



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"

Fall 2016

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

Volume III

Night Ambush Patrol

"I use the term VC/NVA in this article because I wasn't sure which they were at the time. The NVA weren't always wearing their typical black pajamas or NVA uniforms at this time so they could blend in with the locals. There were many North Vietnamese Army Regulars in the area at the same time as the Viet Cong.

In April 1968, Alpha Co. 3rd platoon was set up near Vinh Loc west of Saigon. When we returned to the company area after a day of humping the dried rice paddies and tree lines, I was told to choose three guys from my squad, the 4th, to take out on night ambush patrol. At this time I had only been squad leader for about six weeks.



Charles Kennedy, Tom Goins and Phillip McFarland

Most of the guys in my squad were relatively new, because the company had lost twenty-three WIA and KIA the month before at the Fil Hol. I chose Chuck Kennedy who was track 34 driver, and Phillip McFarland because they were country boys who had done a lot of hunting. Although fairly inexperienced, I knew they were

(See Ambush on page 8)

BOBCAT WINTER SOCIAL

THU. FEBRUARY 2, 2017 - SUN.
FEBRUARY 5, 2017

During the 1st week of February if you live in the north you could be staring out your window at snow or you could have a view (Picture to the right) of a sandy beach and the Gulf of Mexico from your hotel room. Don't suffer in the cold. Come to Clearwater beach for the Florida Social.

(See Florida on page 22)



"I'll Try Sir"

Albuquerque NM

16-21 May 2017

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

"Whether you're into history, cul-



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



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

(NM Reunion on page 14)

The Winter 2016 Newsletter will be out DEC/JAN 2017 - Send me articles, pictures and stories for publication.

FT Benning Reunion Pictures

By Andy Gimma



PRESIDENT'S CORNER



As we get closer to Election Day, please take the time to vet each of the 2 candidates we have running for the office of President of the United States of America. It looks like it's going to be the biggest decision we're going to make for the rest of our lives.

GOOD LUCK AMERICA!

I also wanted everyone to know that I received an email about a Bobcat that was KIA in 1966 and is from Everton Pa. The town is naming a bridge after 2 of their hometown heros. The 2 Boroughs join in the middle of the bridge and on November 12th there is going to be a dedication, and they are asking if anyone who served with SSG. John Earnesty, who was in Charlie Company, would like to attend. He only was with the unit from 11-11-66 to 11-12-66.

Contact information for this ceremony is: Keith Medley at,
keith.medly@gmail.com
Phone, 267-716-8488

I hope everyone is in good health and getting ready for fall. I know I'm not ready to retire the flip flops and fishin pole just yet.
Peace to all,

Tom Frame
Presidentus

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

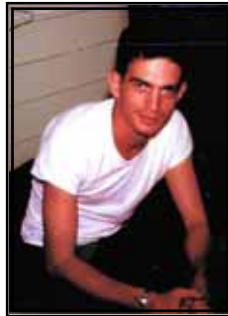
I CHECK BOTH EACH DAY!

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

Vincent Simonelli

A Company Mortar Platoon Track 43
4/66-4/67

Vinnie left Vietnam as a sergeant and spent the last six months in the Army at FT Carson CO and Ft Riley KA. Some of these pictures are from those two locations.



About to enter the water



Swimming



Firing the mortar



5th Infantry Association

President - *Tom Frame*
Vice President - *George Chavez*
Treasurer & Quartermaster - *Jim Caudle*
Secretary & Membership - *Paul Robinson*
Historian - *Sam Kier*
Media (Newsletter) Editor - *Fred Deverse*
Webmaster - *Randy Kethcart*
Past Presidents - *Robert (Bob) Wood and Bart Stanzione*
Bobcat Board of Directors consists of the above and the following 4 elected directors:
Jon Blickenstaff Andy Gimma
John Snodgrass George Bates
Jon Cartwright

Chaplain (Appointed) - *John Snodgrass*

Reminder !

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

Reunions

FL Winter Social 2-5 FEB 2017
Albuquerque NM 16-21 May 2017

HONORED BOBCAT MEMBERS

Honorary Colonel of the Regiment

Andy Anderson (MG-R)

Honorary Command Sergeant Major of the Regiment -

Distinguished Members of the Regiment

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

Honorary Members of the Regiment

Sue Caudle, Carolyn Deverse, Shannon Henry, Carolyn Kethcart, Teri Tringali

Bobcat of the Year

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

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

ROSTER

The Denis McDonough MORNING REPORT

Additions, Changes & Corrections

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

(Please let 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.

Fasselin, Nicky - Change
nickyfasselin@gmail.com

Rockwell, Doug - Change
bobcat16xraydr@yahoo.com

Simonelli, Vincent - New
vinnieprinter@optonline.net

Lost Members:

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

Anderson Jr., John "Andy" - He was a LT in Vietnam and is a Life member.

McFadden, Terri - A life member.
When he joined in 2013 he was active duty assigned to the 1/5th at FT Wainwright Alaska.

Roster Changes/Corrections:

Brandt, Lee M. - Address change
32 Abbey CT
Carlisle PA 17015-4370

Atherton, Mike A. - Phone number and Email change
443-918-8545
Mike.recon@hotmail.com

Vetter, Robert H. - Add. & E-mail change
70 Vincent AVE
Trenton NJ 08619-2415
rh42164@optonline.net

**Robert celebrated his 90th birthday in August. He was a sergeant who served with A Company, 5th Regimental Combat Team in Vienna Austria in World War II.*

Robert wrote: "Hi Fred---Thanx for the greeting---can still remember those Army days back in the mid 1940s. I was



stationed briefly in Germany. Initial duties were PW "chasers" and guarding food warehouses. My major tour of duty was in Vienna, Austria, a four power occupied City.

In 1946, after HAVING SERVED BRIEFLY IN THE 42ND INFANTRY DIVISION, I WAS TRANSFERRED TO THE 5TH INFANTRY REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM AND SERVED IN GENERAL CLARK'S HONOR GUARD. WHILE THERE, I WAS JUMP PROMOTED FROM PFC TO BUCK SGT AND DUTIES WERE MAINLY PARADES AND PARTICIPATION IN THE FOUR POWER GOVERNING OF THE AUSTRIAN



Picture before I left for overseas--note typical era class A uniform.

OCCUPATION. MY MEMORIES OF THE 5TH AND MY MANY FRIENDS ARE VERY FOND, INDEED! LATER I WORKED AS A WAR DEPT CIVILIAN IN THE RESTRUCTURE OF AUSTRIA.

I STILL HAVE MY ORIGINAL 5TH INF REG INSIGNIA 'I'LL TRY SIR'.

Brady, Edward
Unit 6350 Box 3940
DPO, AE 09830

**Ed will be working for the US Consulate in Jerusalem for a year.*

Fasselin, Nicky - Changes
2559 South Lake Street
Salt Lake City Utah 84106
nickyfasselin@gmail.com

Knudtson, Nicholas J. - Change
867 Ivy TRCE
Ballwin MO 63021-8422

Cochran, Robert - Change
1413 Johnson Lane
Clovis CA 93619
559-575-8640

New Members:

Reyes, Benjamin
5303 Hamilton Wolfe - Apt. 603
San Antonio, TX 78229
210-421-4931
orlandoreyes07@yahoo.com
HHC 1/5th 65-66

Sedacamacho, David
A Co 2nd PLT 1/5th - Active duty
david.sedacamacho.mil@mail.mil

Dillon Sr., Harry (Dorothy)
3208 Back Vail Road
Tyrone PA 16686
814 684 - 1340
5th R.C.T. 555th FA Battery B 51-52 Korea
gabbied2@verizon.net

Taps:

Koehs, Mike - A Company, 1st Platoon
1/68-1/69 of Macomb MI died 8 AUG 16

**See article on Page 7*

Eresh, George - Died 4/5/16 Served with 5th 1949-51 from Cranberry Twp. PA - Sv Co 49/51

Towe, Glenn H. - Died 11/15/15 entered the Army from Hawaii in 1948 served with 5th in Korea and then on to Vietnam. I Co 49/50 Sgt. CMS/Retired - WIA..by missile 02 Sept.1950

Weasels Sr., Arthur E. - 52-53 HHC 3 BN 1952-53. From Holiday FL

(See Roster on page 10)

Members' Comments, Letters, E-mails & Information

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

Brady to be Promoted

Former 2/5th Battalion commander LTC Edward Brady's name appeared on a colonel's promotion list that was published on 3 August 2016.

Ed is presently working for the US Consulate in Jerusalem for a year.

Barry Jones Remembers CSM Barrett

"I was sorry to hear of the passing of CSM Ray Barrett.

I've forgotten many of the names and faces from 1968 but for some reason I remember Ray and taking this picture from the back of a track like it was a month ago.

We were in the middle of nowhere in the vicinity of South Ben Cui II in October of 1968.

The tracks were moving down a dirt road when Ray had everyone stop. He got down from the track to talk to an elderly 'momma son'.

Ray; from what I knew of him was a no nonsense, get it done leader, which surprised me to see him take the time to spend a few minutes with this local.

She pulled a mat from her bicycle and neatly laid it on the ground.



L to R = MAJ Bob Wood and CSM Ray Barrett - 1968

She tried to explain how the game was played and to put something that looked like dice in Ray's hand.

Before Ray could roll the dice on the mat she held up one finger (\$1 Military Payment Certificate - MPC).

Ray put \$1 MPC on the mat & rolled the stones.

Without a word or gesture, she picked up the \$1 MPC stuck it in her pocket, rolled up the mat, got on her bicycle and rode away.

Ray laughed and said "time to go".

I saw at that time he was a compassionate man.

He realized the locals had a rough life and were just trying to make a living any way they could.

The other person in the picture is Bob Wood."

Barry Jones

HHC 1/5th 25th INF DIV

1968-69

Dinner Together

The Kethcarts Randy and Carolyn, on the right, had dinner with Jim and sue Caudle. Randy and Carolyn were in Norfolk to check it out as a possible location for our 2017 reunion.



The Caudles are residents of Norfolk.

Norfolk obviously passed the test since it was selected for our 2017 reunion.

Donation & Thank You!

Jim Caudle received letter and a \$25 donation to the CSM Barrett Memorial Fund. The letter read:

Dear James,

"Enclosed is a small check in remembrance of my first cousin CSM Ray Barrett who passed on April 24, 2016.

We want to thank you for all the work you do for our fallen soldiers.

Please advise Ray's family of our so very small donation.

Peace and God's Blessings."

Candace Westerfield

Friends Seven Years

On Facebook Andy Gimma writes, "We met in Orlando if my memory is correct. You will always be Grizzly to



me. Andy and Kenneth "Grizzly" Krueger (Pictured above) are celebrating 7 years of friendship on Facebook."

In the picture below, left to right Andy Gimma. Jerry Yasher and Steve Solomon.



Alvarado Jr. Helps Cemetery

(See Comments on page 6)

Treasurer's Report

2nd Quarter Financial Report

(1 April - 30 June 2016)

April

Income:

PayPal Internet Sales	\$1974.68
Reunion-Regist. Dinners etc	\$2355.00
TOTAL	\$4329.68

Debits:

Spring Newsletter- Postage	\$166.53
Postage	\$33.14
Bank Service Charge	\$4.00
Snazzi Stitches (shirts etc.)	\$89.00
Emblem Enterprise - 3Patches	\$156.00
Book sales	\$33.64
Plaques (For reunion)	\$126.67
Reunion Refund	\$365.00
Reunion Nat. INF tour	\$950.00
Reunion Callaway tour	\$498.36
Forward Observer Norfolk	\$239.22
TOTAL	\$2661.56

May

Income:

Reunion registration etc.	\$635.00
Quartermaster Sales	\$40.00
PayPal (Internet sales)	\$1530.00
TOTAL	\$2205.00

Debits:

Spring Newsletter - Printing	\$552.75
Bank Service Charge	\$4.00
Snazzi Stitches - Shirts etc.	\$760.00
CSM Barrett's Memorial packets	\$125.00
25th IDA MOH Plaque	\$252.57
Reunion Refund	\$235.00
Reunion Bills Paid	\$12259.17
TOTAL	\$14188.49

June

Income:

Membership Dues	\$160.00
Quartermaster Sales	\$81.00
TOTAL	\$241.00

Debits:

Snazzi Stitches (shirts etc.)	\$395.00
25th IDA Scholarship	\$500.00
Member's Donation	
TOTAL	\$795.00

Assets:

Business Savings Account	\$48726.88
Checking Balance	\$12394.72
TOTAL	\$61121.60

Jim Caudle,

Treasurer/Quartermaster

Donations to the Association

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

Candice Barrett Westerfield - CSM Ray Barrett's first cousin. - memorial fund.	\$25
Nevin Williams (Total \$200)	
Scholarship	\$100
General Fund	\$50
Newsletter	\$50

1-5th Going To Korea

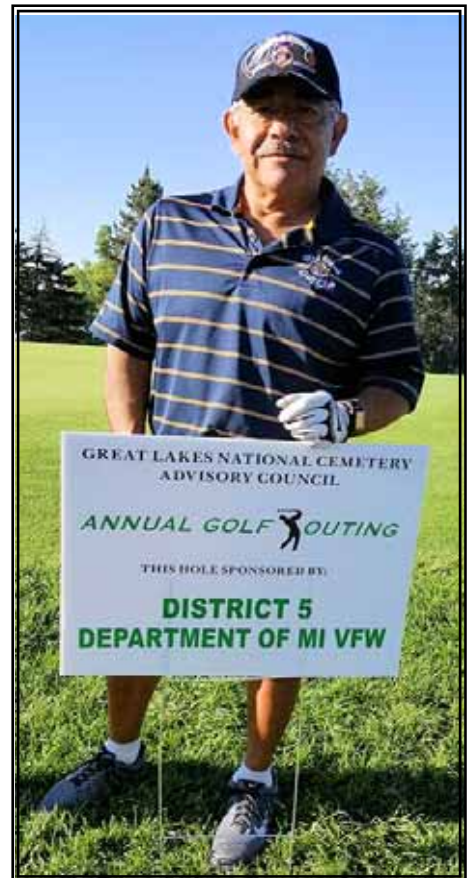
We sent a complimentary copy of Sam Kier's book "Two Centuries of Valor The Story of The 5th Infantry Regiment" to both the new battalion commander and command sergeant major and below is a note LTC Lackey sent Sam.

"I did receive a note today from LTC R. Blake Lackey from Ft. Wainwright, expressing thanks for his gift copy of Two Centuries of Valor. He wrote that he is currently reading through the Korean War chapters because he expects to take the battalion to Korea, next year, for a training exercise...."

Sam Kier

(Comments from page 5)

Eusevio Alvarado Jr. spent time helping the VFW raise money for the Great Lakes National Cemetery.



Respect For Our Flag

"As a Retired member of the US Army, having served in both Korea (21st Inf) and Vietnam (1st Cav), I totally disagree with this disrespect for the National Flag and Anthem."

Wesley Morrison

Sent by Paul Garland



Mike Koehs A Company 1st Platoon 68-69 Dies

"Michael Koehs, who retired in June as Macomb Township MI clerk.... died Monday night August 8th at his home after a lengthy battle with cancer. He was 67.

Koehs retired after 14 years as the



township clerk and also was a retired Macomb County Sheriff's deputy."

Mike was a long time member of our Association who attended many of our reunions.

Mike served with A company first platoon from January 1968 through January 1969.

Hi Fred -

"Unfortunately, we weren't able to



From the 2000 Newport RI reunion - (L to R) John Squire, Jan Cotta, Dteve & Norma Murphy and Mike & Cheryl Koehs

get any photos of the funeral, but I thought it was still worth mentioning some details of the day.

"Mike Koehs passed away August 8, 2016. Visitation was held at the Endernalik Funeral home and burial services with full military honors were at St Peters Church in Mt. Clemens, Michigan on August 12, 2016. At the conclusion of his service in the military, Mike continued to serve his community first in the Sheriff's department, and until his time of death, as an elected county official.

Company A of the 5th Mech was very well represented. The following members were in attendance for the viewing/funeral:

- Jon W. Cartwright (A Co. 1st PLT Medic), and his wife Carolyn
- Jon Blickenstaff (A Co. 1st PLT)
- George J. Sharke (A Co. 1st PLT)
- Joseph Keller (A Co. 1st PLT)
- Charles W. Kennedy (A Co. 1st PLT), and his wife Diane
- Thomas Purcell (A. Co Weapons PLT)

The family also received a call from General Andrew H. Anderson, which was greatly appreciated.

The viewing saw a steady stream of visitors, there were many beautiful flowers, and the funeral was very fitting of Mike.

Hopefully these notes can give you something to include in the next newsletter to honor Mike."

Thanks,
Charles Kennedy

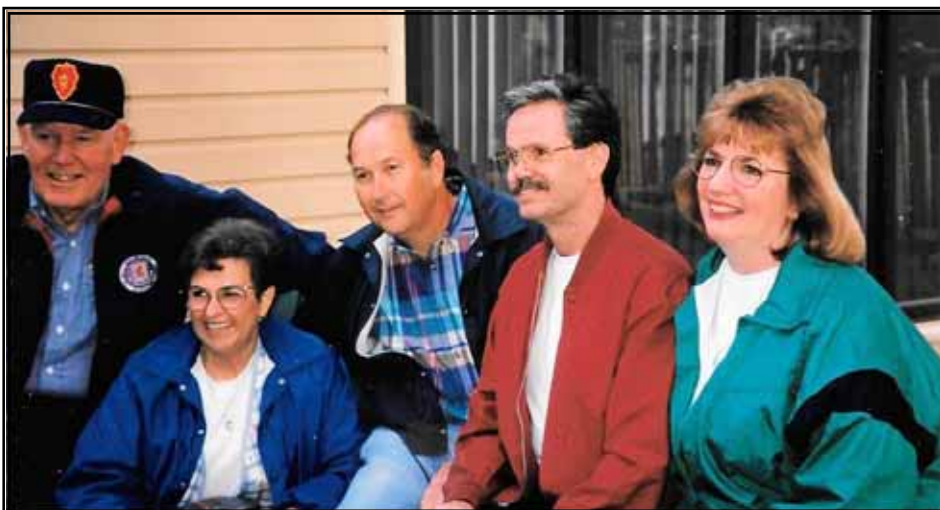
Former Township Clerk Koehs dies

By Thomas Franz

"MACOMB TOWNSHIP — To those who knew him best, Michael Koehs was a highly respected and extremely intelligent individual.

In the last 14 years of his life, Koehs used those attributes to serve the

(See Koehs on page 10)



L to R: Andy Anderson, Norma & Steve Murphy and Mike & Cheryl Koehs from the 1996 reunion in Hampton VA

(Ambush from page 1)

unafraid and could be counted on to keep their cool in a bad situation. I chose Witherspoon because he was a good 60 gunner and had ambush experience, and we had worked well together before. I felt these guys would have the best chance of making it back in the morning if things got bad. I knew or hoped, that the other guys in the squad would be OK inside the perimeter where there was plenty of back up. This would be Kennedy's first ambush because drivers usually didn't have to go on ambush patrols, and I think it was Phil McFarland's first bush also. We had a brief squad meeting, and I explained what we were going to do and what was expected of each of us. At dusk we loaded up our weapons and ammo and headed out with eight other members of our platoon and a flamethrower operator. 1Lt. Joseph Rex and the Company Commander led us out in a split ambush. We walked for a while and finally reached our destination after dark outside of a hamlet, and the four of us set up in a ditch just behind the small hamlet. It was a clear night and in the dim moonlight we could see the silhouettes of the hooches about 25 meters in front of us.

After we set up, Kennedy and Witherspoon took the first watch while McFarland and I started to relax, but stayed alert. I had taken a box of juicy fruits from our goodie box with me to snack on, and was holding the juicy fruits up to the moon because I didn't want to eat the black ones. At the exact same moment that I saw several armed VC/NVA walking a few meters in front of us, I heard Kennedy say in not a whisper, but a normal voice, "who's walking around out there?" My mind jumped and I reacted. "Shoot 'em, shoot" I said, in a little louder than normal voice. No one hesitated and the four of us opened fire. An undetermined number of VC/NVA were heading out of the hamlet when we opened up on them. The flamethrower operator off to our left with his group then opened up. It seemed to last forever, but was actually only a few minutes. I was glad that Kennedy had sharp eyes, if not a quiet voice. 1Lt. Rex, a couple

hundred meters away, was setting up his group and putting out anti-intrusion devices when the ambush was sprung and the flame thrower opened up. The VC/NVA never had a chance to fire back. Then there was silence, but we didn't know how many there were, or how many were still out there or if we had gotten them all. We waited and watched to see if there was any more movement in front of us. After things quieted down, we got a communication that we would be moving out to another location.

I walked point for the move. I had seen a good amount of action before this night, but walking point this time, thinking that more enemy were probably still out there and watching us was unnerving. I forced one foot in front of the other on our way to our new set up location expecting to get shot at any second. We walked about for a while and set up on another side of the hamlet. The rest of the night was quiet, but no one slept that night.

At daylight we moved back to the original site of the ambush we sprang the night before. There were four dead VC/NVA on the ground, bodies already beginning to swell in the heat, eyes glazed over. Their AK47s were still with them as well as an RPG round, several canister grenades and various other weapons and personal items. I was surprised to see their weapons were still there. If any other VC/NVA had been around, their weapons and equipment would have been gone. We then got a communication to remain at the location. We were tired and hungry, but we waited. When our Battalion Commander



LTC Lodge arrived, we gathered up the weapons and personal items from the dead VC/NVA and put them on the ground in front of us for photos. A former platoon brother, Mike Massey was

with him. He was injured four months earlier when his track hit a land mine, and he was now driver and RTO for LTC Lodge. Mike took color photos of the weapons and personal items. Both LTC Lodge and the Company Commander were happy to have body count under their belt.

Hoping that our ambush team would repeat the action of the night before, the Company Commander had me, Kennedy, McFarland and Witherspoon go out on night ambush for almost thirty nights in a row. This was on top of humping six to ten klicks a day.

Three night later with 1Lt. Rex again as ambush leader, we sprang another ambush. The four of us set up behind a small dirt mound with bushes around. Sometime after midnight, we saw some movement off to our right. Approximately seven VC/NVA were walking from the right to the left of our position. We notified the center squad to our left that the enemy were moving toward them. I had our team hold fire to let them go by. We were at the tail of the L and let the VC/NVA walk by us to the kill squad that had the center covered. When most of the enemy were off to our left, the center squad opened up first then we opened up. When the dust settled and it was quiet, 1Lt. Rex wanted to check out the dead VC/NVA. Kennedy went out from our team. He could see 1Lt. Rex coming in from the left. By this time flares were up and the area was lit up. As Kennedy moved in toward one of the VC/NVA lying on the ground, the enemy raised his head and looked Kennedy dead in the eye. The enemy had a grenade in his hand and rolled it towards Kennedy. Kennedy yelled "grenade" and hit the dirt. He was too far out to get back to our squad. When the grenade exploded, Kennedy was hit in the face with some grenade fragments, but luckily the wounds weren't serious. He went back to the enemy and killed him. When we returned to the ambush site the next morning, we found two dead VC/NVA, rounds of small arms ammunition, web gear, hand grenades, and explosives equipment. We also found blood trails that indicated some of the other VC/NVA had been wounded but managed to get away.

We got a communication from our company commander to remain at the location until he arrived. When he got there, he brought our battalion photographer/reporter Donald "Frenchie" Mousseau with him to photograph and document the event. Frenchie had been our platoon brother until March, 1968

when he took a piece of shrapnel in his ankle. Just like after the previous ambush, we gathered up the weapons and personal items from the dead VC/NVA



and put them on the ground in front of us then lined up for the group photos.

After a couple weeks of these nightly ambushes and humping every day, we were like walking dead men, physically and mentally burned out. One morning after another night ambush, we were walking back to the company set up near Hoc Mon, and 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 Bobcat walking in front of me was the 79 gunner and unknown to the rest of us, had his finger on the trigger of his weapon as we walked. I think he was so tired from having had his finger on the trigger all night that he wasn't aware. The 79 was pointed at the ground and when he accidentally pulled the trigger, the round landed next to his foot. It just laid there in the dirt. No one moved. We stood there looking at the round on the ground as if waiting for it to go off. Fortunately for the three or four of us near him, and the 79 gunner, the round didn't go off.

The nightly ambushes continued and they all blended together in my memory. The majority of them were routine where we didn't make contact, but they still took a toll on us, up all night and going on Search & Destroy and sweeps during the day. Most of these ambushes took place in the areas of Hoc Mon and Vinh Loc north and west of Saigon.

We were fortunate to have 1Lt. Joseph Rex and 2Lt. Arthur Cook as the ambush leaders who took us out on these ambushes. We always knew that we were in good hands with their leadership and that they cared about us as individuals, and what happened to us. If anyone

could get us back safe in the morning, they could, and did. We never lost a man. These two officers were real leaders and they had our confidence, trust and our respect.

Chuck Kennedy, Phil McFarland and Witherspoon proved themselves to be first class infantrymen. Even though they were worn out and pushed beyond physical and mental endurance, they never complained and always performed to the utmost of their abilities,

and I always knew they had my back and I had theirs. I know that serving with these Bobcats made me a better soldier.

I sent an email to Chuck Kennedy a while back to apologize for taking him, Mac and Spoon on all those ambushes, saying: "Looking back, I feel I was putting a lot of pressure on you guys, taking you on all those ambushes. The reason I always chose you guys was because I knew I could count on you, Mac and Spoon, and you guys had the best chances making it back in the morning. I always went out with you, when I could have sent someone else, because I couldn't send you or anybody else anywhere that I wouldn't go myself. I was responsible to make sure we all got back in the morning." Chuck Kennedy sent me a email saying that those thirty ambushes prepared him for taking over as squad leader when I was later wounded near Trang Bang and medevac'd to Japan.

Chuck wrote: "So now about the thirty Ambush time, I don't know who was in charge of the first ambush, (it was 1Lt. Rex) I just know that if you had not known what you were doing it would not have ended well. I can see that you were the only NCO that took the time to teach us what the hell was going on. I was driving and not getting time on the ground to see what needed to be done. So for that month I saw what it was like to be leader. If you had not taken Mac and me with you on all of those 3rd platoon ambushes I would have been in a mess the rest of the year. And I can tell you that I needed all of the time on the ground I could get. Because it was only a month

after the ambushes were over that Mac and I were the ones that people were looking to. I walked point on all ambushes and most of daylight things and Mac was always my go to guy. Now I could go on for days, but you were a big part of my time in Nam. Knowing you and what you did for me early on was good. I, like you, went out because they needed a guy that could get them back in at end of the mission."

I was very gratified to hear this, because I always felt guilty for taking them out with me on all those ambush patrols, even though we really didn't have a choice. I also felt guilty for getting wounded and leaving them, but was glad to know they were in good hands with Chuck as squad leader. So some good did come out of the thirty ambushes.

Chuck Kennedy was awarded the Purple Heart, three Army Commendation Medals with "V" device, and later awarded the Silver Star for Heroism when on September 16, 1968, when he ran through intense enemy fire to bring to safety two men who were wounded while on LP during a human wave attack. On August 21, 1968, while 1Lt. Arthur Cook was Charlie Company 3rd platoon leader, he was at the battle at Ben Cui where he distinguished himself. Company C reported that their situation was critical and that they were pulling back. In the fifty minute fire fight, Company C lost eighteen men KIA, twenty-three WIA and six APCs destroyed. 1Lt. Cook took charge of the company after the Company Commander was wounded and got forty-five men through it unscathed. 1Lt. Cook was a career Army officer and retired a LTC. 1Lt. Rex, now Cpt. Rex, went back to Vietnam in 1970 for a second tour. He was wounded in action and medevaced back to the States. I'm very proud to have known and been with these Bobcats, and was honored to serve with them.

Thanks to Chuck Kennedy and Joseph Rex for their emails and memories which greatly helped to add details to this narrative, Donald Mousseau for the group photo and Mike Massey for the color photos of the VC/NVA weapons and gear, and an article in the "Tropic Lightning News" with additional details about the ambushes."

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

Historian Sam Kier Trying To Help Others

Did My Uncle Serve in the 5th in the Philippine Campaign?

Following request made to Randy Kethcart who referred it to Sam.

"Hello, Is there a site where I can verify if my Great Uncle Pvt. Christopher Benjamin Mason, Co. C, 5th infantry, served in the Philippine Campaign. He enlisted in 1899 and was discharged 8 May 1904, Thank You for any assistance."

John Trimmer,
trimmerbird@aol.com

John,

"If PVT Mason served in our regiment from 1899-1904, he would have to have served in the Philippine Insurrection. At that time, when units were deployed overseas, they did not leave a small detachment at home. In July, 1900, 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry, composed of Companies A, B, C, and D, left Ft. Sheridan, IL and traveled west to the Presidio of San Francisco to be processed for shipment to the Philippines. When they reached the islands, they were deployed in Abra Province, Northern Luzon. Company C saw its first action on December 10, 1900 when it was ambushed at Pidigan.

Since Christopher Mason served during the 20th century, I suspect that, if his Army records still exist, they are at the Personnel Records Center in St. Louis, MO. Start at www.archives.com and work from there. Inquire also about his inclusion on a "Register of Enlistments, United States Army" for the year 1900. That document contains a lot of information about each individual soldier.

I have attached an article (*Article appeared in the Spring 2015 Bobcat Bulletin*) that I wrote about PVT Nathan Markovitz of Company D. That will give you a flavor of how things were for the soldiers in 1st Battalion.

Good hunting,"

Sam Kier, Historian
5th Infantry Regiment Assn.

(Koehs from page 7)

residents of Macomb Township as the township clerk.

Koehs died Aug. 8 in his home after a months long battle with cancer.

Although he became best known to residents as the clerk, Koehs never intended to go into politics, according to his wife of 47 years, Cheryl.

After graduating from high school in Harrison Township, Koehs volunteered for the military during the Vietnam War and earned two Purple Hearts for his service.

He then went on to work in the Macomb County Sheriff's Office from 1971 to 1993, and was briefly retired before running into an old friend, Norman Snay, at the polls on an election day in 1996.

Snay was elected to become township clerk that day, and he asked Koehs to be his deputy clerk. When Snay retired from the post in 2002, Koehs took over the clerk position, and he was re-elected in 2004, 2008 and 2012. Jim Gelios became Koehs' deputy clerk. Previously, the two were partners on the midnight shift at the Sheriff's Office in 1993.

"He was the most intelligent, honest man I've ever known," Gelios said of Koehs. "He was honest to a fault almost. He loved his staff and would do anything for them. He always stressed teamwork and to treat everyone the same."

Gelios said Koehs' intelligence stemmed from his love of reading, sometimes a book a day.

"He was a walking encyclopedia. There wasn't a subject you would ask him about that he didn't know something about it," Gelios said. "He was also an excellent teacher. He taught hundreds of people at a time every election cycle. He was a natural-born teacher and very intelligent."

Gelios was one of very few people who Koehs told he was diagnosed with cancer this past November, because he didn't want to create a distraction in the Clerk's Office.

As time passed and Koehs became noticeably weaker, he began telling his staff that he was fighting cancer late this past winter, but until he retired June 3, Gelios said Koehs made every effort to be as visible as possible in the office.

"He said, 'If I can't earn my check, I'm not collecting a paycheck,'" Gelios said. "I thought that was monumental to me."

Edward Carey, who has been working in the Clerk's Office for 15 years, said Koehs was a mentor to him, and

that teamwork and leaving a positive legacy were most important to Koehs.

"He wanted to do what was best for the township, and one of the things he told me when I first started was to leave this place better than we found it. He lived by that creed," Carey said.

Carey and Gelios both described Koehs as "one of a kind."

"His whole life had been serving the public. He left a legacy with all that knew him," said Gelios, who called Koehs his best friend. "I'm going to miss him tremendously."

Koehs' funeral took place Aug. 12 at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Mount Clemens. Koehs is survived by his wife, two children, Michael II and Julie, and two granddaughters

** Copied from C&G Newspapers*

(Roster from page 4)

Platz, Charles - H Co. 2/5 44-45 WW II
Of Lincoln University PA died 21
JAN 14

The death notice below appeared in my local newspaper.

ROBERT D. WARNICK
CUMBERLAND — Robert Donald Warnick, 86, of Valley St., Cumberland, passed away Saturday, Aug. 20, 2016, at the Veterans Administration Medical Center, Martinsburg, W.Va.



At 17 years old he joined the United States Army and was stationed at White Sands Proving Grounds, N.M. He discharged and joined the National Guard from 1948 to 1949. He reenlisted back in the Army in 1949 through 1952. He served with the 555 FABN 5th Regiment Combat Team in Hawaii. He served in Korea with the 24th Division invasion of Mason Seal Prison Hill 105. Bob was wounded two times and received a purple heart, bronze cluster, Korea service ribbon and marksmanship for M1 rifle.

OUR BOBCAT FOREBEARS

by Sam Kier

M/SGT (Ret) Vincent Melillo



RANGER HALL OF FAME

When the names of recently departed 5th Infantry veterans were read at our recent Ft. Benning reunion, the list included 97-year-old Vincent Melillo, a veteran of World War II and Korea. M/SGT Melillo died last year on Christmas Eve.

Vincent Melillo was born in Boonton, NJ, on July 23, 1918, the fifth child of Italian immigrants. Three months later, his mother died during the Spanish flu epidemic of 1918. He was raised in Catholic orphanages until he was reclaimed, at age 11, by the family he didn't know existed.

Melillo quit school after the seventh grade to work as a mason's helper for his father. During the Depression he worked for the Works Progress Administration, the Civilian Conservation Corps and the Boonton Molding Company.

In 1940, Vincent joined the U.S. Army. He spent one year with the 33rd Infantry in Panama and two years in Trinidad before volunteering to transfer to the 5307th Composite Unit, Provisional, later called Merrill's Marauders.

On 24 February 1924, the Marauders, with a strength of 2750 officers and men, began a 1000-mile march over the Himalayas and into the Burmese jungle. They became the first American unit to fight the Japanese on Asian soil.

Vincent Melillo served as a scout in Blue Combat Team, Intelligence and Reconnaissance Platoon, HHC, 2nd Battalion. He was with 2nd Battalion when it was surrounded for almost two weeks by the Japanese at the battle of Nhpum Ga.

After they completed their mission

of capturing the all-weather airstrip at Myitkyina, Burma and opening up supply lines into Asia on 10 August, 1944, the 5307th was disbanded. Combat deaths, wounds, malnutrition, exhaustion and disease had whittled the 2750-man unit down to just 130 combat-effective officers and men. Vincent was tagged for dysentery and malaria and sent back to the States. He was assigned to Camp Wheeler, near Macon, Georgia.

At Camp Wheeler, Vincent met Frankie Thompson of Milan, Georgia, who was managing the post canteen. They married in March 1945.

A short time later, Vincent was training soldiers to use explosives, when one of the troops hit a trip wire. The blast temporarily blinded him, punctured his ear drums and lacerated his hand. After recuperating at Warner Robins Air Base Hospital, he was discharged with a 50% disability.

In 1948, Vincent waived his disability and re-enlisted and was soon shipped to South Korea with the 7th Infantry Division. On January 1, 1949, the personnel in his 32nd Infantry Regiment became members of the newly-activated 5th Regimental Combat Team. Vincent was assigned as a platoon sergeant to Company F.

After a year at Schofield Barracks in Hawaii, the 5th RCT returned to South Korea, on 31 July 1950, to deal with the invasion from the north. Two days after debarking at Pusan, Vincent's Fox Company wrested Hill 342, a high point north of the seacoast village of Chindong-ni, from the North Koreans and beat back counter-attacks for six days until they were relieved by George Company, 7th Marines. Two days later, the company was involved in intense fighting at Chinju Pass. Vincent received two Purple Hearts before his tenure with the 5th RCT ended in 1951.

Vincent served two more tours in Korea. The final being in 1957-58, during which his re-enlistment, up on the DMZ, was publicized in Army newspapers. M/SGT Vincent Melillo retired from the U.S. Army in 1965. He retired again in 1984 as a small arms repair inspector at Ft. Benning.

During his 21 years of active service, Vincent's awards included the Bronze Star, two Purple Hearts, World War II Victory Medal, the Presidential Unit Citation and the Ranger Tab. In 2013, he was inducted into the U.S. Army Ranger Hall of Fame (Merrill's Marauders was a predecessor of the 75th Ranger Regiment) and the Georgia Military Veterans Hall of Fame.

In recent years, Vincent enjoyed doing living history programs throughout Georgia, including FDR's Little White House, the National Infantry Museum, the Atlanta History Center and at various schools, churches and organizations.

Vincent's daughter, Jonnie, who drove her aging father to awards and living history programs, described him as her best friend. She said "I'm going to miss him sitting in the car beside me and singing with him. I'm going to miss his presence because he was the sparkle in my life."

"Everywhere I go, people just loved Daddy. He was just a soft-spoken person but he loved people. In return, he made this incredible connection with people wherever he went. Whether it was at the drug store, Dunkin' Donuts or sitting on a park bench, they remembered him. It made me realize that is not just my daddy, he is everybody's daddy."

Vincent is survived by his daughter, Jonnie Melillo Clasen of Columbus, GA, a grandson, D. Michael Clasen II of Reno, NV, and a sister, Theresa D'Aconti, of Middlesex, NJ and several nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his wife, Frankie, and a son, Vincent Franklin Melillo.



The Vincent Melillo's and their daughter, Jonnie, Korean War era

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



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

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

June 30th, 2016

Bobcats,

On the 20th of June 2016, I had the distinct honor of taking command of our Regiment's 1st Battalion. Combined with the change of command ceremony, we conducted a change of responsibility ceremony, as CSM Ronald D. Corella became the 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry Regiment's Command Sergeant Major. On behalf of the CSM and I we look forward to continuing to strengthen the bonds between the Battalion and the Association.


The Bobcat Battalion is currently not slated for an operational deployment, however we are trained, motivated, and ready should the need arise in these uncertain times. Our Battalion, under the command of the 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team (1-25 Infantry Division), is aligned with US Army Alaska (USARAK) and is poised to support any operation in any environment.

In the coming months, the Bobcat Battalion will prepare for 1-25 SBCT's deployment to the National Training Center (NTC) in Fort Irwin, California. As we prepare for this deployment, the Battalion will conduct Company Live Fires, Stryker Gunnery, Mission Command Exercises, and Joint Level Task Force training.

During the last few months, the Leadership of the Bobcats has changed dramatically. Hawk Company (HHC) is now commanded by CPT Myles Durkin, and he is assisted by 1SG Danny Conley. Anger Company (A Co) is now commanded by CPT Alex Kearns, and he is assisted by 1SG George Barbour. Berserker Company (B Co) is now commanded by CPT Daniel Yu, and he is assisted by 1SG Raymond Agan. Charger Company (C Co) is now commanded by CPT Michael Larmer, and he is assisted by 1SG Jeremiah Waggoner. Gladiator Company (G Co) is commanded by CPT Tyler Cassity, and he is assisted by 1SG Nelson Walker.

My wife, son, and I are tremendously excited to be in Alaska and a part of the Bobcat family past and present. I am truly honored and blessed to serve the Soldiers of the Battalion as Bobcat 6. I look forward to the coming two years with pride and anticipation in the next chapter of this prestigious Battalion. If I can ever assist you in any way, please contact me at robert.b.lackey2.mil@mail.mil.

Sincerely,


R. Blake Lackey
Lieutenant Colonel, US Army
Commanding



LTC R. Blake Lackey



CSM Ronald D. Corella



L-R: Brigade commander COL Hill, outgoing 1/5th commander LTC Hough and new 1/5th commander LTC Lackey



Passing of the Colors from the outgoing command to the incoming command

1/5th Battalion Association Day

Are you interested in attending?

Hello Mr. Frame,

"My name is Quintin Plank, I am the Battalion Public Affairs Officers and I would like to reach out to the Regimental Association on behalf of 1-5 IN BN. Currently, we are looking at conducting an Association Day/event with our BN. The intent behind this is to see if any regimental members from the past would like to come up to Fort Wainwright Alaska and interact/talk with our Soldiers in the Battalion. Kind of like a Bobcat Reunion with past and present Bobcats. Another intent behind this Association Day is to have past Bobcats that have been through the Korean War come and talk to our Soldiers regarding Korea, as we are tentatively slated for a training cycle in Korea next year.

Currently we are looking at next spring time for this event. Please let me know if this is something the Regimental Association would like to pursue. Thank you for your time!"

1LT Quintin G. Plank

S5/CHEMO

1st Battalion, 5th Infantry Regiment
Office: 907-353-3551

Quintin.g.plank.mil@mail.mil

If you are interested in attending this event please do two things.

1. Contact LT Plank (See above)
2. Contact Tom Frame at:
215-514-6613

tframe@verizon.net



Awesome day and 40 MPH winds, the commanders (Above) and the senior NCO leadership (Below) of the 1-5th hiked to the summit of Donnelly Dome.



U.S. Army Alaska's largest exercise in 15 years

"Arctic Anvil 2016, a massive training event featuring the 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division; about 900 troops from the Iowa Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry Regiment; about 130 soldiers from 1st Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry; almost 480 soldiers from the 17th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion; and hundreds more enablers."

For Arctic Anvil, the Stryker brigade had to come to the aid of a friendly nation that had been invaded by "some rogue elements".



"Soldiers assigned to 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry Regiment, 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, walk in the rain in the Yukon Training Area before a company live-fire during Arctic Anvil 2016." (Photo: Justin Connahee/Army)

2017 Reunion Albuquerque New Mexico

Tuesday May 16th - Sunday May 21st 2017

(NM Reunion from page 1)
world....

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

Wednesday May 17th

The International Balloon, The Unser Racing Museum, and Old Town Albuquerque Tour - \$30

Start the day visiting

The International Balloon - Since the first balloon flights in 1783, there have been many feats recorded in the story of Balloon flight. Hot air and gas balloons have been used for adventure, scientific experiments, the arts, warfare, espionage, and the exploration of space.

The exhibits at the Anderson-Abruzzo Albuquerque International Balloon Museum help the visitor see and



understand how all this happened. Emphasis is on the development of exhibits that combine historic artifacts with modern multi-media technology to create a sense of excitement as well as an educational environment.

Next we move on to

Unser Racing Museum - The Unser Racing Museum is a multi-dimensional museum experience utilizing modern technologies to educate and

immerse the visitor in the exciting world of racing. Take a guided tour and learn about the Unser family history, then explore on your own, seeing and interacting with racing history as it happened. The museum spans the early



days of racing from Pikes Peak and Indianapolis to the latest technology, including a racing simulator that puts you in the driver's seat, and interactive kiosks for young and old to learn more about racing in a fun, educational environment.

Last we move onto Old Town Albuquerque for time on your own for lunch and shopping.

Stroll the Plaza, dine at our many



restaurants, or shop at over 150 stores and galleries for unique gifts from the Southwest and around the world. Quiet hidden patios, winding brick paths, gardens and balconies are waiting to be discovered!

Thursday May18

Sandia Peak Tramway & Mexican Luncheon

\$65 Per Person 10 am - 3 pm

A trip on the Sandia Peak Aerial Tramway transports you above deep canyons and breathtaking terrain a distance of 2.7 miles. See some of nature's more dramatic beauty unfold before you. At sunset the desert skies produce a spectacular array of color, and your vantage point from the observation deck atop 10,378 foot Sandia Peak in the Cibola National Forest affords an 11,000 square



-mile panoramic view of the Rio Grande Valley and the Land of Enchantment. Located on the eastern edge of Albuquerque in the Sandia Foothills at the end of Tramway Road. From there we will enjoy a Mexican Buffet at "Sadies on 4th".

Friday May 19th

Memorial Service at the New Mexico Veterans Memorial

\$35 Per person 10 am - 3 pm

Schedule of Event



Depart Hotel: 10:00 AM

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

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

Explore Exhibits: 1:00 to 2:30



Saturday's schedule on page 15

Albuquerque 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 Balloon & Unser Museums / Old Town Tour?
_____ Yes _____ No _____

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

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

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

⇒ Are you driving? Yes _____ No _____

⇒ Is this your first reunion?
Yes _____ No _____

COMMENTS:

Mail to or contact:

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

See you in Albuquerque New Mexico!

Registration Form Albuquerque NM 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 17 May - The International Balloon, The Unser Racing Museum, and Old Town Albuquerque Tour - \$30 each		
THU 18 May - Sandia Peak Tramway & Mexican Luncheon \$65 Per Person		
FRI 19 May - Memorial Service at the New Mexico Veterans Memorial - \$35 Per person		
SAT 20 May - Banquet Dinner Choices		
1. New York Strip Steak \$45		
2. Chicken Marsala \$40		
3. Grilled Tilapia \$40		
4. Pasta Primavera (Veggie choice) \$30		
5. Kids Meal - Chicken Fingers etc. - \$15 Per Person		
Reunion Donation (<i>Help cover buses, hospitality room, etc.</i>)		
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

Cancellation policy: Except in cases of death or health, refunds will not be made if the request is made in less than 30 days before the reunion.



Next page for Hotel information

Please Help!

Please complete a Pre- Registration form on page 15 or on our Webpage. By completing the Pre-Registration form you will help us plan our needs for transportation and meals etc.

The MCM Elegante



\$85 Single / Double per night

*** Free parking**

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

To make reservations call:

1- (505) 884-2511

and when booking tell them *

5th Infantry Regiment Association



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

Saturday May 20th

9:00 - 10 AM - General Membership Meeting

9:00 - 10 AM - Ladies Breakfast (Free)

10:30 - 11 AM Fraggging

Free to explore Albuquerque until 5 PM

Bobcat Banquet

5:00 PM - Cocktails

6:00 PM - Dinner

7:00 PM - Program

8:00 PM - Approx. Auction

Dinner Choices

New York Strip Steak \$45

Chicken Marsala \$40

Grilled Tilapia \$40

Pasta Primavera (Veggie choice) \$30

Chicken Fingers (Kids Meal) \$15

** All dinners include house salad, mashed potatoes, and seasonal vegetables, dinner rolls, dessert, iced tea and coffee*

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"

Albuquerque

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

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

New Coin For Sale

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

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

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

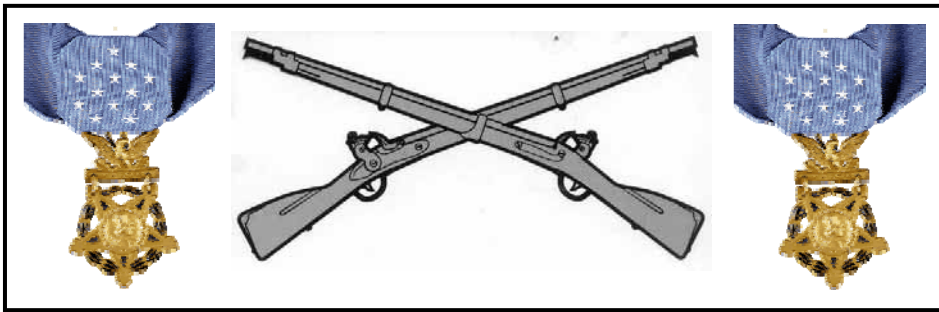


<http://www.bobcat.ws/quartermaster.html>

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



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



Honoring Our Bobcat Heroes!

Congressional Medal of Honor is Awarded to:

BAIRD, 1st LT George W., Regimental Adjutant, Bear Paw Mountain, 30 September 1877. Issued 27 November 1894. "Most distinguished gallantry in action with the Nez Perce Indians." Born: Connecticut.

BAKER, John, Musician, Company D, Cedar Creek, MT, October 1876 to January 1877. Issued 27 April 1877. "Gallantry in engagements." Born: Germany.

BALDWIN, 1st LT Frank D. (1st Award) Peach Tree Creek, GA, 20 Jul 1864, as CPT, Co D, 19th Michigan Infantry, "Led his company in a counter charge, under a galling fire, ahead of his own men, and singly entered the enemy's lines, capturing and bringing back two Confederate officers, fully armed, besides a guidon of a Georgia regiment.

(2nd Award) "As 1st LT, 5th U.S. infantry, rescued with two companies, two white girls by a voluntary attack upon Indians whose superior numbers and strong position would have warranted delay for reinforcements, but which delay would have permitted the Indians to escape and kill their captives."

BURKE, PVT Richard, Company G, Cedar Creek campaign. Issued 27 April 1877. "Gallantry in engagements." Born: Ireland.

BUTLER, CPT Edmond, Wolf Mountain, MT, 8 January 1877. Issued 27 Nov 1894. "Most distinguished gallantry in action with hostile Indians." Born: Ireland.

BYRNE, SGT Denis, Company G, Cedar Creek campaign. Issued 27 Nov 1894. "Gallantry in engagements." Born: Ireland.

CABLE, PVT Joseph A., Cedar Creek campaign. Issued 27 April 1877. "Gallantry in action." Born: Missouri.

CALVERT, PVT James S., Company G, Cedar Creek Campaign. Issued 27 April 1877. "Gallantry in action." Born: Ohio.

CARTER, 1st LT Mason, Bear Paw Mountain, MT. 30 Sep 1877. Issued 27 November 1894. "Led a charge under galling fire, in which he inflicted great loss upon the enemy." Born: Georgia.

CASEY, CPT James, Wolf Mountain, MT, 8 January 1877. Issued 27 November 1894. "Led his command in a successful charge against superior numbers of the enemy strongly posted." Born: Pennsylvania.

COONROD, SGT Aquilla, Company D, Cedar Creek campaign. Issued 27 April 1877. "Gallantry in action." Born: Ohio

Medal of Honor

Best I can figure the 5th Infantry Regiment has had 56 men awarded our nations highest military honor the "Medal of Honor". Four Medals of Honor were awarded during the Vietnam War and three for action during the Korean War.

I have previously printed the citations for the seven from the Vietnam and Korean wars.

In this newsletter and until I have printed all 49 of the other recipients of the Medal of Honor I will provide information about these men.

Inherently 20 of these 56 recipients were immigrants who were born in a foreign country. Most of these immigrants were born in Ireland.

Two recipients 1st LT Frank D. Baldwin and 1ST SGT Henry Hogan were awarded the Medal of Honor twice.

The majority of these 56 recipients were awarded the medal for action during the wars against the Indians in the late 1800's.

"The Medal of Honor is the United States of America's highest military honor, awarded for personal acts of valor above and beyond the call of duty. The medal is awarded by the President of the United States in the name of the U.S. Congress to U.S. military personnel only. There are three versions of the medal, one for the Army, one for the Navy, and one for the Air Force.....

The Medal of Honor was created as a Navy version in 1861 named the "Medal of Valor", and an Army version of the medal named the "Medal of Honor" was established in 1862 to give recognition to men who distinguished themselves "conspicuously by gallantry and intrepidity" in combat with an enemy of the United States. Because the medal is presented "in the name of Congress", it is often referred to as the "Congressional Medal of Honor". However, the official name is the "Medal of Honor", which began with the U.S. Army's version. Within United States Code the medal is referred to as the "Medal of Honor", and less frequently as "Congressional Medal of Honor"....

According to the Medal of Honor Historical Society of the United States, there have been 3,515 Medals of Honor awarded to the nation's soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen since the decoration's creation."

Fred Deverse

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
25 put on the lower left sleeve
of your jacket or shirt for \$5.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Color: (Circle Color) Light Blue or Indigo

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

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

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

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

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

Special instructions for order: _____

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

Prices listed for all items above include shipping.

Payment must be received before orders will be processed.

Make the check payable to: 5th INF ASSOC

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

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

5th Infantry Association Quartermaster

Items For Sale

Prices listed include shipping.

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



Bobcat General Member- ship meeting May 21, 2016

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

Paul Robinson
Secretary

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

Membership Application 5th Infantry Regiment Association, Inc. 25th Infantry Division Association	
(Please Print)	
Name: _____	
_____ New Member _____ Renewal (Complete only items that need changed)	
Street: _____	
City: _____	State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone Number: _____ Spouse's Name: _____	
Unit (BN/CO/PLT etc.): _____ Dates with 5th INF: _____	
E-Mail Address: _____	
Membership: (Please circle your selection)	
1 Year - \$15 2 Years - \$25 5 Years - \$60 Lifetime -Ages 1-49 = \$200 50-64 = \$150 65+ = \$100 Active Duty - \$5.00 per year	
Donations: (Tax Deductible) General Fund _____ Scholarship _____ Newsletter _____ Reunion _____	
Make checks payable to "5th Infantry Regiment Association" and mail this application to:	
5th INF REG ASSN PO BOX 569 Frankfort MI 49635-0569	
(You can join or renew online and pay using a credit card. Go to www.bobcat.ws and follow the directions.)	

Membership Application 25TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION	
Name _____	Spouse _____
Street _____	
City _____	State _____ Zip _____
Unit Served With _____	
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	

DO YOU HAVE YOUR COPY?

"Hello Sam,

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

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

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

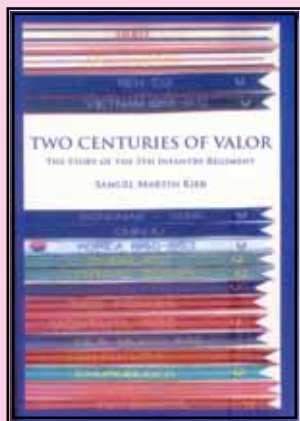
Ric Myers,

Medic, Recon PLT, 1967-68

History of The 5th Infantry Regiment

This book *"Two Centuries of Valor: The Story of the 5th Infantry Regiment"* written by Sam Kier our Historian traces the history of the 5th Regiment from its beginning up to the present day. Many of our members are mentioned in the book as are events and battles that you may have participated in.

You can purchase this book by going to our website at: http://www.bobcat.ws/quarter_master.shtml where you can pay for the book using your credit card or you can contact Sam at: 831-646-8025 or samkier@montereybay.com



MY FIRST JOURNEY TO THE WAR ZONE

By Nevin R. Williams

"On or about 15 March 1967, I arrive at Cam Ranh Bay, Vietnam. I spent the night at the Personnel Center. The following day, I, along with dozens of other "new guys" are "combat loaded" on a C-130. "Combat Loaded" means we were herded onto the plane like cattle. We were told to "close it up" so that the USAF could get as many of us as possible on the plane. There were no seats. We finally were told to sit on the floor—if we could. Once the USAF crew gets the doors closed, we take off for Saigon, Vietnam. Sometime later we land at Tan Son Nhut, offload, and proceed to the Personnel Center.

Those of us going to Cu Chi, including me, are separated and issued M-14 rifles and one magazine of ammo. The NCOIC tells us that soon we will load on to 2 ½ ton trucks and join a convoy to Cu Chi. He suggests that we remember our basic training to include marksmanship skills—just in case the convoy is attacked.

It is a typical U.S. ARMY "hurry up and wait" exercise. We are all sitting on the ground waiting for the trucks. The NCOIC approaches me, and says, Captain, come with me. He explains that he has a helicopter going to Cu Chi and that he tries to send officers by air, when possible.

So, my first helicopter ride in a combat zone begins. I had been on a helicopter once before, a light observation chopper, but never on a HUEY and never on a helicopter with machine guns.

As we approach Cu Chi, I note the base camp below me and all the fires. I am curious about all those fires! How can that many bar-b-ques be out of control? So, I finally shout my question to the Crew Chief. He tells me they are "shit burning" fires.



This makes no sense to me. I later learn that due to a high water table the feces are burnt as they cannot be buried (as we did in Korea). Fortunately, being an officer, I was spared the experience of actually burning the stuff. However, after smelling the stuff for a year, I can still remember the awful smell! I later lived in California that allegedly had a smog problem. Californians have never seen smog like the blanket that used to hang over our base camps in Vietnam! I understand the Army still uses this method of disposal in the Middle East.

Some photos for your viewing pleasure and remembrances—taken at Cu Chi (but not in the 5th Infantry area)"



(Florida from page 1)

BOBCAT WINTER SOCIAL

THURS. FEBRUARY 2, 2017 - SUN. FEBRUARY 5, 2017
(longer stay available at group rate)



You could be here on 3 FEB

"BEACH VIEW HOTEL"

325 South GULFVIEW BLVD.
CLEARWATER BEACH, FL

(Parking on Coronado Dr. - Behind Hotel)

Directions After Crossing over Memorial Causeway Bridge...At Traffic Circle bare Left onto Coronado Dr. ...Keep driving behind Hyatt Hotel Parking Garage...Beach View Hotel Parking on right. Do not park in Parking for Beach View Suites. - If you take S. Gulf Blvd...Beach View Hotel on Left after the Hyatt...right after Beach View make a Left on 5th then Left on Coronado Dr...Hotel Parking on the Left.

VIEW PICTURES -

www.thebeachviewhotel.com

+++++

Complimentary Breakfast / Fitness Center / WIFI / New Restaurant / Free Parking

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WALK WAY TO BEACH ACROSS THE STREET

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ROOM RATES

STANDARD CITY VIEW ROOM:

2 Full Beds/ King Bed (Limited) No Balcony - \$124 pp

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2 Queen Beds / Kitchenette, Refrigerator, Microwave, Coffeemaker, Sitting area & Balcony- \$144 pp
All Rooms Include: Flat Screen TV / Iron/Iron Board, Blow Dryer

RATES INCLUDE:

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RATES NOT INCLUDE: 13% Tax

+++++

HOTEL RESERVATIONS ASAP - CONTACT:

TERIANN ... 727-482-4564

Teriannstravels@aol.com

Credit Card holds room - No Charge

Cancel 72 hrs. prior to arrival

BOBCAT DINNER

FRIDAY, FEB. 3, 2017

MIDDLE GROUND GRILL

10925 Gulf Blvd., Treasure Island, FL 33706

727-360-4253

(Pay for Meal at Restaurant)

STARLITE DINNER CRUISE

SAT., FEB. 4, 2017 / Boarding 6:30PM

Majesty Dining Yacht

RATE: \$48.75pp Incl. Tax & Gratuity
Delicious Food & Entertainment

Send check to:

Teriann Tringali

800 Main St. /Unit 425

Dunedin, FL 34698

INTERESTED TAKING A CRUISE PRIOR / AFTER?

Please Contact:

Teriannstravels@aol.com
727-482-4564

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fpd@bobcat.ws

BOBCAT WINTER SOCIAL VIEWS



Majesty Dining Yacht and it's Dinning Room



**1st Battalion 5th Infantry Regiment's Change of Command Ceremony
1st Stryker Brigade - 25th Infantry Division
Fort Wainwright Alaska**



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

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