, you must tell them in writing within 60 days of the day the VA mailed the notice to you.

A *de novo* review gives you some new opportunities.

First, the VA appoints a new adjudicator – an adjudication officer, a veterans service center manager or a decision review officer – to look at all the evidence in your claim. Anyone who worked on your earlier decision is not eligible to be a de novo reviewer.

The new adjudicator is told to give no deference to your earlier decision; it must be a completely fresh look.

The adjudicator can develop your claim by obtaining new evidence or by holding an informal conference with you.

The adjudicator may revise the decision, but the revision must be to your advantage. The adjudicator is limited to correcting only errors that are in your favor, except if there was “clear and unmistakable error” (CUE) in the prior decision. That is a loophole, but they must meet a high standard to find a CUE, and that decision is appealable.

Finally, de novo review does not limit your appeal rights. If the de novo decision does not grant the benefits you believe you are due, you can still appeal to the board.

The *de novo* review seems a step in the right direction. This is a fresh look at your claim before you go to the board and another opportunity for the VA to approve your claim at the local level. If the de novo adjudicators are well-trained and know their VA law, veterans should get their claims processed more quickly.

There is always a catch, however. If the de novo reviewers don't live up to the promise of this new procedure, are not truly open-minded or apply the “clear and unmistakable error” rule too vigorously, it could just cause more delay and create more problems.

I hope the new process works, but the proof is in the pudding.



Journey to Fiddler's Green

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

Lane W. Lauckhart passed away from his battle with cancer on March 20, 2002. Lane was a Staff Sgt. from A Troop, 1st Sqdn. and was in country from 1966 through 1969. Lane was a Life member of 11 ACVVC.

John R Carpenter passed away on February 23, 2002. John (Superman) was with E Troop, 2nd Sqdn. in 1967-68.

Charles A. Christopher passed away on April 15, 1998 from throat cancer related to agent orange. Charles served with L Troop, 3rd Sqdn. in 1969.

Theodore Hartman passed away April 11, 2000. He was 53 and died suddenly. Ted served with the 919th Combat Engineers from 1966 –1968 (2 tours with the 11th Cav).

Daniel M. Warren passed away September 8, 1996. Daniel served with K Troop, 3rd Sqdn. in 1971.

Timothy Smedley, Jr passed away December 30, 2001. Tim served with L Troop, 3rd Sqdn. in 1969.

Andrew J. Dougherty passed away on July 15, 1997. Andrew was attached to the 11th Cav while in Vietnam and was a pilot for the US Air Force.

James P. Lawler passed away on May 10, 2002. James served with HH Troop, Regiment in 1969 and was a Life member of 11 ACVVC.

James L. Steele passed away on April 17, 2002. James served with Air Cav Troop, Regiment in 1970.

Walt Rozier passed away on October 31, 1999. Walt served with the Regiment in 71-72 (unit assignment unknown). He reportedly died of ailments caused by Agent Orange.

Homer Pittman passed away on June 25, 2002 of complications following cancer surgery. Homer was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross (DSC) for heroism in the worst bloody battle the 11th ACR experienced in

May of 1967. Homer was the recipient of the 11th ACVVC's Jack Quilter Award for 2000. He was a Life Member of 11 ACVVC, serving with K Troop, 3rd Sqdn., 1966-67.

Gerald (Jerry) Steingass passed away Oct.10 2001 of an Oleglocomia brain tumor. He served with the 919th Engineers. Dates incountry are unknown.

George C. Hanusek passed away Jan. 9, 2000. George served with HH Troop in 1966-67.

Raymond J. Matus 62, died on June 23, 2002, in his home. Raymond was a Life member of 11 ACVVC and served with the 541st MID as a Warrant Officer.

Donald Bowman died on July 23, 2002 after a long battle with cancer. Don was an early 11 ACVVC life member and came to every reunion until his cancer prevented him. Don served with G Troop, 2nd Platoon, 2nd Sqdn. from 69-70. Don was 100% disabled from Agent Orange.

Gerald Steingass, 53, died October 10, 2001 from a cancerous brain tumor. It is unknown what Troop Gerald served under.

Marvin L. Hatfield, 69, died November 18, 2001. It is unknown what Troop Marvin served under.

Timothy Smedley, died on December 30, 2001. Tim served with L Troop, 3rd Sqdn. in 1969.

James L. Steele, 49, died on April 20, 2000. James served with Air Cav Troop, Provisional Sqdn. in 196970.

Alfred L. Smith Jr., 56, died May 29, 2002. Alfred was a Life member of 11 ACVVC and served with HHTroop, Regiment in 70-71.

James O. Ogle, 56, died on June 18, 2002. Jim was a Life member of 11 ACVVC and served with L Troop, 3rd Sqdn. in 1967-68. He died fighting cancer.

Charles Bazzel, 58, died January 14, 2002. “Red” served with 2nd Plt. L Troop, 3rd Sqdn. in 66-67. His family believed the cancer he had was related to exposure to agent orange.

Hot Landing Zone



Gary Skinner saw this Huey on top of the NCO Club at Tobyhanna Army Depot near Scranton, PA. Notice the Blackhorse patch on the nose.

Photo by Gary Skinner (HHT, 1/11 1967-68)



Except for the War Part

Did you ever play that old parlor game where someone says a word and everyone else immediately says whatever comes to mind? Sure you have. Yes. A reason it was fun was because of all the different associations people have to words. Like one person says, "Car!" Quickly someone replies, "Ford!" or "Chevy" or "Fast" or "I got a speeding ticket last night" or "How am I going to explain my bashed in front end." See what I mean? Or someone says, "Car!" and it gets more complicated. Like there's a used car salesman in the group and he replies, "Honest!" when he's really thinking, "How am I going to sell this high mileage beast"? Or someone else is a mechanic and says, "Fixed!" and wonders how he can get a date with the gorgeous creature that brought the car in.

Now, let's take this little game a step further. Let's zero in on a word that'll hit closer to home. Actually, it's guaranteed to bring out a lot of different response words and feelings. And memories. That is, if you're over 12 years old and not braindead which you're not if you're reading this. Let's try the word. Let's go out to the edge. Let's try "Viet Nam!" Hey!! (Or Hay!!), you say. What're you trying to pull here, Chaplain? Whoa. Slow down and come along with me. So, let's try this again: "Viet Nam!" Now right away you say words or thoughts that come to mind. For those of us who were there, many words and thoughts come to mind. Immediately. For those of us who had someone over there, many words and thoughts come to mind immediately for you too. For this article we'll talk about those who were there. Everyone else can come along because you were involved too. So here goes: I was there for two tours and a word that comes to my mind immediately is "war." You too? Not hard to understand. What about "shooting?" What about "Dinks?" (Not all Vietnamese were Dinks just the ones trying to kill you.) What about "getting ambushed," "calling for air support," "seeing the stuff fly," "sappers in the wire and green tracers in the air." These are all words and thoughts that will come immediately to the mind of a lot of us who were

I don't know how you feel, but, except for the shooting part and missing my family and home, for me the lifestyle wasn't so bad.

there. There are plenty more too, too many to list. But you know what I'm saying you have plenty of your own. These are all bad words and thoughts. Right? You know what I mean? Yes, you do. No one's kidding here. You have boucoup (boocoo, so who can spell in French?) words and thoughts about Viet Nam. However, let's change gears here. Let's look at the flip side of the coin. Let's check another angle on that word "Viet Nam."

Let's go on to this flip side of the coin I just mentioned. All the bad words and thoughts listed above are about the Viet Nam war. Just for the heck (I avoid saying hell because I'm going the other way) of it, let's think about Viet Nam without the war part. "You're nuts," you say to me? That may be true, but I'm from California and whether I'm a nut is beside the point. "You don't know what you're talking about, you say?" Well, I was there and I got shot at standing up, laying down, in the air, on tanks, and so forth, too. But that's the war part. Now, let's talk about experience aside from the war part.

We've talked a couple of times about handles. You know, the nicknames guys gave each other that seemed to fit their personality or the situation. You remember that sometimes you knew your buddy by his handle and never did get to know his real name. It wasn't important then. Of course, when you tried to look him up later you had a hard time because you didn't know his real name, his handle wasn't in the phone book and no one else knew who you were talking about. The point is, in Viet Nam there were a few buddies that you went through hell (I'll use the word here because it fits) and high water with and you got tighter than with a blood brother. You'd sit around at night talking about very personal things. You covered each other's youknowwhat when the stuff was flying. You took care of each other. You missed your buddy deeply when he PCSed and went home. See what I mean? This was a

powerful and wonderful experience. Many, maybe most, of us will never have that profound bonding with a brother again. Only in the extremes of Viet Nam or somewhere similar could this happen.

Moving on to something lighter but also good, I wrote about Medcaps a few months ago. I haven't told you about orphanages because I helped with them during my first tour and this is about my second tour mostly. Anyway, the point is that the vast majority of American soldiers truly care about people, especially kids. We went out on medcaps, which was taking medical care to people in remote parts of the jungle along the Cambodian border, because that's where we operated. Our medics (handle of Doc) treated a lot of people who needed help. The rest of us went along to help pull security or just to be friendly with the people. I've been around hundreds of troopers who went out on medcaps (or supported orphanages) because they wanted to. I can safely say that most, maybe all, actually enjoyed doing it. This was definitely a "good" part of our Viet Nam experience. It's a good memory. It's a positive response when someone plays the word association game that I started this article with. The good words probably don't come to mind as quickly as the bad words, but they're there and they're important.

I don't know how you feel, but, except for the shooting part and missing my family and home, for me the lifestyle wasn't so bad. First tour I was with helicopters and bird dogs in the Mekong Delta. I got in a lot of hours flying around in helicopters, bird dog spotter planes, and Otters. Second tour I was with Cav (the real cav) and rode around on ACavs, tanks, self-propelled howitzers, more helicopters and so on. This was actually fun. I enjoyed it a whole lot. Where else could you go and get such rides and experiences (remember, now, I'm talking about except for the war part.) Speaking of tanks, I remember when we went into Cambodia (legally). We went

in through the Fish Hook. We went into the rubber plantations around Snoul. It was a remarkable experience because the plantations were fresh and green. The plantation homes were whole. None had been bombed or rocketed yet. Not yet, I said. That would change (but that's the war part again). Except for the war part, like I said, this was a good experience. It was even a fun experience. The French plantation owners were already gone and the Cambodian manager was on his way outta there. He was flying out in a small plane from the grass airstrip. As he was leaving he told our troopers they could have anything and everything because what they didn't take the NVA would come and take anyway. Remember those old, ugly Citroens? They had to have been one of the ugliest and cheapest cars ever made. We sure couldn't use them and we weren't going to let the NVA have them. So guess what our tankers had a field day. They took those ugly Citroens out on the grass airstrip and had a demolition derby with them. No kidding! What fun! What a great time! Where else could you do such a thing? Nowhere. That's where.

Being a chaplain, some of my memories are about having church in the jungle. The Catholic priest from another squadron and I would get on the helicopter, which the regimental chaplain got from the commander. He'd take us all around to have services. The Catholic would take the Catholics (logical enough) and I'd take the Protestants (still logical). When he was gone I'd take everybody and when I was gone he'd do the same. Everybody, that is, who went to the services. I'll have to say, that participation sure was a lot better out in the jungle than in the rear. That shouldn't be hard to figure. Anyway, even when it rained we'd have services. I still have the Bible I used in those days. It's got splotches all over from the rain. I didn't mind a bit. It was even

sort of fun. For sure, it's a good memory. I'm glad I did it.

Well, there's a lot to talk about and I'm about out of space, but you can ponder your own good stories from your time in the Nam. Spend some time and energy thinking about buddies and experiences except for the war part. When you do, I hope and trust that you'll think about the Lord too. He was there. He did bring you through. And it wasn't all bad by any stretch. I hope you'll recognize that God does love you and cares about you deeply. He has his own call signs and handles, as you may remember from a different article. One of these is "God is Love." That comes from the Holy Bible, which is my authority for talking about God. It's in I John 4:810. The rest of the section is important so I'll tell you here what it is and hope you'll read it. If you've gone to sleep, you can read it later. Don't forget. Here it is: "Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is born of God and knows God. But anyone who does not love does not know God for God is love. God showed how much he loved us by sending his only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him. This is real love. It is not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins."

To end this article, I'll just say that I recognize war is hell and Viet Nam was no exception. Same for Desert Storm, Afghanistan, Korea, WWII and the rest. But along with the war part many good things did happen. Even great things happened. I hope you'll think about the good things that happened to you. Even in the Nam..

God bless you. God loves you. So do I

*Chaplain Larry Haworth
LEHaworth@aol.com*

Military Discharge Key to Obtaining Veteran's Benefits

Reprinted from *Stars and Stripes*

A veteran's military discharge document is the key that opens the door to securing veteran benefits and services; but too often, it is a vital document misplaced or lost, leaving the veteran and family members locked out from receiving help and entitlements they need and deserve.

If you are a veteran, you should have a copy of your discharge or have it on file at your hometown county clerk's office. You should make sure your spouse or other family members know where to find it. Veterans who don't know where their discharge is, or have lost it, should act now to replace it, rather than wait until it is needed, which can then be too late.

Medical, economic and social benefits for veterans are tied to documenting the individual's military service, and the best means of proving one's active duty is a copy of his or her discharge, often referred to as a DD-214.

Not having the discharge readily available can delay receipt of benefits, which can be costly to veterans and their families applying for monthly compensation or pension benefits, health care, education assistance, tax exemption and a variety of other benefits.

Veteran's discharges and other records are stored at the national personnel records center in St. Louis, MO. A request for an individual discharge can take months to obtain, a delay that can be frustrating and painful if the document is needed immediately. It is particularly upsetting for veterans survivors, who may have little information about their loved one's military service, but need the discharge to obtain benefits or to comply with the veteran's burial wishes, such as internment in a national cemetery. Without proof of military service, the national cemetery cannot accept the veteran's remains.

Veterans who cannot locate their discharges should contact their nearest division of veterans affairs office or county veterans service agency for assistance in obtaining a copy of the document.

Celebrate the 20th Anniversary of The Wall

The Officers and Directors passed a motion to sponsor a hotel suite in Washington DC to mark the 20th Anniversary of The Wall. Blackhorse troopers are encouraged to attend the ceremonies and enjoy the camaraderie, food and beverage of the "mini-Bunker."

Where: Washington Marriott. Rooms are \$129.00 per night.
Call (202) 872-1500 – Mention the VVMF when making reservations.

When: November 9-10, 2002

Donations to 11thACVC Scholarship Fund – (\$23,336)

The following troopers have made donations to our Scholarship Fund: *(donations are tax deductible)*

Larry Aaft	Gerald Bright	Clyde & Janice Conny	James & M.S. Englebrecht	Robert & Sharon Goff	Al Homandez
James Aarenstad	Jimmy Brigman	Rocco Di Conza	Ernest & Edna Enloe	Phil Gonzales	Homework
Rod & Carolyn Adams	Grey Brill	William Cook	Ernest Enloe	Diane Goode	Cindy & PM. Hoover
James Adams	William Bristol	James Cooke	Richard & Gisela Entel	Howard Goodwater	Thomas L. Hoover
Wayne Alberg	Jerry & Dawn Bromley	Danny & Susan Coperfund	Walter Ergish	Dennis Gourm	Kibby & Margaret Horn
Linda L. Alden	Patricia & Ray Brooks	Richard & Judith Corbett	Jim Eriser	Bernard & Nacy Mc Gowan	Forest Howard
James Alexander	Tim Brooks	Prudencio Cordino	Robert Fairchild	James & Kristen Graham	Monroe Howell
David Allen	R.E. Browell	A.F. Corhran	George Fancher	Harlen E. Gray	Hazel & Jerry Howerton
Dennis Van Alstine	Danny Brown	John Covington	Barry Farris	Robert Gray	Donnie & Diana Hudgins
Craig Anderson	Ron Brundage	R.A. & Terry Cowell	Thaniel Mc Fee	CJ Greek	Lea & William Huetteman
Larry & Alice Andrews	Roger & Joan bulter	Michael Craig	Joan Feryholz	Ronald Green	Warren Huff
Joyce Andrzejewski	Gareth Burgmann	John & Dorna Cramen	Richard Field	Dennis Green	Randall Hughes
William Apholz	Joeseoph Burke	Charles Crase	Wilson & Ethel Fields	Victoria GreenLongworth	Robert & Lois Hurt
W.T. Armitge	John Burns	Dennis & Dorlene Creal	Clifford Fields	Paul Greip	David Husing
Chuck & Carolyn Arnold	William Burrell	Phil Crosky	William Fienner	Terry Griffith	Lenev & Joan huster
John Atchley	Lonnie Burris	Robert & Kathleen Crowley	Jase Fierro	James Griffiths	Bob Hyatt
David Aury	Larry Burwick	James Crowley	John Filbert & Associate	Paul Grley	Paul Icovitti
Richard Bach	Gerge Butler	Thomas Cullerton	Thomas Finegan	EJ Gunn	Lynn Kile II
William Bachman	Ben Butts	Ben Curti	Arthur Finnerin	Ted & Carol Gwinn	Benjamin Harman III
William Bachman	T.R. or Jonet Byrd	Stephan Cyr	Paul Fisher	William & Catherine Hadfield	Dennis Roy Jaboca
Dean Bacon	Andrew Caines	Joeseoph & Donna Czervinski	John & Cathy Flangan	James Hain	Fred Jack
BG J. "Doc" Bahnsen	Gary C. Callaway	John D\Grimme	Walter Flick	Mark Hallenbeck	Betty & Lee Jackson
Benjamen Bailey	John & Gail Carabetta	Raymond Daigle	Adolfo Flore	Balie & Sandra Halstead	Gerald & Susan Jacobsen
Roland Baird	Otis K. Carey	Herbert Daub	David Fodonski	Michael Haltman	Theodore Jaffe
Daryl Baker	Patrick & Linda Carney	William Davis	Gary L. Fome	Ronald Hancock	Al & Jean Jankawski
Tony Balas	Christa Carothers	Milton Davis	Robert Ford	Richard Hanson	Roger Janke
David Bangs	Jess Carpentia	Donald & Hedwig Davison	Randall Ford	Melvin Harper	Steve Jarmasco
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Robert Bays	Michael Cavanagh	Francis Degarary	Gary Foster	Charles Hawkinson	Richard Jensen
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W.J. Bellamy	William & Barbara Chesarek	Matt Denara	Richard Freitas	Charles Hebb	Margaret Johnson
Ed & Paulette Bellumas	Steven R. Chipman	TJ Desiderio	Roger Frey	Donald Hebert	William Johnson
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Richie Bernard	Arnold Christensen	David & Lori Dewitt	David Fricke	Gerald Heilig	Harold Jones
Roger Berry	Dennis Christenson	Robert Dickson	Harold Friend	Michael & Susan Heim	Johnny Jones
Paul Besgam	Susan M. Christian	Mike Dietrich	Wilson L. Friobule	John & Kathryn Hein	Nobelton Jones
Herbert Bias	Dennis Christman	Michael Dinardo	Edwin Gajkowski	Charles Helffine	John Jordan
Robert Bird	Cary Cihen	Orris Disney	Paul & Jackie Garber	Steve Helgeson	Paul Joseph
Verlon Bishop	Harold St Clair	Dallas Dixon	Paul Garell	Robert Helper	Clair N. Poorman Jr.
William J. Black	Charles Clapper	C. Tyler Dodge	Lewis & Janice Garity	Jerry Hensley	Clifford MacDonald Jr.
John Blaisdell	Sherri & C.W. Clark	Thomas Doll	Bill Gaston	Richard Henson	John McCarthy Jr.
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James & Sharon Blawat	John Clark	John O Donnell	Arnold & Linda Gaylord	Herbert Hertel	Harry Moody Jr.
Stephen H. Blish	Kathryn Mc Cleery	Russell Down	David Geasland	Richard Hervain	Wm. Montgomery Jr.
Michael Blose	Stephen Clement	Timothy Doylettee	Luther Gale Gee	Donald Hines	Mr. & Mrs. Bill Jewellen Jr.
Randy Bodo	William Cleveland	Donald Drew	Joseph Gehring	Rienhold Hinz	Harold Basler Jr.
Dominic Bongiorno	Gary Coatis	Don Temmous Drywall	Mark Gernard	Wm. Hipps	Von E. Bush Jr.
Gary Bonhomme	Stephan Cobb	Stephan Duhravac	John Gerrity	William Hipps	Robert T. Ereme Jr.
Daniel L. Boone	Garny Coey	Merrit & Grace Durr	John Getgood	Peter Hoffman	Carlos Ryburn Jr.
Russell & Ida Boston	Maynard Coffey	David Van Duzer	Gayle Gifford	George Hoffmasters	Glenn Gregory Jr.
Mary Ellen & Michael Bourdeau	L.E. Cofty	John Effinger	William Gillette	Thomas Hofstaeder	Walter Slomienski Jr.
Alfred Bowen	Ronald & Loretta Coldwell	Andrew Eggleton	Richard Gilpin	Kenneth & Sonja Hoke	Chas. L. Johnson Jr.
Alfred & Frances Bower	Christine Collison	Jerald Eichelberger	Vincent & Dorothy Giorgio	Roger Hollingsworth	James Williams Jr.
Diane Bowers	Richard Colman	Frank & Gail Ekert	Paul Gissible	Jerry "Top" Holloman	William Houchins Jr.
William Bowman	Lynn Columbia	Fred Elliot	Ross & Marylin Glazter	Larry Holloway	Chas Lockin Jr.
William Boxd	James Colwell	William Emerson	Herbert Gleditsch	Gustaf W. Holman	George Watts Jr.
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Barney Brauker	Thomas Connors		Billy Goad	Roland Holt	Sammie Rogers Jr.
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Edward H Buening Jr.	Robert Macon	Ron Northrup	Zilda Ritchie	George Smith	Merna J. Upp
Mark Boyle Jr.	Raymond Majewski	Chuck Nute	Thomas roberts	Jerry & Mary Ann Smith	Adrian Vaaler
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Marlene & Teddy Julian	Bernard Malnarick	Daniel & Marrior O'Niel	Frank Roberts	Larry Snyder	Frank Varljen
Roger E. Justison	Joseph Maloney	William Ochowicz	Diane & Sharp Wayne Roberts	Nicholas Soehnlen	S. Vasey
Blandin Karabinos	Michael Mang	David Okinaka	Edward rogers	Eldridge Sonnier	Jase Vela
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Daniel J. Kaufman	Arnold Mann	John & Patricia Olson	Ronald Rolfson	Jerry Sowell	Jeffery Voss
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Kenneth Koppenal	John Michael mcGuire	Eric & Ruth Pennan	Jeng Saunders	Robert & Mary Stuedemann	Charles West
Robert J. Kornelis	Cary McMasters	James Pennington	J.W. Sawyer	Edmund & D G Suberla	John Wetzel
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Jerome kotwica	William & Lorna Meyer	Larry Penrose	Brenner Sayers	Ray A. Sullivan	Thomas E. White
Michael Kourg	Thomas R. Middaugh	Paul Peters	Glen & Theresa Schaaf	Kenneth Sunderman	August Whitlock
Marie Kozan	Daniel Miles	Chua Phung	Mary B. Schaaf	Bruce & Cynthia Sweningson	Charles Whitmore
Richard Koziel	Richard Miller	Ollie & Deb Pickral	Terry Schaecher	James Tankovich	Sue C. Wickman
George Krcelich	John Miller	Ernest Pilkington	William Schaefer	Ray & Susan Tarr	Allen Wilder
C.M. Kuchenbuch	Ronald E. Minnick	Fred Plamenthal	Chas Schmidt	Johnnie Tatam	Gary williams
Carol Kunst	Earl Minor	Debra Planke	Clayton E. Scholz	Ben Tate	Gary Williams
Edward Kuston	Harry W. Montague	John B. Poindexter	William Schrode	Craig & Debbie Taylor	Jeffery & Janie Williams
Michael Kuthman	Rasilio & Erika Montelongo	Richard Pond	Mark Schwan	Doug & Darlene Taylor	Ernesto Williams
John L.Ballantyne	Lynn Montgomery	Nicholas Posak	Richard Schwier	F. Robert Taylor	Hogett Williams
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James Lagone	Hollis Moore	Mr. & Mrs. Erick Price	Thomas Seay	Hardy Terry	Linda & Billy Williams
Mike & Hally Lang	Rick Moran	James Alan Priddy	L.W. Clod Selten	Gary Thain	Gerald Williamson
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Rodney Lavergne	Douglas Moriarity	Richard Quinn	Kent Shehelat	Larry & Barbara Thomas	Mervin & Audrey Witt
James & Sue Lawes	Duane Morris	John Raffety	R.L. Shelley	Richard Thomas	Terrance Witzel
Francis C Lees	Jack Morrison	Sam Ramnytz	Dave Sherwood	James & Sandra Thompson	Wm.Fedorinchick
William Leeson	Charles & Terri Morrison	John Raney	Dale Shimee	Earl Thompson	Wm.Knowlton
Myron Lempeler	Charles & Susan Morrow	Kim H. Raseman	Philip Shire	David Tiedman	Theodore Wolas
John Lescisko	Jerry Mortenson	James B. Reed	Howard & waynette Shofer	Earnie Tietz	Frederick Wolfe
David Like	Stephen Moushegian	Thomas Reese	Lloyd Shuke	Michael Tighe	Ken Wollschlaeger
Robert Lindberg	Joseph Muchesko	James Reeves	Terry Van Sickle	Ed Tinney	Rod & Stephanie Woodson
Martin Little	Ren Mudsen	Ronald Rego	Wm. Siders	Manuel Tobias	Bette Woosley
Thomas Londusky	Kenneth Mueller	Wm. Rehm	Edmund Sieminski	Jon Todd	Stephan Wright
John W. Long	Dan Mulcahey	Joseph Rehyansky	Thomas Sikora	James Trasley	Raymond & Mary Ann Wright
Randal & Teda Long	Michael Mulcahey	Daniel E. Reid	Michael Simpson	Reynolds Treuino	James & Vanessa Young
Robert De Long	Kenneth & Lola Murphy	John Reiterman	Robert & Adelheid Simsa	Gayce Trier	Jeri Young
Richard Longsworth	Edward Murray	John f. Reiterman	Robert Sinclair	Ivan & Vicky Trifon	Charles & Susan Yunker
Timothy Look	Anthony Musico	Richard & Pearl Rejon	Frank & Marlene Sipes	Eddie & Janice Trosper	James & Susan Yunker
Oscar Lozano	John Mutter	Richard & Pearl Rejon	John skiffington	Raymond Trottier	Angel Zapata
Deigo Lucero	Paul E. Myers	Mark & Valerie Relyea	A. Skillion	Philip Troudin	James Zawn
James A. Luedeke	Thomas Naylon	Frank Renda	Byron Skinner	Robert & Trudy	Earl Zerbach
Craig Luke	Bao Van Ngo	Phil Reynolds	Chas Sloan	Todd & Bonnie Turbin	
Ed Lumppp	Lewis Nissen	Lawrence C. Richardson	Robert A. Smallwood	James Turner	
John & Kathy Lyall					



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	B	6.00		_____	_____
Hat, Black Poplin adjustable w/full color direct embroidery Blackhorse insignia.	A	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"	B	25.00		_____	_____
Watch, BH insignia on face, leather band (indicate choice) Man's Woman's	A	20.00		_____	_____
Blackhorse Shoulder Patch, (indicate choice) colored subdued	A	4.00		_____	_____
Blackhorse Challenge Coin, Antique silver 1.75" BH insignia/VN map on faces	A	12.00		_____	_____
Blackhorse 100 year memorial coin, 1.75" crossed sabers/BH insignia new	A	12.00		_____	_____
Belt Buckle, solid brass w/crossed sabers & BH insignia	B	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	B	6.00		_____	_____
Attache Case w/shoulder strap 11.5" x 15.5" w/dir emb. BH insignia & VN rib	B	30.00		_____	_____
Tote Bag, white, 12x12x6 w/full color BH insignia new	A	20.00		_____	_____
Barbeque Apron, white, 24x30 w/full color BH insignia new	A	25.00		_____	_____
Blackhorse Pin	A	3.00		_____	_____
11th ACR Regimental Crest	A	3.00		_____	_____
Pin, "Xuan Loc"	A	3.00		_____	_____
Pin, "Quan Loi"	A	3.00		_____	_____
Pin, "100 Year Aniversary 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).....	B	35.00		_____	_____
Men's Ring, 10k gold w/full color BH insignia on face (specify size)	B	275.00	_____	_____	_____
Blackhorse Patch Temporary Tatoo	A	3.00		_____	_____
Blackhorse Video (based on book) (specify format) <input type="checkbox"/> VHS <input type="checkbox"/> DVD	A	27.00		_____	_____

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)	A	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	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)	A	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)	A	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)	A	70.00		_____	_____

Shipping Costs: A items = \$4.00; B items = \$6.00 (max shipping is \$6.00 per order)

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 \$6.00. Checks or Money Orders should be made payable to "11th ACVVC." Allow six weeks for processing and delivery. Prices effective until 12-0102. Previous price lists invalid. Mail order to: 11th ACVVC Quartermaster, c/o Rodney H. George, 21450 West Ninemile Road, Huson, MT 59846.



From the Quartermaster...

Rodney H. George

Greetings to all! Wow!! What can I say about the Nashville Reunion? If you were there, you know how great it was! If you weren't —You have to get to Eugene next year! Steve Page did an excellent job of organizing the event. It should stand out as one of the milestones in our history.

I would like to say a special thank you to my wife Elida for her many hours of selfless work on behalf of all the troopers. She has sore feet but a soaring heart after our 22 hours in the quartermaster store over the weekend. I would also like to thank Tom Reese for his help. A finer gentleman and good assistant cannot be found in the Cav. Also a big thank you to Ron Krueger for helping out so we could take a meal break.

A big thank you goes to all you troopers also. Our sales at the reunion set an all-time record of \$29,988 that we were able to add to the coffers of the 11th ACVVC to defray some of the expenses of the reunion. As long as we are discussing finances and I was unable to attend the business meeting in order to keep the store open, I will give a brief rundown of fiscal year July 2001 through June of 2002. Sales were \$54,052 with a cost-of-goods of \$31,228. This leaves a net profit for the organization of \$22,824.

New item!!!! As you may have heard the 11th ACVVC is working on a video based on our book "The Blackhorse Regiment in Vietnam". I have received notification from the board that this product will be available in December (just in time for Christmas shopping) in both a VHS and DVD format. Watch for notification and prices to be announced. Yes, I will take early orders to ensure prompt delivery. As soon as you see the announcement, you may preorder from the QM store. Delivery date to us should be the first week of December.

I would like to close with a heartfelt thank you to the Board of Directors for presenting me with the Outstanding Trooper Award for 2002. I had no idea it was coming! I was amazed and grateful when I heard Gene announce it at the Banquet on Saturday night. I want you all to know that I hold this award from our esteemed organization, to be the pinnacle of achievement! I offer you all my deepest and sincerest thank you.

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 dispense 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, ie...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 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 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.

Show Your Pride



Carroll Hipps (HHT 2/11 '69-'70) shows his pride on his 2001 Electra Glide Ultra Classic Harley Davidson. Carroll cruises the North Carolina area. Photo by C. Hipps.

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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