



# Thunder Run

Vol. 30 – NO. 34

“Together Then – Together Again”

4th Quarter, 2015

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

### The Power of Gratitude

By Van Marosek  
September 15, 2015

It was an ordinary day, or so I thought, when my husband and I drove to his Rotary district conference in Columbus, Ga. But as soon as I walked in the conference center, I learned that the 11th Armored Cavalry’s Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia were also having an annual gathering. It turned out to be an incredible day — the day I learned about the power of gratitude.

With my background being a Vietnamese person who came to the states after the Vietnam War, I’m always interested in understanding the sentiment of the veterans and their family members about their experience. So I deserted my husband and spent my time with them instead.

The need to fully comprehend and appreciate veterans started when I was in high school taking a U.S. History class. A

Through the years my desire to speak with and listen to anyone involved in the war grew stronger. My deep appreciation for them intensified.

veteran came to my school to speak about his war experience. He walked with a limp and was using a cane, which I concluded was a result from his time in the jungle of Vietnam. He was angry, drafted in the midst of his college years to fight in a country he never even heard of and then was injured during an ambush. He came home physically broken and mentally scarred by what he encountered. He spoke of the disruption in his life, a loss of his youth; stable and comfortable, stolen from him upon coming home, in his

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### We Remember...And Will Be Remembered



The 11th United States Cavalry Regiment Memorial at Fort Benning, Georgia, dedicated in August 2015.

### We Remember Columbus and...

### Move on to The Alamo

By Steve Page, Reunion Chairman

The Columbus, GA Reunion was very successful with 1264 in attendance. The tours were very well attended and from all reports very enjoyable. The Basic Training graduation and Memorial Dedication were the perfect tie in and made for a very memorable day. Our Memorial is beautiful. The 30th was a great reunion. I want to thank Pete Walter for taking on the most complex part of this reunion, the transportation. With five hotels and a number of tours involved the timing was crucial and all went off without a hitch.

In August of 2016 we will be together again in San Antonio, TX, a city with lots to do. The Grand Hyatt is just steps away from The River Walk with all its many restaurants, shops, music and other venues. The hotel information for reservations is listed in this issue of Thunder Run and on our website. Please make your hotel reservations as soon as possible, as this will give us the ability to add rooms to our block if necessary.



This will be a return to San Antonio with the last visit in 1992. Much has changed in this great city. Many of our members have asked to go back. Now, here is your chance. The 2016 reunion is shaping up to be another first class event. Much more information will follow in the next *Thunder Run* and on our website.





Allen Hathaway  
President

# From The Command Track

By Allen Hathaway, President



The 30th annual reunion was held on August 19-23 in Columbus/Fort Benning, Georgia. There was no doubt that this year's reunion was challenging with multiple hotels and venues plus a full schedule. That didn't seem to faze our very supportive members. The attendance this year was 1,264 people.

Many people were on hand to pick up their reunion packets when registration officially opened on Wednesday afternoon at the beautiful Columbus Convention Center. As always, the "First Timers" were recognized with a "welcome home" and a round of applause from the crowd as they checked in. Eight-eight (88) troopers attended their first reunion this year, another impressive number. The second stop after registration is usually the Quartermaster Store.

The "bunker," our large banquet size hospitality room, also opened on Wednesday afternoon. People began to gather around their unit tables. Many were seen looking at photo albums. In recent years some of the photo albums have given way to laptops and tablets.

Throughout the afternoon old friends met, some for the first time since leaving Vietnam. Those first meetings are always very special. Many greeted each other with a strong handshake or a bear hug and a "you haven't changed a bit." It may have been over four decades since some had seen each other but those years seem to fade into minutes. They soon became reacquainted and then began asking "whatever happened to ..." and "what was the name of ..." These are all very special moments during the reunion.

Perhaps the highlight of the reunion was Thursday morning and the dedication of our beautiful monument. The day began very early as shuttle buses began to make their rounds at the various hotels to pick up people and transport them to National Infantry Museum parade grounds and grandstands. At 9:00 AM we watched the U.S. Army's newest soldiers of A Company, 81st Armor Battalion graduate from Basic Training and Armor AIT. This

The memorial is beautiful. It is a fitting tribute to all Blackhorse troopers who have served and sacrificed since the regiment was formed in 1901. The names of all known casualties of each major conflict of the 11th Cavalry are listed on four obelisks.

is a very impressive ceremony and much different than those we remember in the 1960's. Veterans of the 11th Cavalry were recognized for their service during the ceremony.

The memorial dedication program followed the graduation. Remarks were given by Don Snedeker on the history of the 11th Cavalry since 1901, I gave a brief history the memorial since 1967, BG James Blackburn, who commanded 1/11 ACR in Iraq, commented on the regiments involvement in Iraq in 2005-2006 and Glenn Snodgrass explained the seven year process of moving the memorial from Fort Knox to Fort Benning. Following the program, hundreds of Blackhorse troopers, family and friends moved to the memorial at Patton's Park for the unveiling. We were pleased to have 29 Gold Star family members attend the memorial dedication and reunion.

The memorial is beautiful. It is a fitting tribute to all Blackhorse troopers who have served and sacrificed since the regiment was formed in 1901. The names of all known casualties of each major conflict of the 11th Cavalry are listed on four obelisks. Two new large granite tablets have been added. One tablet features a beautiful carved Blackhorse insignia along with the brief history of the 11th since 1901. The second tablet features the unit crest with a list of the 24 campaign streamers of the 11th Cavalry. Over 1,500 granite pavers are arranged in four sections surrounding the memorial. The pavers were purchased by members and engraved with name, unit and dates of service and other messages of support. The pavers are a true sign of the pride we have in serving with the 11th Cavalry.

Following the dedication many took the opportunity to tour the World War II Company Street, an area of restored bar-

racks, mess hall, orderly room, supply room and chapel. Others took the opportunity to tour the National Infantry Museum, an impressive, first class museum. More troopers and families arrived throughout the day and by Thursday evening the "bunker" was buzzing with activity.

Friday was also a very busy day. The golfers got an early start for the 24th annual Marty Ognibene Golf Tournament. Over 30 golfers participated this year. Shuttle buses began making the rounds of the hotels to pick up people who signed up for one of three tours; Armor Restoration Facility at Sand Hill, Abrams and Bradley Simulators at the Armor School at Harmony Church and the Women's Columbus tour.

The silent auction was held on Friday evening. One hundred seventy (170) items were donated and available for bid. We have an incredible number of talented members who provided crafts to support the auction. Many items were one-of-a-kind with the Blackhorse theme.

The Annual Business Meeting was held on Saturday morning where we reported on the state of the organization. Elections were held for four officers and one director, the results of which are printed elsewhere in this issue. An overview of the 2016 reunion in San Antonio was given. Orlando, FL was chosen as the location for the 2017 reunion.

Chaplain Bill Karabinos conducted the memorial service on Saturday afternoon. The names of departed Blackhorse troopers who have passed away since the previous reunion were read. Members of the audience had the opportunity to speak about friends or loved ones lost this past year. There were many heartfelt tributes to our departed Blackhorse troopers.

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## 11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia (11ACVVC)

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Thunder Run covers present and future interests of the organization that includes membership and reunion information, various fund raising activities, and other items relative to the membership. Submissions are welcome and encouraged. Correspondence and inquiries concerning *Thunder Run* should be made in writing to: Editor, "Thunder Run," C.E. "Bill" Gregory, Jr., 421 Fallen Leaf Dr., Soddy Daisy, TN 37379-3577.

<b>President</b>	Allen Hathaway, (HHT Regiment, 66-67)	<b>Editor</b>	C.E. 'Bill' Gregory, Jr. (H Co., 2/11, 69-70, HHT, 2/11, 70)
<b>Membership Chair</b>	13194 Rettew Drive Manassas, VA 20112 (703) 791-6610 <11thcav1966@comcast.net>		421 Fallen Leaf Dr. Soddy Daisy, TN 37379-3577 <Battle46A@epbf.com>
<b>Vice President &amp; Chair Operation Embrace</b>	Peter L. Walter, (How, 3/11, 70) 8 Tallowood Dr. Westampton, NJ 08060-3721 (609) 261-5629 <basepiece70@verizon.net>	<b>Information Technology/ Ecommerce</b>	Otis Carey (F Troop, 2/11, 71-72) PO Box 124 Ekron, KY 40117 (270) 828-2512 <Sales@kysales.net>
<b>Secretary</b>	Adrian Vaaler (HHT Regiment 69-70) 2610 Baker Blvd Eugene, OR 97403 (541) 344-2113 <11thsecretary@gmail.com>	<b>Assistant Information Technology/ECommerce</b>	Paul Gruber (G Troop, 2/11, 68) Tallahassee, FL (850) 878-8425 <pgruber@polaris.net>
<b>Director &amp; Scholarship Chairman</b>	Mike "Doc" Rafferty (G Troop, 2/11, 1969-1970) 5837 Habanero Dr. Las Cruces, NM 88012 (575) 915-2921 <PlatoonMedic36@gmail.com>	<b>Website Manager &amp; Facebook Site</b>	Robert Kickenweitz (HHT Reg't, 66-67) 155 Hickory Tavern Rd Gillette, NJ 07933 (908) 803-3455 <bobk11acr@comcast.net>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Ollie W. Pickral, (K Troop 3/11, 68-69) 571 Ditchley Road Kilmarnock, VA 22482 (804) 435-3658 <11cavalry@verizon.net>	<b>Veterans' Information</b>	Jack Morrison (A Troop, 1/11, 1967-1969) 542 Main St. Rockport, IN 47635 <slumlord@psci.net>
<b>Director</b>	Robert "Bob" Moreno (G Troop 2/11, 68-69) 24284 Endeavor Ave. Tomah, WI 54660 ((608) 387-3346 <gtroopbob@gmail.com>	<b>Historian</b>	Don Snedeker 2221 Tulip Dr Falls Church, VA 22046 (703) 533-1905 (W) <Blackhorse4@verizon.net>
<b>Director &amp; Reunion Committee Chairman</b>	Stephen R. Page (B Troop, 1/11, 66-67) 4201 Ravenwood Dr. Little River, SC 29566 (843) 249-5278 <page116667@gmail.com>	<b>Public Affairs</b>	Eric Newton (K Troop 3/11, '68-'69) 1037 Bluff Creek Point Strawn, TX 76475 <armor11ACR@aol.com>
<b>Chaplain</b>	Lawrence E. Haworth, (HHT 2/11, 69-70) 6508 Bannocks Dr. San Antonio, TX 78239 (661) 860-0093 (cell) (210) 646-5482 <lehaworth@aol.com>	<b>Funeral Honor Guard</b>	Peter L. Walter (How, 3/11, 70) 8 Tallowood Dr. Westampton, NJ 08060-3721 (609) 261-5629 <basepiece70@verizon.net>
<b>Auditor</b>	William "Bill" Suhre (I Troop, 3/11 '68) 217 83rd Ave Greeley, CO 80634 (970) 330-7900 <thesurreys@aol.com>	<b>Women's Co-Coordinator</b>	Kathy Tandberg 112 4th Ave. NW Beulah, ND 58523 (701) 873-2970 <kathyz.tandberg@yahoo.com
<b>Quartermaster</b>	Jerry L. Beamon, (K Troop, 3/11, 1969-1970) 15926 Cedar Bay Dr Bullard, TX 75757 <JerryLBea@aol.com>		



# 11th ACVVC Annual Reunion XXX











Bill Gregory, Editor  
*Thunder Run*

"If you can ride the Blackhorse, you can ride any horse." So says Glenn McRae (H Company, 1968), or that quote is very close to what he said at our table during the reunion banquet. I have often said I go to reunions to see old friends from the 'nam and new friends I have made since then. Glenn and I both served in H Company, he in 1968 and I in 1969-70. Over 45 years later we met for the first time, over dinner at the banquet. I hope to see Glenn at many other reunions. I enjoyed talking with him and hearing about his time in H Company, and his life after H Company.

"If you can ride the Blackhorse, you can ride any horse", is an example of the spirit of pride that still lives in the hearts of most Vietnam veterans of the Blackhorse. A spirit of pride in service, in knowing that we as a group helped write a page in American history and did it well. It matters not what the motives of our political leaders were then or have been since. It doesn't matter if the war was popular or if we were honored by our countrymen or not. Our sense of pride and accomplishment comes from having been a part of and having made a real contribution to a mission given to us by our country. We did a job few others have ever done and did it as well or better than anyone. From that comes a sense of pride and

**"If you can ride the Blackhorse, you can ride any horse", is an example of the spirit of pride that still lives in the hearts of most Vietnam veterans of the Blackhorse.**

accomplishment that helps bind us together now and to Fiddlers Green and perhaps beyond.

Another great reunion! I am not the first to say that. It happens every year as our officers and volunteers put together one great reunion after another. This year's was especially difficult because of all the hotel and transportation issues; so a very well deserved "well done" to Steve, Allen, Pete, Bob, Jerry, Don, Eric, and everyone who had a hand in the planning and execution of Reunion XXX.!

This issue we share memories of Columbus. We have pictures and articles to help us remember and hopefully share some of the joy with those who could not attend this year. We have an article by Van Marosek, who was a child when we were in Vietnam and came to America as the war ended. If you missed her talk at the memorial service in Columbus, her article gives a good feel for her attachment to Vietnam Veterans, and ours to her. Melvin Lanier gives us a thought provoking look into

his tour in Vietnam. Greg Mason shares a "coming home" story of the 2014 reunion, and Ollie Pickral gives us a humorous look at his adventures on the Chattahoochee!

If you enjoy country music you may remember the Charley Pride hit from long ago, "Is Anybody Going to San Antone?" Well, yes, the 11th ACVVC is going to San Antonio, from August 24, through 28, 2016! We will likely not only go to San Antone, but do it in a very big way! This issue contains hotel information and you can make your hotel reservations NOW! If you need to cancel later, there is no penalty, so go ahead and reserve your slot so you don't forget. We will have much more information about the reunion in the winter 2016 issue.

I've used up all my time and space for this quarter, I hope you enjoy this Thunder Run! Hope you have a great finish to 2015, enjoy the holidays, and may you always reside in the peace and grace of God.

laws can be found on our website.

President Allen Hathaway and Secretary nominee Gregory Mason replacing retiring Secretary Adrian Vaaler were elected to one year terms, beginning Jan 1, 2016. Vice President Peter Walter and Treasurer Ollie Pickral were elected to two year terms, beginning Jan 1, 2016. Director Bob Moreno was re-elected to a three year term beginning Jan 1, 2016.

The Rosen Centre in Orlando, FL, was selected for the 2017 reunion. The reunion dates are September 6-10, 2017.

## 2015 Election Report

By: Adrian Vaaler,  
Secretary, 11th ACVVC

This year the By Laws were modified to change the election cycles for some officers.

Article VII, Section 2(a) of the current by-laws call for the President, Secretary, Vice President and Treasurer to be elected in odd numbered years to serve a two year term.

The by-laws were changed so that the President and Secretary will be elected in even numbered years to serve a two year term. The Vice President and Treasurer will be elected in odd num-

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bered years to serve a two year term.

In order to implement the change a special one-time election was held for the President and Secretary to serve a one year term beginning Jan 1, 2016. Beginning with elections in 2016 and every even number year the President and Secretary will be elected to a two year term. A complete copy of the by-

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## GRATITUDE from page 1

words, “as a cripple.” With the mindset of a 17- year-old, I felt guilty and responsible for what happened to him. Wanting to stay to hear him, to understand, but unable to bear it, I stole away from the back of the room.

Through the years my desire to speak with and listen to anyone involved in the war grew stronger. My deep appreciation for them intensified. I have talked with nurses, medics, soldiers, wives and others whenever and wherever I encountered them. So last Saturday, by chance, our paths crossed. I talked with many of them. One gentleman expressed his struggles coming back from his tour in 1966. He came back to a hostile environment: his own country. Like most soldiers, he was vilified by those who opposed the war simply for doing his duty. Instead of being treated as war heroes, he and his fellow soldiers were treated as baby killers and warmongers. Furthermore, he came back to a place where he and other blacks were treated as second-class citizens. His voice wavered when he told me about his off-duty-weekend trip he took with his buddies. “I felt more free in Thailand than when I’m in my own country,” he confided. He came home to fight another battle,

this time for his civil rights.

I talked with Judy whose husband, Richard, served two tours and was wounded. He is suffering from a respiratory disease and is terminally ill. He was exposed to Agent Orange, a chemical used during the war that was later determined to cause tumors, birth defects and cancer. She spoke of the challenges of raising three daughters while he was away, and although a good father and grandfather, he rarely talks about what happened in Vietnam. She is thankful for the ACVVC. It provides camaraderie, a place to share stories, memories and get support.

As I thanked and befriended many of them throughout the morning, they invited me to stay for the afternoon session. “Why don’t you stay and talk to these guys?” a friendly gentleman suggested. Feeling like an intruder, I wanted to decline, but in my heart of hearts I sincerely wanted to express my gratitude. Emboldened by a newfound best friend, Jerry, a veteran who insisted and escorted me, I spoke.

I said: “Thank you for your service and your sacrifice. More than you’ll ever know, you have changed thousands of

lives. I am grateful for you. I salute you. I honor you. Thank you for being a part of something so big that changed the course of my life and others like me for the better.”

Then something amazing happened. I would never be able to predict in a million years the way they responded. They showered me with their gratitude. They were so appreciative that I acknowledged and thanked them. Instead of allowing me to appreciate them, they were grateful for my words. It was unbelievable as they approached, eyes full of tears, faces filled with love, and hugged me.

I kept thinking that it was me who is thankful, but my husband affirmed that these veterans needed to be truly and honorably recognized for their services. They needed to hear it as much as I needed to say it. My sincerest gratitude was reciprocated a hundred times over.

Something very special happened to us that day. It made me realize: Gratitude begets gratitude, and a genuine show of gratitude induces healing and touches the soul.

*Reprinted from the Gwinnett Daily Post, Sept 15, 2015*

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## COMMAND TRACK from page 2

A very heartfelt tribute to the 11th Cavalry veterans was given by a young Vietnamese woman who happened to be attending a meeting with her husband in another part of the building. She was invited to attend the memorial service. Her words were powerful, moving and very emotional.

The Saturday evening banquet and program is another highlight of the reunion. We would like to thank our guest speaker, Major General Austin S. Miller, Commanding General, Maneuver Center of Excellence for his excellent remarks during his speech.

We would also like to thank the 11th ACR regimental commander, COL Kevin Jacobi, for his remarks via video as well as CSM Carl Ashmead. Included in the video update were outstanding scenes of how our Blackhorse soldiers train

America’s Army at Fort Irwin. They are the best of the best.

The Saturday evening program was topped off by the Blackhorse Salute. This is always a very powerful and sometimes emotional portion of the program as we salute the service of the thousands of Blackhorse troopers who served with this great regiment in Vietnam.

Our reunions are welcoming and lively. You feel that as soon as you walk in the door and see the first Blackhorse insignia. There’s excitement in the air with old friends meeting for the first time. Others share photos and conversations of both past and present. Wives and friends meet again. First timers feel welcome and regret that they waited so long to attend. There’s laughter and perhaps a few tears. There’s healing. There’s pride in our service to our great regiment and to our coun-

try. And when we leave the reunion we’re already looking forward to the next year.

Our thanks to all who attended, and especially the volunteers who worked tirelessly, to help make this another successful reunion. We especially want to thank the many Blackhorse troopers, family and friends who attend and support these great events. It’s your participation that makes these reunions so successful year after year. Please visit our website and Facebook page for more reunion photos.

Our next reunion will be in San Antonio, TX, August 24-28, 2016. We’re working on another great reunion. All hotel reservation information is in this issue and on our website. Make your plans early. We hope to see you in San Antonio in 2016. It’s great to be “together again” ALLONS!



# 11th ACVVC Annual Reunion XXX

Ft. Benning, GA: Dedicating the 11th Cavalry Monument





# 'Patton Is Taking Command'

By: Melvin R. Lanier  
HHT, 3/11 – 1967-68,  
July 13, 1968:

I'm sitting on my duffle bag on the heliport airfield of the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment along with a small group of fellow troopers waiting for the arrival of a caribou. The thick monsoon air draws water from my body gluing my jungle fatigue shirt flat against my skin. My fatigue trousers are bloused inside the tops of my jungle boots. What may look like a deep tan is mostly red earth lodged in my skin pores. "Patton is taking command", said one of the troopers. On Monday July 15th, just two days away, Colonel George S. Patton, IV, the forty six year old son of the infamous World War II army general will take command as the 39th colonel of The Blackhorse.

I recalled the beginning of my own tour one year ago from this hot July morning when, following six months Basic and Advanced Infantry Training, I found myself stuffed inside a military C141 Star Lifter troop transport that somehow had lifted its huge bulk into a black New Jersey night and onto a somber journey that would circumvent nearly half the globe, vectoring west over the continental United States, veering north to Alaska for a brief refueling stop at eerie blue-black Anchorage, across the North Pacific Ocean to Okinawa, Japan and, after 17 hours, arriving at Ton Son Nhut air base in what was then the Republic of Vietnam. I'd brought along a book, "God Is My Co-Pilot" by fellow Georgian Robert L. Scott. I suppose I was searching for some comfort, some camaraderie solace to lighten my dark thoughts of the interminable span of time ahead of me - 365 days and nights that for a kid just months out of his teens were assured to move in cruel slow motion.

Stepping out of the plane I collided with a wall of furnace-hot South Vietnamese air, the first of a number of shocks waiting to be encountered during the year ahead of me. I was transported to the processing center in Bien Hoa near the capital city of Saigon toting my duffle bag and paper orders and began an experience that would leave images forever burned into my memory, some as clear as yesterday's. Soon I

My fatigue trousers are bloused inside the tops of my jungle boots. What may look like a deep tan is mostly red earth lodged in my skin pores.

received orders to report to the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment and was airlifted to its encampment that had been established just ten months earlier when the regiment was reassigned from the states to service in Vietnam. Construction of a basecamp in the harsh landscape near the small farming village of Xuan Loc had been the regiment's first assigned mission under the code name "ATLANTA", my own hometown, and befitting the start of my mission and new home over the next 12 months.

Blackhorse basecamp was a swath of barren red earth carved from the harsh triple canopied jungle, a landscape pocked with monsoon rain pools and crimson mud, not unlike my Georgia red clay. On the perimeter road clouds of sun-scorched pale red dust trailed the clattering tracks of M48s and ACAVs that raced over the uneven clay surface. Within the camp grounds stood a few single-story wood frame buildings and nearby a scattering of hooches with screened sidings, sagging water-stained canvas roofs supported by leaning metal tipped wood poles attached to taught hemp rigging pegged into the ground. Surrounding each hooch was a four-foot high rampart of layered sandbags. These were the basecamp living quarters of The Blackhorse troopers. I was homeless my first day at Blackhorse and ordered to sleep in an empty bunk belonging to a trooper on a night mission outside the base camp perimeter. His personal items on top of a fifty-caliber ammo box-turned-furniture included framed photos of a wife or girlfriend who stared at me as I laid in sleepless discomfort violating his space. The following day I pulled duty in the motor pool performing Army-familiar mundane tasks designed to busy idle hands while I waited for permanent quarters and company assignment.

It was in the red muddy motor yard that I faced for the first time in my life the sobering reality of mortality as I breathed the smells of iron, rubber, fuel and a dis-

tinct odor of what would become a common fragrance that rose from the manually operated latrine sanitation disposal system - refuse collected in sawed-off sections of 55 gallon drums, dosed with diesel fuel and disposed of by a lighted match ignited by the lucky trooper pulling the duty. I slumbered in meaningless tasks while my thoughts dwelled on the unknown and the seemingly vast expanse of time ahead of me: twelve months. It may as well have been twelve years. In a mood of despair I reasoned it best to acquiesce, face its terms, which were beyond my control anyway, and somehow resigned to a peaceful acceptance.

## Tet 1968:

I recalled the ominous months of late December 1967 and early January 1968 when The Blackhorse quickly mobilized into its first mission in the war as a regimental unit, code name "Operation FARGO". Four days before the 1967 Christmas holidays the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment convoyed out of base camp and moved toward the region along the Cambodian border where the North Vietnamese Regular Army (NVRA) and Viet Cong guerrillas were establishing formidable positions. On January 30, 1968 Ho Chi Min's forces launched the Tet religious Holiday Offensive. We were called away from positions near the border to secure Long Binh, Ben Hoa and Saigon, which were under siege. The Blackhorse moved across 100 kilometers of War Zone III to secure the capital, the airport and the surrounding area.

In May 1968, in what would statistically become the deadliest month of the deadliest year of the Vietnam War for Americans, we were again operating near the Cambodian border, near Cu Chi, home of the 25th Infantry Division, a sprawling base camp with a size on the scale of a small city. Led by a Blackhorse lieutenant a small "volunteered" group of us were sent on a supply mission to the Twenty

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# Blackhorse Women's News

By Kathy Tandberg, Women's Group Co-coordinator

Wow! What a reunion! Fort Benning and the city of Columbus, Georgia rolled out the red carpet for the 30th reunion of the 11th ACVVC! First of all, thanks to those of you who were able to attend the Women's Meeting that brought record attendance of 127 including our board members! That's just the beginning! We, your board members, will continue to work diligently to bring you interesting and fun meetings!

## Women's Award

Next I want to thank Gerri Page as the recipient of the 30th Annual 11th Armored Cavalry 2015 Women's Award, given for Exceptional Service to the 11th ACVVC. Volunteers mean everything to a group like ours. Gerri has been a faithful volunteer in our fundraisers! Each year when I put out the call for help to sit at our table with the lanyards and any other items we offer, Gerri is among those who take any shift that is unfilled, often multiple shifts. Thank you Gerri for being part of the Blackhorse 11th ACVVC Women's Group and for helping make us a success!

## Women's Goals

At the 2014 women's in Las Vegas, we asked what you wanted from the Women's Group. We are working on those goals.

- 1.) You wanted to continue to fundraise to further our worthy projects, mainly the Prayer Shawl Project at this time. And, you want to continue to donate each year to Wreaths Across America for Arlington Cemetery. We are doing that!
- 2.) You wanted to continue to have an occasion hands-on- project, such as another silent auction quilt in which proceeds go to the men's causes.

We have one tentatively in the planning that we spoke about at Columbus. Stay tuned to the next *Thunder Run* and the women's column, our Facebook page and the website for ideas for the next quilt project!

- 3.) You wanted speakers at our meetings, when possible, on worthy subjects. A tremendous thank you goes out to Dr. Candace Drake, Ph.D., PTSD Psychologist, Veterans Administration, who graciously spoke at our Columbus women's meeting! A daughter of a Blackhorse trooper, Dr. Drake answered questions, listening with her expertise and her heart, as she shared as much of her vast knowledge in PTSD as she could in 80 minutes.

- 4.) You also requested, when possible, to have the occasional outing. We set out on the first ever full-day outing at Columbus, with a tour of the city art and history museum, a wonderful Southern luncheon served in a beautiful Greek Revival mansion, toured a historic cemetery and did a drive by tour in the historic district. The day was warm, the buses cool and friendships grew by the time we were finished! What a great way to get to know one another better!

In fact, the tour was so successful that as requested at the women's meeting, we are looking into another tour for the 2016 reunion at San Antonio, Texas, one that will be able to include all women who want to go.

We asked at the meeting the dollar amount they would be willing to spend for a group tour. The majority of women agreed to \$50 if

needed. We are researching it now to see what we can do, so keep watching the *Thunder Run* and website for updates. Start saving your coffee money for another fun tour!

## Fundraising

We're looking at the great list of ideas shared by many of you at last year's meeting. We'll again have a site specific lanyard from the same quality company we began using in 2014. In addition, we plan to offer a second item as we have in the past. There'll be more on that later.

## Prayer Shawl

Prayer Shawl Chair Cherry Platt reported that 226 prayer shawls and lap robes have been given since the project began in 2011. That number has sadly already increased since the Columbus reunion. This project sees that a prayer shawl is sent to the family of 11th ACVVC troopers who have passed on to Fiddlers Green if we are made aware of the loss. As our numbers of loss continues to grow, so does the need for prayer shawls. Cherry has said that since the 2014 meeting, more women have joined this worthy cause, joining those who knit or croquet at home. We hope to expand this project to those who quilt, but need someone, a quilter, who would like to work with Cherry with this. Anyone who has experience or information on quilting prayer shawls and lap robes, please contact Cherry by email at .

## Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Marguerite Austin reported on the finances of the Women's Group. We are slowly building our funds. Marguerite, and the entire women's board, unanimously agreed that our books will be audited every two years. We have a women's member with an extensive background in finance who has agreed to audit our books after the year end. Please know we need each and every one of you to make and keep the Women's Group a success. Together we are a team! Bear with us as we learn and move forward. We want to continue to hear from you and to hear your ideas and thoughts.

You can contact any board member anytime. Contact information can be found on the men's website at <http://> and then go to the area marked "Messages" in the middle of the home page. Click on "Messages." That will take you to the next page where you can click on Blackhorse Women's News, then click on Women's Board Members for contact information.

You can also contact me anytime at 701-873-2970, leave a message if no answer, or by email at . Until next time!

### Newsletter Deadlines

Due dates to submit articles for *Thunder Run*

- 1st Quarter .....Jan 15
- 2nd Quarter .....Mar 25
- 3rd Quarter .....Jun 25
- 4th Quarter .....Oct 1

All submissions for publication must be sent to: C.E. "Bill" Gregory, Editor, 421 Fallen Leaf Drive, Soddy Daisy, TN 37379-3577. E-mail: [Battle46A@epbfi.com](mailto:Battle46A@epbfi.com)





# SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM UPDATE

by Mike "Doc" Rafferty, Director and Scholarship Chairman



Mike 'Doc' Rafferty

## Our 2015 Scholarship Winners

Since the inception of the 11th ACVVC scholarship program in 1996, our organization has awarded 375 college scholarships totaling \$1,202,000! These scholarships include the nineteen scholarships totaling \$78,000 we were able to award this year. Our 2015 scholarship winners submitted outstanding applications and are well-deserving of their awards. You can view some of the winner's photos and their feelings about receiving a scholarship in this issue of Thunder Run.

Each year one applicant is selected to receive the Colonel Charles L. Schmidt Leadership Scholarship Award. This year's winner is Lydia Keppler, daughter of Carlos Velando (7th APO, 1969-70), who was selected by Bonnie Schmidt, Colonel Schmidt's widow. Congratulations Lydia on this well-deserved honor!

As we have done for the past few years, each scholarship is dedicated to one of our Blackhorse brothers who was killed in action in Vietnam or Cambodia. Each recipient received a certificate suitable for framing honoring the KIA name assigned to their scholarship. Duplicate certificates were sent to next of kin where possible. We received a number of thank you notes from next of kin who were very appreciative their loved one was honored and remembered in this manner.

The fact we have been able to help so many children of our members attain their educational goals over the past eighteen years is a tribute to your generosity. Your support of the calendar, raffle and silent auction have provided the bulk of the monies given to these deserving students. As you read their thank you notes in this issue, you can see they truly appreciate your generosity.

Following is a complete list of our 2015 scholarship winners: Marria Xylina Amador, daughter of Johnny Amador, (HHT Regt 69-70).

- Veronica Bowen, daughter of Robert Bowen, (9th Signal 67-68).
- Nicholas Edward Brown, son of Edward Brown, (A Troop, 67-68).
- Caitlin Cunningham, daughter of Robert Cunningham, (D Co. 68-69).
- Rose DeMasi, daughter of Ralph DeMasi, (M Co., 68-69).
- Jessica Lauren Eriser, daughter of James Eriser, (A Troop, 68-69).
- Charlie W. Fisette, son of Wayne Fisette, (HHT.1/11, 1969).
- Rachael Hoffman, daughter of Sande Hoffman, (K Troop, 1967).
- Jenna W. Johnson, daughter of Gerald Johnson, (HHT, 2/11, 71-72).
- Emma May Jones, daughter of Daniel Jones, (541st MID 68-69).
- Sean Patrick Kelly, son of Patrick Kelly, (C Troop, 69-70).
- Lydia Jacqueline Keppler, daughter of Carlos Velando, (7th APU, 69-70).
- Donald J. Kulpa, son of Norman Kulpa, (B Troop, 70-71).
- Richard Matthew Alex Bartz, son of Richard C. Bartz, (C Troop, 68-69).
- Jennifer Motz, daughter of Norman Kulpa, (B Troop, 70-71).
- Katie E. Nybo, daughter of Marc Nybo, (HHT, 2/11, 69-70).
- Cody Brett Reynolds, son of Johnnie Reynolds, (How Bat., 3/11, 69-70).
- Autumn Wickstrom, daughter of Eric Wickstrom, (How Bat. 2/11, 70-71).
- Ashleigh Rodriguez Williams, daughter of Juan Rodriguez, (HHT, 2/11, 71-72).

# THANKS!!

Thanks to the many volunteers who helped make the 2015 reunion in Columbus, Georgia a success:

**Reunion Chairman:** Steve Page

**The Board:** Pete Walter, Ollie Pickral, Adrian Vaaler, Bob Moreno, Steve Page, and Mike Rafferty

**Guest Speakers:** MG Austin S. Miller, CG, Maneuver Center of Excellence and Fort Benning, COL Kevin L. Jacobi, 66th Colonel, (via video), CSM Carl Ashmead, 21st Regimental Command Sergeant Major, Fort Irwin, California, Dr. Candice Drake (Women's Meeting)

**Fort Benning Public Affairs Office:** Keith Boydston

**Columbus Monument Company:** Lynn Weekly

**National Armor and Cavalry Heritage Foundation:** Ricky Young, Executive Director

**Registration:** Bob, Barb and Raleigh Moreno

**Chaplain:** Blandin (Bill) Karabinos

**Historian:** Don Snedeker

**Quartermaster:** Jerry and Jan Beamon, Jerry and Pat Mitchell, Pat Smothermon, Carie Holton, James Young, Concetta Cioffi and Rod George

**Thunder Run Editor:** Bill Gregory

**Silent Auction:** Greg Mason, Paul and Teresa Gissible, Ron and Janet Krueger, Tom and Terri Morrison, and Michael Forbes.

**Golf Tournament:** Joe and Jaci Coopet

**Reunion Photos:** Ken Jankel

**Reunion Shirts:** Chuck and Cathi Bower

**Internet Coordinator:** Otis Carey, Bob Kickenweitz

**Public Affairs:** Eric Newton

**Women's Group Coordinators and Board:** Kathy Tandburg, Renee Majors, Marguerite Austin, Sheryl Myers, Cherry Platt, Jan Beamon, and Cathy Bower.

And many thanks to the scores of people who stepped up and volunteered a few hours of their time to help in the Quartermaster Store, registration desk, the silent auction and to sell nametag lanyards!

## Find an Old Friend

All Troopers, please go to "Find an Old Friend" on our web site [www.11thcavnam.com](http://www.11thcavnam.com). Click the letter which corresponds with the first letter of your last name. Now go down the list to find your name, now click the e-mail box. Is this your current e-mail address? If not please send your current e-mail address to Bob Kickenweitz at [bobk11acr@comcast.net](mailto:bobk11acr@comcast.net). Remember if your e-mail address is incorrect, how are your buddies going to find you? Don't forget our Facebook site at [www.FaceBook.com/11thACVVC](http://www.FaceBook.com/11thACVVC).

Allons,  
Bob Kickenweitz



## Just A Few More Colors

This paper is a follow-up to "COLORS" and "GREEN" which we discussed previously. I hope you thought about and enjoyed them. If you haven't yet, that's OK, because our talks are free standing. That means you can read, or not read, each one without reading the others. You can also read them in any order you want. As you may have noticed, I write, you read, and then you have an opinion. If you want to, you can email me and correct, add, or just chew the fat about our subject. Anyway, we've discussed the colors of some things in Viet Nam that we remembered in one way or another. I expect that in those days you didn't give much thought about the color of almost anything. For instance, you certainly must remember red ants whether or not their color itself meant much. But now, when we discuss red ants, red means a lot because thinking about those ants color helps bring back a fun, maybe even feisty, memory of Viet Nam. Thinking of other colors does the same. For example:

**Tan:** Thinking of red ants reminds me of the day I was riding with a platoon of ACAVs. My preferred seat was the drivers hatch cover. Our track was half way back in the column busting some jungle and had to stop. Wouldn't you know it, our track stopped right on an ant hill. What I remember so well was the hundreds of ants that came crawling out of their nest and dropping on us from the bamboo that grew out of the ant hill. That hill was big, tall, hard packed, dried mud and it was tan in color. There we sat, stuck because we were in column on the trail with nowhere to go. The best we could do was to take our aerosol cans of insecticide and spray ourselves all over to kill the ants. Ever since then, I take every

opportunity to avoid stopping on tan hard packed mud ant hills.

**Khaki:** That was the color of the light weight, short sleeve uniform that you probably wore traveling to Viet Nam. When you got there, you took the khakis off and stashed them in a Conex container to get moldy. You never saw them again until it was time for R&R or time to meet your Freedom Bird! For those of y'all who did have such a great event, I congratulate you and know you were blessed to learn the wonder of experiencing the wonder of Khaki. For the many who did not have that experience, I am truly sorry.

**Purple, Green, Yellow, & Red:** Came in smoke grenades, like "Pop Smoke!" were useful and were often fun. They came in the four colors I named (maybe one or two more which I forgot). You know what they were for. Officially they were to mark places such as landing zones. Someone like a scout squad would find where VC/NVA were located in the bush and go find a clearing where helicopters could insert (land) troops. The scouts would pop smoke, tossing out a colored smoke grenade to show the helicopters where to discharge the troops, like I said. You remember how it worked. (Remind each other.) As an aside, I'll remind you of an unofficial way some of "y'all" used colored smoke grenades with this little scenario: A troop unscrews the top from a grenade, took out some color powder, and screwed the top back on. Then he took some tobacco out of a cigarette and replaced it with the powder, like purple or yellow, into the cigarette. Then he put the tobacco back in and gave it to some unsuspecting person, usually Vietnamese to smoke. (Everybody thought it was funny when the fire hit the color powder).

**Red:** We discussed red some time back, reds like red Honda 50s, red dirt, and red ants. There were also other red things that meant a lot in Viet Nam. Being red made these items very conspicuous which was good because they were so important. Take Dustoff, for example. You were there so you know that Dustoff was what we called the medevac (medical evacuation) helicopters. Sometimes it was crucial for someone to get to a hospital or an aid station post-haste, like immediately! Battle casualties or other serious accidents fit this category. When someone yelled "Dustoff!" it was serious. When we heard the whop whop (or whap whap) of the Huey Dustoff, we knew help was on the way. The red cross painted on the chopper was a beautiful shade of red.

**Brass:** What color is brass? Golden? Nope. Sorta yellowish? Don't think so. I guess brass is just brass. That's good enough for me. OK with you? You know what brass looks like so we'll go from there. When you think of the color of brass what do you think of? If you were in the bush a lot you think of brass shell casings, very large for artillery ammo, medium for M-79 grenade launcher shells, varying degrees of small for rifles or hand guns. Right? Lots of memories attached here. One would be those souvenir ash trays made with the M-79 grenade shell in the middle held by a string of machine gun shell casings held together after they were used for more nefarious things.

**Yellow:** Flares burned at night to illuminate whatever you wanted to light up at night for your purpose at the time, mostly to shoot at whoever was already shooting at you. For those who didn't have the exciting experience of being in the bush and get attacked at 0200 in the morning, this may seem to be a rather

### So that his brethren shall know...

Please report the death of any member of The 11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia to Allen Hathaway, 13194 Rettew Dr., Manassas, VA 20112; Phone: (703) 791-6610; Email: [11thcav1966@comcast.net](mailto:11thcav1966@comcast.net); for listing in "Journey to Fiddler's Green."



insignificant color to mention. However, if you were in the bush in the circumstances mentioned, then those flares counted a whole lot. I admit the color didn't matter, but it happened to be yellow. They made yellowish light out of darkness. Yesss for yellow!!

**Green:** We've talked before about green, such as green tracers. I don't want to finish before we talk a little about the biggest green, jungle green, the bush. Green was everywhere, rice paddies, bamboo, trees, plantations, elephant grass. But it was in the jungle where most of us learned what green was all about. From jungle busting, mounted patrols on ACAVs or tanks on jungle

trails, and doing escort duty of convoys or engineer bulldozers clearing fields of fire, green was all around us. We're out of time to ponder, but remember that a lot of positive experiences happened there. Let green remind you with pleasure.

**Rainbow:** In winding up our conversation today, I wanted to discuss special colors that would show the beauty of creation, of colors in many ways, from the faded and ordinary to the spectacular and wonder of nature. What I realized is that the rainbow is one of God's most spectacular forms of color in the nature He created. I'm told that the rainbow is formed of all colors in their natural state.

It's a marvelous expression of God's relationship through His love for humanity which includes us. I'll close by quoting from the Holy Bible: God said... "I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth. Whenever I bring clouds over the earth and the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will remember my covenant between me and you and all living creatures of every kind..." So God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant I have established between me and all life on the earth." Genesis 9:12a, 13-15a, 17.

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

## The 2015 Silent Auction

By: Greg Mason,  
Secretary-Elect 11th ACVVC

Thanks to all who participated in the Silent Auction. A special thanks to all those who donated items for bid. The auction is totally dependent on your support and those who participated came through once again. A total of 170 items were donated this year generating \$7,735 in gross receipts for the Scholarship Fund. This amount is nearly equivalent to two full scholarships. Many of the items had a military or 11th Cavalry theme; which are always very popular.

Special thanks are extended to Ron and Janet Krueger (HHT, 1/11), Paul and Teresa Gissible (G Troop, 2/11), Tom and Terri Morrison (E Troop 2/11), and Michael Forbes (A Troop, 1/11) for their help in collecting, organizing, tagging items, setting up and monitoring the silent auction. Thanks to Bob Moreno and his staff for receiving items in our absence and for assistance at the end of the auction in processing credit card payments. All of these folks helped make the auction a success.

The following is the list of donors for our Silent Auction in Columbus, many who donated more than one item. Start thinking of items that may be donated for next year's reunion!

Abrams, Larry & Arlene (3 items)

- Austin, Dale & Marguerite (2 items)
- Avila, David & Cookie (3 items)

• Bailey, David & Linda (4 items)

• Berry, Timothy (2 items)

• Bowen, A T (2 items)

• Boyett, Morris & Sherry (17 items)

• Cavel Sr., Darrell

• Church, Frank (12 items)

• Cofty, Dee

• Collins, Charles

• Cook, Tony (6 items)

• Cribbs, Randy (8 items)

• Crossno, Jim & Donna

• Earl Family, Larry (5 items)

• England, Stan & Roberta (3 items)

• Garloch, Dale

• Gerlach, Kevin

• Gissible, Paul & Teresa (6 items)

• Hopper, Johnny

• Jackson, Rondo (2 items)

• Joseph, N L

• Karabinos, Blandin (2 items)

• Karow, Barry

• Kenyon, Frederick (2 items)

• Kujawa, Ted & Wilma (2 items)

• Luke, Craig

• Lyle, Ross

• Majors, Bruce

• Maley, Robert (2 items)

• Malone, Walker

• Mann, Johnny

• Martinez, Ruben & Mary Ann

• Mason, Greg (3 items)

• Moreno, Bob & Barb (3 items)

• Moreno, Raleigh

• Morrison, Tom & Terri (2 items)

• Munoz, Amadar

• Muscato, Mike

• Naidas, Kenny (6 items)

• Penn Sports Embroidery (2 items)

• Phelps, Carol Rae (3 items)

• Pickeral, Ollie (3 items)

• Pion, Bill (2 items)

• Piscotta, Connie

• Platt, Fred & Cherry

• Rafferty, Mike

• Reinhart, Bill (5 items)

• Reynolds, Marla

• Rich, Curt

• Rooney, Joe (4 items)

• Roper, Everette

• Rusteberg, Homer (2 items)

• Saadi, William

• Scherz, Gerald (3 items)

• Self, Jerry (2 items)

• Sheetz, Fred (4 items)

• Sobolewski, Robert & Sarah

• Sorich, John (2 items)

• Stewart, Mrs. Garland

• Sutherland, Harland

• Tyre, Jessie (2 items)

• Utterback, Jerry

• Watrous, Jake (2 items)

• Weachter, Dennis & Pat (2 items)

• Weynand, Mike

• Wood, Eddie (3 items)

# Meet Our 2015 Scholarship Winners

This issue contains brief statements from 10 of our 2015 Scholarship Winners.

## Lydia Jacqueline Keppler



I'm overwhelmed and honored to be the recipient of the 11th Armored Cavalry Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia Scholarship and the Charles Schmidt Leadership Scholarship. I truly can't find the proper words to express the depth of my gratitude to be selected for these awards because they represent more to me than assistance with my education. They represent some of our Nation's greatest heroes having faith in me to accomplish all the goals I've set forth for myself, and work I plan to achieve in the future. My husband and I are both Army veterans. But we also have a strong military background on both sides of our family. It is because of this that I hold all military service in high esteem, but it is because of my dad that I have a great respect for Vietnam veterans. I am privileged to have his stories, the ones that the history text books don't tell. He's told me of the heroism of the soldiers, the comradery, the losses and wounds, and has allowed me to truly appreciate the sacrifices that were made during the war. My dad is my hero; as are all soldiers, past and present, which serve selflessly for our Nation. So when I am asked what these awards mean to me, I can honestly say, everything. I am extending my greatest and most heartfelt "thank you" for the selfless service to our Country, and for bestowing me with these prodigious awards. I'm honor-bound to pay it forward in my life's work.

Lydia Keppler is the daughter of Carlos Velando, (7th APO, 1970). She is the recipient of the Colonel Charles Schmidt Leadership Award for 2015.

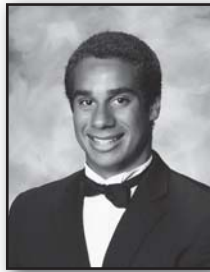
## Marriah Xylina Amador



When I received the news that I had been chosen to receive the 11th ACVVC scholarship, a wave of emotions overcame me. I thought about how much I had worked hard growing up academically and in extracurricular groups, how I'd finally have a break from college expenses and about how my future seemed to be coming together. But as I continued in my joy I thought about the veterans behind this award and their sacrifices. About the thousands of men who believe in me and other young people like me and continue to donate to such a cause, men just like my father. So truly I don't feel deserving of this award; I feel honored to say that it was the heroes among the Black Horse who have enabled me to continue chasing my dreams and to go as far as I can knowing I have their support.

Marriah Amador is daughter of Johnny Amador, HHT Regiment (69-70). KIA dedicated to Gregory Kent Whitehouse, (541st MI Detachment) KIA, March 6, 1968.

## Nicholas Edward Brown



I am privileged and honored to accept the 2015 11th Armored Cavalry's Scholarship in the memory of Larry Daniel Boobar. This scholarship will assist me in achieving my goal in attending college. This scholarship is especially meaningful to me because of what the Cav means to my father.

Nicholas Brown is the son of Edward Brown, Jr., A Troop, 1/11 (67-68). Dedicated to Larry Daniel Boobar, (C Troop) KIA September 6, 1969.

## Richard Matthew Alex Bartz



I am not only grateful to receive this scholarship, I am honored. The Blackhorse Scholarship is more than a financial award. I promise to represent the Blackhorse with honor. My father, Richard C. Bartz served in the 11th ACR, so as the son of Blackhorse, I truly believe I am representing his Band of Brothers. I am enrolled in the Honors Program at Liberty University in Virginia and my major is Cinematic Arts.

Additionally, I will be continuing to receive ratings to my current private pilot's license and I will continue my service to the community. Thank you, and may God bless you all.

Richard Matthew Alex Bartz, is the son of Richard C. Bartz, C Troop, 68-69). Dedicated to Percy Eugene Bly, (L Troop), KIA, September 14, 1970.

## Veronica Bowen



I am extremely grateful to receive this scholarship in honor of Leonard E. Cruce and all people who fought for our country in Vietnam and Cambodia. Because of this scholarship I will have much less of a financial burden and be able to focus on working as hard as possible when I begin school at University of Washington in the

fall. I hope to attain a degree that allows me to give back to others as the 11th Armored Cavalry Veterans have so generously done for me.

Veronica Bowen is the daughter of Robert Bowen, (9th Signal Company, 67-68). Dedicated to Leonard Erwin Cruce, (A Troop), KIA, June 6, 1968.



## Catlin Cunningham

Thank you so much for awarding me the 11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia scholarship award. I am so grateful for this opportunity and am so blessed to be



receiving this scholarship award in order to support my educational dreams. My father, Robert Cunningham and I would both like to say thank you for choosing me as the recipient of this scholarship award. This means so much to both of us and there really are no words to say how thankful we are.

Catlin Cunningham is the daughter of Robert Cunningham, (D Company, 1/11, 68-69). Dedicated to Hollis Ronney Norrid, (B Troop), KIA July 1, 1968.

## Rose Ma DeMasi



This award means that now I have the money I need to purchase equipment for my training at the Culinary Institute of America. Thank you so much for the scholarship.

Rose Ma DeMasi is the daughter of Ralph DeMasi (M Company, 68-69). Dedicated to Billy Gene Rogers, K Troop, KIA July 21, 1967.

## Jessica Lauren Eriser



My name is Jessica Lauren Eriser and I am the daughter of a Vietnam Vet. I am Soo thankful to have received this amazing scholarship in honor of a KIA, who my father happened to be friends with, Stanley A. Schroeder! I've always really enjoyed going to the reunions and meeting many more of his friends and very thankful that

this organization exists for all of the Vets to still get together yearly to relive the good times through that terrifying war. This scholarship means the world to me to be able to go back to school and get retrained! It's been something I've wanted to do for years but now having this extra money it definitely now gives me the ability. Thank you so very much!

Jessica Lauren Eriser is the daughter of James Eriser, (A Troop, 68-69). Dedicated to Stanley A. Schroeder, A Troop, KIA May 19, 1968.

## Charlie W. Fisette



For the last 8 plus years I have fought to reach the halfway point of this journey towards fulfilling a dream. The 11th Armored Cavalry has given me a leg up on completing the second half of that journey and I am grateful beyond what words can say. My quietest and biggest supporter nominated me

for this honor and I am proud to have not let him down. Thank you for continuing to give more than the people of the United States could ever have asked for.

Charlie Fisette is the son of Wayne Fisette (HHT, 1/11, 1969). Dedicated to Richard Eugene Dodd, E Troop, KIA December 31, 1970.

## Rachael Hoffman



I would like to take this opportunity to thank the 11th ACVVC for this scholarship that I received in memory of SP4 Daniel M. Dawson. I am so honored to receive this scholarship, he was just three years older than I am now and he made the ultimate sacrifice for his Country and all Americans. He is truly an American Hero! I want to thank the association and all its members for their generosity in awarding me this scholarship. My plan is to get a degree in Filmmaking and minor in Studio Art at Montclair State University. After graduating I plan to seek a master's degree or begin a career in the film industry. Receiving this scholarship better allows me to focus on achieving my dreams of becoming a director and artist and not having to worry about the financial burden of paying tuition. I'm very proud and thankful for my father and all the people who have served our country. Thank you again for your generosity that has allowed me to pursue my education.

Rachael Hoffman is the daughter of Sande Hoffman (K Troop, 1967). Dedicated to Daniel Millard Dawson, F Troop, KIA December 15, 1969.

## 'Find an Old Friend'

By: Bob Kickenweitz, Website Manager

Many of you troopers believe that when you registered with the 11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia and placed on our "Master Roster" that you were automatically placed in "Find an Old Friend," NOT TRUE. A lot of you when filling out the registration form did not enter an e-mail address. Why, because at that time you didn't have one, and you cannot be entered in "Find an Old Friend" without an e-mail address. The whole file is based on your buddy finding your name on the file and sending you an e-mail. So if you still don't have an e-mail address, send us your wife's or one of your kid's e-mails address.

Just click this link: <http://11thcavnam.com/FindanOldFriend/Findanoldfriendupdate.htm> fill out the form and submit.

For those of you who did enter an e-mail address, IS IT UP TO DATE? Have you moved or changed provider, then you should also click the link above and fill out the form.

REMEMBER IF YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS IS INCORRECT, HOW ARE YOUR BUDDIES GOING TO FIND YOU?

Allons, Bob

# SCHOLARSHIP RAFFLE DONATIONS

Donor Levels:	Platinum Level \$500+	Gold Level \$100-\$499	Silver Level \$50-\$99	Bronze Level \$1-\$49	
<b>PLATINUM</b>	Graber, J. Greany, Paul Griffiths, James Gurrola, J. Hain, James Hall, John Hardin, E. B. Hawk, J. Hensley, Jerry Hines, Donald Hinnegan, Frances Holloway, Larry Horan, Dennis Hotzman Jr., Fred Houchins, William Hudon, Theodore Hukill, Wayne Jack, William Jackson, Gerald Janke, Ronald Johnson, James Kern, Paul Kerrick, Jonathan Krieg, Steven Kuchenbuch, C. Kuehn, Michael Lorio III, Pierre Mackenzie, Thomas Macleod, Roger Mahurin, C. Mayall, Dennis Mays, Curtis McDonough, John McGuire, John Meyrick, Michael Miller, Carl Morehouse, Terry Morrison, Jack Murdock, Monte Murphy, K. Myers, Robert Oneill, Timothy Ortiz, Anthony Pehr, Bert Pizza, J. & P. Poorman, Clair Quinones, Eladio Radzwillas, Paul Reschetnjak, N. Rusteberg, Homer Schmidt, Dennis Sellars, Marvin	Simpson, Michael Sinclair, Robert Smith, Larry Smith, Wade Stoll, Ned Sugihara, Martyn Swan, Val Tamulonis, John Thomas, Richard Timmons, Donald Trafton, Frank Traner, James Trubeck, William Ueland, John Vasey, Stephen Walker, Ken Watkins, Michael Wheeler, Richard Whitlock, August Whitson, Thomas Williams, Harry Williams, Ray Wilson, Steve Wolfe, Fred Young, Jerl	Hudak, Gary Janairo, Antonio Jolly, John Kays, Danny Klein, Lawrence Knowlton, William Krcelich, George LaMere, Bruce Levario, Jaime Maggi, Edward Martz, Stanley McKibbin, Joseph McKinley, Martin McVicker, James Menix, Wilbert Moore, Larry Morlock, Glenn Pace, D. Parks, John Pemberton, Donald Prattas, James Priddy, James Pryor, Lee Puckett, Larry Robertson, Bruce Sanchez, Vincent Schaefer, William Schlepppegrell, William Severeid, Ralph Sharpe, Larry Skinner, Michael Smith, James Tharp, Farrell Turner, C. Vail, Richard West, R. Wickstrom, Eric Witzel, Terrence	Carraturo, Marry Carroll, Patrick Cassen, Samuel Castle Jr., Roderick Chattin, Fred Chau, Phung Clanton, James Clark, Glenn Colmone, Salvatore Commons, Joe Connelly, Danny Cozier, R. G. Croft, Robert Daub, Herbert DeLong, R. Demasi, Ralph Derepkowski, Arthur Desimone, Alan Dietz, John Dilling, Eugene Donaldson, John Doyle, Tim Drew, Donald Duckwall, John Dulaney, Arnold Durr, Merrit Easter, Larry Evans, Peter Farrell, James Fegenbush, Ed Finkbinder, Glenn Fisher, Paul Garvey, David Gavin, Victor Greaves, Reginald Grogg, John Gwinn, Ted Hadfield Jr., William Hanson, Jeffrey Harris, William Helm, Brenda Hertel, Herbert Hicks Jr, L. R. Hoefler, John Hoffman, Peter Holmes, Malcom Hormann, William Humbert, John Hunt JR, Robert Iseman, William Jeranek, Richard Johnson, Steve	Kelly, Ronald Kent, Edward Kidd, Ralph King, George Kolmer, Joseph Kunst, Cornelius Larson, Herbert Lathrope, Edward Leeson, William Like, David MacDonald, Clifford Madelle, James Mann, Harold McGregor, Stewart Michaud, Randolph Middaugh, Thomas Mowery, Robert Oliver, John Ralston, William Riley, Dwight Roppolo, John Roshier, Galen Ross, Raymond Rucci, Gerald Rudolph, Raymond Schneeman, Fred Schneider, Robert Schofield, David Self, Gary Selvitella, Dennis Sheldon, Dennis Shelley, R. Shol, Bruce Sidel, Nellis Simmers, Vincent Soule, Robert St. Clair, Harold Suberla, Edmund Tankovich, James Telesoo, Sam Temple, Billy Thayer, Paul Trentman, Harry Uebelher, Francis Vanderbogart, Kirk Venhoff, John Webb, Mark White, David Willard, John Woodruff, Leon Woodson, Roddy Yates, Zee
<b>GOLD</b>	Atkins III, John Bachman, William Barnes, B. Belver, James Boen, B. Boles, A. Bond, Robert Bowman, David Brewer, James Brockwell, Ronald Brooks, Timothy Brueckmann, J. C. Buening Jr., Edward Burdick, Max Burek, Jerome Campbell, Douglas Caporiccio, G. Cline, Danny Clodfelter, L. W. Confair, Gregory Connolly, Gerald Cornelius, J. Corona, Gary Cox, J. Craig, Michael Creal, Dennis Crosby, Phillip Crow, John Sherman Culver, Lester Davis, Glen Dirska, A. Dowding, Arthur Eaton Jr., Noyd Eggleton, Andrew Eichelberger, J. Fea, Michael Ferreira, John Feyers, Larry Firchau, Melvin Fisk, Asa Franks, Fred Gassaway, Mi Geasland, David Gentry, Lee Gilbert, Robert Glauner, John Goff, Thomas	<b>SILVER</b> Anonymous Blankenship, James Blasdel, Jerry Bumpass, James Calton, Bobby Carr Jr., George Cassano, Salvatore Chain, Willard Christeson, Frank Church, Frank Clay, Lionel Cotton, A.C. Cox Jr., Bernard Crabill, Steven Davison, Donald Emory, Morris Field, Richard Gelsomin, James Gorospe, Raymond Griep, Paul Gunn, Dennis Hamm, Thomas Harcum, Weldon Haynes, J.P. Hogan, Sean	<b>BRONZE</b> Anderson, Paul Anonymous Arnold, Charles Bacon, Dean Barnhart, Richard Benson, John Bradley, Otis Brennick, Robert Brewer, James Brooks, Floyd Brown, D. Burkett, Paul		



# 2016 11th ACVVC Calendar Appeal

Pete Walter, Vice President, 11th ACVVC

The first of our 2016 Scholarship fundraising efforts will be in your mailboxes in late November. The 2016 11th ACVVC Calendar will again feature 12 new photos submitted by you the members of the legendary Blackhorse Regiment! We thank all who have sent in photos for consideration. The calendar contains significant historical events of your regiment in Vietnam with the photographs documenting many of our daily activities. Based on your comments and incredible generosity it appears the 2015 calendar was well received by our members.

We once again appeal to your generosity as we ask for donations to support our Scholarship Program. The Scholarship Fund is a separate, self sufficient fund. That is, all scholarships awarded as well as the printing and mailing costs associated with the calendar are paid directly from donations made to the Scholarship Fund. Membership dues are not used to pay for the calendar. The number of scholarships awarded each year depends on the total donations made during that year. Without your support the program would not be viable.

The calendar you receive is yours to keep and use whether you donate or not.

We once again appeal to your generosity as we ask for donations to support our Scholarship Program. The Scholarship Fund is a separate, self sufficient fund.

We do however ask for your support with the most generous tax-deductible donation that you can make to assist the children of 11th ACVVC members begin or continue their post-secondary education. The scholarships can be used for college, trade school, or any other educational training following high school.

Your donations to the 2015 calendar appeal generated over \$60,000 and the total amount of scholarship money awarded now exceeds \$1,200,000!

For the 2016 calendar appeal we again have two goals. Our first goal is to once again generate over \$60,000 in donations. We will need your help in maintaining this level. Many of you have generously donated \$100 to \$500 for this cause. We ask you to continue your ardent support.

The second goal is to continue to increase the percentage of members making calendar donations. Over the past five years we have slowly increased the number of those making donations from 20 to 23 percent but we have stalled in the past year and have not increased the percentage of participation. To help meet this goal and to ensure that you receive a cal-

endar every year we are asking that you please make a donation.

A limited number of calendars will be available while they last. Instructions on how to order extras will be included with your calendar. Watch for your calendars in the mail in late November or early December then use the convenient enclosed envelope to return your donation. Every donation helps, regardless of the amount.

I also ask our members to submit any photographs you have from Vietnam to be considered for publication. Preferred format is a color print, but negatives and slides are also accepted as are digital scans at 600 dpi of any of your images. Clear photos of interesting activities and/or group photos are the most suitable for reproduction. As always, "Thank you!" to those who have submitted photos in the past.

Our annual calendar is the major fund raising project benefitting our Scholarship Fund.

We thank you in advance for your generous support!



## Welcome Aboard!

New Members of the 11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia (11th ACVVC) since our last issue of *Thunder Run*. Are you looking for an old friend? Please contact any Officer or Board Member listed on page 3 for help.

NAME	DATES	NAME	DATES	NAME	DATES	NAME	DATES
<b>HHT REGIMENT</b>		<b>398th TRANSPORTATION DET</b>		<b>E TROOP, 2/11</b>		Paul, Mack H 66-67	
Baker, Richard K	69-70	Vertrees, Brian R	70-71	Kaytis, Dexter	67-67	<b>HHT, 3/11</b>	
Smart, Mckinley	67-68	<b>551st MAINTENANCE COMPANY</b>		Sowers, Harry F	65-67	Harlan, William R	70-71
<b>AIR CAVALRY TROOP</b>		Hartman, Richard W	66-67	<b>F TROOP, 2/11</b>		Krous, Daryle J	70-71
Cardwell, Richard J	68-69	<b>A TROOP, 1/11</b>		Danko, Thomas G	67-68	<b>I TROOP, 3/11</b>	
<b>7th ARMY POSTAL UNIT</b>		Glotfelty, James W	70-71	Grill, Charlie Jr	67-68	Harlan, William R	70-71
Givens, Michael D	70-70	<b>HOWITZER BATTERY, 1/11</b>		Martin, William B	69-70	Netherland, William A	67-68
<b>37th MEDICAL COMPANY</b>		Ritch, Thomas C	70-70	<b>G TROOP, 2/11</b>		<b>L TROOP, 3/11</b>	
Bergeson, Dennis E	68-69	<b>HHT, 2/11</b>		Glotfelty, James W	71-71	Long, Ralph N Jr	70-71
Giblin, Daniel E	67-68	Wagner, Curtis E	69-70	<b>H COMPANY, 2/11</b>		<b>HOWITZER BATTERY, 3/11</b>	
				Branford, Robert C	66-67	Sams, Robert E	71-71
				Cihak, John	67-68		

# Blackhorse Hoofbeats

Echoes from the Regiment's Service in Vietnam 1966-1972

By: Don Snedeker, 11th ACVVC Historian

**Tons of Rice.** From the Third Squadron Combat Operations After Action Report for Operation Hickory (7 – 15 October 1966): “11 October: “About 1200 hours on the 11th, a patrol [from] 3rd Platoon, K Troop, reported that it found a large cache of rice in the village of BEN SANG... Tremendous stores of rice were located in every hut for no apparent reason except that it was to be used by the VC. One old man in the village had whispered to MI [military intelligence] personnel, who later checked out the report, that the rice belonged to the VC. The rice was estimated to be 150 tons or more [the final tally was 210 tons].”

**Distinguished Service Cross.** From the Second Squadron Annual Historical Summary for 1967: “Little contact was made with enemy forces until Sunday, 24 September when F Troop, on a special area sweep, surprised a North Vietnamese Army reconnaissance company northwest of Hill 29 at a village called Quy My [west of Chu Lai in I Corps]. The enemy, in their well entrenched positions, had no route of escape so they elected to fight to the last man from the hedgerows and stone houses which provided natural fortification for the village. F Troop was joined by G Troop and with the support of Howitzer Battery the stage was set for the violence of an armored attack. It was not only the concentrated firepower that the enemy had to contend with but the exceptional gallantry displayed by members of the Squadron. Lieutenant Colonel Garland R. McSpadden [Battle 6], with complete disregard for his own safety, hovered above the embattled area in his unarmed command and control helicopter where he could better direct the movements of the ground elements who had become decisively engaged. At night fall Lieutenant Colonel McSpadden landed and spent the night with his troops on the ground as the battle continued with harassing enemy fire and mortar attacks. Captain William W. Crouch [later Commander, 2nd Cavalry Regiment, 4-Star, Vice Chief of Staff of the Army], F Troop, and Captain Jon D. Collins, G Troop, deployed their elements with professional skill, disregarding their own safety to overcome the enemy. For extraordinary heroism these leaders were awarded the Silver Star. Courage was also displayed by Captain Roderick C. Heath, Squadron Aviation Section Leader, who flew his observation helicopter at altitudes which were in easy reach of hostile fire. Ignoring his own safety, he continually flew his aircraft at low altitudes over the scene of battle to enable the Squadron Commander to closely coordinate friendly fire. For his bravery, Captain Heath received the Distinguished Flying Cross. The Nation's second highest award for heroism was particularly appropriate for Specialist Four Joseph M. Thomas who, at the cost of his life, went to the aid of three wounded comrades. With bullets striking all around him, he remained in the open to treat the casualties and move them to safety. Upon receiving intense fire from an enemy bunker, Specialist Thomas stood up in the midst of the firefight and fearlessly assaulted the enemy bunker alone. Firing lethal bursts as he ran into the face of the enemy weapons, he reached the fortification and destroyed it with grenades and rifle fire, killing three enemy soldiers. It was this gallant action

that merited Specialist Thomas the Distinguished Service Cross.”

**M-48 “Far Superior.”** From the 1st (US) Infantry Division official after action report dated 25 November 1968: “The terrain here in III Corps tactical zone lends itself to the use of armor... Because of the jungle and the heavy mines found in many areas of the tactical area of interest, a medium to heavy tank is considered far superior to newer armored vehicles such as the Sheridan. The M-48 tank has proven very successful in this area.”

**Timing Is Everything.** On 15 April 1969, First Squadron was on the third day of Operation Montana Raider, a reconnaissance in force in the thick jungle (double and triple canopy) and rugged terrain of eastern War Zone C east of Tay Ninh and north of Dau Tieng. The area was traversed by numerous streams that fed into the Saigon River. At dawn on that Tuesday, the 1st Platoon, 919th Engineer Company moved out to emplace an Armored Vehicle Launched Bridge (AVLB) across the Suoi Ba Hao. Using an airborne dozer borrowed from the 1st Cavalry Division, the Red Devils set the bridge in place, allowing Charlie Troop to cross the 80-foot obstacle. Shortly after the last track crossed the bridge, the river banks collapsed and the bridge fell into the Suoi Ba Hao. Soon thereafter – and less than a kilometer from the crossing site – Charlie Troop upset a hornet's nest of dug-in NVA using small arms, rocket-propelled grenades, and tear gas. Alpha Troop reinforced, artillery, tactical air, and aerial rocket artillery were called in, and the NVA left 13 of their comrades on the battlefield. Two Blackhorse Troopers were wounded in action, and one M-48 tank was declared a combat loss. Back at the collapsed bridge site, the Red Devils, secured by 1st Platoon of Alpha Troop, worked feverishly to recover and re-emplac the bridge. It took two full days to do so, but by noon on the 17th, the bridge was back in place, allowing Alpha and Bravo Troops to cross and continue with Operation Montana Raider.

**Change in Tactics.** From the Regiment's official after action report for the period November 1969 to January 1970: “Throughout III Corps Tactical Zone, enemy offensive activity was generally light and scattered during the reporting period. Since the death of Ho Chi Minh [3 September 1969], COSVN's [Central Office for South Vietnam – the North Vietnamese Army and Viet Cong Headquarters in Cambodia] divisional forces have been oriented largely toward the protection of logistical supply routes and the disruption of the Vietnamization and pacification programs. To accomplish their mission, enemy units have apparently changed their basic military tactics- -instead of conducting battalion sized ground attacks and being willing to engage Allied forces in large scale contact; the enemy now emphasizes economy of force measures such as sapper probes, attacks by fire, and heavy mining of the lines of communication.”

**New Top Sergeant.** From the July 1970 edition of the *Blackhorse Newspaper*: “A twenty-year Army veteran, who was with the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment when it came to Vietnam, is the new Regimental Command Sergeant Major. Command Sergeant Major Hiram T. Harrison, a native of Killeen, Tex., succeeded Command Sergeant Major Donald E. Horn, June 1 as the top enlisted man of the



Blackhorse. Sgt. Maj. Harrison began his first tour in Vietnam in August 1966 when the 11thACR deployed from Ft. Meade, Md. He was sergeant major of the 2nd Squadron until he completed his tour in July 1967. Returning in the middle of the Cambodian operation, Sgt. Maj. Harrison commented, "They couldn't have selected a better unit than the 11th ACR for this type of mission. It's the best outfit in Vietnam."

**Air-Ground Team in Action.** In mid-1971, Air Cavalry Troop (ACT) was providing support to three different organizations – the 3rd Brigade, 1st (US) Cavalry Division, the 25th (ARVN) Infantry Divisions, and Second Squadron, the sole remaining American armored cavalry unit in the area between Saigon and the Cambodian border. All three ACT platoons (Aero Scouts, Aero Weapons, and Aero Rifle) were involved in the following successful operation, described in the troop's historical report for the month of July 1971. "This period also saw the insertion of members of the Aero Rifle Platoon into an ambush site, followed shortly by the whispered radio call that they had 30 to 40 enemy soldiers in their area. Cobras, which had been standing by for just such an eventuality, rolled in with rockets, mini gun, and 40mm grenade launchers to place devastating fire on the enemy force. In coordination with artillery fire, the cobras were able to neutralize the enemy force, allowing the ARP's to be picked up by ACAV's from [2nd] squadron. Due to close teamwork not a single casualty resulted from this operation."

## The 11th ACVVC Annual Awards

The following awards were presented at the 2015 annual reunion for service "Above and Beyond" to the 11th ACVVC and its membership.

### Trooper of the Year Award

Michael D. (Mike) Rafferty, Scholarship Chairman, Director

### 30 Year Reunion "Perfect Attendance" Award

Michael W. (Mike) Cricco

James R. (Jim) Hain

Terry D. Stivers

### Outstanding Trooper Awards

Frank T. Church

Kenny G. (Ken) Naidas

Donald C. (Don) Snedeker

### Quilter Award

James E. (Jim) Young

### Womens Award

Gerri Page

Gerri Page is the recipient of the 30th Annual 11th Armored Cavalry 2015 Women's Award.



## Columbus, Georgia Golf 2015



Joe Coopet, (A Troop 68-69)

The golf committee (Pete Walter and Joe Coopet) are very pleased that our Marty Ognibene Memorial Golf outing was held in Vietnam-like conditions. Just kidding! But, boy was it hot. Great memories, huh? It was our 24th annual memorial outing for one of the 11th ACVVC'S early founders. Marty loved his family, golf and the 11th ACVVC. Sadly, Marty passed just after our 1991 reunion in Philly due to Agent Orange related cancer. We miss you, Marty!

Thirty three players, including four women, competed for prizes and bragging rights. The golf crowd has become quite a self-sustaining organization due to the generous contributions of its' participants. This year's event was held on Friday or reunion week instead of the normal Thursday. Lots of conflicting events were held through the weekend. Kudos to our directors and organizers for pulling the reunion together so smoothly. Next year's event (San Antonio) will return to the normal Thursday slot. Good! More hot weather in August at San Antonio.

It must be written, we have become so successful due to our golf member's generous contributions. We must mention Ed Buening, F Troop, John Quinn, B Troop, Rich Kenyon, HTT, 2/11, Harold Mann, F Troop, Ken Miller, How Battery, 3/11, and Larry Gunderman, C Troop, for their generous contributions. Paul Greany, B Troop and John Sorich, A Troop, sent generous subsidies and weren't able to attend our weekend festivities. 11th Cav nice. What a great group of members. John Sorich additionally contributed greatly to our silent auction for scholarships.

Ed Buening wrestled the Ognibene traveling trophy from Larry Gunderman. Larry didn't give it up easily. Ed was overall champion. It must be noted that Harold Mann slipped an outstanding round of 76 to the scorer's tent. That is some fine shooting. Odds on Harold next year? Nice playing, Harold.

As stated earlier, next year's outing will return to Thursday of reunion week in San Antonio. We expect to return to our normal 45-40 players. Won't you please join us? Women are as welcome as their troopers. Lastly, slap Pete Walter on the back or kick him in the a\_\_ for getting this whole thing started. Thanks, Pete.

## Incoming...

Information provided by and for our Troopers

Our congratulations to **James N. (Jim) Farrell** (541st MID, 70-71) on the publication of his third book *The Extraordinary Banana Tree*, (iUniverse, 2015). This book is a novel, a love story, set in the 1960s and early 1970s Vietnam; with the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment playing a prominent role. All of Jim's books are available at *Amazon.com*, *BN.com*, and *book-store.iuniverse.com*.



# 31ST ANNUAL REUNION



**SAN ANTONIO, TX ♦ ♦ ♦ AUGUST 24-28, 2016**

Mark your calendars for the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Reunion in beautiful San Antonio, TX, on August 24-28, 2016, at the Grand Hyatt.

The hotel is located on the famous San Antonio River Walk. Take a casual boat ride along the River Walk and stop to enjoy a delicious meal at any one of the countless open air restaurants along the way. Visit the historic Alamo, located just blocks from the hotel. Several museums with displays of early Texas life are within a short walk of the hotel. There are many other nearby attractions including:

- The Riverwalk
- The Alamo (3 blocks)
- Open air restaurants
- Historic Market Square (2 miles)
- Rivercenter Mall (2 blocks)
- Buckhorn Saloon & Museum (3 blocks)
- The Texas Ranger Museum (3 blocks)

- Numerous city tours
- San Antonio Aquarium
- Vietnam Veterans Memorial
- Fort Sam Houston Medical Museum (5 miles)

We'll be marking the 2016 reunion with three important occasions:

- The 11<sup>th</sup> Cavalry was stationed at Fort Sam Houston in 1911-1912.
- 50 years since the 11<sup>th</sup> Armored Cavalry arrived in Vietnam in September 1966.
- To salute the many medics, doctors and nurses who served with the 11<sup>th</sup> ACR, 37<sup>th</sup> Medical Company and 7<sup>th</sup> Surgical Hospital in Vietnam and who trained at Fort Sam Houston. We have over 300 medics on our mailing list!

A block of 550 rooms has been set aside for the reunion. Over 1/3 of the rooms (175) have already been booked. This is an excellent opportunity to make San Antonio your next vacation. Make your reservations early.

### Grand Hyatt

**600 E Market Street  
San Antonio, Texas 78205**

**Hyatt Reservations: 1-888-421-1442**

Reservations may also be made through our website:  
[www.11thcavnam.com](http://www.11thcavnam.com)

Room Rate: \$119.00 single/double/quad  
(room rate good 3 days prior and post reunion)

Self Parking: \$13.50 per day

Reservations must be made no later than  
**AUGUST 1, 2016**

More information on San Antonio can be found at:

[www.visitsanantonio.com](http://www.visitsanantonio.com)





# A Taste of the Chattahoochee Reunion XXX – Columbus, GA

By: Ollie Pickral, K Troop, 68-69

One might think by reading the title that I'm talking scenery, boutique shops, and fine restaurants in the Columbus area, site of our last reunion.

Oh no.....I'm talking about rafting the Chattahoochee River with Class II, III, and IV rapids. Friends, rapids are classed and V is the tops! Most humans should never try Class V. Maybe most shouldn't even try Class IV, but being the adventurer I am, I persuaded my daughter April and her husband Chris into doing it. We went online and saw the photos and we were very excited about getting to Columbus and doing "the rapids". I questioned myself in that my partners were in their mid thirties and me pushing sixty nine, I had the feeling that they could handle it but maybe not me. A month before, I changed my workout procedure at The "Y" as I started doing more arm and upper body exercises to handle the paddling required.

A dam releases water twice a day down the Chattahoochee. They have a 10 am opening and again at 4 pm. Our raft time was 5 pm I guess to assure we'd get the high water. Zilda Ritchie, wife of Kenron (K Troop) was in our group, in another raft. There were five of us in our raft. We cast off around 5:30 and experienced the Class II and III rapids and really enjoyed it. Once we completed the run, we were to again go up river and come down a similar direction. We were asked if we wanted to do the higher class rapids and I spoke up right away and said, "Let's do it"! Again we went through the Class II and III but I noticed further on, we went around a different way on the river. Folks, we were now looking at some real rapids. My pulse went up as we were pushed to this side then that, swirling around and down and looking up at towering waves and plunging deep down like a roller coaster. It was scary, even for this old former combat soldier.

I finally made it to the surface, gasping for air and heart racing. Seconds later, April came to the surface, gasping for air and eyes as large as silver dollars.

At one of those instances when we dipped down, I looked up and Chris, who was sitting in front of me, flew over my head, thus allowing the light weight of the raft to flip. I was next in the water and April followed. Now we were being tossed under the water like a runaway washing machine. I really had some concern when both my water shoes were swept off my feet simultaneously and I wasn't sure where up was. Also, because we swamped so fast, my lungs weren't full of air. I'm fighting to get to the surface hoping I was going in the right direction.

I finally made it to the surface, gasping for air and heart racing. Seconds later, April came to the surface, gasping for air and eyes as large as silver dollars. She had gone through the same underwater turbulence but came up under the raft that was suspended in place under large waves, one pushing it forward and another pushing it backwards. We looked for Chris and found that he was picked up by one of the rafts that made it through successfully. Our raft was still stuck in place in the middle of the river.

We had some scary moments and later laughed about it as we told everyone who would listen. I think it will be a memorable moment of our many reunion sites we've been to. Maybe next time I'll stay on shore and talk about the real tastes of shops and restaurants, this time using knife and fork instead of a paddle and the taste of a frightful river gone mad.

# A Special Welcome Home

By: Gregory R Mason  
HHT, 3/11, 68-69

For many of us coming home from Viet Nam, the memories are not like those of our fathers returning World War II. No ticker tape parades, no big welcomes at airports or other venues.

In September 2014 about a dozen members of the 11th ACVVC myself included, were returning to the Tampa, Florida area on a Southwest Airline flight after attending our reunion. One of our members, Fred Sheetz mentioned to one of the flight attendants that she might want to let the other passengers know we were on the plane.

**This flight attendant proceeded to announce we were on the plane and applause broke out.** Many of us have been on planes or in airports where our returning soldiers were welcomed home to cheers and applause. Those of us returning from Vietnam did not experience that and in fact sometimes worse.

This flight attendant proceeded to announce we were on the plane and applause broke out. During the flight she was most attentive and very professional, a tribute to Southwest Airlines. We arrived about 10 minutes early and as we got to the gate, she said she thought the other passengers should let us off first and applause rang out again. As we walked into the terminal, we were applauded again. I still get chocked up every time I think of this kind act or try to tell someone about it. We had waited 45 years to receive such recognition and she made this a very special ending to a wonderful week with our fellow Veterans.

Both Fred and I reached out to Southwest Airlines and were assured this employee would know of our gratitude, how special this was for us and that she would be recognized for this kind act by the leadership of Southwest Airlines.



# Fiddler's Green

We are sorry to report the following Troopers have taken the journey to Fiddler's Green. We send our heartfelt sympathy and sincere condolences to their families and friends. We honor their service to our country and to our regiment by posting their names. Funeral Honor Guard, please check daily at [www.11acr.com/hg.htm](http://www.11acr.com/hg.htm). We check over 500 U.S. Newspapers. The daily obituary keyword is 11th Cavalry. Information is then posted on our website to allow us to attend the funerals.

**Emery J. Andrews**, Howitzer Battery, 1/11 & HHT, 1/11 (1969-1970) passed away on November 29, 2013. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Saint Marys, GA.

**William J. Baier**, 37th Medical Company (1968-1969) passed away on October 29, 2014. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Montrose, PA. He was laid to rest in Montrose Cemetery, Montrose, PA.

**Raymond T. Black**, C Troop, 1/11 (1966-1967) passed away on December 2, 2012. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Monroe, LA. He was laid to rest in Hasley Cemetery, West Monroe, LA.

**Carson T. Byrd**, H Company, 2/11 (1966-1967) passed away on October 24, 2014. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Clarksville, TN. He was laid to rest in Resthaven Memorial Gardens, Clarksville, TN.

**Charlie C. Carlson**, Howitzer Battery, 1/11 (1970-1971) passed away on August 30, 2015. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Edgewater, FL.

**John E. Dean**, L Troop, 3/11 (1970-1971) passed away on November 3, 2014. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Dunville, KY. He was laid to rest in Camp Nelson National Cemetery, Nicholasville, KY.

**Gregg A. Greenwood**, D Company, 1/11 (1968-1969) passed away on August 26, 2015. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Dowagiac, MI. He was laid to rest in Riverside Cemetery, Dowagiac, MI.

**Claude R. Grudenich**, HHT, 2/11 (1971-1972) passed away on October 22, 2014. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Ann Arbor, MI. He was laid to rest in Arborcrest Mem Prk & Mauseleum, Ann Arbor, MI.

**Thomas J. Guidy**, HHT, 1/11 (1966-1967) passed away on February 15, 2015. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Pensacola, FL. He was laid to rest in Eastern Gate Memorial Gardens, Pensacola, FL.

**Erie L. Hedgcoth**, E Troop, 2/11 (1968-1969) passed away on September 20, 2015. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in La Crosse, WI. He was laid to rest in Mormon Coulee Memorial Park, La Crosse, WI.

**Roberto Herrera**, L Troop, 3/11 (1967-1968) passed away on July 10, 2015. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Brownsville, TX. He was laid to rest in Rose Lawn Memorial Gardens, Brownsville, TX.

**Daryle J. Krous JR**, HHT, 3/11 (1970-1971) passed away on September 22, 2015. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Dazey, ND.

**Orlin O. Kuenzel**, B Troop, 1/11 (1966-1967) passed away on September 2, 2015. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Webster, MN. He was laid to rest in St. John'S Cemetery, Webster, MN.

**Siegfried Laubenstein**, D Company, 1/11 (1969-1970) passed away on August 28, 2015. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Bentonville, AR. He was laid to rest in Fayetteville National Cemetery, Fayetteville, AR.

**Nicola J. Lomangino**, HHT, 2/11 (1968-1969) passed away on October 7, 2014. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Wildwood, FL. He was laid to rest in Florida National Cemetery, Bushnell, FL.

**Ronald E. Meadows**, F Troop, 2/11 (1967-1968) passed away on September 1, 2015. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Vernon Hill, VA.

**Gary L. Miller**, F Troop, 2/11 (1967-1968) passed away on July 8, 2015. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Hinton, WV. He was laid to rest in Restwood Cemetery, Hinton, WV.

**Edward Morgan**, 506th Supply & Services Company (1966-1967) passed away on March 29, 2015. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Millsboro, DE.

**Roger M. Morgenthal**, 541st MID (1969-1970) passed away on August 3, 2015. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Harrisburg, PA. He was laid to rest in Indiantown Gap National, Annville, PA.

**Dan A. Nelson**, HHT REGT (1966-1967) passed away on October 6, 2014. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Huntington Beach, CA.

**Roger J. Padykula**, G Troop, 2/11 (1966-1967) passed away on July 20, 2015. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Sauquoit, NY.

**Robert J. Pivrotto**, HHT, 2/11 (1970) passed away on July 24, 2015. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Morris, CT. He was laid to rest in Connecticut State Veterans Cemetery, Middletown, CT.

**Delbert H. Powell**, HHT REGT (1966-1967) passed away on March 29, 2015. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Nortonville, KY. He was laid to rest in New Salem Cemetery, Nortonville, KY.

**Larry L. Quincel**, HHT, 3/11 (1968-1969) passed away on April 7, 2015. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Augusta, GA. He was laid to rest in Hillcrest Memorial Park Cemetery, Richmond County, GA.

**M. Dwight Rodgers Jr**, F Troop, 2/11 (1967-1968) passed away on February 18, 2014. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Orlando, FL.

**Ralph E. Sanders**, HHT, 3/11 (1970) passed away on March 18, 2015. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Conifer, CO. He was laid to rest in Ft. Logan National Cemetery, Denver, CO.

**Karl A. Warner**, Air Cavalry Troop (1968) passed away on July 9, 2015. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Chattaroy, WA.

**Michael J. Waterman**, HHT REGT (1968) passed away on June 15, 2015. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Bonneau, SC.

**Kenneth W. Worthey**, B Troop, 1/11 (1969-1970) passed away on August 3, 2015. He was a LIFE member of the 11th ACVVC and resided in Grayslake, IL.



# 11<sup>TH</sup> ACVVC DONATIONS

Donor Levels:	Platinum Level \$500+	Gold Level \$100-\$499	Silver Level \$50-\$99	Bronze Level \$1-\$49
<b>Trooper Assistance Fund</b>	<b>Gold Level</b> Welch, John IMO Ronald Vetere Gray, Dr. & Mrs. John IMO Lance Hembree Boyes, Gordon Cartwright, Wavely IMO Kenneth Worthey Family, Nesbitt Associates, Mann, Weitz & Cartwright, Wavely	<b>Bronze Level</b> Neary, Sheldon Pion, William Ashmore, William IMO Kenneth Worthey Hoppe, Norma Finkle, Davida Kaufmann, Diana Thompson, Windy & John	<b>Bronze Level</b> Sowers, Harry Wohlend, Elam Grill, Charlie	Martinez, Richard Gregory, Carlos Curti, Ben Esposito, Carmine Carroll, Patrick Porter, D. Brooks, Edward
<b>Gold Level</b> Hall, Philip IMO Michael Freitas Murdock, Monte			<b>Calendar Fund</b>	<b>Memorial Fund</b>
<b>Silver Level</b> Garcia, Fred & Edmy IMO Michael Freitas Trosper, Edward Boyes, Gordon	<b>Silver Level</b> Cotton, A.C. IMO Kenneth Worthey Samsky, Alan & Elyn Dahimann, Neil Ferguson, Kathleen Worthey, Donna Joseph, N.L.	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Gold Level</b> Quinn, John Brown, Edward Aarestad, James	<b>Gold Level</b> Carr, Mark LaFerla, Donald & Gloria IMO Lance Hembree
<b>Scholarship Fund</b>		<b>Gold Level</b> Embroidery, Penn Sport Gulley, Gerald	<b>Silver Level</b> Madsen, Per IMO Daniel Phillippi jr Coopet, Joseph Young, James	<b>Silver Level</b> Menke, Dr. & Mrs. Karst, Nancy IMO Lance Hembree Bronze Level Wilmes, Wayne & Francis IMO Lance Hembree
<b>Platinum Level</b> Worthey, Donna IMO Kenneth Worthey		<b>Silver Level</b> Bailey, Ben Baker, Richard	<b>Bronze Level</b> Carr, Mark	

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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

Membership is open to all troopers who served with or were attached to the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment while in the countries of Vietnam or Cambodia from August 1966 thru March 1972. Membership is also open to the wives, parents and children of our Troopers killed in action.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

UNIT \_\_\_\_\_ DATES: FROM \_\_\_\_\_ TO \_\_\_\_\_  
(Troop, Sqdn) (Mo/Yr) (Mo/Yr)

SER NO RANK (during tour) \_\_\_\_\_ SSN NO \_\_\_\_\_

OTHER INFORMATION \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE MEMBERSHIP:  NEW  RENEWAL MEMBERSHIP NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

ANNUAL (\$15)  LIFE (\$100)

LIFE Plan (\$25 enclosed, plus 3 payments of \$25 in 3, 6 and 9 months)

IN ADDITION, PLEASE ACCEPT MY TAX DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTION FOR \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I authorize the release of my address/phone number to other Troopers who served with the 11th ACR

(Sign) \_\_\_\_\_

Visa  Mastercard Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks/money orders payable to: **11th ACVVC**. Mail this form with your check or money order (no cash) to: **11th ACVVC Membership, Ollie Pickral, 571 Ditchley Rd., Kilmarnock, VA 22482.**

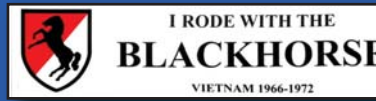
# The 11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia QM Store



#1 Coffee Mug \$15.00



#2 Key Ring \$4.00



#3 Bumper Sticker \$2.00



#5 Blackhorse Watch w/Leather Band (men's only) \$35.00



#7 Blackhorse Patch Colored \$4.00



#8 Blackhorse Patch Gray \$4.00



#4 Window Sticker \$2.00



#6 Blackhorse Watch w/Metal Band (men's only) \$35.00



#9 Cavalry Hat \$225.00



#11 Flag, Indoor/Outdoor \$60.00



#16 Tote Bag, Embroidered \$20.00



#10 Web Belt with buckle \$20.00

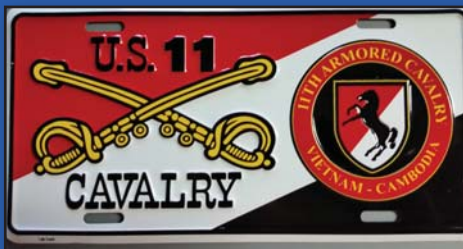


#15 Attache Case \$30.00

#17 Blackhorse Pin \$5.00



#14 License Plate Frame, Black w/white letters \$10.00



#13 License Plate, Blackhorse \$6.00



#19 Blackhorse Cavalry Pin \$5.00



#18 11th ACR Regimental Crest \$5.00



#20 Vietnam Blackhorse Pin, Wreath \$5.00

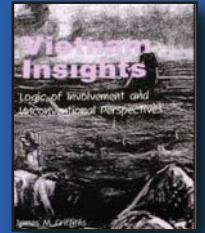




#12 30th Reunion Challenge Coin \$15.00



#25 Blackhorse Coin \$15.00



#30 Book:  
Vietnam Insights  
\$10.00



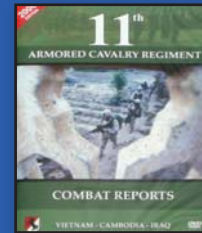
#22 Gear Bag, Red \$45.00



#23 Leather Gear Bag  
\$45.00



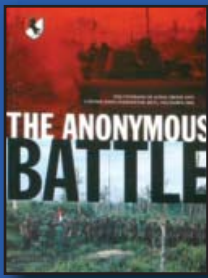
#26 Magnetic  
Blackhorse \$5.00



#28 Video  
(DVD) Combat  
Reports \$30.00



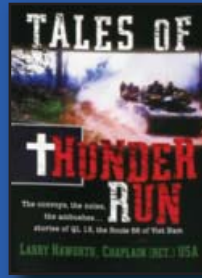
#27 Magnetic  
Ribbon \$4.00



#34 Book: The  
Anonymous Battle  
\$16.00



#32 Book: The  
Anonymous Battle :  
Part II \$16.00



#37 Book, "Tales of  
Thunder Run" by  
Chaplain Laeey  
Haworth \$11.00



#36. T Shirt, "My  
Grandpa Rode  
With The  
Blackhorse" (Youth  
sizes: S, M, L)  
\$20.00



#38 Poplin Hats \$15.00



#39 a/b T-Shirt, Dark Gray & Sand \$18.00



#40 Golf Shirt,  
w/BH Insignia.  
Specify color:  
Red, White or  
Gray \$32.00



#43 Windbreaker, black w/snap front  
& BH Insignia & VN Ribbon, \$35.00



#41 Denim Shirt, w/BH & VN  
Ribbon \$32.00



#42 Blackhorse Jacket,  
100% Nylon \$95.00



#29 Ladies Necklace \$25.00



Hello to all you Blackhorse Troopers.

Once again we had another great reunion this time in Columbus, GA. Our hats off to Steven Page, Allen Hathaway, and Peter Walter, who are just to name a few of all the guys and gals, who made this another one to remember.

As some of you might have heard your Quartermaster Store had another record breaking sales year at this reunion. I was very proud that our former Quartermaster Rod George was there, and he gave us a helping hand during the times we were open. On that note, Jan and I would like to give a huge THANK YOU, to all of our helpers. Without them it would be impossible to do. Thank you helpers Jerry & Pat Mitchell, Pat Smothermon, Carrie Holton, Jim Young, Concetta Coffi, and Rod George as well. And to my personal helper Jan Beamon, thank you all so much.

I would like to extend a thank you also to Jay Reese who invited us to a breakfast at Poor Richards Café in Plano on the 25th of September, where we met up with some more Blackhorse troopers and their wives, also some special visitors who came by. We had a great time, visiting with them and will be looking forward to seeing them again in January at their next meeting at Poor Richards. I also need to mention that the East Texas Round Up in East Texas will be

in April, so, if you are not busy, come on over to Rusk, TX, at the Texas Railroad, and have lunch with us. We'll be glad to see you. So mark it on your calendar to be there.

We had some good feedback on the new items that were in the Quartermaster store. The changes of colors of the T-shirts were well received. It has been said over and over that we needed some new stuff so we went to work on it and you responded really well by buying *all* we had in stock! So again, thank you all for your response to your QM Store. So as you get back to sending in your orders to us by mail *please* don't forget to fill out the bottom so we can have your return address. It makes it easier on us to send your package to you.

Always give us your name, address, phone number, and email if you have it. Please don't forget.

We have been hearing that a lot of you are making your reservations for San Antonio. If you haven't, you had better do it quickly as rooms are going fast. If something comes up and you cannot be at our 31st Reunion, you can cancel. So go ahead and book your rooms now. We'll be looking for you there. Time will go so fast when looking forward to next year.

*Allons, Jerry*

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## PATTON from page 9

Fifth's base camp which, upon entering, stood in relative silence, seemingly empty with its forces operating in the fields. We were permitted to bed down in an empty hooch, similar to ours back at Blackhorse base camp but more permanently constructed and with a metal roof over us. Secured inside the huge base camp was almost like a second R&R after five months in the field where I often slept either on a cot under the celestial night sky of the Southern Hemisphere or in the rain-sheltered cab of my five-ton, "LINDA". But the reverie didn't last through even the first night. In the early morning hours I was bolted upright to images of flashing white strobes and booming thunder. Debris rattled on the metal roof. I was sprinting for the cover of a bunker and even in semi-sleep, knew what I was experiencing. The 25th's artillery unit from somewhere across the encampment erupted in response to the incoming 122 millimeter rockets hoisted by Charlie from the black jungle outside the base perimeter. The smell of smoldering metal and rancid smoke permeated the night air, a nauseous deathly scent.

We worked through the long days and spent longer sleepless nights waiting, listening for the dreaded shrill to rise from the jungle. Many years would pass before I would learn the scale of the enemy's tunneling systems beneath the ground: war planning rooms, hospitals, endless trafficking of supplies and provisions, a marvel of engineering, really, which surely contributed to the final phases of the war. Unknown to us at the time, a web of these tunnels were fully operational below us in the 25th's base camp during that grim first week of May 1968.

---

## DEROS:

My thoughts returned to The Blackhorse airfield where nearby I listened to the familiar sound of an Air Cav Huey, the monotonous rapid bass tempo of its thudding rotors, a sound as ubiquitous as the rumble and clatter of tracks, a resonance so prevalent that I no longer heard it unless I chose to listen. As the loud twin turbine engines of the odd-looking Army-green caribou taxied toward our position the reality of the moment was a confirmation of the end to my tour of duty and not just another disappointed awakening to my recurring nightmares as a *Short-Short Timer* – dreams in which time moved in the opposite direction to the final days of my tour. I was hours away from boarding an American civilian Boeing 707 – with *American* stewardesses – bound for the *real world* – going home!

## Postscript.

On July 15, 1968, I safely reached San Francisco, California, having completed my twelve-month tour of duty in Vietnam. Over 7,800 miles away near Xuan Loc, Republic of Vietnam, on a flat, Mars-like dry patch of red soil, the Organizational Flag of the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment was handed over to the Blackhorse's new commander, COL. George S. Patton, IV, HHT Regiment. Colonel Patton would go on to lead the 11th Cavalry with a leadership philosophy and fearless style of engaging the enemy under fire in the field alongside his troops and displaying other acts of courage and leadership that would earn him the Silver Star, Distinguished Flying Cross and two Distinguished Service Cross awards while serving as commander of The Blackhorse.





# Quartermaster

ORDER FORM • 3rd QTR 2015

11TH ARMORED CAVALRY'S VETERANS OF VIETNAM AND CAMBODIA

Item No.	Product Description	\$ Amt	Size	Qty	\$ Total
1.	Coffee Mug, white, ceramic (glass) 11oz w/full color Blackhorse insignia .....	15.00	_____	_____	_____
2.	Key ring, 1.5 " Embroidery square w/full color Blackhorse insignia .....	4.00	_____	_____	_____
3.	Bumper Sticker "I Rode With The Blackhorse" w/full color BH insignia .....	2.00	_____	_____	_____
4.	Window Sticker, full color BH insignia and Vietnam service ribbon .....	2.00	_____	_____	_____
5.	Watch, BH insignia on face, leather band (indicate choice) <input type="checkbox"/> Man's .....	35.00	_____	_____	_____
6.	Watch, BH insignia on face, metal band (indicate choice) <input type="checkbox"/> Man's .....	35.00	_____	_____	_____
7.	Blackhorse Shoulder Patch, Colored .....	4.00	_____	_____	_____
8.	Blackhorse Shoulder Patch, Subdued .....	4.00	_____	_____	_____
9.	Cavalry Hat (Brown in color, rope and pin included in price--round or oval head shape) .....	225.00	_____	_____	_____
10.	Belt: Military style 'web' trouser belt with Blackhorse buckle .....	20.00	_____	_____	_____
11.	Flag, indoor/outdoor 3'x5' with color insignia .....	60.00	_____	_____	_____
12.	30th Reunion Challenge Coin .....	15.00	_____	_____	_____
13.	License Plate, metal red & white background with crossed sabers & 11 .....	6.00	_____	_____	_____
14.	License Plate Frame, metal, black w/Blackhorse 11th US Cavalry in white .....	10.00	_____	_____	_____
15.	Attache Case w/shoulder strap 11.5" x 15.5" w/dir emb. BH insignia & VN rib .....	30.00	_____	_____	_____
16.	Tote Bag, red & black, 14x11x6 w/full color BH insignia and VN rib .....	20.00	_____	_____	_____
17.	Blackhorse Pin .....	5.00	_____	_____	_____
18.	11th ACR Regimental Crest .....	5.00	_____	_____	_____
19.	Blackhorse Cavalry Pin, brass, 11 over crossed sabers .....	5.00	_____	_____	_____
20.	Vietnam Blackhorse Pin w/wreath .....	5.00	_____	_____	_____
22.	Gear Bag, camouflage w/color BH insignia .....	45.00	_____	_____	_____
23.	Leather Gear Bag w/Blackhorse Insignia and pull handle .....	\$45.00	_____	_____	_____
25.	Blackhorse Coin .....	15.00	_____	_____	_____
26.	Magnetic "Blackhorse" .....	5.00	_____	_____	_____
27.	Magnetic "Support Our Troops" Ribbon .....	4.00	_____	_____	_____
28.	Video: "Combat Reports" (DVD Only) .....	30.00	_____	_____	_____
29.	Ladies Necklace .....	25.00	_____	_____	_____
30.	Book, "Vietnam Insights" by James Griffiths .....	10.00	_____	_____	_____
32.	Book, "Anonymous Battle II" (Picture not available) .....	16.00	_____	_____	_____
34.	Book, "The Anonymous Battle" by John Poindexter .....	16.00	_____	_____	_____
36.	T Shirt, "My Grandpa Rode With The Blackhorse" (sizes: S, M, L) .....	20.00	_____	_____	_____
37.	Book, "Tales of Thunder Run" by Chaplain Larry Haworth .....	11.00	_____	_____	_____
38.	Hat, Poplin adjustable w/mesh back <input type="checkbox"/> white <input type="checkbox"/> black Solid cloth back, (black only) Old Style <input type="checkbox"/> New Style <input type="checkbox"/> ....	15.00	_____	_____	_____
39.	Blackhorse T-shirt, 100% cotton, preshrunk, full color BH insignia. Specify color: <input type="checkbox"/> Dark Gray <input type="checkbox"/> Sand .....	18.00	_____	_____	_____
40.	Golf Shirt, w/BH insignia and VN Ribbon: Specify color: <input type="checkbox"/> Red <input type="checkbox"/> Dark Gray .....	32.00	_____	_____	_____
41.	Denim shirt (men's) .....	32.00	_____	_____	_____
42.	Blackhorse Jacket, 100% Nylon, zipper front, fleece lining w/full color BH insignia, (6" back ), and ACVVC front left .....	95.00	_____	_____	_____
43.	Windbreaker, black w/snap front, BH insignia & VN Ribbon .....	35.00	_____	_____	_____
44.	OTHER: Sale Items, Etc. ....	_____	_____	_____	_____

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

**Shipping Costs: (Includes multiple Items)**  
 A) \$2.00 — \$5.00 = \$3.00    C) \$16.00 — \$60.00 = \$12.35  
 B) \$6.00 — \$15.00 = \$6.60    D) \$61.00 and over = \$16.85

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Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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 \*City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Check if address change  
 Please include the largest of chosen items S/H costs with your order. Maximum per order form charge is \$16.85. Checks or Money Orders should be made payable to **11th ACVVC**. Allow six weeks for processing and delivery. **ALL PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE**. Previous price lists are invalid. Mail order to: **11th ACVVC Quartermaster, c/o Jerry Beamon, 15926 Cedar Bay Dr., Bullard, TX 75757. JerryLBea@aol.com**  
**\* Required info to process your order**



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**Manassas, VA 20112-7800**

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## Listen Up!

### Veterans Day Wreath at the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial

All Blackhorse Troopers, family and friends are invited to participate in the Annual Memorial Day wreath laying at the Wall

- When:** 9:45 AM, Wednesday, November 11, 2015
- Where:** Near the Three Soldiers Statue at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Washington D.C.
- Who:** All Blackhorse Troopers from all eras, family and friends
- What:** We will initially gather near the statue of the Three Soldiers, make introductions, say a few words, and then informally carry the wreath to the apex of the Wall

Look for the Blackhorse Patch Wreath that will be there by 09:30. Please pass this information to anyone who might be interested in participating.

### Wreath Laying - Tomb of the Unknown Soldier

All Blackhorse Troopers, family and friends are invited to attend the wreath laying at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

- When:** 11:00 AM, Tuesday, February 2, 2016
- Where:** Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA
- Who:** All Blackhorse troopers from all eras, family and friends
- What:** A wreath will be laid at the Tomb in observance of the anniversary of the activation of the 11th Cavalry on February 2, 1901 at Fort Myer, Virginia

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**[www.11thCavNam.com](http://www.11thCavNam.com)**



Posted [www.11acr.com/hg.htm](http://www.11acr.com/hg.htm) Obituaries

