



The BOBCAT Bulletin

5th INFANTRY REGIMENT ASSOCIATION, Inc.

For all who ever served with the "5th Infantry Regiment"

US Army's 3rd Oldest Regiment - Established 1808

"BOBCATS"

Summer 2016

Web Page Address: <http://www.bobcat.ws/>

Volume II

Ray Barrett the "Honorary Command Sergeant Major" of the 5th Infantry Regiment Dies

As MG-R Andy Anderson reported:

"To the Bobcat family, it is with a heavy heart I report the passing of our brother, CSM Ray Barrett. Lib called to say that Ray expired early today at the assisted living facility in "The Dalles", Oregon. I called Ray yesterday and



while he could not reply he knew who was calling and could hear my comments and Lib said he was smiling and very pleased with the call. As HCSM of the 5th Infantry Regiment, Ray deserves special recognition at the reunion memorial service. If you served with Ray, I will call upon you, so be prepared to make some comments about Ray during the memorial service. In my almost four decades of military service, I served with CSMs at the Battalion, Brigade, Division and Corp level. These were all

(See Ray on page 2)

Reunions

Past

FT Benning GA

17-21 May 2016

Our FT Benning GA reunion was one of our best. I would rank it near the top. We had a great hotel, the Army tried their best to support us and we had good attendance. In addition we had a record number of 18 attending their 1st reunion. So if you missed this reunion you missed a great reunion.



(See FT Benning on page 8)

Future

Albuquerque NM

16-21 May 2017

Albuquerque, New Mexico's largest



city, sits in the high desert. Its modern downtown core contrasts with Old Town, dating to the city's 1706 founding as a Spanish colony.

"Whether you're into history, culture, outdoor adventures or just in need



of some new and unique scenery, Albuquerque offers exciting attractions for all ages and interests, anytime of the year. In the historic section of Old Town, ancient Indian and Spanish cultures come to life through old churches, quaint

(NM Reunion on page 18)

"I'll Try Sir"

The Fall 2016 Newsletter will be out SEP/OCT 2016 - Send me articles, pictures and stories for publication.

(Ray from page 1)

fine soldiers, however, Ray was the best of the best. I was most fortunate to have

him! He was a strict “by the numbers” man who demanded 100% from all in his command....including lieutenants like me.) Lots and lots of stories about CSM Barrett will be shared at this year’s annual reunion.

He has been missed the past few years, and will be missed for the next several.”

Paul Robinson

Obituary from “The Oregonian” published 2 May 16

“Raymond C. Barrett passed away Sunday morning, April 24th, at home peacefully while in his sleep. Because of his faith

Mike and Linda Barrett of Centralia, Wash.; two daughters and sons-in-law: Cindi and Pat Davidson of Arlington, Ore., and Michelle and David Holmes of Sandy, Ore....

Ray served our country in the U.S. Army for 26 years and distinguished himself in the Korean and Vietnam wars, earning a Silver Star, a Bronze Star for Valor with two oak leaf clusters, the Distinguished Flying Cross, two Purple Hearts, and numerous other awards and honors. After retiring in the early ’70’s, Ray was a barber, a supervisor for a hardware chain, and in 1978 purchased the Coast to Coast Hardware store in Arlington, Ore., where he lived out his life.

In Arlington, Ray served the community on the local school board, as a port commissioner, and justice of the peace. He enjoyed golf, collecting, custom wood working, fishing and hunting, and travel. With family in Michigan, North Carolina and Arizona, Ray made many cross-country trips....



Barrett on the left Deverse on the right casing the colors at the “Deployment Ceremony” at FT Lewis WA as the 1/5th readies for deployment to Iraq in 2004

had such a superb soldier as my mentor and wing man as we shared the challenges of close combat with a fanatical enemy. I ask you to pray for our fallen brother Ray and for his wife Lib and five adult children. Their loss is also our loss for we are all members of the Bobcat family. This is a time of sorrow at the loss of someone who touched the lives of so many Americans that served their country so honorably and so well. With warmest regards,”

Bobcat 6-68 out. (Andy Anderson)

Some other comments regarding Ray’s health & death were:

“Pictures from 1-5 Deployment, NCO/Soldier of Year, and NCO Induction Ceremonies. Ray was our biggest mentor and supporter. We are going to miss you. RIP Brother! “

CSM-R Victor Mercado

E-mail written to Mike Barrett Ray’s son. “Please know that all of his brother Bobcats are praying for a peaceful journey to a better world for one of our most fearless warriors. We speak VERY often about CSM Barrett....how much admiration we had for him. (Well, also, some of us were scared spitless of

in Jesus Christ, his family looks forward to being reunited with him at the resurrection. His passing was due to natural causes associated with his 86 years of age.

Ray was born on August 25th, 1929, in Manatee, Mich., on the shores of Lake Michigan. He and his family lived in the area until he left to join the U.S. Army at the age of 17....

He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Lola (Lib) of Arlington, Ore.; three sons and daughters-in-law: Dan Barrett of Olympia, Wash., Dennis and Denyce Barrett of Spokane, Wash., and



NCO/Soldier of Year - L to R CSM Mercado, Jerry Peal, two soldiers, Barrett & LTC McCaffrey

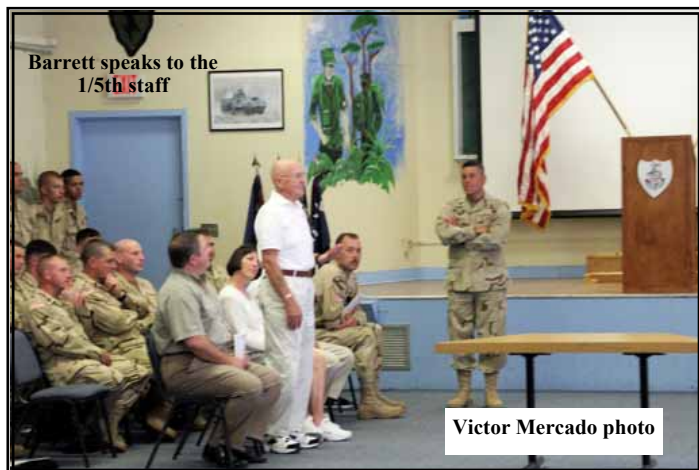
Victor Mercado photo

A Celebration of Life service was held at the United Methodist Church in Arlington, OR on Saturday, May 7 beginning at 11 a.m., followed by a graveside ceremony with military honors at the Arlington Cemetery.....

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that contributions be made to the CSM Ray Barrett Memorial Fund of the Bobcats Association, recently founded to assist the families of Bobcat members killed in action. Contributions should be made to CSM Ray Barrett Memorial Fund, and mailed to Bobcat Association, c/o James Caudle, 1501 Baychester Avenue, Norfolk, VA 23503.”

John Snodgrass traveled from his home in Alabama to represent the Association at the funeral. He writes “The Masonic Fraternity conducted a Masonic service for Ray after the minister finished his duties. I, being a member of the

(See Ray on page 3)



Barrett speaks to the 1/5th staff

Victor Mercado photo

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Reunion 2016

I'd personally like to thank all the Bobcats who attended the 2016 reunion in Fort Benning, Georgia. Without a doubt it was one of the finest. A special thanks go to Carolyn & Randy Kethcart and to all who made it possible for us to enjoy.

As a newbie in the seat of the Presidency, I can assure you all that I will do my best to uphold the traditions and honor of this great organization. Forty-eight years ago when I left Vietnam I would have never imagined I would again be in the company of brothers, who so lovingly care for each other.

I hope everyone had a safe trip home to your families and friends.

As we start the preparations for Albuquerque, New Mexico, I am so encouraged by the rising number of new members we met at the Fort Benning reunion. Chris and I hope to see you all next year. Remember, it is up to all of us, to make this happen.

I also want to thank everyone who participated in the Fragging. Believe me when I say that, not only was I totally surprised, but when I arrived home my grandchildren were very happy to see me with all the toys, especially the pickup, boat & trailer. By the way, I've used the lures and caught fish!

Thank you all again,

Tom Frame

Presidentus

To all: my home PC email is
tframe@verizon.net
my iPad email is
toppop68@gmail.com

I CHECK BOTH EACH DAY!

And if you ever need to talk or
have a question, my phone rings 24/7.
215-514-6613

(Ray from page 2)



L to R: Mike Barrett, John Snodgrass, Jerry Peal and Larry Mason

fraternity, wore the masonic "working apron" and white gloves as required for a masonic funeral.

Bobcats in attendance were John Snodgrass, Jerry Peal and Roy Kirk. Larry Mason, who served with the 222nd (Mech) also attended, as did six local Oregon Vietnam Veterans.

The Masonic Fraternity conducted a



Masonic ritual service at the end of the memorial service. Full military honors were presented by the US Army Honor Guard. Casket bearers were all family members. Burial followed at the Arlington OR Cemetery."

5th Infantry Association

President - Tom Frame
Vice President - George Chavez
Treasurer & Quartermaster - Jim Caudle
Secretary & Membership - Paul Robinson
Historian - Sam Kier
Media (Newsletter) Editor - Fred Deverse
Webmaster - Randy Kethcart
Past Presidents - Robert (Bob) Wood and Bart Stanzione

Bobcat Board of Directors consists of the above and the following 4 elected directors:
Jon Blickenstaff Andy Gimma
John Snodgrass George Bates
Jon Cartwright

Chaplain (Appointed) - John Snodgrass

Reminder !

1. Notify Paul Robinson about changes in address and phone number etc.
2. Check your membership - If there is a **red 16** (only or the last two numbers) on the address label your dues expires 31 DEC 16. Please renew now!

Reunions

Albuquerque NM 16-21 May 2017

HONORED BOBCAT MEMBERS

Honorary Colonel of the Regiment
Andy Anderson (MG-R)

Honorary Command Sergeant Major of the Regiment -

Distinguished Members of the Regiment

SSG Eddie Barba(1/5), Jon Blickenstaff, Joe "Red" Burdick, Jon Cartwright, Jim Caudle, Fred Deverse, James Garner, Ron Henry(1SG-R), Randy Kethcart, Sam Kier, Ralph Laubecher, Denis McDonough, Victor Mercado (CSM -R), SGT John Paul Morgan 2/5, Daryl Niles (CSM-R), Jerry Peal, Paul Robinson, Roger Smith, John Snodgrass (MAJ-R), Bob Wood (COL-R), Bart Stanzione

Honorary Members of the Regiment
Sue Caudle, Carolyn Deverse, Shannon Henry, Carolyn Kethcart, Teri Tringali

Bobcat of the Year

Roger Smith 03, Ron Henry (1SG-R) 04, Denis McDonough 05, Randy Kethcart 07, Hank Engelke 08, Gary Young 09, Joe "Red" Burdick 10, Paul Moir 11, Bart Stanzione 12, Jerry Peal 13, Jim Caudle 14, Sam Kier 15, Ed Kawczynski 16

The **red** numbers after your name on the address label tells what year your dues expires. Need to renew?

ROSTER

The Denis McDonough MORNING REPORT

Additions, Changes & Corrections

The information provided below is new since the last Newsletter was printed.

(Please let me know when any of your information like phone #, address or E-mail address changes or is incorrect. Contact Paul Robinson at:

paulandjulier@gmail.com or

PO BOX 569, Frankfort MI 49635-0569
or 231-651-0052

E-mail Changes & Additions:

>>>> If your E-mail address changes you need to notify us if you want to continue to receive Chapter E-mails and to have your correct E-mail address on the roster.

Rosson, Raiford - Change

rosson.raiford@gmail.com

Soppe, Ronald - Change

Rddsoppe@gmail.com

Roundtree, Terry - Change

trountreesr@tampabay.rr.com

Lost Members:

We have no information on these members. Please contact us if you have information.

Anderson Jr., John "Andy" - He was a

LT in Vietnam and is a Life member.

McFadden, Terri - A life member.

When he joined in 2013 he was active duty assigned to the 1/5th at FT Wainwright Alaska.

Roster Changes/Corrections:

Powers, Henry O. - Address change

2311 George's Road
Powhatan VA. 23139
Time in Vietnam "1/66-12/66"

Mccray, Eddie - Change

451 Willow Lake Rd
Hayneville, AL 36040

New Members:

Smith, Barry G

PO Box 425
Sanford, NC 27331
910-366-4373 & 919-499-1000
A Co. 2d Plt Medic 1970-71
chieu_hoi@windstream.net

Moon, Gregory

1700 Lexington Ave S #303
Saint Paul, MN 55118-3611
651-788-2492

A Co, 1/5th

stromme3@aol.com

Comment:

Looking forward to getting involved with the 5th Infantry Chapter of the 25th Infantry Division Association.

Pederson, Roger (Peggy)

321 1st ST SW
Madelia, MN 56062-1509
507-236-2048
A Co. 1st PLT 2/68-2/69
pegrog321@yahoo.com

Collins, Larry (Patricia)

199 County Road 267
Bruce, MI 38915
409-599-7680
C Co. 1/5 1st PLT
daring9er@yahoo.com

Decker, Alton (Barbara)

111 N Franklin ST
PO BOX 181
Cochran PA 16314
814-425-2221
HQ Co. 1/5th
aaacedecker@gmail.com

Heminger, Norman L.

3010 Piper ST
Columbus GA 31909-5165
706-327-3699
E & HHC Co. I&R PLT 5th RCT
1/51-1/52 +2 tours in Vietnam

Comments:

"I joined the Army OCT 1950. Took basic with the 28th Keystone Div. (PA National Guard). All US & RA's were sent to Korea after 2 months of training. During my tour in Korea I served 6 months in HQ & HQ's I & R Platoon . Because of 2 malaria attacks I was transferred to the rear, as I was told, but the rear was E Company. It was like 'jumping out of the frying pan into the fire'. All together I served 27 1/2 years in the Army had tours at FT Benning as a Team Chief Infantry, small arms & PT Committee. Served my 1st tour in Vietnam with 1st Cav. in 1966 and was wounded & med-evacted to FT Benning. 2nd tour was 68 with 135th ENG Australian/American helicopters.

Since being medically retired in 77 I've been tied up in different Veteran's organizations. I'm a charter member of the Purple Heart, DAV, American Legion & helped form the 'Chattahoochee Veteran's Association'. Four years ago I lost my wife and son.

At 84 I'm just paddling along doing

nothing."

Shorkey, John (Frances)

637 Windsor Circle
Chula Vista, CA USA 91910
619-425-8146
Co. A, 1/5 INF 6/70-4/71
johnshorkey@att.net

Davis, Frank L. (Faye)

141 Creek Stone RD
Gaffney SC 29340
864-490-8780
A Co. 3rd Platoon & HHC - 11/67-11/68
Frank47d@yahoo.com

Comments:

"When I was sent to Vietnam I had orders to the 199th INF but at the 90th Replacement my orders were changed to the 25th INF along with many more. We were told the 25th was in need of replacements. I believe there were about 30 of us sent to Alpha Co. 1/5th. After drawing my gear and in country transportation I was put on chopper and sent to the company, where I don't know. In a week or two we went back to Cu Chi and traded out our tracks for new ones. The next day we went to the jungle again then to Katum.

I am retired now. I worked in construction as an Iron Worker and then as a nuclear power plant worker. I stay busy working on cars, lawn mowers and anything else. I'm trying to keep up with my grandchildren."

Massey, Michael

7263 E. Chicago Rd.
New Carlisle, IN 46552
574-323-7637
A Co. 1/5th 3rd PLT 67-68
Mikemassey6768@gmail.com

Rains, Ronnie D. - (Honorary Member)

PO BOX 1836
Odessa TX 79760-1386
432-638-6360
501st Aviation 6/70-10/70 Vietnam
rd rains@intertrear.com

*As reported in the last newsletter Ronnie was instrumental in getting a middle school and post office in Odessa Texas named after Marvin Rex Young who was a Bobcat awarded the Medal of Honor.

Ronnie is a west Texas businessman who is also very active with Wounded Warrior activities.

Ronnie becomes only the third person that we have honored by naming him an "Honorary Member".

(See Roster on page 7)

Members' Comments, Letters, E-mails & Information

Please send me your thoughts, comments, impressions, criticisms & suggestions etc. along with pictures for "your" Bobcat Bulletin!

Another Bobcat reconnect- ed with, retired LTC Bob Molter



Molter & Clough

A Facebook posting by Theron Clough

Remember Joe B. Ojeda?

Barbara Hill one of our longtime Associate members who was engaged to be married to Joe B. Ojeda when he was killed alerted me to this really nice YouTube video about the life of Joe. It was done by a high school student.

Those of you who knew Joe might want to take a look at the video. You can access it by Googling "Joe B Ojeda" and then scrolling down to YouTube. It's also on YouTube under history.

I replied to Barbara and she wrote back saying,

Fred ...

"I am doing well. Retired after 51 years of work last October and am enjoying the freedom. Off to Hawaii on the 14th.

How have you been? Thank you for your friendship over the years. It has



meant a lot to me to be associated with the 5th."

Barbara

Combat Medic Start - 49.5 Years Later Finishes as a Professor of Emergency Medicine

"As you know, I retire from emergency medicine on June 30th after 49.5 years, starting as an Army medic in 1967. I worked my way through Combat Medic, Emergency Technician, Certified Emergency Nurse, and Emergency Physician, eventually becoming a Professor of Emergency Medicine at Temple University. It's been a helluva ride and I am having a major blow-out retirement party, at which I expect hundreds of people from around the world.



Along the way, I was fortunate to be recognized as a desirable teacher and thus was invited to speak at many conferences in many countries. I always looked for live music and met some amazing musicians. Many of them are now friends and have agreed to play/and or sing at my party."

Andy Gimma is Visited

"Ellen Grant White, husband Ed, daughter Kathy and granddaughters Anna and Isabelle were passing thru CT yesterday and stopped here for a visit and lunch. Was nice to see them, had a great time."

"Ellen Grant White and Stewart

Grant are the sister and brother of Kellum Grant KIA on 5/4/1968.

I'm sure you recall they attended the Niagara Falls reunion two tears ago. I always thought it was just soldiers who



Ellen, husband Ed and granddaughter Anna with Bubba the wonder dog

suffered "survivors guilt". Talking with Ellen I realized siblings also suffered "survivors guilt". As Ellen was much younger than Kelly she felt she could have been a better sister, less of a pain in the neck, as siblings often are as we grow up.

Long story short Ellen called, said they were attending an event about an hour away from me and asked if we



LtoR: Joseph Gallagher (KIA), Andy Gimma, Kellum (Kelly) Grant (KIA), Steve (Solly) Solomon, Dennis Hacken and kneeling Jimmy Sutton. (Photo courtesy of Steve Solomon)

could get together. I was thrilled and set up Saturday 6/11 to meet.

Ellen showed up with husband Ed, daughter Kathy, also at the reunion, and granddaughters Anna and Isabelle. We had a fantastic visit and lunch together and they went on their way.

(See Comments on page 13)

Treasurer's Report

1st Quarter Financial Report (1 January - 31 March 2016)

January

Income:

Dues	\$240
Quartermaster sales	\$100
1/5 Gala Banquet Event	\$250
PayPal Internet Sales	\$2252.11
FT Benning Reunion-Fees etc	\$1940
TOTAL	\$4532.11

Debits:

Winter Newsletter- Printing	\$575.25
Quartermaster Purchases	\$69.80
Bank Service Charge	\$4
TOTAL	\$649.05

February

Income:

Membership Dues	\$250
Quartermaster Sales	\$108.00
Donations	\$300
PayPal Internet Sales	\$2011.52
TOTAL	\$2669.52

Debits:

Quartermaster Sales	\$32.02
Bank Service Charge	\$4
Prep Taxes for 2016	\$25
TOTAL	\$61.02

March

Income:

Membership Dues	\$300
FT Benning Reunion	\$3465
PayPal Internet Sales	\$3542.42
TOTAL	\$7307.42

Debit:

Bank Service Charge	\$4
Quartermaster Purchases	\$31

Dues Rebate	\$15
Postage - Newsletter & Miscellaneous	119.36
TOTAL	\$169.36

Assets:

Checkbook balance	\$15065.58
Business Account - Savings	\$48722.82
TOTAL	\$63788.40

Jim Caudle,

Treasurer/Quartermaster

Donations to the Association

We are a 501c19 organization. Donations

Wayne Overcash - FT Benning Hospitality room	\$50
Nick Fasselin - FT Benning Hospitality room	\$25
Christine Frame - FT Benning Hospitality room	\$125
Sylvia Laubecher - Newsletter	\$10
Roger Sperl - FT Benning Hospitality room	\$50
Norman Hemminger - 5th RCT	\$100
L.B. McCarthy Trucking - CSM Barrett Memorial Fund	\$50
Bob & Anna Leak - CSM Barrett Memorial Fund	\$25
Michael & Linda Barrett - CSM Barrett Memorial Fund	\$100
Bill Adler - Donation made at the reunion	\$5
Roy Bressler - Donation made at the reunion	\$120
Vic Frome - Donation made at the reunion	\$50
Frank Villanueva - Donation made at the reunion	\$60
Ronnie Raines - Donation made at the reunion	\$250
Jerry Yasher - Donation made at the reunion	\$10
Gary Young - Donation made at the reunion	\$100

Neil & Jullie Frost Mikkalo - CSM Barrett Memorial Fund	\$50
John & Cathy Snodgrass - 25th INF DIV Scholarship	\$500

George Bates - For church that provided a place to eat at FT B.	\$200
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* The Association's "Board of Directors" voted to send a representative to Ray Barrett's funeral. The Board also voted to pay that representative's expenses up to \$1500. It seemed that the officers could not make it. John Snodgrass volunteered to attend.

John however refused to accept the \$1500 for his expenses. He did ask that in lieu of covering the cost of the trip that we donate \$500 to the "25th Infantry Division Association's Scholarship Fund". That donation was made in June.

Thank you John & Cathy for attending and donating!

(Roster from page 7)

Claffy, Retired, of Las Cruces, NM. John served his country on active duty from 1967 until 1981. After separation from active duty, he received a commission to 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Reserves in 1982 and ultimately retired with the rank of Major in 1996. John was buried with full military honors at Ft. Bliss National Cemetery in El Paso, Texas.

Korean Era Bobcats who have died:

Eresh, George, Service Company, 1949-50, Died 5 Apr 2016, Cranberry Twp, PA.

Fetchina, George, HHC, 5th Inf, 1952-53, died 17 Dec 2015, Bridgewater, NJ.

Garrison, Bill J., Co. A, 5th Inf, 1950-51, died 26 Feb 2016, Elk Grove, CA.

Giuliano, John V, Co. M, 5th Inf, 1953-54, died 24 Mar 2016, Pine Bush, NY.

Jesop, Robert E, Co. G/5 and 5th Med Co, 1953-54, died 6 Apr 2016, Fairfield, IL.

(See Roster on page 17)

MEMORIES AND MEMORABILIA

During the past month, our 5th Infantry archives (a few boxes in my home office) have been enriched by several gifts. Ron (Stretch) Sweitzer, HHC/1/5, 1969-70, sent me a lot of great photos and news clippings from his tour in Vietnam and Gilbert Lara contributed a number of items from his hitch with Bravo Company, 3rd Battalion/5th Infantry in Panama in 1968-70.

Yesterday, thanks to his son, George, I received a copy of Richard Hazel's pay voucher that was issued to PVT Hazel when he mustered out of Company D, 5th Infantry, at Fort Preble, Maine on January 13, 1933. Richard's final monthly pay, unused clothing allowance and travel pay to his home town totaled \$80.97; a pretty tidy sum during the Great Depression.

That brought back memories of June 6, 1956, the day that I mustered out of the U. S. Army. During the previous week I had cleared post at Ft. Lewis, Washington and was assigned a bunk at the Separation Center. I didn't use it at night because I was a young married guy. Betty and I had an apartment in nearby Lakewood and we were expecting our first baby in July.

On Wednesday, June 6, my scheduled liberation day, Betty woke me at 3:00 A.M. She was having contractions. After what seemed like an hour waiting for her to decide what to take with her, we drove to Tacoma General Hospital. I registered her, gave her a quick kiss and drove back to Ft. Lewis as fast as I could to make the morning formation at the Separation Center.

We had been told, repeatedly, that anyone missing any of the numerous daily formations would be held over until Thursday. Following each formation, I called the hospital from a pay phone and was told that there was no news.

Finally around 2:30 P.M., I learned that Betty had given birth to a girl. Teresa Ann Kier had been born at 10:00 that morning.

I wanted to rush to the hospital but there was one more formation and then we were treated to a word of thanks from Chief Warrant Officer Stumpo (you can't forget a name like that). We were then given a copy of our DD214, a letter of introduction stating something like "the bearer of this letter is a veteran of the Korean War and deserves preferential hiring" and our mustering-out pay.

I received a little over \$300 which probably had the purchasing power of PVT Hazel's \$80.97.

A few minutes later I arrived at the hospital and got my first glimpse of my daughter. She looked like a little pa-



poose with her thick shock of black hair. She didn't look like the typical little blonde Kier baby, but I loved her immediately.

The following Monday morning I reported for work at a civil engineering firm in Lakewood. I'd been hired to work the summer as a chain man on their survey crew. I was dressed, as you might imagine, in khaki pants and shirt, green field jacket, and spit-shined combat boots. After work on Wednesday, I went to the hospital, gave them my mustering-out pay and retrieved my family.

When the summer was over, Betty and I piled a bunch of our belongings in the back seat of the Chevy. Then we placed Teri and her bassinet on top of the pile and headed for California, like three Dust Bowl refugees bound for the land of opportunity.

If you have a separation day story that can top mine, I'd love to hear it.

by Sam Kier

Please send a separation story or any other kind of story. Our members enjoy them!!

(Roster from page 4)

Foster, LeRoy

12 Greenfield Court
San Anselmo, CA 94960
415-453-8807

Tank Co. 5th RCT Korea 4/50-8/51
dfleroi@comcast.net

Illness:

.Young, Gary - Recently (1st week of June) underwent double bypass heart surgery. In this picture Gary is visited by CSM-R Frank Leota.

George Chavez Posted this picture of Gary recuperating.



On 6/13 Gary wrote:

"They kicked me out of the hospital this afternoon, said the vacation was over. I ended up having a triple by-pass-- 1 major artery and 2 small ones. I'm still real weak and have trouble breathing but that will improve with time and exercise. Am very restricted in activities I can do because I can still pop the sternum open but they want me to walk at least 3 times a day for 15-minutes or more until I start rehab therapy in about two weeks out at the hospital at Ft. Sam Houston.

I want to thank all the Bobcats and their families for their multitude of prayers and well wishes. George Chavez would come and visit me everyday and read to me all the Facebook postings you all made. And speaking of George, he was at the hospital supporting Betty and my daughters from the time my surgery happened till today when they discharged me. Him being there was a real comfort to me and a absolute Godsend for my family !!!

Thanks Bobcats."

Gary Young

Taps:

Barrett (CSM-R), Ray - HQ Company 11/68-11/69 of Arlington OR died 24 April 16 (Story on pages 1,2 & 3)

Claffy, John M. - HHC 3rd Ordnance Battalion EOD Section 10/68-4/70
Born: June 25, 1949 Died: August 09, 2015. U. S. Army Major John M.

(See Roster on page 6)

Fraggings

If you have attended our reunions then you know that every year we honor someone by fragging them. It is our way of having some fun at a member. We try to keep



it a secret and surprise the person being fragged. This year we succeeded in surprising our newly elected president Tom Frame. Here is a picture of the Vietnam era flak jacket where we list those fragged with a name tape. The sequence of fragging starts with Petit in 1992 down to Henry then (Left side to right side and back to left side and so forth) Laubecher to McDonough and Stanzone to Snodgrass.

(FT Benning from page 1)

Making this a great reunion can be attributed to all the hard work and dedication of our reunion coordinator Carolyn Kethcart with assistance from her husband Randy.



olyn Kethcart with assistance from her husband Randy.

To start with many thought this may have been the best hotel we have ever had. The hotel's rooms were nice, the staff was attentive, the restaurant was good and the location was excellent being close to shopping and restaurants. The hotel also allowed us to provide our own drinks and snacks and the Association provided both in abundance. No one had anything negative to say about the Columbus DoubleTree Hotel.

The reunion got started on Tuesday 17 May with many showing up in the hospitality room to register.

On Wednesday many attendees went on an all day tour of Callaway Gar-



dens and the Little White House, a favorite get away of President Franklin Roosevelt and where he was when he



died. A buffet lunch was included which was reported to be excellent.

Thursday - FT Benning Day

Thursday's major event was titled "FT Benning Day" where we spent the entire day visiting various facilities at FT Benning. We started by being bussed to the "Bradley Maintenance Facility" where we saw soldiers being trained on how to fix & repair the Bradley Infantry Fighting Vehicle. Many of us were like ants crawling in over and all around the Bradleys while NCO's answered our questions and helped us understand what they were and how they worked.

Next we visited the M-60 "Abrams Maintenance Facility" where again soldiers were being trained. And again we were like ants crawling in, over and all



around the Abrams while NCO's answered our questions and helped us understand what they were and how they worked.

Dining
Then we traveled to an NCO Dining Facility or more commonly known in our day as a Mess Hall. This dining facility was far different from what we had experienced in the "old" mess hall. The quality of the food was much better and the variety of choices made it difficult to choose from full course meals to made to order sandwiches. Dessert was included along with self serve ice cream. My suspicion is that everyone was like me and ate far too much.

After lunch while boarding busses we observed what looked like basic trainees but were really law school graduates who were being indoctrinated into the Army as they were in the process of becoming Judge Advocate General (JAG) officers.



Future JAG Officer's Army Indoctrination

Our next stop was to the Clarke Simulation Center which is where soldiers fight battles using computer generated war games. These simulations were just like the ones your children and grandchildren play on their computers except they imitated what a soldier may confront on the battlefield. I sat down at a computer and did some simulation and



Nicky Fasselin shooting the bad guys

was really impressed with how realistic it appeared and how I was able to get into the "fight" which I was never able to when playing war games 40 years ago while in the Army Reserve.

We finished FT Benning Day with a visit to the Armor & Cavalry Restoration Facility. This place was like a trip back into history with the tanks and other armored vehicles on display from World War 1 up to the present. In addition they were actually working to restore some of



these relics of war.

Friday - Basic Training Graduation

On Friday we were again bussed to FT Benning and our first stop was to attend a Basic Training graduation ceremony. This was a very impressive ceremony that was far more than I remember



from when I finished basic. Our presence at this ceremony was acknowledged.

Memorial Service

We then had our annual Memorial Service which was scheduled to take place at a replica of the Vietnam Wall located outside of the Infantry Museum. But the weather was very threatening and so we held the ceremony inside a theater inside the Infantry Museum. With an image of the Vietnam Wall projected onto the screen that was the backdrop of the stage the setting was a great substitute for the Wall.



President Bart Stanzione started the service by welcoming everyone. As bagpiper Jon Blickenstaff played the pipes a color guard from FT Benning posted the colors.



the 27 Bobcats from Georgia assigned to the 5th Regimental Com-

(See Reunion on page 10)



John Snodgrass then gave the Invocation followed by remarks from retired Major General Andy Anderson. MG Anderson then read the names of

Historian Sam Kier Trying To Help Others

Expert Marksman Trophy

26 MAR 16

"I have a trophy cup given to Martin McCashey, Co. F, Fifth Infantry Division for expert marksman given by a Major Jonson.

Do you have any idea what year that would be and if there is any family left? Any help would be appreciated."

Dave White

Dave,

"Below you have written Fifth Infantry Division. Did you mean to write Fifth Infantry Regiment? The 5th Infantry Regiment won many national and international marksmanship contests during the years between World War I and World War II when it was stationed in Portland, Maine. I haven't run across the name Martin McCaskey in my research. What else is inscribed on the trophy cup? Anything about the Leech Cup, Navy Cup, Marine Corps Cup, Rumbold Trophy Shoot, Farnsworth Trophy, or President's Match? If not, the match was probably just a local regimental contest. Did it give Major Johnson's first name. If he happened to be a West Pointer, I can estimate the year of the match starting with that information. If Martin was one of those New England soldiers, he would probably have been born about 1910 and have adult, middle-aged grandchildren alive somewhere."

Sam Kier

Historian, 5th Infantry Regiment Assn.

Sam,

"Here's what it says on cup."

*Prize cup
Martin McCaskey
Expert rifleman
Co. F*

5th Inf. G.N.Y.

Presented by Major Johnson

Dave White

Dave,

"Given that inscription, I explored the idea that the "5th Inf.G.N.Y" might refer to a unit of the New York Army National Guard, that was first

organized in 1906, despite the fact that the initials are not in the usual sequence. However my online search suggests that there has been no 5th Infantry Regiment in New York since the 5th New York Infantry was de-activated in 1864. Our unit, the 5th U.S. Infantry, was garrisoned in New England between the world wars. I've got to admit that I'm stumped. Our e-mail exchange will probably be published in the next issue of our newsletter, The Bobcat Bulletin. Perhaps one of the other readers can shed some light on this mystery."

Sam

Can you help with this mystery?

Volunteered For The Front Line & Was Killed

"I'm contacting you in hopes that you can provide information on an American soldier named Ralph Riley, shown at this URL: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/dmclea2009/3867564501/in/photostream/>

Ralph was reportedly a veteran of WW II, having served in a ranger battalion in the Philippine Islands (although I've not been able to confirm this yet) and was in Korea where he was assigned to HQ 3d Transportation Military Railway Service, the command under which all railway battalions in Korea was assigned. Dewey McLean, a friend who remembered him, said he (Ralph) felt like he wasn't contributing enough to the war effort, so he volunteered for duty in a front line unit. He was assigned to the 5th RCT and was seen off at the Seoul train station by his friend. Later it was learned the Ralph was KIA on his first day in the unit when a Chinese mortar landed in his foxhole.

If you have records of the 5th RCT's time in Korea, please let me know if you have the date he was killed as well as any other information (serial number, rank, etc.), please let me know. Dewey and I are trying to track down his service record but so far we have too few details for the personnel center in Saint Louis to find his file. Thanks!"

Tim Moriarty

"OK. So the possible controlling divisions were the 40th, 45th and

(See Sam on page 17)

(Reunion from page 9)

bat Team who were killed in action in the Korean War.

Next were read the names of the 18 5th Regimental Combat Team veterans who died during the past year since our



last reunion.

Names of the nine Bobcats from the state of Georgia who were killed in action in Vietnam were then read.

Finally the five Bobcats who were members who died since the last reunion were read.

The most perfect playing of Taps that I've ever heard followed the reading of names.

John Snodgrass then gave a Benediction.

The memorial service ended with the colors being retired accompanied by the bagpipes being played by Jon Blickenstaff.

We all the moved to another area in the Infantry Museum where we had a wonderful barbecue buffet. To me the



food was so good I'd gladly pay to have it again.

After lunch we were free to roam through and discover the rather new



"great" National Infantry Museum.

Saturday - May 21

Saturday schedule had our annual membership meeting and a ladies breakfast both scheduled at 9 AM. (See a copy

of the minutes of the meeting on page 24)



After the meeting and ladies breakfast at 10:30 AM we had the our annual fragging. Tom Frame was very surprised to be chosen to be honored as the 25th



person to be fragged by the Association.

Saturday afternoon we were free to explore Columbus and FT Benning.

Bobcat Banquet

Starting at 5 PM we had a "meet and greet" social cocktail hour.

We sat down for dinner at 6PM when Bart Stanzione called us to order. The colors were posted by a Color Guard from FT Benning. Everyone



stood for the playing of the "Star Spangled Banner" followed by the "Pledge of

Allegiance" and a prayer by John Snodgrass.

Next Bart recognized the following attendees and special guests:

- 1) Honorary Colonel of the Regiment – MG Andy Anderson
- 2) DSC recipient – Ron Soppe
- 3) Banquet speaker – Dr. Peter Olivo (Vietnam Bobcat, B Co. 68-69)
- 4) Ronnie Rains (Vietnam 1970) and his guests: Lori Scott, SSG-R Peter Venardos, Billy Brown (friend of Rex Young), Shaun Meadows (22nd Special Tactics Squadron), his wife, Nicole Meadows and son Trevor Meadows.
- 5) Jenny Lawrence Diaz- widow of Bobcat Clyde Lawrence KIA B Co 5/16/70
- 6) Phyllis Hunsley – widow of Bobcat Dennis Hunsley KIA C Co 3/15/69
- 7) LaWanna Gillming – widow of recently deceased Bobcat Marvin "Curly" Gillming B Co 3/15/68-12/11/68

Toasts were offered followed by Ashley Woitena from the Columbus GA "Convention & Visitors Bureau" announcing that a paver inscribed with "5th Infantry Regiment Association" is to be placed on Veterans Day in the walk of honor at the Vietnam Wall replica near the National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center, Ft. Benning GA.

After dinner was served the following announcements were made prior to remarks by our Honorary Colonel of the Regiment Andy Anderson:

- 1) Bobcat Scholarship, administered by the 25th Inf Div Assn, collection at the membership meeting totaled \$1,033
- 2) Raffle brought in \$460. Winners: Soldier's Prayer afghan – Lori Scott. Soldier's Prayer banner – Paul Robinson.

A Bobcat is a member of the color guard



- 3) 2/5 Bobcats before disbanding sent a plaque of appreciation to the 5th Inf Reg Assn for the support shown to them during and after their deployments to Afghanistan.
- 4) A former Bobcat, A Co 2008-2012, is a member of the color guard from Ft. Benning attending tonight's banquet.
- 5) MG Anderson presented a challenge coin to the SGT in charge of the color guard.



- 6) Jon Blickenstaff called on the 18 first time reunion attendees to stand and be recognized. "Thanks for coming and why did you wait so long?!"
- 7) Bart presented a plaque to Ronnie Rains for his many efforts to support today's veterans and their fam-



ilies and to honor the Bobcat MOH recipient Rex Young.

Paul Robinson then conducted the "missing man table" ceremony.

MG Anderson made the following remarks:

- 1) Recognized Carolyn & Randy Kethcart's remarkable efforts to make this reunion perfect in every way.



(See Reunion on page 20)

Fourteen Hours in the Life of Four Bobcats at Katum

In December, 1967, Alpha Co. 1/5 was up at Katum in the jungles close to the Cambodian border. We didn't know that we would be at Katum for two months. During the day, we went on Search and Destroy missions in the triple canopy jungle and patrolled the jungle-shrouded dirt road between Prek Klok and Katum making it safe for the convoys bringing in supplies to us and the FSB's up there. This was the only road from Tay Ninh to Katum. At night we had ambush patrol, LP or perimeter guard. Our main purpose for being there was to set up a forward combat base camp and interdict the NVA crossing into Vietnam from the Ho Chi Minh Trails across the border in Cambodia. The NVA were coming in heading to Saigon for the TET offensive, but we didn't know this at the time. We had sporadic contact with the enemy, snipers, road mines, and mortars and rockets, but no major contact which was unusual.

Late afternoon on December 17th, our 3rd platoon tracks were heading back to the base camp at Katum. I don't remember what we were doing earlier that day, but it was probably a S&D or road patrol. Frank Davis and I were riding on the back of track 33 driven by Mike Massey. Behind us, track 34, the

before ambush patrol, LP or perimeter guard. Suddenly there was an explosion. The front of track 34 lifted, Rich bounced up from the drivers hatch just as the 50 cal reared up and slammed down on his head. SSG Bobby Epley, Leroy Hart, John Norred and Sam Linville were blown off 34 and a couple other guys jumped off. (The guys I named, including Rich, were awarded the Purple Heart for wounds they received that day.) Frank and I and the others jumped off track 33 and took cover, the 50 cal gunner swung the 50 to the roadside jungle and opened up. Mike Massey came up from the drivers hatch with his M16, and looking up and saw a Cayuse Light Observation Helicopter (LOH) swoop down and lay down some lead in the jungle not far from us. In those first few minutes, no one was sure if it was a CD mine, an RPG or how many NVA were out there in the dense jungle on the side of the road. There was a small skirmish but it didn't last long.

When it was over we had time to assess the situation and discovered that 34 had hit a road mine. Rich Purkis was in bad shape, his chin was gashed wide

tum base camp at dusk, towing damaged track 34. Rich was the most seriously wounded, but all the wounded were taken to the medical tent. Since night was coming, and none of the wounds were life threatening, the powers that be decided to wait until the next day for a dustoff.

The rest of us in the platoon got some chow. My squad brother, Frank Davis and I, and a few other platoon brothers were told that we would be going out on LP that night. Mike would be on perimeter guard at one of the bunkers. Because of what had happened earlier that day, it was late and dark when we headed out. Three LPs were sent out from 3rd platoon. I don't remember who I was with, but we headed across the dilapidated bridge into the dense black jungle to set up. Frank Davis and his LP partner set up to our left, and the third LP to the left of Frank. We were out less than hour when Frank noticed movement while looking through the starlight scope. He alerted his partner, but when his partner looked through the scope, he saw nothing. Frank looked again and saw a couple figures moving to the front of his position. Someone alerted the base camp, but it was too late. A minute later we heard the familiar thud of a NVA 82mm mortar being launched. The first one landed about 20 meters in front of my LP position. The next one was closer, and a third was very close. It was clear that we had been seen going out and they knew where we were. The NVA were walking their mortars into my LP position. It was a pitch black night so we couldn't see anything. I knew the next mortar would probably land on us if we stayed in our position, so we quickly crawled backwards until we reached the creek by the bridge and slid down into the water while the mortars came closer and then mortars started landing inside the base camp. Concertina wire had been laid in that part of the creek and we got caught up in it. Frank and his partner hurried into the water and mud filled bomb crater we bathed in. The NVA in front of us opened up on the perimeter in front of 3rd platoon with small arms and lobbed mortars into the base camp, and the perimeter fired back with the 50s, 60s and M16s. The Quad 50 also opened up ripping up the jungle. Mike who was at one of the perimeter bunkers was firing over our heads into the jungle in front of him. All of us on LP were caught in the crossfire



Frank Davis

last track heading in, was being driven by Richard Purkis. Rich wasn't the usual driver, but he was in the drivers hatch that afternoon. After a long hard day, we were looking forward to getting back to Katum for some chow and a little rest



Richard Purkis

open and bleeding profusely. His nose was broken and his right forearm was also bloody. He was very disorientated from the explosion and blow on the head from the 50 cal. but conscious. Some of the others had minor injuries. After much confusion, we gathered up the wounded and rode the last mile to Ka-

watching red and green tracers fly over our heads, but luckily we were down low enough that we weren't being hit, just listening to the bullets and mortars zinging over our heads. Since my LP partner and I were caught up in the wire, all we could do was lay low and wait it out. Frank and the other guys on LP had to wait it out too. While this was going on, Rich was in the medical tent getting his chin sewed up, thirteen stitches, and was on the table when the mortars started coming in. He later told me that the medics put him under the table on the ground until the mortar attack and fire fight was over.

When it finally ended we untangled ourselves from the concertina wire and crossed the bridge back into the base camp with the other LP teams thinking we were lucky to have made it back in. Our jungle fatigues were soaked, so Frank and I changed into our only other set of dry fatigues after checking for leeches. I noticed in the dark that there was blood on my right hand and left knee. I didn't pay much attention to it thinking it was cuts from the concertina wire. I saw Rich Purkis briefly, his head and arm bandaged and he seemed in a daze. Probably from a concussion. I caught up with Mike and found out that that there weren't any casualties in the base camp. Once we were changed, we were told we had to go back out on LP again, this time to a different location. "Holy shit" I thought, "after all that we had to go back out again"! This time four of us went across the log bridge, which was a narrow log crossing the creek, and I slipped off the log and fell into chest deep water. Frank and his LP partner had to wade through the creek at another location to set up, so they got soaked again too. We set up and waited and watched, trying to stay awake. Soon it got very cold and being wet again, we shivered all night. The temperature during the day was in the 90's but dropped to the low 70's at night, and when you're soaking wet, that was cold! Mike spent the night at one of the perimeter bunkers scanning the jungle for enemy movement, and Rich spent the rest of the night in a fox hole waiting to be dusted off.

Fortunately, the rest of the long night was quiet. When we returned to the base camp in the morning, I noticed in the daylight that I had a small mortar fragment above my thumb and another one by my knee. They were just under the skin and not very painful, but I went to the medic tent to have them taken out because I didn't want to get an infection.

Later that day the wounded from track 34 were med-evaced back to Cu Chi. Rich told me that he was med-evaced to Cu Chi in a regular huey with another Bobcat, a burn victim. It was a Colonel's chopper. On the way back to Cu Chi, the chopper took some fire from the ground. The Colonel wanted to go in and take them on with the 60's on the chopper. They circled down and didn't find anything so they headed into Cu Chi and Rich finally got to the 12th Evac Hospital. With Rich gone, I was moved from 3rd squad to 4th to drive track 34. Rich's dried blood was still in the drivers hatch. After seeing what had happened to Rich and a few other drivers before him, I wasn't too happy about this.

Five days later on December 22nd, Mike Massey, track 33 driver, hit a land mine in the jungle and was blown out of



Mike Massey

the drivers hatch and seriously wounded. Frank Davis who was walking near 33 was blown into the trees and covered with blood. He was conscious but dazed and probably had a concussion as well. Both Frank and Mike were lucky to be alive. When the medic came to Frank, he told him to look after the others who were more seriously wounded. Mike and several others injured in the blast were med-evaced to Cu Chi. Within five days, we lost two of our four platoon tracks and at least eleven platoon brothers, including two others who were wounded in another incident, one severely.

I wouldn't see Rich or Mike again

until six weeks later when I was back in Cu Chi at the end of January for a few days. They were almost fully recovered. I never saw some of the others again. It was like that. When someone was wounded and dusted off, we usually never saw them again and never knew what happened to them. When Mike recovered in February 1968, he was transferred to HQ Co. to drive Battalion Commander LTC Lodge's track and was also his RTO. When Rich was fully recovered he rejoined us in early February 1968, but he wasn't with us long. Charlie Co. 4/9 Manchus lost forty-nine KIA and twenty-four WIA at the Hoc Mon Bridge ambush on March 2nd, 1968, so the 25th pulled guys from the Bobcats and Wolfhounds and other units to replace the lost Charlie Co. Manchus. Rich Purkis was one of ten unlucky Bobcats transferred to the Manchus and was with them for the rest of his tour. At the same time in March, Frank Davis was moved from Alpha Co. 3rd squad track 33 to Alpha Co. track 69. Although Mike and Frank were still with the 1/5, we never ran into each other again.

For over forty years after leaving Vietnam, I never knew the fate of any of my former platoon brothers, including Frank, Mike and Rich. I stumbled on the 5th Infantry Regiment Association web site and was able to reconnect with Frank Davis, Mike Massey, Rich Purkis and a few other platoon brothers and Bobcats. We have made up for lost time with phone calls and emails, and I'm happy to say all are doing well. Thanks to Brothers Richard Purkis, Frank Davis and Mike Massey for their invaluable help in recalling details for this narrative.

Tom Goins,
3rd Platoon, Alpha Co. 67-68

(Comments from page 5)

I believe the 1/5 Association by inviting them to the reunion gave them a measure of comfort regarding the loss of their brother Kelly. I know the experience helped me and Steve Solomon and Jerry Yasher."

Andy Gimma

VETERANS NEWS

Veteran Proof of Service Letter

"A veteran proof of service letter serves as proof of honorable service in

(See Comments on page 17)

1-5th INFANTRY - ARCTIC BOBCATS - FT WAINWRIGHT AK

FT Benning Reunion Pictures



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
1ST BATTALION 5TH INFANTRY REGIMENT
3214 SANTIAGO AVENUE
FORT WAINWRIGHT AK 99703-8000

Fellow Bobcats,

Currently the Bobcat Battalion just redeployed from our Platoon Live Fire Exercise (Operation BEN CUI). In conjunction with the Soldiers of the Bobcat Battalion, we incorporated joint level training with the US Air Force in order to gain proficiency in multi-echelon warfare and prepare 1-5 IN for our next rotation to the National Training Center (NTC) at Fort Irwin, CA.

Over the next few weeks the Battalion will prepare for Operation Arctic Anvil; a combined multi-national training exercise involving US and Canadian Forces, conducting Company Live Fire Exercises and Battalion on Battalion Force on Force. I am confident in the ability of the Bobcat Battalion to train, fight, and win.

CSM Collins and I will be changing command/responsibility on 20 June 2016. Over the past two years it has been a tremendous honor to serve as the Battalion Commander of the finest Battalion in the Last Frontier. To the Soldiers of the Battalion, CSM Collins and I would like to thank each and every Soldier for the dedication, determination, and strive for excellence they have shown over the past two years.

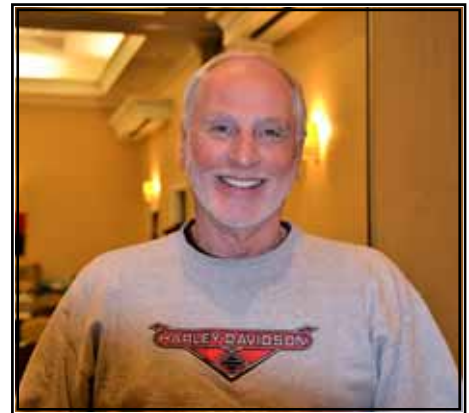
Finally, I would like to introduce the new Command Team that will be taking over on 20 June 2016 of the 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry Regiment; LTC R. Blake Lackey and CSM Ronald Corella. Without a doubt these two will continue to take the Battalion to greater heights and lead our Soldiers in the fight to defend this great nation. "Predator, not Prey" Bobcat 6 signing off.

Very Respectfully,

LTC Thomas Hough
CDR, 1-5 IN
1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team
Ft. Wainwright, AK



LTC Thomas Hough & CSM Arvento Collins



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If you did not receive this newsletter in an E-mail that means we do not have your "correct" E-mail address. Please send your E-mail address to me at:

fpd@bobcat.ws

FT Benning Reunion Pictures



A Play in London About the 1/5th in Vietnam In 1968

Dear Mr Frame and Mr Chavez,

"My name is Alex Gaumond and I am a Canadian actor based in London (UK). I am about to play the role of a Vietnam War Veteran in a play in London and I would love to find out as much information as possible about the specific group of soldiers my character would have served with.

The script says my character was an "Army Lieutenant for C Company, 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry, 25th Infantry Division" and mentions that after the Tet Offensive, his Regiment was awarded the Presidential Citation for Bravery in Action (which I understand from my research was for the period of 18 August through 20 September, 1968).

I was trying to find out from the list on your website which of your current members may have been in the same group as my character but I wasn't sure how to work out which Platoons to look out for, or whether anyone in C Company would be a good person to contact.....

Finally, I have one more question regarding the timeline of the events mentioned in the play. Is it possible that my character would still have been in Vietnam in July 1972? According to Wikipedia, "Second Brigade was the last element of the [infantry] division to depart Vietnam. It arrived at Ft Lewis, Washington in the early days of May 1971", so I am confused as to what is accurate fact versus what might be a mistake from the playwright. Basically, my character is supposed to have been in Vietnam during Jane Fonda's controversial visit to Hanoi, so I am trying to establish whether that was even possible with the timeline and movements of his company & division.

Many thanks in advance for your help and a huge thank you for having set up your website in the first place, it has already been an invaluable resource for my research."

Best wishes,
Alex Gaumond

Art Cook's Reply to Alex:

"Here are some answers for your questions:

1. Most soldiers did one tour. Many stayed in the Army and were sent back for another tour. We had a cook in 1968 that had been in RVN for two

years straight. He came over on the ships when the 25th Division first arrived.

2. I'm not sure of the earliest age, but I believe it to be 18.

3. For the Infantry, basic training was 8 weeks. Advanced Infantry training was also 8 weeks.

3. Officer Candidate School (OCS) was about 24 weeks in duration. No other training was needed to send the officer to RVN.

4. The officer could also have gone to Ranger School, Expert Infantry school, Airborne Jump school, however most went to their first assignments for about a year and then on to RVN. Many I think went straight to RVN.

5. The decision about what unit the officer would be assigned to was out of his hands. When he arrived at MAC/V headquarters he would be assigned a Division, sent to a short school in the Division area to show him what was going on in the field, get him acclimated to the weather, and then sent out to his battalion. He would then be assigned wherever the battalion needed him.

Also, when I got out to the field for the Bobcats, I was given a day to meet my troops and do a short sweep of the surrounding area before going out with the battalion on a full search and destroy mission. Also, the Bobcats had a practice about ambush patrols. My first ambush I went with another officer and observed his preparation and execution of the ambush. On my second ambush the other officer went out with me and my platoon as observer and trainer. My third ambush I was on my own with my platoon.. Truthfully at that time, the platoon trained me and we learned to trust each other. I served in three different parts of the battalion. Alpha Company/third platoon Feb to April and Charlie Company/Jun to Sep and a bit in HQ, from April to Jun and Sep to Jan. Overall I served with the Bobcats from Feb 68 to Jan 69. I started as a 2LT and was promoted to 1LT during the year."

LTC Arthur Cook
Inf USA
Retired

OUR BOBCAT FOREBEARS

by Sam Kier

JAMES ALLEN JOHNSON



The 5th RCT crossed the Nakdong River on the evening of September 20, 1950 and proceeded north. Its initial assignment was to mop up North Korean units that had been by-passed during the Army's breakout from the Pusan Perimeter. On the evening of September 22, the combat team's commander, LTC John Throckmorton, received orders to advance and capture Kumchon where remnants of two North Korean divisions had decided to make a stand.

On the afternoon of the 23rd, LT James Johnson and his platoon of combat engineers were ordered to clear a minefield that straddled the road to Kumchon. They were supported by a few tanks. Before the engineers could complete the task, an expertly camouflaged North Korean machine gun crew, located on the left side of the road, opened up on the engineers. They took cover in a ditch on the right side of the road.

The crew of the lead American tank closed the hatch and began firing blindly into the engineers. One of the bullets grazed Johnson's thigh and killed one of his men. Johnson limped to the rear of the Sherman tank, grabbed the tank-infantry phone and threatened to blow the tankers to kingdom come if they fired one more round at the right side of the road. The engineers were soon able to eliminate the machine gun and clear the road of mines. A short time later, when COL Throckmorton needed a new commander for Company B, a rifle company, he appointed the scrappy Jim Johnson.

Johnson was born in Stoughton, Wisconsin, a small community founded

in the 19th century by Norwegian immigrants. He was the youngest of eleven children. He attended the University of Wisconsin for one semester before being drafted into the Army at the end of 1942. He was assigned to the 81st Engineer Battalion, 106th Infantry Division.

The government sent Jim to Lafayette College in September, 1943, so he was not with his division when it shipped to Europe and was placed on line in the Ardennes area of Belgium. He learned later that only one man from his former platoon had survived when the 58th Panzer Corps attacked the newly arrived and untested 106th and 28th Divisions in December, initiating the Battle of the Bulge.

After completion of the academic year at Lafayette College, Jim entered the US Military Academy in July 1944. He graduated with the class of 1947 with a commission in the Corps of Engineers. After Ground General School at Ft. Riley, he was sent to Ft. Belvoir, Virginia.

In the fall of 1948, LT Johnson was deployed to Korea and assigned to Company B, 13th Engineer Battalion, 324th RCT. The combat team had been left in Korea, for rear guard protection, when the 7th Infantry Division moved to Japan. When the 324th RCT was redesignated the 5th RCT in January, 1949, Jim became leader of 1st Platoon, 72nd Engineer (C) Company, an element of the 5th Regimental Combat Team.

The 5th RCT was shifted to Schofield Barracks in January, 1949. Jim Johnson and Kathleen Smith were married in Hawaii on November 26, 1949. They had less than eight months together when the 5th RCT was ordered back to South Korea to help counter the North Korean invasion.

By November 1, 1950, LT Johnson had led his rifle company to within fifteen miles of the Yalu River, the border between China and North Korea. COL Throckmorton's request to have Johnson promoted to captain was denied because a surplus of captains and majors had just arrived in Korea. He was also denied the Combat Infantryman's Badge, despite his tenure as commander of Company B, because he had an army engineer's MOS. That ridiculous decision was eventually reversed. Following these incidents, COL Throckmorton asked Jim what he would like to do and he replied that he would like to return to an engineer outfit. He was transferred to the 3rd Combat Engineer Battalion, 24th Infantry Division and served with them until returning to CONUS in June, 1951.

Following Korea, Jim was assigned to the Engineer OCS Program at Ft. Belvoir as a company commander. He completed the Engineer Advanced Course there before transferring to West Point as a tactical officer. He remained there until June of 1956, at which point, he went west to Stanford University's School of Engineering. He received his M.S. degree from Stanford in June, 1957.

Following Stanford, Jim spent three years in France serving in several line and staff positions. He left France in 1960 to attend the Command and General Staff College. When he finished, he was sent to San Francisco to serve as Deputy District Engineer. In 1963, he left the Bay Area to take command of the 39th Engineer (C) Battalion at Ft. Campbell.

Jim's first Vietnam tour was in 1964-65 commanding the Engineer Advisory Group of MACV. The following year he attended the Industrial College of the Armed Forces at Ft. McNair before being assigned to the Philadelphia Engineer District.

Jim returned to Vietnam in 1971 to assume command of the 34th Engineer Group in the Mekong Delta. He was soon promoted to Brigadier General and became commanding general of the Engineering Command. At that point, he was able to move his family to Clark Air Force Base in the Philippines.

When Jim returned from his second Vietnam tour, he was assigned to the Pentagon as Director of Munitions and Industrial Production. In 1974 he was named Commandant of the Engineer School at Ft. Belvoir and, the following year, became the post's commanding general.

Jim commanded the Engineer Division of the North Atlantic Division from 1977 to 1979. He was responsible for the planning and initial construction of the Israeli Air Bases that were provided for by the *Camp David Accords*. Once that task was completed, he moved to the Office of the Chief of Engineers to serve as Deputy Chief.

In 1980, Major General James Johnson wound up his interesting and demanding Army career of forty-three years. He and Kathleen retired to their home in Fairfax Station, Virginia. The Johnsons have four children and four grandchildren. During his Army service, Jim received the Silver Star and two Purple Hearts (Korea), two Bronze Stars, two Legion of Merit awards, the Distinguished Service Medal, the Commendation Medal and the Combat Infantryman Badge.

(Sam from page 10)

7th. One of the things that got me thinking that his death was earlier in the war was the statement that his "foxhole received a direct hit from a mortar round." By 1952-53, our infantrymen were no longer in foxholes. The front lines were static trench lines running along ridges. Bunkers were dug into the sides of the trench. The bunkers could withstand a direct hit from a mortar round. Being hit by a large artillery round was another matter. Chinese mortar rounds still killed G.I.'s when they were out in the open, perhaps on recon or ambush patrols or a lucky shot into the trench during a fire fight, or out front of the line at a listening post.

If you are able to verify that Ralph actually reported to the 5th RCT and learn his date of death, I can provide information about what was going on at that time."

Sam Kier

Sam:

Just got this from Dewey:

"I have new information on when Ralph Riley was at the 3rd TMRS. My Kodachrome slide of Ralph shows a calendar just to the right of Ralph's head. I examined the calendar with a high power binocular microscope. It reads March 11, 1953.

Because the weather was still cold when I walked Ralph to the Seoul railway station where he caught a troop train north, I would guess that he departed from the 3rd TMRS within a few weeks of the time I took the photo."

Tim

Tim,

"Pinpointing Ralph's first day with the 5th RCT depends on Dewey's meaning of several weeks. COL Fischer reported that on 11 March, 15 inches of snow fell in the regimental area. It was followed by warm sunny days and nights just below freezing. Dewey may have accompanied Ralph to the train as the cool evening approached. If Ralph reported in around the first of April, the 1st Battalion + Company L of the 5th RCT was up defending the line. There were no friendly casualties in the first three days of the month. 2nd Battalion relieved 1st Battalion on the 9th. All elements of the 5th RCT pulled off the line during the night of 15-16 April and proceeded west to join the 3rd Division. The colonel said that two enlisted men were killed during those first two

weeks in April but didn't name them. However, the casualty list includes CPL Edward Frazier, Service Company, on 13 April and PVT Carl Tumlinson, Company A, on 7 April. So, Ralph Riley's date of death remains a puzzlement. If he was killed in action while serving with the 5th RCT, it's beginning to look like it may have happened later in May after the combat team moved west to join the 3rd Infantry Division."

Sam

(Roster from page 6)

Knust, Jerald L, Btry C, 555 FAB, 1952-53, died 4 Apr 1916, Rochester Hills, MI

Marks, Jerome F, Co I, 1952-53, died 5 Apr 1916, Longwood, FL

Napier, Richard A, HHC/2/5, 1949-51, died 14 May 1916, Schaumburg, IL

Ross, Clairmont L, Co A, 1953-54, died 6 Mar 1916, Kent, OH

Throne, Albert R, HHC/2/5, 1953-54, died 11 Feb 1916, Ada, OK

**These Korean Era deaths were reported to me by Sam Kier*

Memorial Day Remembrance



"On this Memorial Day we remember: Here's Bernard C. Mattson, from Peoria, Illinois, whom we called "Matt." He died in Vietnam at the age of 20."

A Roger Hayes Facebook post.

(Comments from page 13)

the uniformed services. The letter can be obtained through the upgraded eBenefits premium (free) account access.

A YouTube tutorial on how to obtain this premium access is available on the VA [Vantage Point Blog](#). After upgrading to an eBenefits premium account, follow these instructions to obtain your letter: (1) Log into your account [on the eBenefits homepage](#); (2) at the top of the page under the eBenefits logo, hover your mouse over the "Manage" tab. In the dropdown that appears below it, click on "Documents and Records;" (3) in the left column on the following page, click on "VA Letters;" (4) at the bottom of the following page, click on "Veteran Proof of Service;" and (5) print."

**Sent by Nevin Williams*

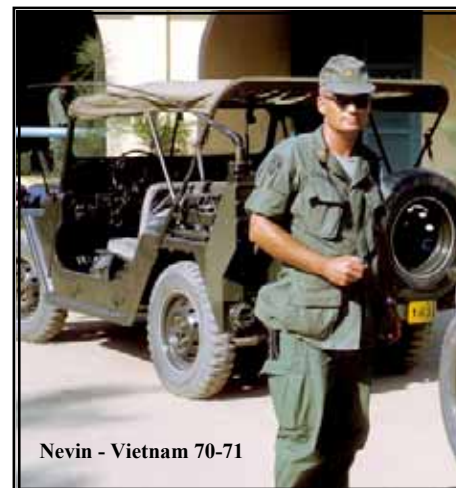
Fly Your Flag

"I have been flying the flag of the Republic of Vietnam since the beginning



of the month.

Fly your flag (along with our national colors) and honor those who tried to make it work!



(See Comments on page 19)

2017 Reunion Albuquerque New Mexico

Tuesday May 16th - Sunday May 21st 2017

Albuquerque

Albuquerque is a surprisingly interesting city with a lot of activities available. Known as the heart of New Mexico, Albuquerque has grown to be the largest city in the state. Filled with diverse culture, rich history and breathtaking landscapes. It provides visitors with the true taste of the south west. To explore the city on the Internet go to:

<http://www.cityof.com/Albuquerque>

The MCM Elegance



\$85 Single / Double per night

*** Free parking**

- * Complimentary Full Hot Breakfast Buffet each Morning in the Mesa Grill
- * 2 Complimentary Drink Coupons per Guest per Evening in The Sandia Springs Lounge
- * Complimentary Shuttle Service to/from the Airport & within a 5 mile radius of the hotel based on request
- * Free Shuttle to Sandia Resort & Casino
- * Free Wi-Fi in guestrooms

To make reservations call:

1- (505) 884-2511

and when booking tell them *

5th Infantry Regiment Association

* Booking prices are good up to 3 days



before and after reunion dates

Wednesday May 17th

To Be Determined Tour

Thursday May 18

Sandia Peak Tramway & Mexican Luncheon

\$??? Per Person 10 am - 3 pm

A trip on the Sandia Peak Aerial Tramway transports you above deep canyons and breathtaking terrain a distance of 2.7 miles. See some of nature's more dramatic beauty unfold before you. At sun-



set the desert skies produce a spectacular array of color, and your vantage point from the observation deck atop 10,378 foot Sandia Peak in the Cibola National Forest affords an 11,000 square-mile panoramic view of the Rio Grande Valley and the Land of Enchantment. Located on the eastern edge of Albuquerque in the Sandia Foothills at the end of Tramway Road. From there we will enjoy a Mexican Buffet at "Sadies on 4th".

Friday May 19th

Memorial Service at the New Mexico Veterans Memorial

?? Per person 10 am - 3 pm



Schedule of Event

Depart Hotel: 10:00Am

Memorial Service: 10:30 Am (#28 on Website map)

Catered Luncheon at Veterans Memorial indoor facility: 12:00 PM (#2 on map)



Explore Exhibits: 1:00 to 2:30

(NM Reunion from page 1)

shops and piazzas, winding brick paths and adobe benches. Browsers can spend a whole day making their way through the more than 100 stores, boutiques and galleries that sell Southwestern goods as well as unique products from around the world....

The Indian Pueblo Cultural Center and the Petroglyph National Monument offer a glimpse of old Indian customs and art. Families will find plenty to do at the Albuquerque Biological Park, which features a zoo, aquarium and botanic garden. Outdoor types will find ample opportunities for hiking, biking and golf. After working up an appetite, head to any number of fine restaurants that serve up a choice of hot or even hotter New Mexican cuisine. To top it all off, take a ride on the Sandia Peak Aerial Tramway for spectacular views of all this vibrant city has to offer."

Check the website for updates on activities and prices.

<http://bobcat.ws/reunions.html>

Columbus Reunion Pre-Registration

PLEASE complete this form if you are planning to attend this reunion.

By completing this form it will help us plan our needs for transportation and meals etc.

Name _____

_____ Number of additional guests

Names of additional guests

E-mail Address: _____

Date of Arrival: _____

⇒ Do you plan on taking the yet to be determined tour?
_____ Yes _____ No _____

⇒ Do you plan on attending Sandia Peak Tramway & Mexican Luncheon? _____ Yes _____ No _____

⇒ Do you plan on attending the Memorial Service at the New Mexico Veteran's Memorial & Luncheon?
_____ Yes _____ No _____

⇒ Are you planning on attending the Ladies Breakfast 9 AM SAT morning at the Mesa Grill?
_____ Yes _____ No _____

⇒ Are you driving? Yes _____ No _____

⇒ Is this your first reunion?
Yes _____ No _____

COMMENTS:

Mail to or contact:

Carolyn Kethcart
16054 Pine Drive
Tinley Park, IL 60477
708-468-8624
carolynjk@bobcat.ws

See you in Albuquerque New Mexico!

Please Help!

Please complete a Pre- Registration form on page 19 or on our Webpage. By completing the Pre-Registration form you will help us plan our needs for transportation and meals etc.

(Comments from page 17)

Attached flag photos are from 2013 but be assured, the front of the house looks the same today.

"Ours was a noble cause."

Nevin R. Williams

Joe "Doc" Lex Retires

Eusevio "Doc" Alvarado and Bruce "Doc" Cotta attended Joe Lex's retirement party. Joe started as a Bobcat medic in Vietnam in 1968 and retired after



Cotta, Lex and Eusevio

more than 49 years working in the field of emergency medicine. Eusevio said, "I listened to Joe speak at his retirement party. I was very impressed and can understand why he lectured around the world!" (See page 5 for more information on Joe Lex.)

Now in Italy

Fred,

"Long time, no talk--hope you're doing well and I continue to enjoy reading up on the Bobcats. Thank you so much for your efforts. However, given that I'm now stationed in Italy, and given that I always have a screen in front of me, I think it's safe for you to save costs by emailing me the newsletter.

I'm currently assigned to the 173rd Airborne; been here nearly a year. Great unit, very busy pace.

Again, hope all is well, and thanks again!"

-Tony Formica

Florida Winter Social

Teriann Tringali is working on plans for next year to have our 15th annual Florida winter social. It looks like it will be held the 1st week of March 2017. She is thinking of having the dinner cruise on the Starlite Majesty again.

Last year those in attendance expressed interest in a cruise either before or after the weekend social so she is looking into that option. Teriann is looking into five and seven day cruises. If you are interested in these cruises you should contact her at:

TeriannsTravels@aol.com or
727-482-4564

Hopefully plans will be complete in time to have the details in the fall newsletter that should get published around the 1st week of October.

It is nice and warm now but after a long winter enjoying some days in the warm Florida sun during early March might be good for your soul. If you have never attended a Florida Social but think you are interested please contact Teriann.

KIA Ardis' Head Stone

MG-R Andy Anderson came across in Arlington Cemetery the stone marking John C. Ardis (B Company) who was killed on 10/23/66.



(Reunion from page 11)

2) Honored the medics present in calling attention to the medical battalion as highly decorated.

3) Challenged the reunion attendees to consider contacting those members out west to come to the next reunion in Albuquerque NM in May 2017.

Our guest speaker, Dr. Peter Olivo (*B Company, 2nd Platoon 1968-69*) who lost both legs in Vietnam next gave a very inspirational and encouraging speech. He indicated that Stephen Walk-



er lost his arm while saving his (Peter's) life. He spoke about his book "The Oth-



er Part of Me" and afterwards offered it for sale. I think he sold every copy he had brought.

A "Distinguished Member of the Regiment" certificate issued by the De-

partment of the Army was presented to outgoing president, Bart Stanzione, by



incoming president, Tom Frame.

A Bobcat of the Year plaque was presented in absentia to Ed Kawczynski.

Our auction closed out the evening with Bart Stanzione as auctioneer assisted by Carolyn Kethcart, Patti Stanzione



I don't know what this was that Bart the "auctioneer" was trying to sell.

and Trevor Meadows. The auction seemed to be highlighted by many bidding wars between Ronnie Rains and George Chavez. These bidding wars resulted in high prices for many items helping the auction to raise a lot of money for the Association. End result was that Bart was very successful in picking our pockets.

Thus came to an end a very successful enjoyable reunion. Thank you Carolyn and Randy Kethcart for doing a fantastic job with this reunion!!!

See you in Albuquerque!

New Coin For Sale

It was decided that we should design a new updated challenge coin. A committee was appointed made up of Sam Kier, Bart Stanzione and Jim Caudle. They along with Randy Kethcart came up with a new coin pictured below.

5th Infantry Regiment Challenge coin is 2 inches in diameter. It is made from brass and has a diamond cut twisted edge. Both sides are in color with a clear epoxy finish.

The price, which includes shipping, for this coin is \$10.50. You can purchase the coin online on our Website at:



<http://www.bobcat.ws/quartermaster.html>

Or you can send a check made out to "5th INF ASSN" to:



Jim Caudle / 5th INF ASSN
1501 Baychester AVE
Norfolk VA 23503

Bobcat Board of Directors meeting May 18, 2016

- ◆ Meeting was called to order by President Bart Stanzione at 6 PM
- ◆ Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- ◆ Fred reported on the Bobcat Bulletin... we now have 125 members getting it electronically.
- ◆ John Snodgrass reported on Ray Barrett's Memorial Service.
- ◆ Paul Reported on Membership... 440 members, 17 New this year (7 Life Members) but 17 still delinquent. The delinquent postcards and e-mails produced 9 renewals. Fred will send another reminder, and if that does not work, we will drop the 17.
- ◆ No financial report was offered.
- ◆ Historian's report is on record.
- ◆ Discussion was held on the \$4000 advance to the 2d Battalion. The advance was repaid.
- ◆ Bart held a discussion on recommending a new Honorary CSM of the Regiment. 3 names were presented and Bob Wood suggested sending the 3 a letter.
- ◆ Discussion was held on a Memorial Fund for Ray Barrett/Paul Sullivan to be called the Bobcat Fund. Paul moved, Randy seconded, and after discussion about what to do with the \$\$\$, the motion was withdrawn, and it was decided simply to put contributions into the General Fund, as that is the fund we use for donations.
- ◆ Randy moved, John Snodgrass seconded that we donate \$1500 to the 25th IDA Scholarship Fund. Passed.
- ◆ Paul moved, Randy seconded that we donate \$250 to the Paul Sullivan Scholarship Fund. Passed
- ◆ Bart noted that John Snodgrass and Jon Blickenstaff had terms expiring, and that John Cartwright's term on the Board as Second Past President was expiring. Bob Wood moved, Tom Frame seconded that all three be appointed as Board Directors. Passed.
- ◆ Bart stated, that because of weather forecasts, the Memorial Service may be moved to the Theater instead of the Wall. Bart will make the decision by 3:00 PM on Thursday.
- ◆ Bart led discussion of future reunion locations. Albuquerque is set for 2017, and Norfolk was suggested for 2018. Paul Moved, George Bates seconded that Randy and Carolyn check on that city. Passed.
- ◆ After Ray Barrett's passing, the Board elected to pay \$1000 to send John Snodgrass to the Memorial Service. John asked that the \$1000 be donated to the scholarship fund. John moved, Tom



SP4 Daniel Fernandez



Honoring One of Our Bobcat Heroes!

**Congressional Medal of Honor
is Awarded to**

FERNANDEZ, DANIEL

Rank and organization: Specialist Fourth Class, U.S. Army, Company C, 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry (Mechanized) 25th Infantry Division. Place and date: Cu Chi, Hau Nghia Province, Republic of Vietnam, 18 February 1966. Entered service at: Albuquerque, N. Mex. Born: 30 June 1944, Albuquerque, N. Mex. c.o. No.: 21, 26 April 1967. Citation: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty. Sp4c. Fernandez demonstrated indomitable courage when the patrol was ambushed by a Viet Cong rifle company and driven back by the intense enemy automatic weapons fire before it could evacuate an American soldier who had been wounded in the Viet Cong attack. Sp4c. Fernandez, a sergeant and 2 other volunteers immediately fought their way through devastating fire and exploding grenades to reach the fallen soldier. Upon reaching their fallen comrade the sergeant was struck in the knee by machinegun fire and immobilized. Sp4c. Fernandez took charge, rallied the left flank of his patrol and began to assist in the recovery of the wounded sergeant. While first aid was being administered to the wounded man, a sudden increase in the accuracy and intensity of enemy fire forced the volunteer group to take cover. As they did, an enemy grenade landed in the midst of the group, although some men did not see it. Realizing there was no time for the wounded sergeant or the other men to protect themselves from the grenade blast, Sp4c. Fernandez vaulted over the wounded sergeant and threw himself on the grenade as it exploded, saving the lives of his 4 comrades at the sacrifice of his life. Sp4c. Fernandez' profound concern for his fellow soldiers, at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty are in the highest traditions of the U.S. Army and reflect great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of his country.

(See Minutes on page 25)

Order Form

All items are available on our website where you can pay by credit card. Go to: http://www.bobcat.ws/quarter_master.shtml

Name _____ Phone # _____
Street _____ E-mail _____
City, State & Zip _____

(Put the number of each item you want in the line to its left.)

- | | |
|---|--|
| _____ #1 = Hats - \$12.75 | _____ #8A = License Plate at "US Army" - \$10.50 |
| _____ #2 = 3 inch Patch (Like on hat) - \$4.00 | _____ #8B = License Plate "5th Infantry" - \$10.50 |
| _____ #3 = 5th Patch (4") with Tab - \$7.50 | _____ #14 = 5th Infantry Crest - \$6.50 |
| _____ #4 = 4 inch Patch with green M-113 APC on it - \$7.50 | _____ #15 = 5th Key Chain - \$15.50 |
| _____ #5 = Window Decals - \$4.00 | _____ #16A = MIA Bracelet (Black Small) - \$4 |
| _____ #6 = Pins - \$5.50 | _____ #16B = MIA Bracelet (Silver Medium) - \$4 |
| _____ #7 = Challenge Coin - \$10.50 | _____ #17 = 25th Decal with "Bobcat" above - \$4 |

#9 = Polo/Golf 100% cotton collared shirt (Put number desired in blank and circle size and color) - Item #437M

- _____ A). With 5th Crest and **Combat Infantryman's Badge** - \$29.00 - With pocket \$32.00
_____ B). With 5th Crest and **Combat Medic's Badge** - \$29.00 - With pocket \$32.00
_____ C). Same as A but with the 25th Infantry Division Patch & lettering added on "Right" sleeve - \$35.00 - With Pocket \$39.00
_____ D). Same as B but with the 25th Infantry Division Patch & lettering added on "Right" sleeve - \$35.00 - With Pocket \$39.00

Color: (Circle Color) White Grey Black Forest Green Navy Blue

Size: Small (Without pocket only) Medium Large X-Large 2X-Large 3X-Large (Circle Size)

#10 = Tri-Mountain 5400 High Peak Winter Jacket Windproof/Water-resistant with Hood concealed in collar (Put number desired in blank and circle size and color) [Item 5400]

- _____ A). With 5th Crest and **Combat Infantryman's Badge** - \$61.00
_____ B). With 5th Crest and **Combat Medic's Badge** - \$61.00
_____ C). Same as A but with the 25th Infantry Division Patch & lettering added on "Right" sleeve - \$66.00
_____ D). Same as B but with the 25th Infantry Division Patch & lettering added on "Right" sleeve - \$66.00

Color: (Circle Color) [1st color Outer Shell & 2nd color is lining/collar] khaki/navy, navy/khaki, forest green/
khaki or black/khaki

Size: Small Medium Large X-Large 2X-Large 3X-Large 4X-Large {4X, 5X & 6X-large & long sizes
available in some colors}

Have the Bobcat #18 on page
25 put on the lower left sleeve
of your jacket or shirt for \$5.

#11 = Tri-Mountain Sanford Light Weight Summer Jacket (Item #4000). (circle size & color and number desired in blank and circle size and color) [Item 5400]

- _____ A). With 5th Crest and **Combat Infantryman's Badge** - \$60.00
_____ B). With 5th Crest and **Combat Medic's Badge** - \$60.00
_____ C). Same as A but with the 25th Infantry Division Patch & lettering added on "Right" sleeve - \$66.00
_____ D). Same as B but with the 25th Infantry Division Patch & lettering added on "Right" sleeve - \$66.00

Color: (Circle Color) Colors: Black, Navy, Desert, Stone, and Moss.

Size: Small Medium Large X-Large 2X-Large 3X-Large 4X-Large 5X-Large 6X-Large (Circle Size)

#12 = Long Sleeve Denim Shirt (Put number desired in blank and circle size and color) [Item 8960]

- _____ A). With 5th Crest and **Combat Infantryman's Badge** - \$34.00
_____ B). With 5th Crest and **Combat Medic's Badge** - \$34.00
_____ C). Same as A but with the 25th Infantry Division Patch & lettering added on "Right" sleeve - \$40.00
_____ D). Same as B but with the 25th Infantry Division Patch & lettering added on "Right" sleeve - \$40.00

Color: (Circle Color) Light Blue or Indigo

Size: Small Medium Large X-Large 2X-Large 3X-Large 4X-Large (Circle Size)

Have the Bobcat #18 on page
25 put on the lower left sleeve
of your shirt for \$5.

#13 = T-shirt with logo as pictured on left breast (50% cot./50% poly.) - \$19.00 (Put # desired in blank and circle size and color) [Item 29, P-131]

Color: (Circle Color) White, Oxford, Black, True Navy, Light Blue, Pink, Peribule, North Carolina Blue, California Blue, True Royal Blue, Cornflower Blue, Yellow Haze, Burnt Orange, Cardinal, Deep Purple, Forrest Green, Gold, Island Yellow, Natural, Birch, Jade, Kelly, Khaki Brown, True Red, Safety Green, Maroon, Light Orange, Aqua, Bamboo Green, Classic Brown, Kiwi, Cyber Pink, Dark Graphite, Dark Lavender, Fossil Grey & Olive Green

Size: Small Medium Large X-Large 2X-Large 3X-Large (Circle Size)

Special instructions for order: _____

All Polo shirts, T-shirts, Denim shirts and Jackets are custom ordered and will take up to 3 weeks for delivery

Prices listed for all items above include shipping.

Payment must be received before orders will be processed.

Make the check payable to: 5th INF ASSOC

Mail to: **Jim Caudle / 5th Infantry Chapter**
1501 Baychester AVE
Norfolk VA 23503

For information or questions contact
Jim at 757-588-0056 or
E-mail: jecaudle@cox.net

5th Infantry Association Quartermaster

Items For Sale

Prices listed include shipping.

- 1). Hats (black) - \$12.75
- 2). 3.3" Patch Exactly like the one on the hat - \$4.00
- 3). 5th Patch & Tab (Sew on type - 4" patch + tab) - \$7.50
- 4). 4" 1/5th Patch with green M-113 APC on it - \$7.50
- 5). 3" Decals (Go on the outside of a window or any solid object) - \$4.00.
- 6). Pin - Coat of arms - For hat, lapel etc. (1/2 X 3/4 inch) - \$5.50
- 7). Challenge Coin - \$10.50
- 8). License Plate Frame (8A "US ARMY") or (8B - "5th INF BOBCATS") - \$10.50
- 9). Polo/Golf 100% cotton collared shirt - Item #437M
 - 1). With 5th Crest and Combat Infantryman's or Medic's Badge - \$29.00 - With pocket \$32.00
 - 2). Same as #1 but with the 25th Infantry Division Patch & lettering added on "Right" sleeve - \$35.00 - With Pocket \$38.00
- 10). Winter Jacket with 5th Crest and CIB or CMB Badge - \$61 or \$66 with the 25th INF DIV Patch & lettering added on "Right" sleeve - khaki/navy, navy/khaki, forest green/khaki or black/khaki
- 11). Tri-Mountain Sanford Light Weight Summer Jacket (Item #4000). Colors: Black, Navy, Desert, Stone, and Moss with 5th Crest and Combat Infantryman's or Medic's Badge - \$60 or \$66 with the 25th Infantry Division Patch & lettering added on "Right" sleeve
- 12). Long Sleeve Denim Shirt - \$29 with 5th Crest and Combat Infantryman's or Medic's Badge or \$40 with the 25th Infantry Division Patch & lettering added on "Right" sleeve
- 13). T-shirt with logo pictured below on left breast - \$19
- 14). 5th Infantry Crest - \$6.50 each
- 15). 5th Key Chain - \$15.50
- 16). MIA Bracelet - (16A Black Medium) or (16B Silver Small) - \$4.00
- 17). 25th Decal with a "Bobcat" tab above (Size 3 3/4 X 2 1/2") - \$4.00

Order these items by contacting
our Quartermaster Jim Caudle at:
757-588-0056 or
E-mail: jecaudle@cox.net



Have this Bobcat put
on the lower left sleeve
of your jacket or shirt
for \$5 (#18)



Bobcat General Member- ship meeting May 21, 2016

- ◆ Meeting was called to order by President Bart Stanzone at 9 AM with 57 members and 10 Board members present.
- ◆ Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- ◆ Bart asked Tom Frame to pass the hat for the scholarship fund \$932 was raised
- ◆ Bart awarded an Honorary Membership to Ronnie Rains for his work on behalf of Marvin Young.
- ◆ Fred gave report on Bobcat Bulletin and requested articles and items to fill 28 pages.
- ◆ Paul gave Secretary report on Board
- ◆ of Directors meeting.
- ◆ Paul gave Membership report 440 members, 17 new members, 16 delinquent, 2 new this week.
- ◆ Randy gave Webmaster report. We had nearly 250,000 hits last year, and the Board of Directors voted to renew the website for another 3 years.
- ◆ MG Anderson thanked Randy and Carolyn for the superb job of making this reunion special.
- ◆ Bart introduced Tom Frame as incoming President and George Chavez as incoming Vice President.
- ◆ Bart announced Newport, VA as likely location for the 2018 reunion. Harrisburg, PA as alternate.
- ◆ West Point was brought up as possibility, but George Bates discussed transportation limitations.
- ◆ Randy spoke on Albuquerque for 2017, and discussed the positives about the location and events.
- ◆ Bob Clark asked about a brick in the walkway at the Vietnam Wall. Bart replied that the Tourism Council is making one in our honor.
- ◆ Bart made closing comments about the honor of serving this association and announced the fragging to be at 10:30AM.
- ◆ Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 AM

Paul Robinson
Secretary

Notice: If the address label on this newsletter has a **red 16** at the end of your name, your membership expires at the end of this year. You need to complete the form below and mail in your renewal. Do it now before you forget.

Membership Application
5th Infantry Regiment Association, Inc.
25th Infantry Division Association

(Please Print)

Name: _____

_____ New Member _____ Renewal (Complete only items that need changed)

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Spouse's Name: _____

Unit (BN/CO/PLT etc.): _____ Dates with 5th INF: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Membership: (Please circle your selection)

1 Year - \$15 2 Years - \$25 5 Years - \$60 Lifetime -Ages 1-49 = \$200 50-64 = \$150 65+ = \$100 Active Duty - \$5.00 per year

Donations: (Tax Deductible) General Fund _____ Scholarship _____ Newsletter _____ Reunion _____

Make checks payable to "5th Infantry Regiment Association" and mail this application to:

5th INF REG ASSN PO BOX 569 Frankfort MI 49635-0569

(You can join or renew online and pay using a credit card. Go to www.bobcat.ws and follow the directions.)

Membership Application
25TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

Name _____ Spouse _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Unit Served With _____ Dates of Service _____

in the 25th Div. _____

*Attach copies of your DD-214 or other documentation of service.

DUES: _____ Annual = \$30.00 Lifetime - Your age: _____ Less than 30 = \$770 _____ 31-40 = \$645 _____ 41-50 = \$500

_____ 51-60 = \$350 _____ 61-70 = \$225 _____ 71+ \$200

Please make all checks payable to: '25th Infantry Division Association' and send to:

25th Infantry Division Association, P.O. Box 7, Flourtown PA 19031-0007

DO YOU HAVE YOUR COPY?

"Hello Sam,

"I just got off the phone with Don Clancey . He received his copy of your book with the inscription that you wrote to him. He was very pleased with the recognition that you accorded him, and is proud to display it and share with his fellow veterans (at Kerrville VA Hospital). Thank you for your kindness and eloquence – he is quite deserving.

I also received my copy. Your book is quite an intensive research endeavor, considering the minute details that you have included over the span of the history of the 5th Regiment. Every person who has ever served in the 5th Regiment should have a copy of this book for personal reference, and for a sense of pride in our military heritage.

Thank you for all of your efforts to provide this very valuable piece of history for us to cherish."

Ric Myers,

Medic, Recon PLT, 1967-68

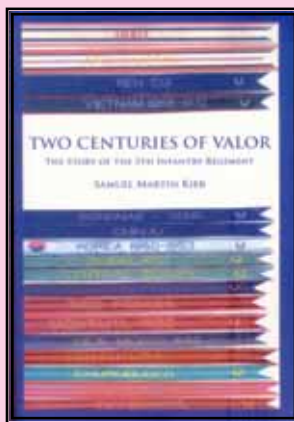
History of The 5th Infantry Regiment

This book "*Two Centuries of Valor: The Story of the 5th Infantry Regiment*" written by Sam Kier our Historian traces the history of the 5th Regiment from its beginning up to the present day.

Many of our members are mentioned in the book as are events and battles that you may have participated in.

You can purchase this book by going to our website at:

<http://>



www.bobcat.ws/quarter_master.shtml

where you can pay for the book using your credit card or you can contact Sam at: 831-646-8025 or

samkier@montereybay.com

(Minutes from page 21)

Frame seconded and the motion passed. Bart thanked John for the donation.

- ♦ Carolyn Kethcart mentioned that George Bates had donated \$200 to the church where we held a luncheon following the trip to Calloway Gardens.
- ♦ Bart called for any other business, and there being none, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM.

Paul Robinson

Secretary



Stephen Walker, with only one arm, arrived on a motorcycle trike pulling a sleep-in trailer.



BOOK ORDER FORM

Two Centuries of Valor: The Story of the 5th Infantry Regiment First Edition

Number of books _____ at \$29.95 each \$ _____
 Shipping/handling (add \$5 for first book) \$ _____
 Add \$1 for each additional book to same address \$ _____
 Total enclosed \$ _____

Check or money order payable to **Samuel M. Kier**

Send books to: (please print)

Name: _____

Street: _____

City, State and Zip _____

Special Instructions: _____

Send your payment with the order form to:

Sam Kier
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FT Benning Reunion Pictures



Bobcat Banquet

FT Benning GA
Saturday May 21 2016



Pictures From The FT Benning Reunion



A Company 1970-71

L to R: Barry "Doc" Smith (2nd PLT), Ronnie "Tex" Wright (1st PLT), Jerry "Doc" Mahaffrey (1st PLT), Bob "Lou" Molter (1st PLT Leader), John Shockey (1st PLT - SSG), Pat "Ragin' Cajuns" (1st PLT), Manuel & Theron "Terry" Clough (4th PLT - Mortars)



Members intermingled with the bronze figures of the 25th Infantry Division Association's memorial



Shaun Meadows (22nd Special Tactics Squadron and Ronnie Rains (Vietnam 1970) our new "Honorary Member"

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