



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"

Spring 2018

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

Volume I

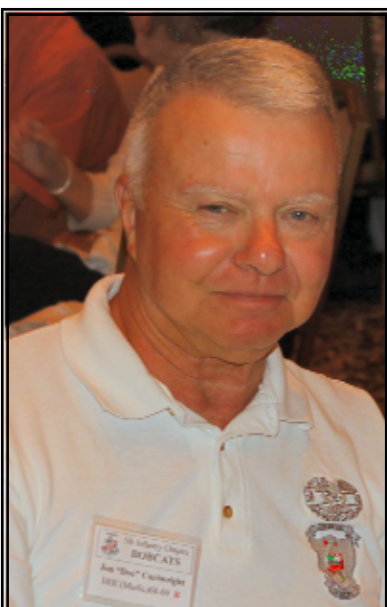
Past President Jon Cartwright Dies

A Distinguished Member of the 5th Infantry Regiment

"Jon W. Cartwright, 74, of Tiffin, Ohio passed away Wednesday, Dec. 13, 2017, at his home." (Jon served in A Company and its 1st Platoon as a Medic in 1968-69.)

Jon was a very active member who contributed immensely to the association. He was a vice president, president (2010-11) and a board member. He also helped plan five reunions and he processed most of the requests we made to the Army naming members as Distinguished and Honorary members of the regiment.

I was extremely (See Jon on page 7)



Board Member and Bagpiper Jon Blickenstaff Dies

Less than a week after Jon Cartwright died Jon Blickenstaff died on December 18, 2017 after a sudden illness.

Jon was a member of our Association's Board of Directors but is probably best remembered by anyone who attended our reunion's memorial services as a bagpiper.

Jon attended most of our recent reunions. He added a very special and moving touch to our memorial services by playing the bagpipes.

"Jon was a decorated veteran of the Vietnam War. He was trained as an Army Ranger, certified as a jungle expert, received the Vietnamese Cross of Valor, and was awarded three Purple Hearts, a Bronze Star, and a Silver Star."

He was a talented musician, who entertained regularly by

(See JB on page 6)



2018 Reunion - Norfolk, Virginia

Tuesday May 15th - Sunday 20th 2018

The DoubleTree by Hilton
\$99 Single / Double per night

(See Norfolk on page 14)



"I'll Try Sir"

Treasurer Jim Caudle to Retire

"A replacement is needed - step-up and volunteer!"

"For 26 years Jim Caudle has been our treasurer and Quartermaster. Jim became the treasurer in 1992 making him only the second treasurer we have had. Jim has also functioned as our Quartermaster selling items of interest to our members. Jim attended most of our reunions until recently having many quartermaster items for sale."

Jim has done an admirable job safeguarding our money and keeping meticulously accurate records. We have been very lucky to have someone for such a long period of time do such a marvelous job.

(See Jim on page 6)



The Summer 2018 Newsletter will be out JUN/JUL 2018 - Send me articles, pictures and stories for publication.

Florida Social 2018

I think all who attended the 2018 Florida Social will agree that they had a good time. This was the first time we held the Social in ST Petersburg. For many years we met in Clearwater Beach. St Petersburg was a nice change and the Hollander Hotel was nicer than previous hotels.

Even though the number attending the Social is small it is nice because you



get to spend a lot of time with those in attendance and get to know them better than you might at a reunion.

Some arrived earlier but most showed up on Friday 9 February and congregated at the swimming pool bar area. Most were in attendance Friday

Teriann with Soja's glass



through Sunday. But we had a pleasant surprise when Bruce "Doc - Blinky" Cotta and his wife Jan showed up for the Saturday dinner cruise. So we ended up with a total of 21 members and guests who showed up and attended at least some portion of the Social.

It was nice to have Sylvia Laubecher, her son Eric and good friend Bob. Bob was a close Karaoke friend of Sylvia's late husband retired Lieutenant Colonel Ralph who died in 2010. Ralph was the person who I asked about 15 years ago if he could plan a Florida get together for Bobcats in Florida. And Ralph did and it evolved into the "Florida Social" that has been held every year since the first which was a luncheon only event held in Ebor City Tampa. After the first Social it became a two/three day weekend event held every year until this year in Clearwater beach.

As I mentioned Ralph Laubecher planned the first and subsequent Socials until his death when the late Dennis McDonough and his partner Teriann Tringali took over. Since Dennis died Teriann has been solely responsible for planning and putting together the Social.

Rich Soja as he does every year gave away some beautiful insulated Turvis Tum-

bler glasses with the 5th Infantry crest inside.

I think all in attendance had a good time. Now Bart Stanzione who likes to iron his cloths before he wears them was a little disappointed because in the hotel rooms were only a small ironing board.

In attendance this year were:

Azary / Allen & Gerry
Correia / Bill
Cotta / Bruce & Jan
Deverse / Fred & Carolyn
Eidem / Stewart & Ruth
Laubecher / Sylvia, Eric & Bob
Soja / Rich, Yvonne & Annmarie
Stanzione / Bart & Patti
Tringali / Teri
Wood / Bob & Barbara

We owe Teriann a **BIG THANK YOU** for her work in doing the Social. It was probably even more challenging to do it this year since she has recently moved to Connecticut.

Next Year?

Teriann is thinking it might be a good idea to skip a year for the Social (See Social on page 3)

The Eidem's & Correia traveled from CA



The Stanzione's



The Wood's



Sylvia & Eric Laubecher & friend Bob



The Cotta's



The Azary's



Annmarie & The Soja's



PRESIDENT'S CORNER



"It has been an honor serving as your President for the last 2 years in the 5th Infantry Regiment Association Inc. Being a part of the United States Army's 3rd Oldest Regiment never dawned on me 50 years ago, in a small country I knew nothing about. I was introduced to some of the finest young men our country had to offer, during one of the most tumultuous times in our country's history. I am as honored now, as I was back in 1968-69 to be part of a brotherhood that is so rich in heritage, honor and courage, that even now, our children and grandchildren know about the Bobcats.

Coming this May is our annual Bobcat reunion and I hope I see everyone in Norfolk Va. I really look forward to seeing new faces and old, and checking out the Military Aviation Museum, Norfolk Naval Station and all the other activities that are planned for this year.

And finally, during the last year we lost two men who were instrumental in the Regimental Association. Jon Blickenstaff and Jon (Doc) Cartwright will be missed and remembered. Bobcats forever.

As I pass on the presidency to my friend and brother, George Chavez, Peace to All."

Tom Frame

President

5th Infantry Regiment Association

I not only use all the brains I have,
but all I can borrow.

-Woodrow Wilson

(Social from page 2)

so we may not have a social next year but have the next one in 2020.

WINTER REUNION

"My wife, Ruth, and I had the opportunity to time a trip to Florida to coincide with the Winter Reunion planned and lead by the delightful lady Teriann Tringali. Thank you Teriann for a wonderful time. We met the distinguished Colonel Robert Wood again and his lovely wife Barbara who is always making sure everyone is doing ok. I am so thankful for all who work so diligently in planning these reunions so we have the opportunity to meet our fellow soldiers. Each of these men have experiences and stories of danger, daring, bravery and injury while serving as young men in battle for this nation. I was honored to be in company with Allen and Gerry Azary, Bill Correia, Bart and Patti Stanzione, Bruce and Janet Cotta, Rich and Yvonne Soja and their friend Annmarie, and also Fred and Carolyn Deverse. It was interesting to find out that Fred had the call sign 'Bobcat Charlie 36' the same as I, only about a year earlier."

Stewart Eidem



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 3 elected directors:

Andy Gimma John Snodgrass

George Bates

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 17** on the address label after your name, your dues expires 31 DEC 17. Please renew now!

Reunions

Norfolk VA15 - 20 May 2018
25th IDA Providence RI ... 6 - 15 OCT 2018

HONORED BOBCAT MEMBERS

Honorary Colonel of the Regiment

Andy Anderson (MG-R)

Honorary Command Sergeant Major of the Regiment

George Chavez (MSG-R)

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, Carolyn & Randy Kethcart 17

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 us 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.

Lost Members:

We have no information on these members. Please contact us if you have information (Address, Phone # & E-mail).
Anderson Jr., John "Andy" -

McFadden, Terri -

Blanton III, Carl "Trey" A. -

Jones, Charles -

Reiter, Kenneth -

Stankevitz, Patrick E. -

Roster Changes/Corrections:

Cotta, Bruce - New phone #
401-265-7586

Diaz, Jenny - Address change
1329 S Southersby DR
Mustang OK 77064-1255

New Members:

Hotz, Michael
525 Justin Drive
Franklin, TN USA 37064
615-495-0999
2nd Battalion, 5th Infantry, C Company, 3rd Platoon and HQ Platoon
4/2001-11/2005
mike.p.hotz@gmail.com

Regueiro, Julio
Fray Rosendo Salvado n 4 Piso 1º
Santiago de Compostela ,
A Coruña Spain 15701
+34 981 598149
Vietnam 1970
Co. B 1/5th Mech, 25th INF DIV
valdosanxos@hotmail.com

Comment:

"Hello my name is Julio I was born 47 years ago on November 11, 1970. That same day, Sergeant Ronald J DiBartolomeo died. I have tried to contact your family for years to learn more about their history. I am a veteran of the Spanish Marine Infantry, the oldest in the world. I'm a 1st communications officer. I feel real admiration for the fallen brothers in Vietnam on the same day that I was born. I've known the history of the Bobcats and Ronald's for a long time. It means a lot to me as ex-military and soldier the honor of the militia and respect for the fallen on the battlefield. I would appreciate in advance to provide me with information to be able to belong to your association and collaborate with you. I would also like to contact Ronald's family to tell them my story and provide my information in case they would like to contact me. Thank you very much for your time and I look forward to your quick news. Deeply grateful. best regards."

Julio Regueiro

**See exchange of E-mails between Julio and Randy titled "Ron DiBartolomeo KIA" on page 8.*

Contreras, Sal

930 Woodcrest Avenue
La Habra, California USA 90631
310.686.3364
Combat Support Co., 1/5th
INF, Recon/Scout Platoon
78-79

LoanVet25@gmail.com

Comment:

"I was stationed at Scofield Barracks from Mid 1978 to Dec 1979....

I never had any contact with my comrades from the Scout Platoon, but would love to reach out and find some of them. I am a proud Bobcat!!"

Scarborough, James R. (Jim)

Carmen Ramirez
1375 Pasadena Ave S, Lot 604
South Pasadena, FL 33707
727-308-9813
Crip PLT C Co - 1/5th - 8/68-6/69
jim4351@gmail.com

Taps:

Cartwright, Jon - Died DEC 14 2017 -

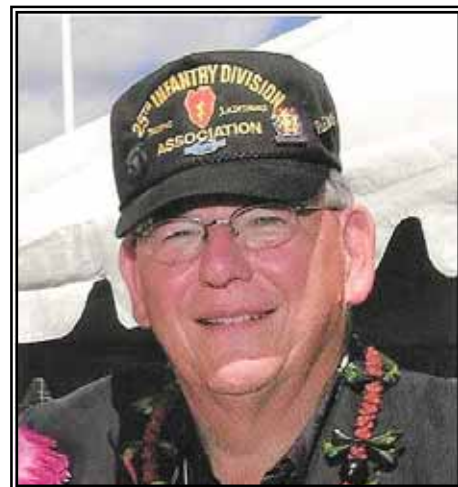
Jon was from Tiffin OH and served in A Company and its 1st Platoon as a Medic in 1968-69. *(See article on the front page.*

Blickenstaff, Jon - Died 18 DEC 17 -

Jon was from Peoria IL and served

in A Company and its 1st platoon in 1968. *(See article on the front page.)*

Jones, Thomas - Died 21 DEC 17 - Co. C, 2/14th & Co. B, 1/14th & HHC



3rd Brigade - He was a past president (2010-11) of the 25th Infantry Division Association.

Queener, Arnie - from Cottage Grove OR - HQ Co. (Recon/Scout PLT) 66-67 *(See article and pictures on pages 24 & 25)*

11 JAN 18

Hi guys,

"Arnie Queener died a few days ago in a VA hospital after having knee surgery then falling while getting into a wheelchair breaking his hip. After the hip surgery he struggled and finally succumbing to his injuries. This information is from his son to Doc Jones.

Jerry Yasher asked me to find pictures of Arnie and put together some words remembering his service with Recon.

First I ask for you to email me any pictures you may have of Arnie. Second any thoughts or stories you have of him would also be very helpful.

Thanks in advance for your help. Check the distribution list and see if you have a contact I missed if so please forward.

To Arnie, Rest In Peace Brother. May God bless."

Howard Craig

**See tribute to Arnie on page 24.*

Lowe, James E. "Jim" - As reported by his wife Jim died in January 2018. Jim was living in Waco TX. He served in the 1st Platoon of A company from 1964-66.

Members' Comments, Letters, E-mails & Information

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

Marijuana in the Combat Zone

"Reference page 22, RANDOM MEMORIES (*Winter Bobcat Bulletin*), next to last item "Did He See the Weed?"

I suspect that the 2nd LT saw the weed but had no idea what it was!

See my attached story!"

Nevin Williams

Attached Story

Marijuana in the Combat Zone

"On my second Vietnam tour, 1970-71, I was assigned to MACV ADVISORY TEAM 45 located in Phan Rang City, Ninh Thuan Province. I was a Major and my official position was that of Senior RF/PF Advisor. In fact, I was an Advisor to the Deputy Province Chief for Security and the Team Operations Officer. I worked directly under the supervision of the Deputy Province Senior Advisor, who was also the Senior Military Advisor. (The Province Advisor was a Dept of State civilian).

Among my many duties was that of supervising the TEAM TACTICAL OPERATIONS CENTER (TOC), which was a 24/7 operation. In good days, I had 3 NCO's that performed the duty. I should also mention that we had in the same compound a Korean group. One of the Korean divisions would sometimes operate in the Province and I believe they also had artillery in the Province.

One morning I walked into the TOC and I was hit by a very strong smell. It was a smell with which I had no knowledge. I asked the NCO on duty what the smell was, and he said the Koreans had been cooking up a batch of "who knows what." So, I assumed that was correct and did not pursue it further. Many years later, I am out of the Army and have been employed by the USAF as a civilian. I am required to take a class on "Alcohol & Drug Abuse." So, I am in class, and the instructor says "Now I am going to light this plant. It is

NOT marijuana, but it smells just like marijuana. So he lights it and guess what? It takes me back to Phan Rang, Vietnam and my experience with the smell in the TOC!

So, I conclude that the night shift of my TOC was smoking pot.

So much for the readiness of MACV Team 45!"

From Israel to Hawaii

And

The Next 1/5th Commander

An E-mail to Carolyn Kethcart

Carolyn,

"Thanks for Sending the Update.....

Trish and I left Israel last summer and are now stationed in Hawaii. I also got promoted to Colonel along the way.

I've got some good news on some Active Duty Bobcats.

I'm not sure if you remember my XO, MAJ (now LTC) Sonny Rosales. Sonny was picked to command 1-5 IN starting this summer. He's currently in the UK and will move to Alaska this summer. And just today, it was announced that COL Jason Wesbrock (former 1-5IN commander twice removed) was selected to command a brigade. We won't know where until the spring.

Please give my best to Randy. Trish says hello and have a Merry Christmas."

Ed Brady

Bobcat 6 (former)

Russ Taylor

In the last newsletter I reported that Russ Taylor had died on 28 NOV 17. I was unable to find an obituary or pictures. Randy Kethcart sent me both.

In the Obituary it was stated: "Russ Taylor born, 19 March 1945, finished his life's journey on 28 NOV, 2017....

Russ was a veteran of the Vietnam



War. He will be reunited with many brothers who took leave before him. These soldiers have faithfully waited for him to join them, to fulfill his promise to them, and to complete the final circle. 'Only the dead have seen the final end of war.'



Bobcats Together In 1970-71 Meet Again

Ronnie Wright and Patrick Manuel were both in the 1st Platoon of A Company in 1970-71. Pat Manuel from Ville Platte LA and Ronnie "Tex" Wright

(See Comments on page 9)

Treasurer's Report

3rd Quarter Financial Report

(1 October - 31 December 2017)

October 2017:

Income:

Membership Dues	\$90
Quartermaster (Hats etc.)	\$21
Pay Pal (Internet sales)	\$1151.95
TOTAL	\$1262.95

Debits:

Postage	\$30.65
Corporate fee	\$20
Book Sale to author	\$34.95
Bank Service Charge	\$4
TOTAL	\$89.60

November 2017:

Income:

Membership Dues	\$365.00
Quartermaster Sales	\$60
Donations	\$100.00
TOTAL	\$525.00

Debits:

Printing Roster	\$403.75
Roster Bulk Mailing Fees	\$105.44
South Carolina Reunion Fact Finding Mission	\$316.03
Bank Service Charge	\$4.00
TOTAL	\$829.22

December 2017:

Income:

Membership Dues	\$355
Quartermaster Sales	\$7.50
Pay Pal (Internet sales)	\$2429.23
TOTAL	\$2791.73

Debits:

Shirts	\$93.23
Winter Newsletter (Print)	\$616.25
Postage Winter Newsletter	\$164.46
Computer Software	\$115.06

Bank Service Charge	\$4
TOTAL	\$993
Assets:	
Checkbook Balance	\$7976.31
Savings Account	\$56759.15
TOTAL	\$64735.46
Treasurer/Quartermaster Jim Caudle	

Donations to the Association

We are a 501c19 organization. Donations to our Association are tax-deductible.

Chris Sharpe - Hospitality Room	\$50
James Moore - Hospitality RM	\$25
Frank Davis - Hospitality Room	\$25
Ricky Fasselin - Hospitality RM	\$50
Stanley Baker - 2018 Reunion	\$25
Bart Stanzione - Hospitality RM	\$50
Bill&Gail Silva -Hospitality RM	\$50
George Chavez -Hospitality RM	\$100
<i>Your name could be here.</i>	<i>\$\$\$</i>

(Jim from page 1)

Jim is also one of the longest members of the Association. He was a member when I joined in 1992.

We all owe Jim a 'big thank you' for his 26 years of dedicated, superb service!!!

Treasurer/Quartermaster Needed

Jim will continue to serve until the Norfolk reunion.

We need to have someone volunteer to be treasurer/quartermaster. The jobs could be separated. If you do not want to be both you could be just one either treasurer or quartermaster. Please step up!

Contact Tom Frame
215-514-6631

toppop68@gmail.com

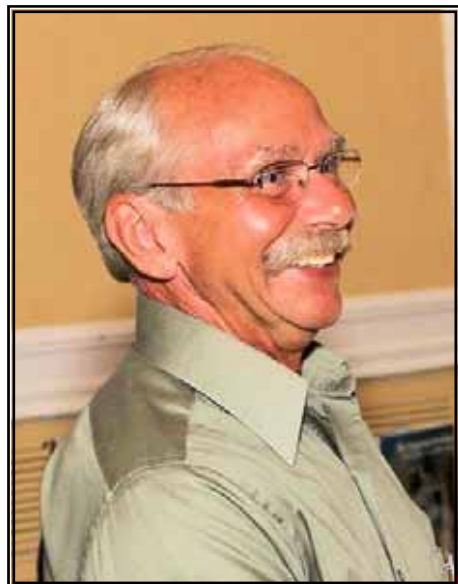
We must, indeed, all hang together, or, most assuredly, we shall all hang separately.

-Benjamin Franklin
At the signing of the Declaration of Independence

(JB from page 1)

playing the piano, guitar, and performing throughout the US and Canada with his bagpipes.

Jon was a very complex and dynamic man. He could light up a room with



his engaging presence and inspire others on a deeply personal and individual level. His experiences were extensive, and his perspective led him to possessing a wealth of wisdom, which he eagerly shared with others. He was happiest when he was able to contribute meaningfully to the wellbeing of others, and when he was creating with his hands. He



Playing with a Canadian Bagpiper at the 200 year celebration of the Battle of Lundy's Lane

built musical instruments from scratch, worked with leather and wood, was con-



stantly engineering projects around his home, and loved helping those he loved when they were in need.

Two of Jon's greatest pleasures were live entertainment, and Disney."

Jon was selected as "Distinguished Member of the 5th Infantry Regiment."

**The three pictures on pages 6 & 7 came from a Ed Kawczynski Facebook post.*

Funeral services for Jon were held on Wednesday 27 DEC 17 in Germantown Illinois. Bobcats who attended the service were Randy & Carolyn Kethcart, Ed Kawczynski, Bruce McAndrews, Bud Holochwost and Roy Alexander.

Carolyn Kethcart who was in attendance at the service for Jon sent pictures which I have put on Page 8. She also said:

"Fred, I wanted to give you an update on the funeral services of our Bobcat, Jon Blickenstaff. Randy and I attended the early morning viewing and

(See JB on page 8)

(Jon from page 1)

sad when Jon's wife Carolyn called to tell me of his death. I was aware of Jon's condition and prognosis for about three



months since he had told me about his situation. When he told me in September I was emotionally upset. John and I exchanged E-mails on a regular basis and were good friends. He had invited me to hunt deer on his Ohio farm and we became good friends.



"Jon graduated from Columbian High School, Tiffin, in 1961 and from Tiffin University in 1965. He played basketball at Tiffin University and was inducted into Tiffin University's second Hall of Fame class in 1996. Jon was employed by National Machinery Co., Tiffin, for 40 years and was a member of the Quarter Century Club. He was a supervisor in the material control department. Jon also was an avid hunter and fisherman.

An American soldier, he answered his country's call in 1968, and proudly

served as a combat medic with the U.S. Army, 25th Infantry Division, in Vietnam during 1968-69. His decorations include the Silver Star, the Bronze Star for Valor with First Oak Leaf Cluster, the Purple Heart and the revered Combat Medic Badge. Jon was a life member of 25th Infantry Division Association and a



past president and life member of The Fifth Infantry Regiment Association."

In the last E-mail I received from Jon he said:
Fred,

"My condition continues to worsen. No pain or anything like that. I have enlisted Hospice to help care for me. They are all wonderful.

Fred, I have always said that if I die tomorrow, I will not feel cheated. 58,000 other guys on the wall maybe can feel cheated, but not me. Two guys within five feet of me were killed and I have lived another 50 years or so. No regrets here....

By the way, I still have not broadcast my condition to the rest of the Mech." (Jon had asked me to not tell others of his situation. A request I honored.)

"Jon I dearly miss you and will never forget you!"

**Some of these pictures were posted by Andy Gimma and Randy Kethcart.*

Pictures from Jon Blickenstaff's Funeral

Sent by Carolyn Kethcart



(JB from page 7)

stayed for the services held at the funeral home. We did not go to the gravesite, as we were traveling and it was going to be too late for us.

Other Bobcats attending the early morning viewing to pay their respects were Ed Kawczynski, John "Bud" Holchwest, Bruce McAndrews and Roy Alexander. By now you have probably received pictures from Ed.

Jon was adorned in his casket dressed in his piper outfit, looking as if he could start to play at any moment. Friends were many, and you can tell by the pictures I sent you earlier that he went out with a piper who was a close friend of his, Patrick Martin. The eulogy was done by a young man who had met Jon and claimed Jon had become his Mentor, his name escapes me. Their friendship was based on their love for music. You could tell by his eulogy that Jon meant the world to him, as he did to all of us.

In closing, I think I can speak for all BOBCATS when I say Jon Blickenstaff will be missed by all our members. Whenever we hear those bagpipes playing in the future, we will all smile and think of our lost Bobcat, our Brother in Arms, our Piper."

Carolyn Kethcart

*Victor Frome has a video of Jon playing the bagpipes at our reunions in Pittsburgh in 2005 and FT Benning in 2016. To see it go to:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IwBhleCR1tU>

Ron DiBartolomeo KIA

Julio - "Oddly enough I am one of the first to see your registration form being that I'm the webmaster. Also Oddly enough Ron DiBartolomeo was in my platoon and I had the honor and misfortune of being the one to lay holding and comforting him on the trail the night he was mortally wounded. Some years after I was able to make contact with his sister, aunts and cousins. I will see if they wish to communicate with you. Thank you for the service to your country as well. I will let you know what I find out."

Randy Kethcart

Dear Randy,

"Thank you very much for your kind letter. I was very excited to be able to contact someone who was in Ron's life and especially in those hard, confusing and difficult moments when he was seriously injured. I swear I am very excited and happy to have made this first contact really after so long search time, and thanks to the Internet has been possible.

I thank you in advance for all the help you can give me and of course when you can and have time I would like you can to tell me about your platoon, your guys, those who came to Vietnam to serve with your own lives.

Thank you for your time and your kind welcome, for the Service to your Country and our World, and now for the service to the memory of all those young people who could not return alive at home but who remain alive in our memory and in our hearts. Congratulations for this great work for the memory of future generations of young people.

Here in Spain you have a new comrade and friend. An affectionate hug. Thanks a lot!"

Julio Regueiro

Julio,

"There is not a whole lot I can tell you about him, he was assigned to a different unit and was reassigned to us after having been in the hospital with a bad case of Malaria. He was not with us but a few weeks before getting killed as I recall. We did not call him Ron as he went by the nickname Bart. The day he got killed our company had spent the day doing a rare thing for us, air mobile assaults. We were mechanized infantry, not air mobile. They got back late afternoon, we had been positioned on top of a hill for 2 weeks (a bad thing in itself) they cleaned up got some dinner and just before dark we drove to the edge of a village to insert them as an ambush patrol. The fact we were positioned so long and there were few trails in and out of this village spelled trouble. The day prior we sent out a recon patrol on the other trail and our Platoon Leader was badly injured and our dog handler (Darrel Colford) and his dog Butch were both killed by a booby trap. Within minutes of dropping them off they themselves were ambushed (5 ARVN & 5 Americans). Just moments before they were hit they had paused on the trail Ron told Shaun McCaul that they should trade places as he thought it would be better if the ma-

chine gun was closer to the front of the patrol. We double back and dismounted and ran out to their aid. When I got there Francis Harter and Sgt Randal Lee Ellis had been killed instantly as well as 3 Arvn's. 2 of the Arvn's were never to be found, we believe they walked us right into the ambush as they were the 2 point men. Ron was laying on the trail flipping around like a fish out of water and it was not pitch dark. The best I could do for him was to put him in a full nelson wrestling hold and try to comfort him. He was amazingly strong and in convulsions. I contained and comforted him for what seemed like a life time before we could get a chopper in for him and Shaun. Ron lived for 2 days and died on the 11th of kidney failure. Shaun recovered after 6 weeks in a Japan hospital. Robb McCullough came out without a scratch but was mentally screwed up. Shaun to this day is still my friend on Facebook."

(Comments from page 5)
from Deer Park TX had lunch together at



Ronnie & Suzanne Wright. "Pete" and Pat Manual

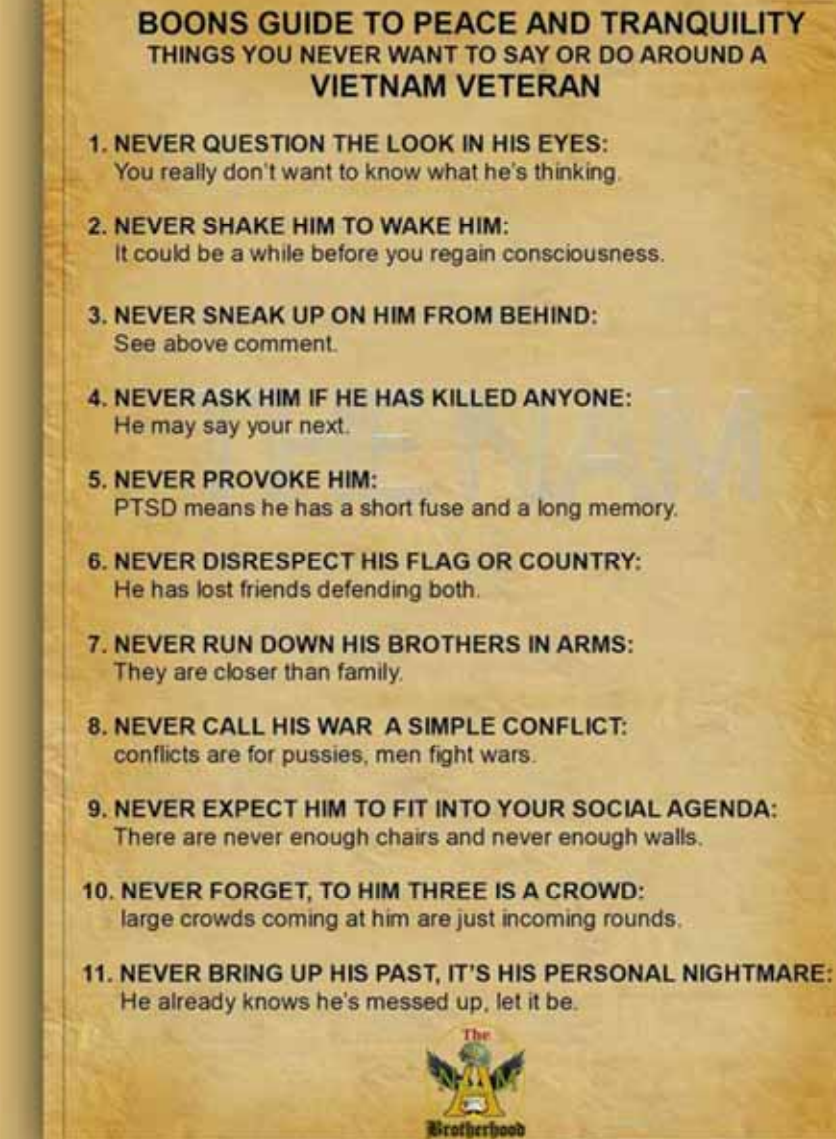
the Cedar Tree restaurant in Jasper TX in January 2018.

Regarding Men In The Well

Remember the Frank "Tom" Goin's short story titled "Three Dead In A Well" that was in the Fall 2017 "Bobcat Bulletin". Bruce Cotta tells what happened in that incident.

"Fred, this is in follow up to the story submitted by Frank Goins about three men in a well who died while overcome by gas. It is true, I worked on the men as a newbie medic.

This was my first day in the field from reception station. I had just flown out on the resupply chopper the evening before.



Andy Gimma Facebook Post

I was assigned to Alpha Company and went on a sweep with the company. Danny Knight and Gomez, both seasoned medics were teaching me the ropes of a sweep when the cry, "Medic" came from the front of the column. The three of us ran to the call.

Seems the point man had either decided to cool off in a well or had fallen into a well, it was never determined as far as I remember. He was overcome by gas.

A second soldier jumped in to save his brother soldier, and he too was overcome by gas.

We arrived as a third man, the platoon leader, using web belts tied together, was lowered into the well. He was able to grab both men and bring them to the surface. Knight, Gomez and I helped pull the men out of the water. Knight worked on one as I worked on the second. Gomez helped pull the Lieutenant out. He was conscious but lips were turning blue. He was gasping for air. Someone called a medevac and we were able to get all three onto the chopper. The Lieutenant was the only one alive at this time. The other two had expired

(See Comments on page 10)

Historian Sam Kier Trying To Help Others

5th Infantry at Ft. Koehg, MT in 1879

E-mail sent to Randy Kethcart who asked Sam Kier to help.

"I have a Model 1873 trapdoor Springfield rifle which, by serial number records, was among those turned in by General Miles on October 1879 for inspection. Miles had complained that nearly all his rifles were defective and that he wanted 500 of the new bolt action Lee rifles to replace them.

He angered his superior, General Terry, who ordered that all the 5th's rifles be examined.

A list was made by serial number of all rifles, and the one I have, serial 25057, was listed as assigned to a "G. Morris."

I can't find a roster of enlisted men of the 5th during these Indian War times, and would like to identify this "G Morris" who had the rifle on October 11, 1879, the date of the list. The rifle itself was made in the year 1874, and so could have been at hand during the Sioux and Nez Peirce campaigns of the 5th - I'd like to know G Morris' dates of service."

Can you help?

Jeffrey S. Anderson

"I found an old note from another trapdoor collector that he had a copy of that listing of rifles, and it showed that the rifle was issued George Morris, Company G, four years in service. That narrows it down a bit.

The story of the bureaucratic fighting that that caused this inspection is described in this listing for one of the Lee rifles in the Springfield collection:"

<http://ww2.rediscov.com/spring/VFPCGI.exe?IDCFile=/spring/DEAILS.IDC,SPECIFIC=14508,DATABASE=objects>

Jeffrey S. Anderson

Jeffrey,

"I'm sorry. I don't have a regimental roster for the late 1870's. The National Archives in downtown Washington DC does possess a roster document called the United States Army Register of Enlistments that was used during that

period. A number of people doing family research through Ancestry.com have obtained copies and shared bits of that file with me. You might try that avenue.

Your subject, G. Morris of Company G, would have moved into brand new Fort Kehoe, Montana in 1879. He would have to have been with the regiment in the fall of 1877 in order to have been engaged in the fight with Chief Joseph and the Nez Perce. Chances are very good, however, that your rifle was "fired in anger" in the summer of 1879 at the Milk River and Poplar River battles with the Sioux. Nelson Miles left the regiment in December, 1890 to command the Department of Arizona.

I had never seen that interesting report from the Springfield Armory Museum detailing COL Miles' 1879 request for bolt-action rifles. Thank you for that. The U.S Army didn't adopt a bolt-action rifle until it selected the Krag-Jorgensen in 1894, just in time for the Spanish-American War.

Sam Kier,

Historian, 5th Inf Regt Assn

=====

28 FEB 18

Sam,

"The following is a message we recently received on the 1-5 Facebook page:

"Hey Bobcats, a fellow Bobcat from back in the day at Camp Howze, ROK needs some help. He was a platoon leader for D/1/5 and I was the FSO. neither one of us remember seeing orders moving us from Camp Howze to Warrior Base for the Summer DMZ mission during the summer of 1988. I was wondering if the unit historian may be able to provide some sort of documentation from the unit history. LTC David Hunt of Fox News fame was in command at the time. Any help is appreciated!"

Do you happen to have any specific details from that particular time that I can forward their way? Thanks,"

Christopher Barber 1LT, IN
1-5 IN "Bobcats"

Chris,

"A good deal of the material that I covered in Chapter 15 of my book, Two Centuries of Valor, came from E-mail correspondence with David Hunt and a former commander of Charlie Company, Dan Baggio. 1988 was one of many

years of political unrest in South Korea. President Chun Doo-hwan had kept the country in an authoritarian grip since the assassination of his predecessor, Park Chung-hee in 1979. From summer until early fall 1988, U.S. Army units deployed near the DMZ to prevent infiltrators from coming south to stir up more trouble. During the period, 1/5, commanded by LTC Hunt, relieved 5th Bn, 20th Inf on the DMZ and was, in turn, relieved by 1st Bn, 503rd Inf. I don't have copies of orders to document these assignments but trust that my correspondents were giving me the straight skinny.

COL Hunt told me that the DMZ mission was characterized by combat patrols, day and night, and, at the time, they were the only combat patrols being conducted by the US Army world-wide. The battalion maintained two platoon-sized OP's on the DMZ. When the battalion was pulled off the line, the soldiers received free tickets to the Summer Olympic Games in Seoul.

I can probably provide more information but I'm not quite sure what the writer wants to know.

Sam Kier

Historian, 5th Inf Regt Assn.

(Comments from page 9)

even though Danny and I tried mouth-to-mouth and cardiac compression on them. The next day, we heard the Lieutenant had also expired.

I would like to believe that the point man had fallen into the well instead of going for a swim. It was a tremendous loss of life as it was without it being caused by a recreational swim.

Knight and Gomez rotated back to the rear and Ron Soppe and I took their places.

Such was life in Vietnam in 1968."

Bruce "Doc" Cotta

1968-1969

=====

16 FEB 18

"Three Who Did Not Retreat"

"I would like to say to the soldiers of the 3rd platoon; It was across the boundless sea and far afield that we met on the battlefield in a time of war. But I'm glad it was you that I met in a time of danger when the soil was wet with blood because you did not falter or retreat.

At this time each year the 3rd platoon takes time to remember three soldiers who did not falter or retreat but by actions forged in the hot fires of combat proved that they were indeed warriors. For Thomas Loback 19 Feb 68 a Combat Medic, Bruce Dent 24 Feb 68 and Charles Rehberger 2 Mar 68 Combat Infantrymen, the flag continues to fly and the bugle continues to play as we continue to honor their service to this nation. “

Stewart Eidem

3rd PLT C Co 67-68

Posted on our Facebook page.

Regarding Doane's Medal of Honor

Bill Bock:

“I saw your letter in the recent edition of “The Bobcat Bulletin” with respect to Stephen Doane. I knew him well.

I was 1st Platoon Leader when he became 2nd Platoon Leader and we spoke fairly often. It was a coincidence that his grandparents lived and worked in Swampscott, MA and my parents were living in Peabody, MA, adjoining towns north of Boston. His grandparents ran an ice cream shop near the beach and we would reminisce about going there and getting ice cream in the summer. I believe he may have lived in Swampscott around this time as his father was a doctor at Beverly Hospital, another close by town.

At some point in January, 1969 I became the company XO and he lost his life in March of 1969. As XO, I had the honor of drafting the AAR and first draft of what became his Medal of Honor. It was richly deserved.

any years later (I think in the mid 1990's) I was contacted by some folks who were creating a new Vietnam Veteran's Post in Beverly, MA and it was their desire to name it in honor of Steve. I don't know how they found out that I was in the area (living and working in Boston), but I got a call from one of the leaders asking if I would come to Beverly and give the keynote speech opening the Post, which I was honored to do so. At the event I finally met his parents and (I think) his sister. I believe his parents were living in Virginia at the time. They also placed a flagpole and memorial on the grounds of Beverly Hospital to honor Steve.

I also attended the ceremony at Get-

tysburg College when the memorial was created.

He was a good man and a good soldier.”

Bob Ciolek

13 FEB 18

Did You Know SP4 James L. Fain?

Headquarters Co. Recon

From Ashland KY

His tour began on Feb 5, 1966

Casualty was on Feb 22, 1966

from small arms fire



Daughter Searches for Information on her father who she never knew.

Gentlemen:

“My name is Kathleen and I have just read your posts on a veterans website re: James L. Fain. Thank you for remembering him. Thank you for posting your memories. A few days ago I learned that James is my father and his family found me after over 50 years of searching. I was born in Germany in 1962 and my mother was married to another enlisted man.

If this email reaches you, and if you have any information about him i.e. stories, insight, did he ever mention me to you etc. I would love to hear from you. As you can imagine it is quite the shock to be found when you had no idea you were missing. I love the man who raised me, but there is plenty of space in my heart for another. I want to get to know him through others eyes. He has a loving and caring family and I will be proud to be a part of that family and proud to be his only child. Thank you.”

Best regards,

Kathleen Wilkerson McMains

*If you can provide Kathleen with information about her father please contact her at:

km.mcmains@gmail.com

951 532-7091

84 Hidden Valley Road
Port Angeles, WA 98362

Screen Saves Lives

“DANGEROUSLY CLOSE - Staff Sergeant Lonnie Jackson of Philadelphia,



Pa., points out superficial damage done to his 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 5th Infantry armored personnel carrier by RPG fragments. Jackson is framed by a RPG screen which has proven to be valuable protection.”

“Do any of you gents know if this was the 3rd Platoon Sergeant wounded in early December, 1968???”

Paul Robinson

“Sorry, I don't know. Maybe Flikke would know. He's a book of memories.”

George Bates

“This is Platoon Sergeant Lonnie Jackson standing next to A11 (Geddie-Up-Go). He is pointing to where an RPG round that had prematurely discharged when it hit the screen only causing minimal damage. This is an excellent example of why I insisted on acquiring these screens for our tracks. We looked like Cox's Army running about with these screens but they did save lives. This action occurred during the battle of Ben Cui.”

ANDY ANDERSON (MG-R)

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



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

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

March 17, 2018

Fellow Bobcats,

The past few months have been incredibly busy for the First Battalion, Fifth Infantry Regiment. The long Alaskan winter has seen the Bobcat Battalion conduct a rapid training deployment, battalion-level combined arms live fire exercises, and a Change of Responsibility ceremony as we welcome our new Command Sergeant Major.

We were a central component to Arctic Thrust, a training deployment exercise led by the 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team. Thrust saw the battalion rapidly deploy 700 of our Soldiers, along with Strykers and Small Unit Support Vehicles, to Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER) near Anchorage, Alaska. This deployment involved transportation by air, truck, and rail as we partnered with the Air Force out of nearby Eielson Air Force Base.

Once at JBER, we immediately began Operation Punchbowl. This training exercise was named for the Punch Bowl in Korea where the 5th RCT found itself in frigid winter conditions. The highlight of Punchbowl was a battalion combined arms live fire exercise; beginning with the blank fire iteration, the Bobcat Battalion engaged the enemy as they pushed through the hills and deep snow. With a final push made by Bayonet and Charger Companies, the final objective was seized and the battalion reset to prepare for their live-fire run. Two days later, the Bobcats were on the move again, this time engaging targets on the objective with live rounds. The final objective was taken late into the night. Training continued for another two weeks as the companies worked to refine and build their own arctic lethality and readiness.

As winter draws to a close we must unfortunately also say goodbye to a member of the Bobcat Command Team. CSM Ronald Corella relinquished responsibility to CSM Brady R. Davis on March 7. CSM Davis will no doubt lead us to build on the amazing accomplishments the Bobcats are known for and we are eager to work with him. As always, I invite you to join us on the Battalion's Facebook page ("1st Battalion, 5th Infantry Regiment") as we begin another exciting year with the Bobcats leading the way.

Christopher Barber
First Lieutenant, US Army
Battalion Historian/Public Affairs Rep.



LTC R. Blake Lackey



LT Barber in his letter mentions their Face book page. There are some great pictures and videos on the page at:
<https://www.facebook.com/1.5Infantry>

A special thanks to LTC Lackey and 1LT Christopher Barber for the article and pictures.



Bayonet Company Soldiers survey their objective while emplacing their machine guns.



Charger Company Soldiers engage enemy targets from their support by fire position.



Charger Company Soldiers fire from behind cover after clearing a trench at the Richardson Training Area.



Bobcats rapidly deploy to the Richardson Training Area via CH-47 Chinook helicopters to begin the combined arms live fire exercise.



Bayonet Company Soldiers engage opposition forces at Objective Braves during the blank iteration.



Now back at Fort Wainwright, the Bobcat Battalion took the opportunity to honor the incredible efforts of our Soldiers during Operations Arctic Thrust and Punchbowl at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson JBER (official) with an award ceremony prior to release for the weekend.

The presented awards were the Army Achievement Medal, earned for meritorious service and achievement, and the Army Commendation Medal, earned for acts of heroism, meritorious achievement, or meritorious service.

In total, 98 Soldiers were awarded the Army Achievement Medal while eight Bobcats were awarded the Army Commendation Medal.

2018 Reunion Norfolk Virginia

Tuesday May 15th - Sunday May 20st 2018

(Norfolk from page 1)

* Free parking

* Complimentary Shuttle Service to/from the Airport & within a 3 mile radius of the hotel based on request

* 15% Discount at Max & Irma's Restaurant

* Free Wi-Fi in guestrooms

* Pet Friendly with a \$50 fee

* Indoor swimming pool

To make reservations call:

1-(757) 466-8000

and when booking tell them

5th Infantry Regiment Association

* Booking prices are good up to 3 before and after reunion dates

Schedule of events

Hospitality Room: May 15th - May 20th (No fee)

Snacks & Beverages are allowed.

Tuesday May 15th

Arrival and Registration

Wednesday May 16th

The Military Aviation Museum

9:00AM - 3:00 PM \$49 Per person

Depart via motorcoach with your Guide to visit one of Virginia Beach's most revered attractions, the Military Aviation Museum, home to one of the largest private collections of World War II and Korean War era fighters, bombers, trainers and seaplanes in the world. Many aircraft have been fully restored to their World War II condition and are used for flight demonstration, movie production or commercials. Enjoy a guided tour of the galleries and shopping in the gift shop which is stocked with all things flight related

Next, enjoy beautiful views of the Atlantic Ocean and the Chesapeake Bay as you learn about the history of Virginia's largest city and get the pulse on current day in Virginia Beach. See the First Landing Cross at Cape Henry where the English colonists first came ashore in 1607 prior to settling at nearby Jamestown. Walk out on the overlook to see where the bay and the ocean meet, and where the famous Battle of the Capes took place during the Revolutionary War.

Enjoy a stop at the Old Cape Henry Lighthouse, built in 1792, this lighthouse was active until the late 1800's and is currently a Virginia Historic Landmark. Guests may choose to climb to the top of the Lighthouse (small admission fee, pay on own) or shop in the gift shop for all things Light-

house related.

Ride down the resort strip, see the historic Cavalier Hotel as well as the Tidewater Veterans Memorial, a unique structure which pays homage to veterans everywhere.

Enjoy free time to stroll the Boardwalk and enjoy lunch on own.

Thursday May 17th

Naval Station Norfolk Tour & Spirit of Norfolk

9:00 AM- 3:00 PM

Luncheon Cruise \$79 Per Person
Depart via motorcoach with your guide to tour the Norfolk Naval Base, which is part of Naval Station Norfolk - the largest naval installation in the world. Home port to 78 ships, ranging in size from aircraft carriers to submarines, 26 aircraft squadrons comprised of 133 aircraft and headquarters of the Atlantic Fleet. This naval complex occupies over 8,000 acres of land and is home to more than 100,000 military personnel. A Navy personnel will board the coach and take you past the 14 piers, through the Naval Air Station, and the historic homes built for the 1907 Jamestown Exposition on "Admiral's Row" which now houses flag officers.

Friday May 18th

Memorial Service at the MacArthur Memorial, Tour of Norfolk, Lunch and Tour of Nauticus & Battleship Wisconsin

8:30 AM - 3:30 PM \$69 Per person

A Riding Tour through Norfolk, lunch at the Freemason Abbey, and a self guided tour of Nauticus and the Battleship Wisconsin.

Visit the MacArthur Memorial for a glimpse into our country's history. Upon arrival, a memorial service will be conducted prior to the Memorial opening to the public. (Estimated time of service is 1 hour. Service will be planned and conducted by the reunion committee)

After the service, view the outstanding collection housed in Norfolk's historic city hall which trace the life and achievements of five-star General Douglas MacArthur. You will also have the opportunity to view the short film which chronicles the General's life. The General and Mrs. MacArthur are entombed in the rotunda of the memorial. Nine separate galleries arranged in two levels circle the rotunda and tell the story of General MacArthur and the millions of American men and women who served in the United States Armed Forces from the Civil War through the Korean War. A gift shop

with unique memorabilia is located on the premises.

Next, learn about Norfolk's colorful history of over three centuries as you ride through the lovely historic district and restored areas. View the stately homes along the Hague, old St. Paul's Church, the Moses Myers House, the Chrysler Museum of Art, MacArthur Memorial, the historic Freemason District and the restored waterfront area, as well as many other points of interest.

Saturday May 19th

9:00 - 10 AM - General Membership Meeting

9:00 - 10 AM - Ladies Breakfast @ Max & Irma's

10:30 - 11 AM Fraggging

12:00 - 5 PM Free to explore Norfolk

Bobcat Banquet

5:00 PM - Cocktails

6:00 PM - Dinner

7:00 PM - Program

8:00 PM - Approx. Auction

Dinner Choices

1. Roasted Sirloin of Beef \$50

Made with a homemade rosemary and peppercorn Au jus

2. Chicken Marsala \$50

Pan sautéed breast of chicken with crimini mushrooms in a Marsala wine sauce

3. Baked Tilapia \$50

Served with a white wine scampi sauce

* All dinners include fresh garden salad, warm dinner rolls, Chef's dessert display, wild rice or red potatoes, vegetable medley, freshly brewed coffee and iced tea.

*If you wish to make a donation to help cover the expenses in hospitality room, any amount appreciated.

For information contact Carolyn Kethcart: carolynjk@bobcat.ws

Carolyn Kethcart
16054 Pine Drive
Tinley Park, IL 60477
708-468-8624

Method of payment - You can pay via PayPal on the Bobcat website at: www.bobcat.ws, or send a check to Carolyn.

Make checks payable to the "5th Infantry Regiment Association"

For more Information, pictures and a video go to: <http://bobcat.ws/reunions.html>

Norfolk 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 Military Aviation Museum Tour"?
_____ Yes _____ No

⇒ Do you plan on taking the "Naval Station Norfolk Tour & Spirit of Norfolk Tour"?
_____ Yes _____ No

⇒ Do you plan on attending the Memorial Service at the MacArthur Memorial?
_____ Yes _____ No

⇒ Are you planning on attending the Ladies Breakfast 9 AM SAT morning at @ Max & Irma's ?
_____ 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 Norfolk VA!

Registration Form Norfolk VA Reunion

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ ST _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____ E-mail: _____

Number attending _____ Date arriving _____

	Number	Cost
Registration fee - \$15 Per person or - \$25 Per couple		
WED 16 May - The Military Aviation Museum, A Riding Virginia Beach Tour, Free time on Virginia Beach's Boardwalk -\$49 per person		
THU 17 May - Naval Station Norfolk Tour & Spirit of Norfolk Luncheon Cruise - \$79 per person		
FRI 18 May - Memorial Service at the MacArthur Memorial - \$69 per person includes Lunch		
SAT 19 May - Banquet Dinner Choices		
1. Roasted Sirloin of Beef \$50		
2. Chicken Marsala \$50		
3. Baked Tilapia \$50		
* All dinners include fresh garden salad, warm dinner rolls, Chef's dessert display, wild rice or red potatoes, vegetable medley, freshly brewed coffee and iced tea.		
Reunion Donation (Help cover buses, hospitality room, etc.)		
TOTAL		
Is this the first reunion you have attended? (circle one)	YES	NO

Make check payable to **5th Infantry Association** and mail to:

Carolyn Kethcart - 16054 Pine Drive - Tinley Park IL 60477



OUR BOBCAT FOREBEARS

by Sam Kier

Henry Blanchard Freeman



"Three years ago, while revising *Two Centuries of Valor*, I added Henry B. Freeman to the list of 5th Infantry veterans who received the Medal of Honor at some point in their army careers. LTC Henry Freeman reported to the Fifth at Fort McPherson, Georgia in 1895.

One wonders how the 58-year-old veteran of the Civil War and the Indian Wars felt about those three peaceful years in Georgia but can be confident that Mrs. Sarah Freeman was ecstatic. Her husband had already completed thirty-four years of distinguished, and often perilous, army service before becoming a Bobcat.

Henry Freeman was born at Vernon, Ohio in 1837. From his earliest age, he dreamed of soldiering. At the age of fifteen he enlisted in Company G of the 10th US Infantry Regiment and served with that unit for nine months until his sergeant discovered he had lied about his age and sent him home.

In July of 1861, there was a war to be fought and 24-year old Henry Freeman was welcomed into Company B of the 15th US Infantry. He rose from private to first sergeant in four months and subsequently transferred to Camp Thomas, near Columbus, Ohio, where he was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant in the 18th Infantry.

On 30 November 1862, the 18th was

ordered to proceed to Louisville, Kentucky and report to General Buell, who was then engaged in organizing the Army of the Ohio. They were assigned to General George "Pap" Thomas' Division.

In December, the Army of Ohio, now commanded by General Rosecrans, advanced toward Nashville. Henry Freeman's 18th Infantry was brigaded with other federal units: the 15th, 16th, and 19th Regiments of Infantry and Battery H, 5th U.S. Artillery. On the 31st of December, Rosecrans' army ran into Braxton Bragg's much larger Confederate force, at Murfreesboro, and the battle of Stones River ensued.

The brigade of regulars moved forward into the center of the line, fired by files, mowed down the approaching Confederates and held the position for two hours until their cartridge boxes and those of the wounded were empty. By that time, one-third of the federal brigade had fallen killed or wounded.

As the brigade fell back, LT Freeman noticed that a fellow officer had been wounded and was about to be captured. He ran forward, picked up his comrade and carried him to safety despite receiving heavy fire from the advancing enemy. He was given a brevet promotion to captain in recognition of this action. Thirty-two years later, someone noted the event in the records and recommended Freeman for the Medal of Honor.

Nine months after Stones River, Henry was captured at Chicamauga, Georgia. He spent the rest of the war in Libby Prison, a crowded warehouse jail for Union officers in the Confederate capital of Richmond.

Freeman repeatedly tried to escape the misery of Libby. At one point, he got outside the walls but was recaptured. Finally he got away for good and made his way to General Sherman's forces.

In July of 1866, Henry Freeman received a permanent promotion to captain and decided to make a career of the army. He married Sarah E. Darlington of Zanesville, Ohio and they were soon blessed with two sons. Mrs. Freeman's husband, like many young Army officers, was soon on his way to the Western frontier. His assignments took him from the Cheyenne War in Kansas to the Sioux War in Montana.

In the fall of 1871, 7th Infantry Headquarters personnel at Ft. Shaw, Montana received word that a renegade band of whiskey and ammunition traders had come down from Canada and were peddling their wares on Indian lands. On

October 20, Companies B and H of the 7th Infantry were dispatched to deal with the infraction. The small force was commanded by CPT Freeman.

On November 2, they found the traders camp and quickly destroyed it. Henry Freeman wrote: *No resistance was offered at any stage of our proceedings. I had all the Half-Breeds brought in and explained to them that they were in violation of our laws, had been selling the Indians liquor and ammunition. ..and that it would no longer be permitted and they must leave the country at once.* The traders professed ignorance of the laws, apologized and eventually moved on. Freeman and his troops remained in place for a couple of weeks to make sure that the perpetrators complied and then, on November 16, began the journey back to Ft. Shaw.

At noon on the 24th, the temperature plummeted. Freeman estimated that it fell twenty degrees in one hour and a huge snowstorm began to rage. The soldiers were not prepared for that kind of weather. They weren't wearing adequate clothing or boots and were still miles away from Fort Shaw. They went through agony. When they reached the Fort the following day, over half the men had suffered frozen body parts. Twenty had to have feet, toes, or hands amputated.

On March 17, 1876, Companies A, B, H, I and K led by CPT Freeman departed Ft. Shaw and proceeded south. Their destination was Ft. Ellis where they would link up with the 2nd Cavalry and the rest of the 7th Infantry led by COL John Gibbon.

Freeman's contingent arrived at Ft. Ellis on March 28. Gibbon's forces now numbered 450 men including a newly recruited scouting party of Crow tribesmen. In early April, the entire column began moving eastward in search of the Sioux and, in May, the Crow scouts began picking up signs that there were Sioux in the area.

Deeper into June, the campaign came to a climax when the columns led by COL Gibbon, Brigadier General Alfred Terry, and General George Custer were finally able to communicate. The plan was for Custer's squadron of the 7th Cavalry to pressure the Sioux from the south and flush them like quail straight toward Terry's cavalrymen and Gibbon's infantry who would be approaching from the north along the Yellowstone River. We all know the rest of the story.

When the infantry units reached the

(See SAM on page 17)



SSG Marvin R. Young



Medal of Honor - 21 August 68

(SAM from page 16)

Little Big Horn battlefield, they began the gruesome job of hauling away the dead horses and burying the dead cavalymen. On the evening of June 28, three days after the massacre, the men of the 7th Infantry began the arduous job of transporting the wounded to a steamer, moored 4 ½ miles away on the Little Big Horn River.

For the rest of the summer, Henry Freeman and the rest of the 7th Infantry participated in a vain search for the Sioux that had slaughtered Custer and his cavalymen. The unit finally got back to Fort Shaw in early October having logged about seventeen hundred miles of marching during that fateful summer.

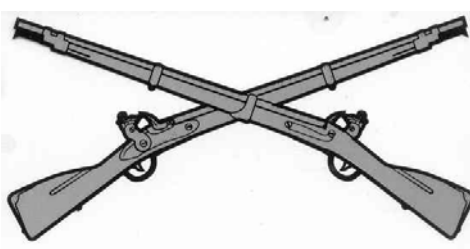
LTC Freeman served with the 5th Infantry from 1895 until 1898, a brief respite of peace and quiet. One can imagine him sitting around the officer's club at Ft. McPherson and regaling the younger men with tales of fighting Johnny Reb in Tennessee, Cheyenne warriors in Kansas, and Sioux tribesmen in Montana. In 1898 he went back to war in Cuba and then on to the Philippine Insurrection. He was quite a soldier.

On January 16, 1901, Henry Freeman was promoted to brigadier general. He retired the following day. He passed away in Douglas, Wyoming on October 16, 1915 at the age of 78. He and his wife, Sarah, are buried at Arlington National Cemetery."

Sam Kier

5th Infantry Association Historian

**Cooperation is spelled in two letters:
WE**



Honoring Our Bobcat Heroes!

**Congressional Medal of Honor
is Awarded to:**

Staff Sergeant Marvin Rex Young

YOUNG, MARVIN R.

Rank and organization: Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army, Company C, 1st Battalion, (Mechanized), 5th Infantry, 25th Infantry Division. Place and date: Near Ben Cui, Republic of Vietnam, 21 August 1968. Entered service at: Odessa, Tex. Born: 11 May 1947, Alpine, Tex. Citation: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty. S/Sgt. Young distinguished himself at the cost of his life while serving as a squad leader with Company C. While conducting a reconnaissance mission in the vicinity of Ben Cui, Company C was suddenly engaged by an estimated regimental-size force of the North Vietnamese Army. During the initial volley of fire the point element of the 1st Platoon was pinned down, sustaining several casualties, and the acting platoon leader was killed. S/Sgt. Young unhesitatingly assumed command of the platoon and immediately began to organize and deploy his men into a defensive position in order to repel the attacking force. As a human wave attack advanced on S/Sgt. Young's platoon, he moved from position to position, encouraging and directing fire on the hostile insurgents while exposing himself to the hail of enemy bullets. After receiving orders to withdraw to a better defensive position, he remained behind to provide covering fire for the withdrawal. Observing that a small element of the point squad was unable to extract itself from its position, and completely disregarding his personal safety, S/Sgt. Young began moving toward their position, firing as he maneuvered. When halfway to their position he sustained a critical head injury, yet he continued his mission and ordered the element to withdraw. Remaining with the squad as it fought its way to the rear, he was twice seriously wounded in the arm and leg. Although his leg was badly shattered, S/Sgt. Young refused assistance that would have slowed the retreat of his comrades, and he ordered them to continue their withdrawal while he provided protective covering fire. With indomitable courage and heroic self-sacrifice, he continued his self-assigned mission until the enemy force engulfed his position. By his gallantry at the cost of his life are in the highest traditions of the military service, S/Sgt. Young has reflected great credit upon himself, his unit, and the U.S. Army.

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 - \$23.00 |
| _____ #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
19 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)

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

#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)

#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, Periblu, 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 - \$23.00
- 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)



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,

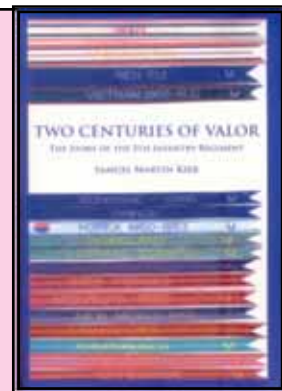
Medic, Recon PLT, 1967-68

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:

Notice: If the address label on this newsletter has a **red 18** 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 _____

in the 25th Div. _____ Dates of Service _____

*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

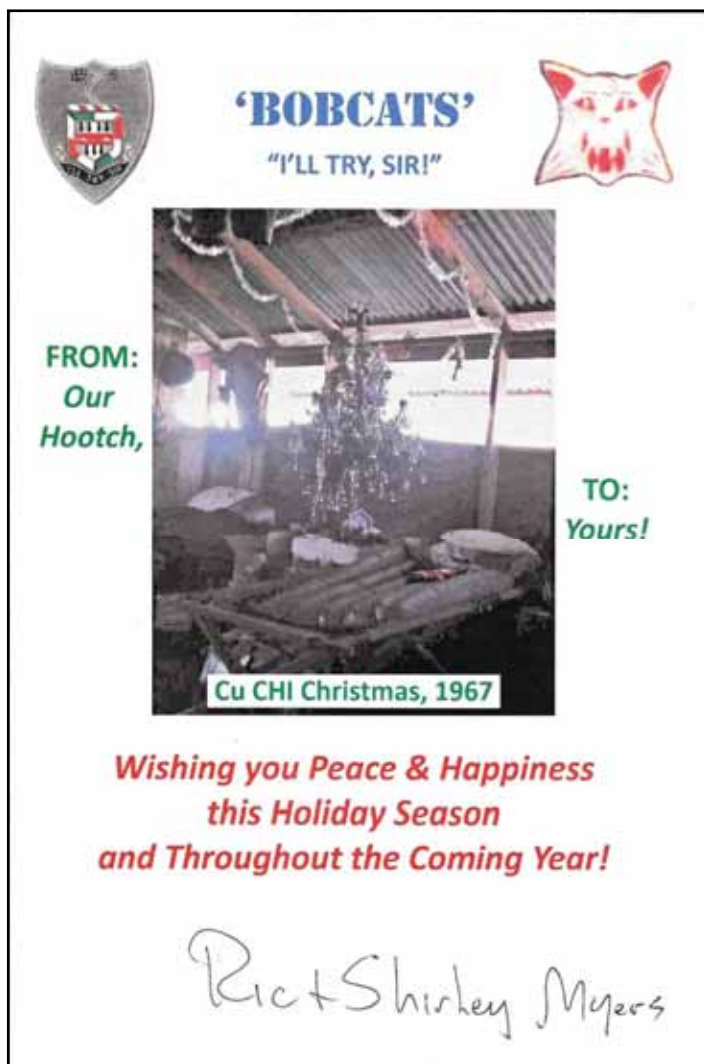
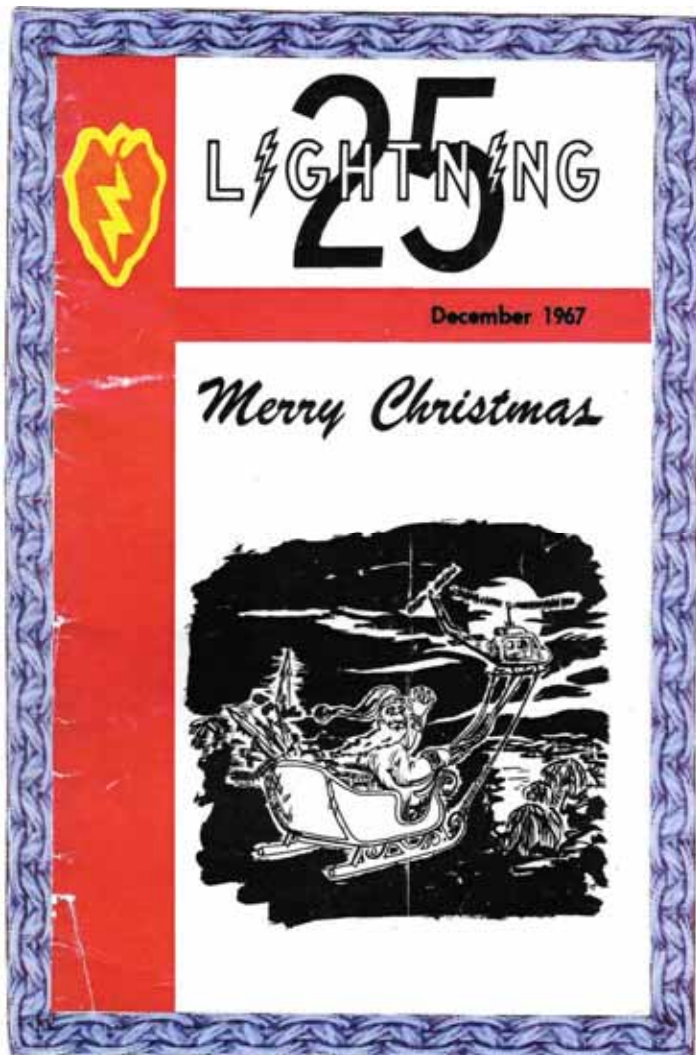
Please make all checks payable to: '25th Infantry Division Association' and send to:

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

Christmas 50 Years Ago

This is the Christmas card that Richard Myers sent me. I spent Christmas in Cu Chi 51 years ago but don't remember seeing any Christmas cards like this.

Ric says in the card that it is, "Dedicated to all who have ever served in the 5th Infantry Regiment". And he goes on to thank whoever sent the Christmas tree pictured below.



UNITED STATES FIXED WING AIRCRAFT LOSSES OF THE VIETNAM WAR 1962 - 1973

"During the Vietnam War, thousands of U.S. aircraft were lost to antiaircraft artillery (AAA), surface-to-air missiles (SAMs), and fighter interceptors (MiG)s. The great majority of U.S. combat losses in all areas of Southeast Asia were to AAA. Among fixed-wing aircraft, more F4 Phantoms were lost than any other type in service with any nation. In total, the United States military lost in Vietnam almost 10,000 aircraft and helicopters.



Sent by John Barnard

RANDOM MEMORIES, OR VERY SHORT STORIES

By Frank (Tom) Goins

“What Army Was He In?”

“For a couple of months a large lump was developing on the back of my right wrist. It got to the point that it was very painful to move my hand. I was sent back to Cu Chi to have it surgically removed. It was a ganglion cyst. I went to the 25th Med, to a small and dirty doctors office, put my arm on his desk while he numbed my wrist with injections. I watched as he cut open my wrist, cut out the cyst and sewed it up, I think seven stitches. He told me the recovery time would be two to six weeks, to keep my arm in a sling and not to use my hand. Ha! What Army was he in? I was back in the field at Fil Hol within three days, sling and all. I threw away the sling and took out the stitches myself a week later.

Running Past Us Naked

Late one afternoon at Katum, Mike and I and a new guy were filling sand bags when mortars and AK47 rounds started coming into the base camp. Mike and I ran over to nearby track 33 to get our M16s. On the way we saw a guy from the tank crew that was with us, running past us at full speed naked except for a white towel he was holding around his waist. He had been bathing in the bomb crater when the mortars started coming in.

Souvenirs of War

After we sprang an ambush or when a fire fight ended, we would gather up the weapons from the dead VC/NVA. We tried to keep the AK47s because they were better weapons and for battle souvenirs, but the brass always made us turn them in for “weapons count”. Yeah, right! We felt sure that they found their way to some desk jockey or base camp commando back in Cu Chi. Their souvenirs of the war. What really happened to them I don't know.

Songs Associated With Katum

There are two songs that will always be associated in my mind with Katum. “The Letter” by the Box Tops and “I Can See for Miles” by the Who. I guess that's where I heard them for the first time.

Were We Dirty?

I never realized how dirty we were

or how bad we smelled until a few of us went into the EM Club at Cu Chi on our first night back for a stand-down. The guys in there, mostly with clean boots and new clean fatigues with color rank and Electric Strawberry patches, looked at us in our dirty, faded and torn jungle fatigues and dirty worn boots, with disdain and almost contempt. It was like, what were we doing there, in “their” club? I guess we were a pretty rowdy bunch. It was better to stay in the 5th Mech area with our own beer and our own buddies.

RPG Decapitates Driver

A couple miles outside of our base camp at Katum, there was a bridge on the only road from Katum to Tay Ninh. The NVA blew up the bridge, so the engineers (554th?) brought in a portable AVLB bridge every morning and took it away every evening. One morning while we waited for the AVLB bridge driver to set up the bridge, an RPG was fired through the drivers cab, decapitating him. We wrapped him in a poncho and carried him on track 33 with us for the rest of the day until we got back to the base camp in the evening where he could be dusted off.

The Round Did Not Go Off

While walking back to the company set up near Hoc Mon after night ambush patrol, the only sound was tired boots walking in the dirt. Then I heard the familiar sound, “bloop” that an M79 makes when it is fired. The guy walking in front of me was the 79 gunner and unknown to the rest of us, had his finger on the trigger as we walked. The 79 was pointed at the ground and when he accidentally pulled the trigger. The round landed next to his foot. Fortunately for the three or four of us near him, and for himself, the round did not go off. It just laid there in the dirt next to his foot! Oops!

Keep One Eye On The Ground

Unexploded cluster bombs were a problem when walking through the jungles of Katum. You had to keep one eye on the ground at all times, looking for the little yellow bombs with their propellers, and the other eye straight ahead looking for boobie traps and Charlie.

Kill The Elephants

One afternoon near the Cambodian border, some elephants were spotted by the Ho Chi Minh Trails. Someone came around asking for guys to go up there to kill the elephants. Some guys did go, but I didn't want anything to do with it. Later, a couple guys returned with elephant tails and ears as souvenirs.

**I too came across elephant footprints and was told to follow them. We did but never found the elephants.*

Fact Or Fiction?

Fact or fiction? Heard this, but don't know if it's true or not. One night while out on LP, one of our company guys had a VC walk up to his position. He silently took out the VC by beating him to death with his fists.

Sneaking Under The Wire

Three or four company guys got caught sneaking under the wire in April 1968 for a little “boom-boom”. They were busted and each got an Article 15. A little harsh, considering!

Looked Like The Moon

I liked riding in Hueys. The air was cool, the view fantastic. With all the bomb craters, it looked like the surface of the moon. It was just the take offs and landings that I didn't like.

Lost In The Jungle

The lost boys. Our track lost sight of the track in front of us. We wondered around in the jungle for quite a while looking for the rest of the platoon. They couldn't find us either. We could have been in Cambodia for all we knew. Finally we sent up some flares and were found.

Eight Right Ears

While back at Cu Chi for NCO school, I made friends with a guy who was with one of the other infantry units. One afternoon after class, I went with him to his hooch at the other end of the base camp and he introduced me to some of his buddies. One of them pulled out a string with seven or eight right ears on it. Some looked like black dried prunes and some looked fresher. He was very proud of his collection.

** I bet you too could send me some interesting experiences from your Army days.*



Sam Alvarado Facebook post.



The Badge of Glory

Of all the medals upon our chests
From battles and wars we knew,
The one admired as the very best,
Is the one of infantry blue.

It's only a rifle upon a wreath,
So why should it mean so much?
It is what it took to earn it,
That gives it that magic touch.

To earn this special accolade,
You faced the enemy's fire.
Whether you survived or not,
God dialed that one desire.

For those of us who served the cause,
And brought this nation glory,
It's the Combat Infantryman's Badge
That really tells the story.

Author Unknown

Andy Gimma shared Peter Keane's Facebook post

WAR STORY THE SERGEANT COUNSELS THE CAPTAIN

By
COLONEL NEVIN R WILLIAMS, USA RETIRED

"In 1967, I was in Vietnam assigned to the 25th Infantry Division at Cu Chi. I was (unfortunately) the Company Commander of Headquarters Company & Band, Division Support Command (DISCOM). I say "unfortunately," because my boss, the DISCOM Commander was "difficult," to say the least... However, that is another story.

One of my duties as Company Commander was to "pay the troops" on payday. Well, payday came and I paid the troops that were assigned to my company at Cu Chi. It was the policy, however, that I had to pay all of my troops that were in-country, regardless of location. I had troops in Tay Ninh, Saigon, and Long Binh. This story pertains to paying the troops in Saigon and Long Binh.

In order to travel from Cu Chi to Saigon in 1967, one had to go in convoy. A convoy left daily for Saigon and returned. Since I had to go to Saigon to pay my troops, I arranged a jeep and a sergeant to be my driver. (Officers were not allowed to drive vehicles in combat zones.)

So, the convoy goes without problem to Saigon. I find my troops and pay them. I still have troops to pay in Long Binh and it is too late to travel to Long Binh so we must remain overnight in the Saigon area. I am sure there is a military billet in the Saigon area for transient personnel. So, I ask my Sergeant, who has

(See Story on page 26)

In Memory of Arnold D. Queener

*Born: January 15, 1945 Died:
January 7, 2018*

"We have lost another Brother in arms. We all knew him as Arnie or Queener. While in the 1/5th Infantry Regiment during the years of 1966 and 1967 he served with HHC in the Recon platoon. Arnie died in a VA hospital in Oregon. He had a knee injury that required surgery. While recovering from that surgery he fell while getting into a wheelchair. That fall broke his hip. Another surgery was required to repair that break. During recovery for that surgery he deteriorated and passed from this life. This information was from his son Brian to "Doc" Robert Jones also

you can't afford the interest". That was the beginning of a renewed friendship that has continued until now. It's hard saying goodbye to someone like him.

I arrived to the 1/5th in early May 1967. The Bobcats had been hit hard and lost lots of soldiers. Recon was hit very hard. So here I am. After a few days stand down we headed out for my first trip outside the wire escorting the move-



Vince Langen, McKnight, Arnie Queener, Doc Steve Reed

ally think you're going to hit them with that thing?", I asked. "Hell no but it made me feel better!" he replied.

Some days later Recon received a new PC to replace the 007 command track that was taken out with a command detonated mine. The number was changed to 000 because 007 was deemed as a bad luck number. Six 007's had been lost before it. Arnie rode the 50 caliber gun on 000 where he stayed until he went home. We got to know his voice on the platoon radio. He was a big help to Lt. Larkins relaying information to the platoon tracks.

Months later when Arnie was getting close to going home I was picked to replace him on the command track. Arnie probably had something to do with that. He went out of his way to show me how to do the job. All the time I was hoping I could do it half as good as he did.

During this time Lt. Larkins moved on and we got a new Lt. Recon was scheduled for another night ambush.



Smitty, Ed Planthaber, Arnie Queener (on the 50) Vic Larkins

from the Recon platoon.

Arnie was special to me for several reasons. I'll try to give you insight to what he was like. Arnie must have arrived in country around October 1966. He went home about the same time frame in 1967. I remember his departure because he got a few days drop that took him by surprise. I watched as he headed for the chopper then abruptly turned and ran back. He shouted he needed to borrow some money. I reluctantly gave him a twenty. He promised he would repay as soon as he got home. I watched him bounce back to the chopper. I kissed that twenty goodbye. One night about 12 years ago my phone rang. The voice asked "Is this Sergeant Craig?" "Yes". "I owe you 20 bucks". "Forget it Arnie,

ment of Wolfhounds via trucks. I sat right behind the driver on that trip. Our lead track stopped to check out a mound of dirt on the road. As we started to move there was a large explosion behind us. A truck hit a mine. The driver in front of me came up out of the hatch firing a small revolver at some guys making a quick exit about 100 meters out. That's how I met Arnie. "Did you re-



McKnight, Arnie Queener, Doc Robert Jones, Vince Langen

Arnie volunteered to go. I asked why because he was so short. He responded that it was his job, and he wanted to be there to help the new Lt. That ambush turned into a complete nightmare. We



Arnie left with unknown

had one KIA and several WIA. One of the WIA's was Arnie. He refused a dustoff. He came back with a claymore shot through the back of his hand. That was the way he was.

I think most of us that knew Arnie would probably sum him up as Doc Rick Myers did: "Arnie was a quiet fellow



Doc Bob Jones L & Arnie

(subdued demeanor), yet, always had a determined look—he knew where he was going. He had his definite opinions about things, but I never had cause to disagree with him. He was always very goal (object) oriented, and focused on the current situation (objective)—almost 'tunnel-visioned', much like a hound dog. I can't recall that he ever gave any-

body a reason to dislike him, although, he never seemed to be vying for a 'Mr' Popularity' contest either—he was just 'Arnie', true to himself, and definitely a fellow you trusted to cover your back. It is this 'Bond of Brotherhood' that we hear so much about—each of us in the 'family' had our own personalities. We accepted each other for who we were—and we took care of each other. Arnie was a highly respected member of our family!"

Arnie had a Native American heritage. He was called Spotted Bear. He told me of going on a rendezvous and meeting with his folks and friends for camping trips in out of the way places. He loved these trips and we talked often of them.

He loved the outdoors. Hunting, fishing and the likes. He also worked in the timber industry which kept him outside on the job.

Arnie Queener was one fine Soldier. An extremely nice person. And a Brother-

er you could count on to have your back.

Rest in piece Arnie. May God bless you and your family. Thank you for being our friend. They just don't come any better."

Howard Craig

Recon Platoon 67-68

Are You Getting This Newsletter by E-mail?

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

"A Letter To All Bobcats"

"This is an open letter to all Bobcats of the 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 5th Infantry Society of Vietnam Combat Veterans, 25th Infantry Division to include the Bobcat Bulletin's 5th Infantry Regiment Association Inc.

I am SFC Arthur D. Mobley retired who had the honor of serving with Co. B 1/5th Infantry (Mech) during 67-68 as a Private. Later I served another 6 1/2 years with the division as a "grunt".

I want to take a moment of silence for our hero's who gave all and never came home. They remain in our hearts. We thank the families for everyone's service. Your service grows everyday in the hearts of our country of the United States of America and we will pass on our proud flag that we display. "Thank you Bobcat family!"

I was in Track 32 with Andy Capp, Sam Kim and Hot. I recall Tar Baby 4th Squad. In Track 31. I believe may have been Smithy who lives in ND and goes to AZ in the winter. In Track 33 I believe was Chuck K. from NY who passed away along with Allen. Beach lives in FL & raises cows. James Williamson lives in AL. I talk to him a couple of times a year. PTSD has set in with me so excuse the absence of names.

The reason for this letter is to clear up some information regarding the Frank Goins' article "Three Dead In A Well".

Wayne Grindstaff in March 1968 Co. B was operating in the Fil Hoi. On March 13, 1968 the Battalion (-) moved to Cu Chi to a new forward base in the northwest corner of the Fil Hoi at XT 640217. At 11:55 hours an APC from the Recon Platoon detonated a mine resulting in one Bobcat being wounded.

On March 14, 1968 the battalion (-) conducted a "Reconnaissance In Force" (RIF) operation in the area of XT 6321 and XT6421. At 22:00 hours, in the northwest area of the Fil Hoi at XT 642219, Company A moving with men on the ground in front of the tracks, received sniper fire. One Bobcat was shot in the chest and died before a dust-off could get him out. The men were ordered to take cover as artillery was called in. The artillery rounds mistakenly landed on top of the men of Company A, killing two bobcats and wounding twenty-three.

Also on the 14th, a Bobcat from the recon Platoon died from wounds he had received the day before. Company C remained OPCON to the 2/34th Armor and conducted operations in the lower Boi Loi Woods in the area of XT5726.

The above two dates of operations will give you an idea of what we were doing in the Fil Hol area.

Arthur D. Mobley (SFC-R)

The armored workhorse of the US Army, the M113 has been on the move since Vietnam



"A group of troops atop an M113 is one of the iconic images of the Vietnam War. The M113 armored personnel carrier, second only to the UH-1 Iroquois "Huey" helicopter in battlefield importance, entered production in April 1960. Developed by FMC, the aluminum-hulled M113, intended to be amphibious and air transportable, was considerably lighter than its predecessor, the M59.

Combat experience led the troops to alter many standard features. Units removed the track shrouds and mud flaps to make track repairs faster. They also took out the commander's and driver's seats, placing C-ration crates in their cupolas for seating. They added extensions to the driver's steering levers so he could operate from atop the vehicle. And they replaced the troops' compartment seats with wooden benches and stored ammunition underneath them.

Other enhancements included pro-



tective steel plates welded to the commander's cupola or the .50-caliber M2 machine gun mount. Additionally, most units mounted one or two M60 machine guns next to the roof cargo hatch. Over time, the improvised armor protecting the machine gunners evolved into rotating gun shields providing all-around protection. They were standard equipment by 1970, designated as armored cavalry assault vehicle kits."

**Sent to me by COL-R Nevin Williams*

(Story from page 23)

been to Saigon before. He tells me there is a billet called CAMP ALFA located on Tan Son Knut Airfield. However, he does not recommend it as troops sleep in dormitories and there is no way to secure your valuables—a problem since I am still carrying payroll. The sergeant suggests we get a local hotel room on the economy as a room will cost less than \$10 and may very well have air conditioning—which CAMP ALFA does not have. Having been in the Army for several years, I know to trust a sergeant. So, I say "Let's do it" or something similar and so we each rent a room.

Later, we two congregate on the top floor of the hotel, which serves as a restaurant and a bar (with "hostesses"). We have dinner and then we stick around for a couple of drinks. We are joined by several hostesses. My sergeant is having a good time and I am enjoying chatting with one of the ladies. (There are no ladies to chat with at Cu Chi so I might as well take advantage of the circumstances!) It gets late, so I get up and say I am going to go to bed and I leave. I go to my room, and bar the door as best I can. I do this because I am still carrying payroll plus a .45 automatic pistol, property of the U.S. Government. Fortunately, I pass the evening with no intrusion attempted.

The next morning, the sergeant and I load up the jeep and head for Long Binh Post, which is just outside Saigon. The sergeant is in good spirits and I assume he had an enjoyable night. Later, the sergeant says to me "Sir, you should never do again what you did last night." I am confused. I relate that all I did was go to bed. The sergeant said yes, but you did that after "leading on" that poor girl. Huh, I am thinking. He further explains that the girl is a working girl, and she most likely is working as a prostitute to support her family. She just assumed that since you were talking to her, and bought her a drink (I may have done that) that you were going to stay with her all night and pay her for her service! (I had no intention of doing that.) Then you left. It was too late for her to get another customer. I obviously felt bad after what the sergeant said. I suggested that maybe we should return to the hotel and I would locate the girl and give her some money. The Sergeant said no, she is most likely gone by now.

Live and learn. The situation never again came up."

Life In The Fire Support Base - 1967

Two more of Ric Myers pictures



Bob Jones on his bar stool:
so, where's the Bar?



Sam Alvarado: testing the new 'No-Flush;' field Commode (with refill cartridge on left).

HELP!

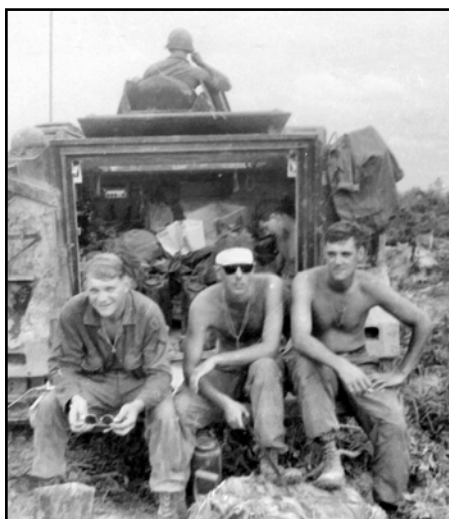
**Help the Association Grow
Sign up a new Member!
Give a Membership!**

Life In The Fire Support Base - 1967

Ric Myers



Proud to be a Bobcat - Eliud Nieves



TAILGATING: (L-R) Larry Wilbanks (Radar); Jim McVey (Zipper), Jim Kelley; Howard Craig on 'Watch'



HOME REPAIRS: [006]
(L-R) Ric Myers, Jim Kelley



SUNDAY in the F.S.B. - whichever day of the week that the Chaplain arrived in the field to offer Religious Services



SSG Howard Craig, T.C. 006:
(Later: T.C. 000/007); Jim Kelly & Radar



M-113 Barcalounger: Zipper resting after patrol.



Sp/6 Joe McCann, (Sr. BN Medic) demonstrates proper technique for



Hanging out between patrols: (L-R) McKnight, Arnie Queener, Bob Jones, Vince Langen.



Ray Lockyear (Medic): in the chair that he made from ammo boxes.

18,000 Soldiers Make A “Statue Of Liberty”

This picture taken in 1918 is of 18,000 men preparing for war in a training camp at Camp Dodge, in Iowa. All 18,000 soldiers standing to make a replica of the Statue of Liberty.

FACTS:

Base to Shoulder: 150 feet

Right Arm: 340 feet

Widest part of arm holding torch:

12 1/2 feet

Right thumb: 35 feet

Thickest part of body: 29 feet

Left hand length: 30 feet

Face: 60 feet

Nose: 21 feet

Longest spike of head piece:

70 feet

Torch and flame combined:

980 feet

Number of men in flame of torch:

12,000

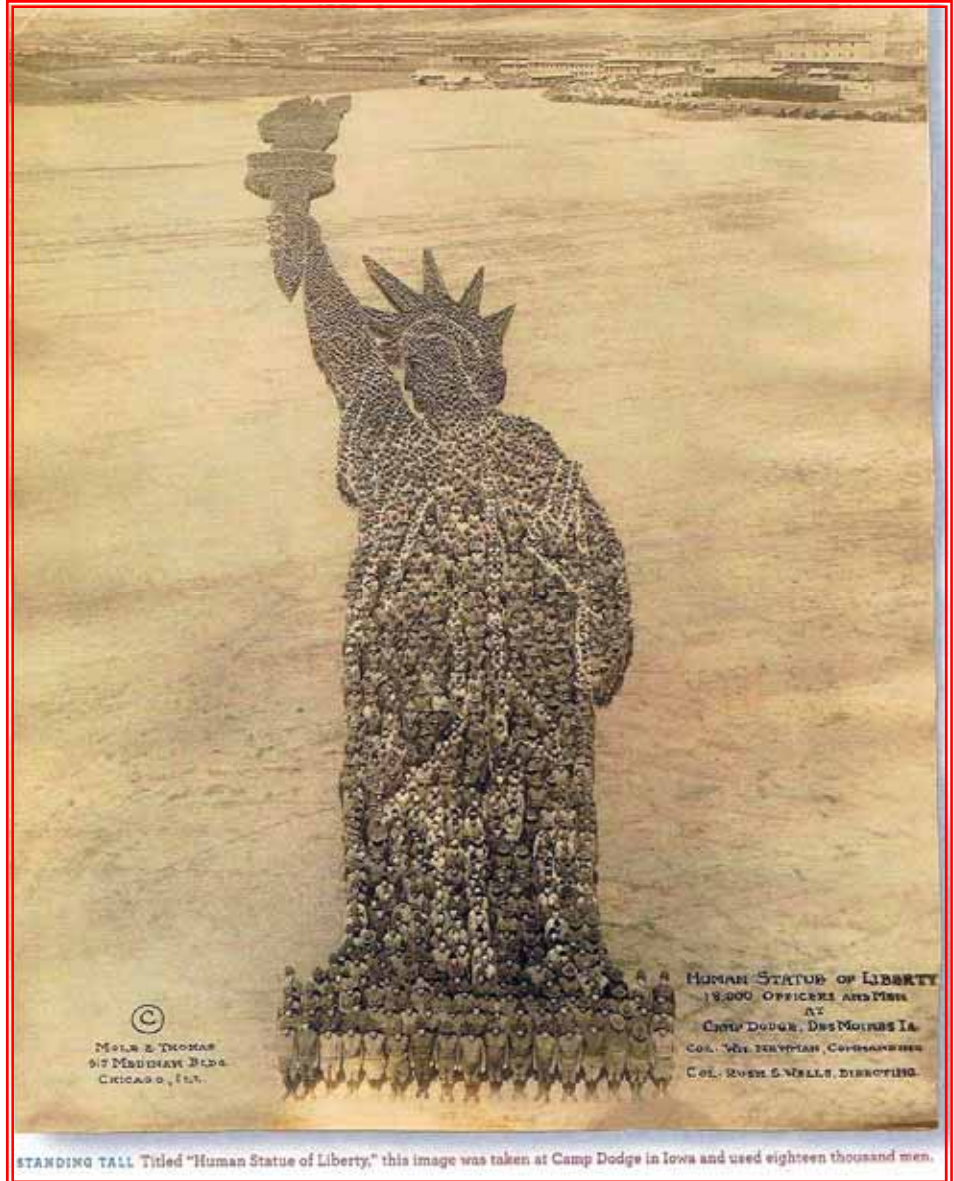
Number of men in torch: 2,800

Number of men in right arm:

1,200

Number of men in body, head and balance of figure only: 2,000

Total men: 18,000



5th Infantry Regiment Association Inc.
138 Glenrise Road
Swanton MD 21561-2317

Address Service Requested

U.S. Postage
PAID
Oakland MD 21550
Permit # 4
Non-Profit Org.