



THE 12TH CAV Trooper



Semper Paratus

Serving Those A/4-12 Cav Troopers who Served In The Republic of Vietnam 1968 - 1971

Volume X, Issue 1

February, 2012

Reunion Memories

The 2011 reunion is now history and A Troop continues to be a second family for all of us. A family whose reunions are well attended and where one can escape to a place of comradery and a genuine caring for each and everyone of us. Who could have imagined 40 years ago while sitting on the DMZ that we would be back together again. No rank separates us and any perceived faults from the past are long forgotten. We have a common bond, that of serving our country in an unpopular war, and of watching over one another and covering your comrades back during times of trouble.

Our steps may have slowed and gray hair appeared on our heads, but we are still proud of the job we did and of how we performed in times of distress. When we marched in the first Las Vegas Veterans day parade there was not a dry eye in the Troop, heads held high and maybe a little more swagger in our steps we let the cheers wash over our bodies and bring a peace to our minds that we had not felt when we returned home after our tours of duty. Even better was the cheer of "We Love You" that echoed across the parade route as we neared the reviewing stand. Our wives and significant others that had joined our lives made this first parade the best experience we may ever have in our fellowship that is A Troop, 4th Squadron, 12th Cavalry Regiment.

This years parade was no different than the first. Officers, NCO's and Enlisted Men in one formation, no rank, just a gathering of family showing the world how far friendship and respect can grow and flourish. Our lines weren't very straight and we may have been out of step but in our hearts was the pride of knowing we performed in a time of war and that time cannot erase the memories and friendships we had so long ago.

Next year, 2012, we will again meet in Washington D.C. , to honor our brothers that we lost in Vietnam, and to remember those that have passed on to Fiddlers Green since we returned home. Unfortunately those numbers are growing year by year. So, if you have not attended a reunion in the past make plans to attend this years reunion. It will help you in so many ways and it will help A Troop continue its march into the future.



A Troop 4th Squadron 12th Cavalry Regiment Marching in the Las Vegas Veterans Day Parade November 11th 2011.

Parade Photos by, Dave Blanchett

Reunion Notes: Washington D.C. October 4th thru 7th, 2012

Remembrances at the Wall

Springfield Hilton Hotel, Springfield, Virginia

This year's reunion will be held in the Washington D.C. area and will include a trip to the Vietnam Memorial and a short ceremony honoring our brothers whos names are inscribed on the Wall. Some of the ladies of the Sisterhood are attempting to get a Whitehouse tour lined up for those that are interested. Friday there will be a Sisterhood function at the hotel and Saturday prior to the trip to the wall we will have a short business meeting. Saturday evening will be our annual banquet. The hospitality suite will be open Thursday thru Sunday.

A block of rooms is currently available at the Springfield Hilton our base of operations for the reunion. Listed below is the information needed to register at the hotel. The sooner we book our block of rooms the sooner we can get additional rooms ensuring that all attendees can stay at the same hotel. The cut off for our special rate is September 16th so get your rooms early and get your registration in as soon as possible. The hotel offers free shuttle service to the metro station 3 blocks away and to the Springfield Mall and various restaurants in the area.

We have negotiated special rates for the duration of the reunion. Rooms both king and two double beds are \$99.00 per night Thursday thru Sunday and \$157 Monday thru Wednesday. For us to get credit for the room nights you must use our special group code of (4THS12) The hotel is also offering discount coupons for breakfast in their restaurant, coupons may be purchased at the front desk. They are also providing our hospitality suite at no charge if we meet our room quotas.

Reservations can be made three different ways but remember to use the group code of (4THS12) when making your reservations. Reservations can be made:

By calling the hotel 1-703-971-8900 or by calling Hilton Hotels 1-800-717-3691

Online at www.springfieldva.hilton.com

Or on our special web page (http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/S/SPRSHHF-4THS12-20121003/index.jhtml?WT.mc id=POG) this link is posted on our web site if you don't want to try and enter all it yourself.

2012 Reunion Registration

Trooper name _____
Others attending _____

Registration Trooper Only: \$50.00 _____
Dinner Reservations: \$50.00 X Number attending _____
Transportation to the wall \$6.00 per seat _____
Total Amount Due Reunion and Banquet: _____

Number of Ladies attending _____
Fridays Sisterhood Function _____

Please mail your registration to:
A Troop 4/12 Cavalry
c/o Ken Dye
10908 66th Avenue East
Puyallup, Wa. 98373

Table with 3 columns: Item, No. of Pics, Price. Includes rows for Troop Photo, Sisterhood Photo, 1st Platoon, Second Platoon, Third Platoon, Hq Platoon, and Totals.



Row One: Natalie Dye, Maya Washington.
Row Two: Linda Eaton, Diane Smith, Mary Weaver, Wendy Ferguson, Elda Lang, Nancy Curnell, Barbara Rosenbaum, Rita Perrino, Jan Davis, Theresa Cole, Shirley Masters.
Row Three: Unknown, Diane Montgomery, Ellen Styles, Reda Reed, Nancy Coulter, Val Larson, Sandy Dye, Linda Rinaldi, Rachael Schafer, Lula McKinney, Nikoda Rotvolt.
Row Four: Sue Gray, Sue Christine, Nancy Swinford, Sherri Taylor, Linda Kerin, Diane Rebbec, Barbara Cooper, Cheryl Sharpe, Janine Drake, Joyce Patrick, Jeannie White, Amy DeLaFuente, Jenny Dye, Kim Vidovic.



Row One: Charles Russell, Gary Thrapas
Row Two: David Gray, Danny Hawn, Ken Dye, Gene Reiter, George Gersaba, Merle Reed, Glen Costanza, Ynasio Rendon, Stanley Centala, Charles Cooper.
Row Three: Walt Ferguson, Neal Smith, Bob Taylor, Keith Eaton, Dennis Perrino, Warren Swinford, Brooks Styles, Ray Gavi, Bob Curnell, Jim Littlepage, Don Scott, Jim Davis.
Row Four: Jim Rinaldi, Michael Browning, Floyd Weaver, Jerry Montgomery, Dennis Patrick, Jim Good, Kent Drake, Jim Bryant, Bob Kerin, Al Bergstrom, Don Casini, Warren Congleton, Bob Rebbec.
Row Five: John White, Al Christine, Dave Larson, David July, Bob Richards, John Sharpe, Mark Frutchey, Tom Lang, Jim Clark, John Smith, Chris Phillips, Stuart Coulter.

All group photos by David Proctor FocusWest Photography

Business Meeting Notes

The 2011 Business meeting was opened on November 12th 2011, by Chairman John Sharp.

The first order of business was a presentation by Charlie Russell on PTSD and Tinnitus claims for benefits through the VA. He also handed out a book on PTSD "Tears of a Warrior" by Janet and Anthony Seahorn. If anyone would desire a copy of the book please contact either the Trooper or Charlie Russell.

Bob Rebbec, then spoke regarding a photo project wanting to gather one photo for each trooper who served. Further details on this project will be forth coming.

John Sharpe then presented an agenda for the business meeting that was approved. Minutes of the previous business meeting were not read or approved.

Neal Smith gave his Treasurers report and copies were provided to all in attendance.

23 October 2010 to 22 October
 Revenue : \$13,738.21
 Expenses : \$ 3,772.83
 Total : \$ 9,965.38 **

These totals include the Troop memorial Fund.

Charles Cooper reported that the Troop Memorial is completed and being stored pending a final installation location decision. Sufficient funds are in the account to maintain the memorial.

Unit Report: Keith Eaton reported that the newsletter is doing well and asked for assistance in providing content for the newsletter. He also reports that Cav Store sales have been able to keep up with demand and should now be self sufficient. Keith also reported the addition of new items branded with the crossed sabers of the 12th Cav. Also reported that the commo net on topica is being used by 60 plus troopers and that it at times can be a great source of knowledge regarding the troop of yesterday and today.

Bob Taylor reported that the Agent Orange letter of inquiry generated responses from 40 Troopers. A discussion followed: Palliative Care Section of VA will issue Agent Orange death certificates even if a Trooper was not under their care. VA will issue insurance CHAMP for spouses of Agent Orange victims. Permanent and total disability was discussed. Also mentioned was that ED can get Troopers an extra \$90. per month, and Cancer will get Troopers an extra \$500. per month.

Sherri Taylor discussed a Quilt of Tears project to be started after the next newsletter identifies Troopers wanting squares on the quilts.

John Sharpe proposed that 2/3's of the cost of the 4/12 Cav. DVD production and mailing be given to Bob Rebbec who funded the project. That motion was approved by the members present.

John had Dennis Perrino pass the hat for donations to

to the Troop fund. Neal Smith reported that those donations totaled \$1281.00 for the general fund.

Reunion Committee: Keith Eaton reported that the 2012 reunion will be held in the Washington D.C. area at the Springfield, Virginia Hilton. The Dates for the reunion are October 3rd thru October the 7th. see the reunion article for more information.

** Detailed Treasurers Report Follows

Treasurers Report

January 2011 thru December 2011

Income:	
Donations- Newsletter	1915.00
- Reunion	1579.50
Interest Inc.	5.46
Reunion - 50-50	312.00
- Beverage Donations	239.00
- Raffle	720.00
- Late Registration & Dinner	1350.00
Total Income:	6120.96
Expenses:	
Newsletter Printing	2952.10
Reunion additional expenses	1048.50
Total Expenses	4000.60
Net Income:	2120.36

Net Worth Year End 2011

Assets:	
Cash and Bank Accounts	
Checking Account	9325.35
Memorial Savings	4017.98
Total Cash and Bank Accounts	13343.33
Total Liabilities	0.00
Overall Total	13343.33

Account Notations:

- 1.) Each Year 1500.00 is transferred to The reunion team as seed money. This tides the reunion committee over until registration and dinner monies are collected.
- 2.) The Memorial Savings account includes the cost of the memorial, installation costs for the memorial, and the ongoing maintenance costs required by the memorial park.
- 3.) The Cav Store is not included in this report since it is self sufficient and sales keep it's inventory going.

First Platoon



Row 1: Ken Dye, Gene Reiter, Charles Cooper
Row 2: Jim Rinaldi, Jim Littlepage, Warren Swinford, George Gersaba, Glenn Costanza, Jim Davis
Row 3: Chris Phillips, Al Christine, Brooks Styles, Dave Larson, Bob Kerin, Warren Congleton, Walt Ferguson, Stuart Coulter, Missing from picture Martin Stoecker

Second Platoon



Row 1: Mark Fruchie, Jerry Montgomery, Stanley Centala, Floyd Weaver, Dennis Perrino, Neal Smith
Row 2: Merle Reed, Jim Bryant, Danny Hawn, Ynasio Rendon, John Sharpe, John White, Bob Rebbec, Bob Taylor, Missing from picture William Garrison

Chairmans Corner

First I would like to thank CSM Charles Russell and others from the third herd for putting on this years reunion. Another great reunion has come and gone, with one on the way. This will be the second reunion for the Cav in Washington D.C. The memorial presentation done at the wall during our 2004 reunion was a heart warming and emotional event. Every American should visit Washington DC at least once in their lives, the history and sites are phenomenal. All the National parks and Smithsonian exhibits are free, But DC can be a little expensive.

Third Platoon



Row 1 : Don Scott, Jim Good, Charles Russell, Gary Thrappas
Row 2 : Dennis Patrick, Kent Drake, David July, Don Casini, Al Bergstrom

Headquarters Platoon



Row 1 : John Smith, Ray Gavi, Bob Curnell, Bob Richards, David July
Row 2 : Dennis Perrino, Jim Clark, Keith Eaton, Jim Davis, Tom Lang, David Gray, Missing from photo Michael Browning.

With that thought in mind, we are taking funds out of our account to help pay for the buses to and from the Vietnam Wall. Keith has commanderred some great hotel prices. Making this a good time and place to bring the family.

I have attended all but one of the reunions and have enjoyed everyone of them. Every now and then I'll wonder why so and so doesn't attend and then I think, "What did I do to encourage that person to come?" For most of us, once you have attended one reunion, you will want to come again. But I challenge you to contact a fellow Cav brother and urge him to attend. (continued on page 6)



You always see the front of our formation, well there's always a back.



The Las Vegas Veterans Day Parade had everything a parade should have, large crowds and high school marching bands.



A TROOP AGENT ORANGE INFORMATION

Fellow Troopers,

Thank you for responding to the Agent Orange inquiry. We didn't get as much information for those already deceased, but those of you who responded, it appears there are 39 troopers with presumed Agent Orange diseases.

There are approximately 174 names listed on Fiddlers Green. Of those we have found the cause of death in 32 cases. The results show that 20 of the 32 died from diseases listed on the Agent Orange list of diseases. Without obtaining death certificates or contacting the families of the deceased, there is no way of knowing exactly how many troopers have passed from exposure to Agent Orange. Remember to get regular check ups at the VA or from your family doctor.

For those of you receiving benefits for Agent Orange diseases, remember that your families are eligible for benefits if you die from your disease. Here is a link to that information.

Survivor's Benefits for widows and families of Agent Orange Victims:
<http://www.vba.va.gov/bln/21/benefits/herbicide/aono3.htm>

We were there for each other back then, and we're here for each other now. You are not alone. Please don't hesitate to contact me for support, assistance, or just a conversation.

Bob Taylor
2nd Platoon 1969-1970
trooper 29 delta@ gmail.com
1-928-701-2155

Quilt of Tears

A non-profit organization known as the "Quilt of Tears" is trying to raise awareness about veterans sick or dying from the Agent Orange sprayed in Vietnam. The troopers referenced to the left are eligible to have a square made in their honor, and have it stitched to a quilt which will become a part of the public exhibition traveling around the country. Usually families or widows make the squares. However, if you would like a square made in your honor and have no one to help you, a group of Cav Sisters exists to help make one for you. For more information please contact me (see below).

<http://www.agentorangequiltoftears.com/index.html>

Sherri Taylor
taylorcheryal@gmail.com

Chairmans corner Continued

We have brothers with health problems, financial problems, family problems that if nothing else would be glad to hear from you whether they could attend a reunion or not.

I hope everyone enjoyed the DVD we sent out in early November. If you didn't receive one or it didn't work. Contact Keith Eaton at the Trooper and we will get you another one. Looking forward to seeing everyone in October in Washington D.C. !

John Sharpe
Chairman A Troop 4 Squadron 12th Cavalry



Warren " Jersey " Congleton visits with Al and Susan Christine



No expense was spared by the Third Platoon in finding Willie Nelson to perform at the banquet. Thanks CSM and Trap

The 12th Cav TROOPER

Is the authorized publication of The A Troop, 4th-12th Cavalry Association, 5548 Hazelwood Rd. Columbus, OH 43229. It is published biannually in the Winter and Early Fall.

The cost of this publication is paid by the donations of the members of the Cav Brotherhood.

Mission Statement

The driving force of the Association is to continue promoting camaraderie of A Troop 4/12 Cavalry (Vietnam Era) through reunions, memorial services, and communications.

Editor/Publisher:
Keith Eaton,
5548 Hazelwood Rd.,
Columbus, OH 43229
e-mail: Cav30yankee@yahoo.com

Secretary of the Association: Sherri Taylor,
Email: trooper29delta@gmail.com

Web Master:
George Gresaba, aka Pineapple,
Email: gslime54@hotmail.com



Danny Hawn had the honor of leading the Troop with her colors



Janine Drake and Joyce Patrick enjoy the hospitality suite

A Troop, 4th Squadron, 12th Cavalry
5548 Hazelwood Rd
Columbus, OH 43229



Disclaimer

The 12th Cav TROOPER is an authorized publication of the A Troop 12th Cavalry. Articles or opinions expressed in this publication, however, reflect the views of the authors and do not imply endorsement by the Association.

Change of Address

Provide all changes of address to *The Trooper*
5548 Hazelwood Rd.
Columbus, Ohio 43229
c/o Keith Eaton



The 12th Cav TROOPER **Needs Your Support**

We hope you enjoy receiving *The 12th Cav TROOPER*. As you can see, the format and contents are new and will continue to improve. The production of such a quality newsletter, however, is not inexpensive. The newsletter constitutes one of the highest expenses of the Association budget. Many thanks to those who have contributed. Many more contributions are needed, Please send your check (Payable to A Troop, 12th Cavalry) along with the form below to Neal Smith, 3002 Arapaho Dr. Fitchburg, Wisc. 53719 We will list all who donate in the next issue.



Thanks for your Support **PATRIOT**

Thomas Sawyer / Merle Reed
Al Bergstrom / Charles Curnell
Michael Harrison / Joe Byrne
Andrew Scheffler
Michael Revill / James Rodell
Walter Vukadinovich
Ron Brundage / Charles DeMeo
Daniel Lightfoot / Robert Long
Ed Kalinowski / John White
Henry Gregor / Charles Russell
Thomas Miller Jr. / Jim Good
Stephen Hercher
Edward Kalinowski
Bruce Coleman / Kenneth Kline
Anthony Shouse

I Support *The 12th Cav TROOPER*
Patriot \$25 Trooper \$15 Scout \$10
Name _____