

The Viet Nam Triple Deuce, Inc.

An Association of 2 Bn. (Mech) 22nd Infantry Regiment Viet Nam Veterans

Together Then.....Together Again!.....Thanks for Being There...
&...Welcome Home

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President's Message

Looks like we are just about to make it through another long winter which means it's just over a year before the next greatest reunion ever of the Vietnam Triple Deuce and 22nd Infantry Regiment Society. Time to start making your travel plans to the nation's capital, and checking out the many things to do in Washington D.C. My last trip there was in 1968 when Uncle Sam air lifted a couple thousand of us from Ft. Carson, Colorado to Andrews AFB to fight the riots connected with the Poor People's March in April of that year. I strongly suspect that the four days coming up in 2008 will be a great improvement over the four days in 1968.

Heads up to all locators. We will have a list for each of the Company locators shortly that will need your attention. Dan Streit and Jim May have been trying to contact literally everyone on any of our lists to try to bring dues up to date and to determine just who wants to maintain membership as a Regular or Associate. They have also reviewed our Complimentary Membership list and sent out a questionnaire to see if this group of fine people want to or need to maintain this status or not. The message to all is that we are simply trying to establish communication with the membership that can and can't make it to reunions, making sure that we are serving all of you as you want us to. We always hear lots at reunion that help us make a better organization, but hopefully this effort will bring about some words of wisdom from those we haven't had the chance to see every 18 months.

Best wishes for a great, safe summer,

Dick Nash A Co. & HHC, 69

MAY 1-4, 2008
MAY 1-4, 2008
WASHINGTON D.C.

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Mario Salazar HHC 2/22 65-67

Editor's Note A lot of time and effort went into producing the letter that Dick mentioned in his message. To date we have received approximately 60 responses to the nearly 300 letters that were sent out. This means that many of you have put the letter aside thinking that you'll take care of it later on. Well, this is later on. Find the letter in the pile of stuff on your desk and fill in the form and send it in. If we don't hear from you by the end of March your name will be removed from the active roster and the Newsletter mailing list. Your name will be moved to the inactive roster. If you have no wish to remain an active member of The Vietnam Triple Deuce, we'd like to know why, so please tell us.

If you haven't responded because you don't have any funds for dues, please return the form and write "Comp" on it. You will remain on the active roster and continue to receive the Newsletter.

Editor's Comments

The wind is blowing in Kansas. That is nothing new. But . . . as spring approaches it must be time to build and fly kites with the grandkids. The kites we make are pretty simple. One or two spindles of light weight wood are attached. This is covered with some nature of fabric or paper. We have string to keep it tethered and a tail to keep the nose pointing into the wind.

The Triple Deuce is much like the kite. As an organization, it is beautiful, resilient, and has many functions. If you look at it closely perhaps you will see. .the anchoring is the Board and the fabric (the real beauty of the kite) is the membership. Those who volunteer their input and insight, those who share their experiences through the e-mail and news letter, those who participate in the reunions, those who continually seek and support Brothers---they are the tails and the string.

There are many varieties of kites, varying purposes for which they are flown and numerous safety precautions to learn. The Triple Deuce is strong because of the diversity of our membership, the few simple rules we all follow, and the purposes we fill in each

other's lives. Anyway, that's how it seems to me.

By the way. . . Vera and I are proud to announce the arrival of another little kite flyer Graeson Ryan Streit was born. Feb. 26, 07 He is our seventh grandchild and tipped the scales 8.lbs.1 oz.

Dan Streit D 69

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report was audited by David Milewski. I want to thank David for the time and effort he applies when conducting these audits.

As you can see Vietnam Triple Deuce has a fair amount of money in the bank. I bring this up now because I want everyone to start thinking about the 2008 Reunion. Everyone who wants to attend but needs a bit of financial help should attend. Don't think that taking this help makes you a charity case. That is not how it is viewed. It is no different than the way ammo or C rations or just about everything else we had was shared in Vietnam. Your Brothers want as many Vietnam Triple Deuce Vets as possible to attend reunions. There are two programs, The Sponsored Attendees Program and the Reunion Loan Program, that were put together to help Members with Reunion expenses.

All you need to do to get this in motion is speak up. You can speak to any of the Board Members or you can speak to any other Member, whichever way you feel more comfortable with is fine.

The next Newsletter will contain both the Sponsored Attendees and the Reunion Loan Program details. But that doesn't mean you must wait to start the process of getting to the reunion. The details will be worked out later on.

And, the identity of those who are attending under either program is kept private. If you want others to know that you are using one of the programs, you'll have to tell them.

**TREASURER'S REPORT
DECEMBER 31, 2006**

Bank Balance, 1-1-06		
Savings	\$ 1,924.21	
Checking	30.37	
CD's	<u>12,026.43</u>	
	\$ 13,981.01	
Inventory, 1-1-06	\$ <u>2,375.69</u>	
Opening Balance, 1-1-06	\$ 16,356.70	
Income		
Dues, 2006	\$ 2,275.00	
Pre-Paid Dues	2,125.00	
Donations	2,280.00	
Interest Income	484.27	
Merchandise Sales	5,563.00	
Shipping Charges Received	<u>265.80</u>	
	\$12,993.07	
Accounts Receivable		
Merchandise Sales	\$ 64.00	
Shipping Charges	<u>5.00</u>	
	\$69.00	
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 13,062.07	
Expenses		
Newsletter		\$ 1,681.69
Merchandise Purchases		3,221.79
Merchandise Shipping		85.95
Shipping, Reunion		293.83
Web Site Domain Registration & Program Fees		268.82
Flowers and Memorials		573.07
ORA Medals and Parchments		523.95
Sponsored Attendees		<u>468.08</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$ 7,117.18
Bank Balance, 12-31-06		
Savings	\$ 5,011.05	
CD #11(1)	3,113.87	
CD #12	3,117.81	
CD #13	5,137.96	
CD #14	3,113.02	
Checking	<u>363.19</u>	
	\$ 19,856.90	
Inventory, 12-31-06	<u>2,391.11</u>	(2)
NET WORTH	\$ 22,248.01	
INCREASE IN NET WORTH	\$ 5,891.31	

1. Bank changed the way they number CD's

2. Inventory Value has been adjusted to reflect current market value of items held in inventory.

22nd Infantry Regiment Society Reunion

Place

Sheraton Premiere at Tyson's Corner
8661 Leesburg Pike
Vienna, VA 22182

Date

May 1, 2008 to May 4, 2008

Room Rate

\$109.00 plus tax for a total of
\$118.81 per night

To make room reservation

Call 1-800-325-3535 or 1-703-448-1234 Identifying yourself as a member of the 22nd Infantry Regiment Society Reunion. You can also register on line by going to the 22nd Infantry Regiment Society web site and click on the web link for the reunion.

Rooms will be available for one or more days before and after the reunion at the reunion rate based on the space available at the hotel.

Additional information about the Reunion events to include our memorial service at the Vietnam Wall in the June newsletter.

Make your room reservation now.

Brothers Need Help

Terry Casto needs help. Terry who served with, Alpha Co., 1965 to 1967 has been told by the VA that there is no record of him being in Vietnam. Yes, it is ludicrous, but Terry must PROVE that the VA is wrong. He needs your

help to prove his point. If you served with Terry, please call him at his home, (412) 331-6817, so that he can tell you how you can help. It is important that everyone who knew Terry in Vietnam call him. If you have a set of orders with Terry's name on them, please let him know. The more statements and sets of orders that Terry has the quicker and easier it will be for him to get this matter corrected.

Tim LaWarre needs help. Tim served in HHC, 12-65 to 12-67. Tim hit a mine on his way into Saigon and was med-i-vacted to an Army Hospital in Saigon. Tim does not know which hospital he was in and there is nothing in his medical records to indicate that he was ever in a hospital. Tim is presently requesting and searching through Morning Reports to see if there is any information which might help him. If you remember Tim and that he was in the hospital, please contact him at his home, (321) 403-4590. Tim needs witnesses to help prove his case, and the more the better.

A Viet Nam Veteran's Wife Goes to Omaha

I am Carole Mersinger, wife of **John Mersinger**, Viet Nam Veteran, C2-22,4th/25th Inf. We live in Foley, MN and had a very nice trip to Omaha in October 2006, for the 22nd Infantry Regiment Society Reunion.

The following is my reminiscence of that trip that I had emailed to friends and relatives. We did get back --- and we did have a good trip, thank you... We left Foley on Thursday (Oct.5) in the early morning - 6:30 - Got to Omaha --- I think it was about 4:30pm. It was a long road. We almost got lost for a moment trying to find the Hotel, must of been the road construction. We were just tired, not confused - HA. A few circles around the block and we found it. The reunion was at the Omaha Marriott hotel and we stayed there also. We got in on the group rate so we were not the big spenders we

would like you to think!! Pretty nice place. A lot nicer than I'm used to that is for sure. I almost missed the usual cat hair on every thing. So we drove almost all day, all that peddling made us tired. We checked into our room. Room was good. A rest would of been nice but John was anxious to see the GUYS who are here. What a joyful reunion it was. they are truly Brothers.

I recall stories that my family would tell about in the "old days", several kids would sleep in one bed and often crossways so more would fit -- I always had a bed to myself growing up so don't know how cozy that could be. It sure would be close!! In Viet Nam, 6 guys, a squad, would share one personnel carrier (I would rather call it a tank) It was their home, it was the bed they shared. It was very close. Those 6 guys were even closer than brothers sharing a bed. They shared 24 hours a day with each other for about 12 months. They know each other very well.

They took care of each other, watched out for each other, they were partners in staying alive. Few blood brothers have that kind of bond with each other. These guys and the relationship they have with each other is unique.

John's squad was 6 very good men. It appears that they all worked at having a good relationship. About 4 years ago one of them died and so now there are 5 good men. One of them had not been seen since Nam, he came to Omaha and the 5 of them were together for the first time. It was very special.

A Platoon/Company is made up of several personnel carriers that travel and work together, they are a team. They looked out for each other also and were partners in staying alive. They broke bread together in a real sense as meals were dropped to them by helicopter. Many guys were at the reunion from the Platoon/Company that John was in - - These guys were like family and know each other well. It is like brother sleeping in other beds in the same house.

The reunion was for the "22nd Infantry Regiment Society". That means that there were guys and gals there from WW II and

also from the current war but most of them seem to be from the Viet Nam times.

So now, what do these guys do for days?? Well, they talked and then talked some more! By the last night, the wives were amazed that they were STILL TALKING ! They just didn't seem to run out of stories. Yes, they shared stories, shared histories, reminiscing of the time when they shared that "bed" and that "house". There was much laughter with many funny stories that were shared and then someone would say "I remember that time too". Then there were somber stories with tears at other times with the realization that they are lucky to be here at all.

When I told people that I was going with John to an army reunion, I know there were some wondering thoughts - why would I even want to go???? Well first off - I have never been to Omaha before and what better way than with my favorite travel partner? I visited with other wives, did some walking, shopping, and some reading in-between. I do enjoy listening to the guys story telling. The excitement, drama, and emotion of the story teller and the listeners around the table. It is better than any show you could watch, I think. These were real people and real stories. They were there.

It all ended with a very emotional memorial service on Sunday morning. After that it was time to say good bye with hugs and tears. No one wanted to leave. Breaking up is hard to do.

Time for me to go to bed, folks. Never again will I wish I had a bigger bed!!

**Watch future editions
for more reunion
information!**

Comments from Comrades

Name: **John F. Lawinger**
4326 Antoine Rd.
Mineral Point, WI 53565
608-987-3654
jlawngr@mhtc.net
B Co., 25th ID, Mar 69 to Mar 70.

Comments: John would like to contact **Henry Zukowski**.

Name: **Richard M. Miller**
3826 NE 109th
Portland, OR 97220
503-253-2619
rich.chris@comcast.net
C co. 4th & 25th ID, Jan. 66 to Aug. 67

Comments: Rich would like to contact **W.E. Brant**.

Name: **Steven Stanley**
896 Maple Street
Salisbury, VT 05769
802-989-2736
sanja4windsor@yahoo.com

Comments: Steve is the nephew of **David A. Brileya**, KIA 11 June 1967,. Steve would like to hear from anyone who knew his uncle.

Name: **George Walker**
Email: dadof8g@comcast.net

Comments: My name is George G. Walker, I am writing this letter on behalf of **John Warner** a blind Veit-Nam vet. John served in the 2nd of the 22nd in Veit-Nam 67-68 as a Spec. 4. John would like to contact anyone who he served with or might remember him.

Please contact: **John Warner**
164 Main St.
Mantua, New Jersey 08051
Or use email above

Name: **Kenneth H. Schulte**
201 4th Avenue, NE
Sartell, MN 56377
Phone: 320-251-5569
Email: ks92850@charter.net
A Co. 2/22, 25th ID, 69 to 70

Comments: Ken would like to contact **Noose and Varaschark**.

Thomas Bernardy KIA 1-2-1968

Several years ago I posted some comments on a WEB site that listed the names of all those killed in Vietnam. It was an Internet version of the Vietnam Wall. I posted comments under the section for **Tom Bernardy** who was a medic assigned to C 2/22.

Tom was a friend of mine. He was killed on January 2, 1967 at FSB Burt. Although I was also at Burt, I did not witness Tom's actions during the battle!

I have recently received an email from Teresa Bernardy who is Tom's niece. She has indicated she was born after Tom's death and her father is Tom's brother. She has asked me to forward her name and email to anyone who knew Tom and was willing to comment on what he was like. Please take the time to email Teresa. In response to my offer to give her contact information to others she said, "It would be amazing if I could hear from other people who knew my Uncle. I never got to know him because he died before I was born and it would help me get to know him a little. I will tell my parents about the meetings (reunions). Thank you very much for responding, it means a lot."

I have already planted the seeds of inviting her and her family to our next reunion in Washington DC.

Teresa Bernardy can be contacted at teesabee113@yahoo.com

The following is an excerpt from my email; to Teresa and it gives those of you not familiar with **Tom Bernardy** an idea of just what a distinct individual he was. He was the most mature and level headed nineteen year old I have ever met in my entire life. Never a day goes by that I do not think of him and can not help but wonder what he would developed into as an older mature man.

“Hello Teresa,

My name is **David Milewski** and I am the one who placed a message on the Vietnam Memorial Wall on the Internet. I am very pleased and proud to meet you. I served with your Uncle Tom Bernardy in Vietnam until his death on January 2, 1968 during the battle of Fire Support Base Burt.

I first met your Uncle when I was assigned to the third platoon of "C" company, 2nd Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment around the end of September 1967. Tom was a medic and there was one medic assigned to each platoon of men in the Company. Although Tom was only nineteen years old he was clearly more mature than most of the other soldiers. It was Tom's job to come to the aide of any of the men injured. He did that on numerous occasions including coming to my aide in November 1967. I was riding in an armored personnel carrier behind the machine gun when the vehicle ran over a mine buried in the road. Only the driver and myself were in the vehicle at the time as the other soldiers were walking as security on both sides of the vehicle. Tom would have been one of those men walking. When the mine exploded I was thrown from the vehicle to the ground and the first person to come to my aide was Tom! He was there only a few seconds after I hit the ground. That was Tom, he took his job seriously and was always instantly coming to the aide of his fellow soldiers without regards to any dangers to himself. I think that is why he was killed on January 2, 1968. We were engaged in the biggest battle

of the year with the enemy when he was killed. The enemy attacked us at night and many soldiers were killed and/ or wounded that night. Tom was one of them. Although I was at the battle, I had been transferred to another platoon and did not witness Tom's death. In fact, I did not even know he had been injured until several hours after the battle had stopped when some of my other friends told me about his death. There is no doubt in my mind that he died coming to the aide of his fellow soldiers as he was always where the action was going on!

I belong to two different organizations that meet every 18 months for a reunion. They also have newsletters and the members stay in contact with each other by email and/or telephone. One is the 22nd Infantry Regiment Society and the other is the Vietnam Triple Deuce. There are member of both organizations who knew Tom and would be honored to correspond with you! If you would like me to let them know to contact you I can do so! I will wait for your response. Our next reunion will be in the spring of 2008 and will be held in Washington D.C. You and any of your family members would be welcome to attend. We have had several family members of those Killed In Action attend our reunions which allowed them to sit down and talk face to face with their loved ones fellow soldiers! Please consider joining us as we would be honored!”

If you knew Tom Bernardy please email Teresa at teesabee113@yahoo.com and give her some information on what her uncle was like. This is one of the reasons we are an organization is to not only support each other also to include the family members of our departed!

Deeds Not Words,
David Milewski
C 2/22, Sept.67/68

The Inside Track

By: The Kool-Aid Kid

Omaha!

Many thanks to **Bridget** and **John Lewis** for hosting a great 22nd Infantry Regiment Reunion in Omaha NE this past October. Everyone had the time of their lives and will have many fond memories of the event. It was obvious to all that Bridget and John are people that live by our motto, "Deeds, not words." You guys are the greatest!

Ole K.A.K. tripped into town with two of his Portland OR. Brothers, **Rich "Warhoop" Miller**, and **Edd "Red" Murrell**. The trip out to Omaha was marred by a 7 hour layover at Chicago's O'Hare Airport. I am afraid that many citizens of Chicago, and other travelers, had to witness some of K.A.K.'s PTSD symptoms first hand. Fortunately for them I was traveling with two cooler heads than my own. Both Rich and Edd travel pretty extensively and were able to calm me down...somewhat. They were not too worried about my conduct as airport security had already relieved me of my C4 collection and various other weapons like a cigarette lighter...which, as we all know, is a deadly weapon in the hands of a trained Combat Veteran such as myself. I saw one lady loose her near empty tube of tooth paste to security and then display some PTSD symptoms herself. "What? Do you think I can kill people and take over an airplane with an empty tube of toothpaste?" Poor lady, she didn't have Edd and Rich to calm her down, and I was only interested in how one can use a near empty tube of toothpaste as a weapon.

Where do I start with my highlights of the reunion? Getting together again with my Combat Brothers is, of course, the main event. Not just the Brothers that I served side by side with either, but also the many other Brothers of the society that have become so very important and dear to me in my life. One I will tell you about...

I would like to thank the Secretary of the Army for making **Jim May**, an official member of the 22nd Infantry Regiment. Now we do not have to listen to Jim's speech anymore about Jim not really being a member of the 22nd I.R., but was actually assigned to a provisional company in support of the 22nd I.R., The Triple Deuce in particular, during his tour in Vietnam. Thank you Mr. Secretary for making official what all the members of the 22nd I.R.S. have always felt about Jimmy—that he is one of us. Sorry Jim, but you will have to change your spiel now. I'll have to admit that when Jim was awarded the certificate at the reunion banquet, tears came to my eyes. Thanks for everything that you do for us Jimmy!

Another highlight for me was dressing down a Command Sergeant Major. I am afraid that **Command Sergeant Major Pete Martinez** was on the receiving end of a 40 year dream of mine about locking the heels of a Sergeant Major. During our presentation of **The Order of the Red Ant** to him, I had to gig him for: Needs a shave; boots not shinned (He tried to tell me that he was wearing sneakers...or some excuse like that.), talking in ranks, laughing in ranks, and kissing up to Colonels: **Steve Russell**, **Joe Dichairo**, and **Mark Woempner** in ranks. Still, he is very much deserving of our Triple Deuce award and promises to conduct himself, as all holders of the **O.R.A.** do, by talking in ranks, not shaving, not shinning shoes, and fraternizing with Colonels. He'll fit right in after all!

Many other new awards of the **O.R.A.** were given out at the reunion including those awarded to the above mentioned Colonels. The Officers and Directors of the Vietnam Triple Deuce, Inc., as well as many members, decided that we wanted to extend the award to members of 1/22, and 3/22, that attend the 22nd IRS reunions. We are very concerned about the attendance of 1/22, and 3/22 veterans at our reunions. By extending the **O.R.A.** to those members that attend the reunion we hope to say to them that they are every bit a fellow Brother to us, as we Triple Deucers are

to each other. We hope that our token of appreciation for their unrewarded "Deeds, Not Words." will encourage them to attend future 22nd IRS reunions. With the next 22nd IRS reunion being held in Washington DC, it will be probably the most important reunion yet for 22nd IRS Vietnam Veterans as most of us have not seen The Wall yet. What a dream it would be to see The Wall with our 1/22, and 3/22 Brothers all united as 22nd Infantry Vietnam Veterans honoring our fallen Brothers together--all of us together again, the living with the dead.

Skip Fahel, President of the 22nd IRS made a slight slip of the tongue when announcing **Bob Babcock's** name at the Saturday night banquet. Bob now has a "tag" that will probably follow him around forever.ain't that right Babs?

Awb Norris won some camouflaged golf balls at the raffle. There were many snickering comments made about that, including Awb's comment about not being able to find the white balls he hits anyway.

Welcome to all first time attendees and members of The Vietnam Triple Deuce and the 22nd IRS. I don't have the complete list of new attendees in front of me, and would be very concerned to mention some, while omitting others. Still, I must mention those that I was fortunate enough to have served side by side with during those very difficult times we shared together across the pond. **Moe Johanson, Leroy Henning, and Don Wyatt** said that they had the time of their lives and will be attending future reunions. Moe, and Leroy are from Washington State, and Don is from Tennessee, and actually thinks that we Pacific NW boys talk funny. Heck! He thought that in Fort Lewis when we were all training together. However, he did agree with us about **Jim** and **Gail May**, talking funny...some kind of state of Maine thing I guess. This reminds me of the time that **Gary Hartt** tried to explain to me the various ways that New Yorkers talk and that one can tell what part of New York they are from by the way that they talk. Huh?

Isn't New York just New York? "Oh no, no, no, says Gary...let me explain." He did, and I still don't get it.

Great reunion! Thanks to all that attended. Now, please get your buddies to join us in DC, 2008.

K.A.K. and the VA

The Kool-Aid Kid went to his first anger management class at the VA Hospital in Portland, Oregon, Sept. 7th, 2006, and what a start it was. Whew baby! I ain't the only ticked off Veteran on this man's earth. Haha-haha!

No sooner did we get started with the class than a guy, a classmate, raised his hand to speak, as we were directed to do, and asked, "Could I see a raise of hands of those in attendance that are real Combat Infantrymen?" Six out of thirty or so, including myself, raised our hands. The man looked dumbfounded and then said, "I'd like to know what in the hell I am doing in the same class as those guys. We can't have the same problems. I was in Army Intelligence for crying out loud." The hair on the back of my neck rose immediately. An REMF was present.

He was answered that the causes of our anger problems may be different, but the treatment is the same.

The man immediately raised his hand again and said, "That's a bunch of bologna if I ever heard it. I am an attorney and I...yada, yada, yada." On and on he goes using his fancy attorney words and analogies (Note the first four letters of "analogies".) until he was interrupted by one of the Combat Veterans saying, "Will you shut the _ up? Or do I have to come over there and shut you the _ up?"

The attorney responds very quickly, nano-seconds, "Bring it on old man. Let's go outside right now and settle this _er!" ...so much for the fancy attorney words.

At this point, all Combat Vets, including the Kool-Aid Kid are on their feet getting ready for the big one. I shoved two empty desks in front of me and found myself holding a chalk board pointer thinking how much I could tick off the 250lb crazy attorney by hitting him with it. I sat it back down. Most in the room were pointing fingers and yelling at each other as they began to rise to their feet as well, but no where near as fast as we Combat Vets did. The teacher, or therapist-nurse-whatever called the cops who arrived in seconds. Two, large, fully armed Federal VA cops wanted us to sit down, settle down, be quiet, and to do those things, and I quote, "Right now gentlemen!"

I have to tell you. I loved it. It was exhilarating. I hadn't had that much adrenalin flowing through my little body in years. I felt alive even though I know perfectly well that I would not have come out of the potential brawl very well at all, but I would have recovered in my hospital bed with a smile on my face. But, once the cops arrived, apologies started to happen and people backed down. It's just as well—the right thing to do and all that. (The last sentence written in case my wife and therapist are reading.)

We six Vietnam Combat Vets met in the hall after the class and agreed that we will arrive to the next class early and get all the seats closest to the door...just in case. We also agreed that we would not miss the next class for anything. Hahahahaha!

Guess who I rode down the elevator with? Yep, it was the crazy attorney. He said to me, "Hi there killer." I responded, "I hate _ing attorneys." We both then broke out laughing. I knew he meant no disrespect of Combat Infantrymen. And he knew that I could care less if he was an attorney or not. We did both agree that we should not be in the same class together at all—that the VA had made a mistake with this venture. We'll see.

(follow up)

Darn. The attorney got kicked out of the

class and now we are stuck with just boring clinical stuff and homework. As far as I can tell, my homework is to try and not get mad, and if I do get mad, to get over it quickly. My family and friends must have written that curriculum.

As I write this part, I have finished with the Anger Management Classes. I found one thing out for sure. Some of my anger I have no intension of ever letting go. I think that my fellow Combat Veterans understand what I mean by that. It helps me to 'never forget', and keeps me ready to defend the honor of our fallen Brothers who have suffered much disrespect, as those of us that survived have, from the dark-side personalities of our diverse society. Damn right I put them in their places when I hear those disrespectful comments about the very men that made it possible for those...uh...jerks to complain about anything their feeble minds come up with. Love it or leave it jerks! (Now, now K.A.K. Remember your anger management classes. Others may be jerks, but you do not have to be one.)

Hut ho heree ho...

Our local SW Washington NW Oregon 25th Infantry Division Vets group marched in the Veterans Day Parade in Vancouver Washington. Check us out at our new website at www.the25thdivisionveterans.com

The guys had ole K.A.K. count cadence while we marched. I laid it on them and the crowd loved it. I decided it was best not to sing the cadence about the girl from Kansas City, or the other...uh...racy ones we used to sing, but next year I will come up with something appropriate. "I don't know, but I've been told..." Hahahahaha! I loved it!

I think we had 17 guys attending, and a ¾ ton fully restored truck, and Rich Miller's jeep complete with 25th Division and 4th Division markings, flags, and he even has a steel pot on the hood to cover the carburetor cutout . It looks real cool, and gets lots of looks from

people—especially when Rich drives it on the freeway. You see, it only does about 45 tops, so some of the looks are not all that patriotic. Hahahaha! Rich doesn't care, and neither do the rest of us....especially on Interstate 205, which is our areas Veteran's Highway. So, stuff it you hot rod, civilians.

Deeds, not words

That's it for now from The Kool-Aid Kid. Remember, watch what you say or you may see it printed here one day. Hahahahaha! See ya later my Brothers

Lynn, The Kool-Aid Kid, Dalpez
C/2/22,

Guest Books Hits

Name: **Vance A. Gustafson DOC**
Email: Vgus@pacifier.com
Phone: 503-325-2848

Comments: Served as a medic with Bravo Co. til unit was deactivated. Other medics were **Rickard, Byers**, and **Greene**. Would like to talk with anyone from the outfit at that time.

Name: **Robert Gordon**
Email: reddevil9778@yahoo.com

Comments: Hello, I'm looking for anyone who may have known **JAMES RICHARD MI-CHAE--Newman ILL**, E4 Triple deuce Bravo Company, 2nd Battalion, 22nd Infantry, Regiment of the 3rd Brigade, 4th Inf, Div, basic in ft Lewis. Started tour on 09-22-1966, casualty 05-17-1967 in South Vietnam (Binh Duong). I'm just looking for anyone who may have known him. He was my fathers best friend growing up and this is the only info we have about him, just looking for something a little more personal, stories, nicknames, anything personal besides a facts sheet, we know how and where he died, how many was with him, but we have yet to hear from anyone that remembers him. Please anything would be nice to know. Thank all of you for your honor and bravery. God Bless

Name: **Steven Stanley**
Email: sanjaywindsor@yahoo.com
Phone: 802-989-2736

Comments: I am looking for anyone who knew PFC **David Brileya**, Charlie Co. 2ND BN (Mech), 22nd Inf, 3rd Bde, 4th Inf Div, KIA June 11 1967. I am his nephew, I also have some photos that were from Vietnam.

Name: **Clarence "CJ" Simpson**
Email: cacie1@optonline.net
Date: 12-02-2006

Name: **Jim Papczynski**
Date: 12-9-06

Comments: **Tim LaWarre** I saw your name in the Dec. 2/22 mailing. I tried to send an email to the address given but it would not go through. I think I served with you. I hung around with **Walt Koeler** the **Gen. Man, Fred Goodwin John Wayne, McFee, Ian Flash Gorden**, and others, that at the moment can not remember there names, but remember their faces. Good guys. Knew **VanMeter, Mormance, Bojgard, Serg. Andrews**, B Co. Basic, Walker boat trip. Do I have the right person? Glad you made it. Welcome Home. **Pap**

Name: **Larry Watson**
Email: watson03@duo-county.com
Date: 12-09-06
Phone: 270-378-4501

Comments: B Co 2 22 Vn 67-68 Hey Guys keep asking Questions, Checking the guest log, and talking to Brothers that will talk to you. The bits and pieces of info I have put together has really helped me. Still missing 7 months of memory of 1968 but time will bring it back. Thanks to all our brothers for the patience and understanding.

Name: **Joe Yocham**
Email: jbysky@infodash.com
Date: 12-10-06
Phone: 870-405-4421

Comments: I was in Dau Tieng in 68 and 69 was with D Co. 65th Engr. Was a dozer oper. Went out in the field with the Triple Deuce. Welcome home everyone.

Name: **Lynn Dalpez**
Email: dalpezc222@yahoo.com
Date: 12-13-06

Comments: HAPPY HOLIDAYS To all my Triple Deuce Brothers and their families. I pray that the New Year brings you happiness and healing. I very much look forward to seeing you all again in 2008 at the 22nd IRS Reunion in Washington DC.
Lynn Dalpez, VP The Vietnam Triple Deuce, Inc. C 2 22 65,67

Name: **Lester Van Gelder**
Email: lester_van_gelder@msn.com
Date: 12-14-06
Phone: 206-351-9842

Comments: **William H Van Gelder** of B Company is my Uncle. He was KIA on August 15th 1970 and appears to be the last Triple Deuce casualty suffered in the Nam. I have vague memories of my uncle. What I do remember is he was a fun loving guy. I was hoping that maybe I could talk to someone who knew him there. What was he like over there? What were the circumstances surrounding his death? Maybe someone has a picture I could copy. Basically looking to close the loop on lots of questions that have run through my mind over the years.

I am currently on active duty in the Navy. I live in Federal Way, Wa. which is just North of FT Lewis. Served our country for 22 years now. I have made many sacrifices but nothing I have done can ever come close to what the Nam Vets have endured. I will be a frequent visitor to this site so keep the stories coming. God Bless you all and Happy Holidays.

MMC (SW AW) **Lester Van Gelder** USN

Name: **Larry Steve Watson**
Email: watson-222@hotmail.com
Date: 12-15-06
Phone: 270-378-4501

Comments: Happy Holidays to all Triple Deuce Brothers and Families. Stay safe and may God Bless. I have a new e-mail address maybe this one will work faster. Hope to see you in DC.

Name: **Steven B. Stanley**
Email: sanjaywindsor@yahoo.com
Date: 12-19-06
Phone: 802-989-2736

Comments: Merry Christmas to all Charlie CO Vets 222 that served 66 to 67 Vietnam, With **Dave Brileya** KIA 6-11-67. And to all other TRIPLE DEUCE Members, I will see you in DC in 2008. **Steven Stanley**, Nephew to Dave.

Name: **Tom Kearney**
Email: turkeytk@verizon.net
Date: 01-01-07
Phone: 267-446-2935

Comments: Welcome Home, Brothers. My brother **Frank Kearney** served in country in the Triple Deuce Co B from Feb 1968 to March 1969. His commanding officer was Lt. **John O'Farrell**, KIA 14 Jan 1969. Looking for anyone who may have served this Great Nation with him. Frank passed away in Jan 2005 after a long and courageous battle fighting Pancreatic Cancer. He was also diagnosed with Type II Diabetes.

Warmest Regards,

Tom Kearney
Editor Note: **Jim May** and **Dean Springer** and I have been in touch with Tom and that he and his wife, Judi, are planning on attending the DC reunion. And, if any of you Bravo's from 68-69 remember Frank, please contact Tom.

Name: **Steven Stanley**
Email: sanjaywindsor@yahoo.com
Date: 12-26-06
Phone: 802-989-2736

Comments: To all Triple Deuce Brothers, Happy New Year 2007. This is for **Dave Brileya** Charlie company KIA 11 JUNE 67. I'm Very Proud of all you 222 Brothers, May God Bless each and everyone of you, for your sacrifice to this Great Nation we live in, take care and may God Bless, Steven Stanley 4th Inf Div 10th US CAV

Name: **Clarence "CJ" Simpson**
Email: cacie1@optonline.net
Date: 01-30-07

Comments: In the 4th ID site, you ask if we can ID anyone. Well, I think in the NAM photo on the track It's.. Dennis Perkins in the TC hatch, **Gary Mortellito** on the left, Nesbitt in the middle and Renner on the right. Keep me honest. Correct if I'm wrong.
Celebrate Life
CJ

Name: **Joel Richard Watkins**
Email: JJRW1946@AOL.COM
Date: 12-27-06

Comments: The Triple Deuce was always there with the fire power when we needed it the most whenever we called. Alpha Company First Woulfhounds Vietnam 69-70

Name: **Donald C. McPhee**
Email: amcphee45@yahoo.com
Date: 01-05-07
Phone: 360-638-1290

Comments: Just located this site. Will probably be joining. How do I find out if anyone I know is a member?

Name: **Larry Watson**
Email: watson-222@hotmail.com
Date: 01-29-07
Phone: 270-378-4501

Comments: Hello Triple Deuce just dropped in to say hello and thanks for the email and to see if anything new had been posted. I'm here every night around 10p.m. Be alert, stay safe, and God Bless. **Larry Watson B Co.**
222 VN Nov67-Nov68

Name: **Stephen L. Nelson**
Email: nelsongen@msn.com
Date: 12-26-06

Comments: I was a member of Company A, of the Triple Deuce form Feb. 1968 to Feb. 1969

Name: **Jim Neeley**
Email: hotrod1930@comcast.net
Date: 01-19-07
Phone: 360-533-0608

Comments: I am putting together a CD Slide-video show Tribute to the men that were in Charlie Company 2-22 in 1966-1967. What I need is a picture of you in VN and a Picture of you now. These are the "Walker Boat People" and anyone else that served in 66-67. I am putting this to music and have quite a few Walter Cronkite news clips of our company in VN. I need your help in putting this together, if you have names and address's or pictures you can either email them or sent them to **Jim Neeley**, 419 S. Clark, Aberdeen, WA. 98520. Any picture that has groups of people or one that you think would be interesting, and would like it in this Tribute, sent them.

This has been a large undertaking, been difficult getting address's of everyone. When completed, everyone that I have an address for, I will mail them a copy of this CD. So if you were in Charlie Company in 66-67, please help by sending pictures and known addresses of others that were there. If you have pictures of our fallen brothers, I need them too. There will be a section to Tribute them also. **Lynn Dalpez**, I

need your addresses you have also. So, "Thanks" in advance, this, when completed, will be a valuable asset to any VN vets. My address is 419 S. Clark, Aberdeen, WA. 98520

Name: **Jim Neeley**
Email: hotrod1930@comcast.net
Date: 01-20-07
Phone: 360-533-0608

Comments: Jim, Thanks for the info. I will try and pull that picture up from Life. I think what I need most from Charlie Company is pictures of the men that served. My main goal is to get a picture of EVERYONE who served in 1966-1967 in C-2-22. Everything after that is a bonus. That picture sounds like a "Great" bonus. Thanks very much.

Jim

Name: **John C. Roberts**
Email: John.Roberts1@hotmail.com
Date: 01-01-07
Phone: 337-461-2286

Comments: This is for **John Nenninger**, I was with B Co. June 69 to June 70. Yeah, I remember **Timmins** and not fondly. Contact me to talk.
Roto

Name: **Larry Steve Watson**
Email: watson-222@hotmail.com
Date: 01-01-07
Phone: 270-378-4501

Comments: 39 Years ago today at 2300 hrs. all Hell broke lose at FSB Burt. I had perimeter duty from 2000 hrs to 2400hrs. I was pissed because I had missed **Bob Hope**'s USO Show and it would be over by duty change. Well little did I know that at 2315 hrs my life as I knew it would change for ever and it did for the next 6 hrs. For all of you that were there that night thanks for the team work because we all could have been lost. As always we were one Badass Fighting Machine. Deeds Not Words. Going to be a long night. For 39 years I can never sleep for 2 or 3 days at New Years. For years I have tried to put this night

on paper but have never succeeded. Usually get to ALL HELL BROKE LOOSE. Same as today got to go.

Name: **Andrew Diffley (Diff)**
Email: ad@designcontracting.com
Date: 02-04-07
Phone: 302-547-0477

Comments: May 1969 to June 1970 with D company and later with A company. Tay Ninh, Cu-Chi, Cambodia, and a lot of fire bases whose names I don't remember. Mostly drove a VTR (track vehicle retriever). I have 2 photo albums that that I can share with everyone...(scan?) I visited **Mike Shira** in Lakeland FL and **Doug Wilson** in VA shortly after returning stateside. Other than that, I haven't talked to anyone that served during that time. Send me an Email before I loose the little memory I still have left.

Name: **Clark K. Hamm**
Email: www.conradbrein@aol.com
Date: 01-10-07
Phone: 484-764-5866

Comments: Thank you for your support. See you in North Haven, CT for the reunion. Please send more INFO.

Name: **Jim Heitmeyer**
Email: jimspolice@yahoo.com
Date: 12-20-06

Comments: Outstanding site and really enjoyed your Unit's history. Thanks you for your service **Mike**. Jim

Name: **Nicole Kangas**
Email: nikkikangas@yahoo.com
Date: 01-14-07

Comments: Hello I am looking for anyone who would have pictures of my Uncle **Steve Linna**, who was in the Bravo Company, 2nd Bn. He was KIA on Feb 4, 1968, and I just found mention of him in one of your newsletters. So I was wondering if anyone has photos. Thanks

Name: **Jim Papczynski**
Date: 01-20-07

Comments: Mr. **Neeley**, In response, there is a picture of C34 after it hit a mine in what I remember was in a 1967 Life Magazine. The picture was taken by **Roger Pic**, a free-lance French photographer who ran with the VC during Junction City. I have the actule page framed and I can not see what month or page number. I hope this might be of some help.
Jim

Name: **Ken Shollenberger**
Email: kenandnancy@ortelco.net
Date: 02-07-07

Comments: Looking for **Jack Williams**, nickname old man, was with triple deuce in 1968 and 1969. He was in bravo company 2nd platoon 2nd squad. He was living in S.C. If anyone knows him, please let him know I and several other are trying to contact him.

Name: **Jim Neeley**
Email: hotrod1930@comcast.net
Date: 02-16-2007
Phone: 360-533-0608

Comments: Trying to locate a Medic from Headquarters Company of the 2-22 who was wounded on Operation Aterburro, I believe Nov. 19, 1966. We called him **Pappy**. He was with Charlie Company when he was wounded. We were fighting at an underground Hospital. Anyone with info on his name or whereabouts, please email me. Thanks in advance.

Name: **William A. Matz**
Email: docmatz222@comcast.net
Date: 2-18-2007

Comments: I remember "**Pappy**." He was called that because at "the grand old age" of 25, he was so much older than the rest of us. He also seemed a lot wiser than nineteen year olds. He was one of the original "boatpeople." He was from West Texas, and was an authentic cowboy by occupation. Unfortunately, us medics tended to lose track

of each other once we were assigned to line units. (I was attached to Alpha company) I didn't even recall that Pappy had been wounded, though I'm sure I knew it at the time.

Mad Doc

Name: **Jim Neeley** C222 66-67
Email: hotrod1930@comcast.net
Date: 2-18-2007
Phone: 360-533-0608

Comments: Hey Thanks **Doc Metz**, at least someone remembers him, wasn't sure after all these years that his nickname was for sure "**Pappy**". Sure would like to find him. Maybe someone from Headquarters Company might have some orders with his name on it.

This is a "Great" source in getting ahold of your Brothers, Thanks to all who put this site up. **Jim May**, Thank you for the E-mail letting me know about the Posting. **Hey Dalpez**, Call me.

Name: **Michael H. Pounds**
Email: cuchimadmanmike@yahoo.com
Date: 2-19-2007

Comments: The willingness with which our young people are likely to serve in any war, no matter how justified, shall be directly proportionate to how they precieve veterans of earlier wars were treated and appreciated by their nation.

George Washington

Name: **Lynn Dalpez**
Email: dalpezc222@yahoo.com
Date: 02-22-07

Comments: Happy Triple Deuce Day my Brothers (Visualize an exclamation mark here.) It's our day. Tell the world so. Hold your head higher today for you all are true American heroes. I am so proud to be with you, and honored beyond words to be your Vice President. Thanks for being there, and welcome home. Deeds, not Words.

Name: **Steve Herman/ Doc Holiday**
Email: HERMAN60@comcast.net

Comments: My husband was a medic in the 25th. Infantry Division 69-70. His nickname was Doc Holiday. If there is anyone out there that remembers him, please would you E-mail me. He's having a rough time and maybe talking to one of you could help.
Thanks
A Loving Wife

New Finds

Name: **James E. Anderson**
1020 2nd Street E.
Roundup, MT 59072
406-323-2529
C Co. 25th ID, Mar. 69 to Mar. 70

Comments: Would like to find **Lowell Vicars, Warren Zoolsdorf, Dennis Wimberly and Chuck Allison.**

Name: **Eugene Hansmeyer**
120 Holm Rd.
Esko, MN 55733
218-940-3767
Email: lilahansmeyer@aol.com
B Co. 25th ID, May 68 to May 69

Name: **Harold Baltzley, Jr.**
1855 Shipensburg Road
Biglerville, PA 17307
717-352-4519
B Co. 4th & 25th ID, Apr. 67 to Apr. 68

Comments: Harold writes, "I carried the 4th Division Colors to Cu Chi when we changed over to the 25th Div."

Name: **Jerry M. Birmingham**
711 Magnolia Street
Muscle Shoals, AL 35661
256-446-9126
C Co. 25th ID, Apr. 68 to Apr. 69

Name: **Victor Diver**
13117 W. Todd School Rd.
Glasford, IL 61533
Email: vicd2@winco.net
B Co. 2/22, 25th ID, Nov. 69 to Nov. 70

Name: **Allen O. Francis**
6936 Hopkins Rd.
Mentor, OH 44060
440-336-0113
HHC 25th 68 to 69

Name: **Ernest Kilpatrick**
802 Pilgrim Ave.
Muscle Shoals, AL 35661
256-383-3687
Email: uswalocal200@msn.org
B Co. 4th , Mar. 67 to Dec. 67

Comments: Ernest would like to find **Orvil Hood.** Ernest writes, "I enjoyed reading the Newsletter."

Name: **Granville H. Rogers**
924 Glebelanding Rd.
Center Cross, VA 22437
804-443-0185
Email: Toribiadete@wmconnect.com
A Co. 25th ID 67 to 68

Name: **Ronney R. Akins**
1626 Hapner Court
Harlingen, TX 78550
956-364-0330
Email: akinsron@yahoo.com
B Co. 4th ID & 25th ID, Nov. 66 to Nov. 67

Comments: **Ronney** would like to contact John Lewis and Jesse Gonzales.

Name: **Michael S. Mayes**
210 Jacobs Ln.
Paducha, KY 42001
270-443-5688
C Co. and HHC, 25th ID, May 68 to May 69

Name: **John P. Mersinger**
7531 105th NE
Foley, MN 56329
320-968-7756
C Co. 4th ID, 66 to 67

Comments: John would like to contact **Olen Miamoto** of California and **Willy Smith** of Kansas City, Missouri. John writes, "Omaha was great!"

Name: **Michael J. Carpentier**
135 Scranton Ct.
Zionsville, IN 46077
Phone: 317-873-6064
Email: cmicarp@aol.com
B Co. 4th ID & 25th ID, Mar. 66 to Oct. 67

Name: **George T. Dahl**
49 Landan Alcove
Woodbury, MN 55125
Phone: 651-735-9244
Email: gtdahl@ties2.net
C Co. 4th ID & 25th ID, 66 to 67

Comments: Looking for **Roger Boughart**.

Name: **Wayne Dobson**
P.O. Box 151
Depew, OK 74028
Phone: 918-324-5518
Email: dobson@sbcglobal.net
B Co. 4th ID 65 to 67

Name: **Timothy LaWarre**
8065 Windover Way
Titusville, FL 32780
Phone: 321-403-4590
Email: tlawarre@cfl.rr.com

Comments: **Looking for Lonnie Hart, Jim Skyler, Ritenhouse, Jim "Pappy" Papazynski.**

Name: **Harry J. Lawrence**
Box 28 1935 Inchelium Hy.
Inchelium, WA 99138
Phone: 509-722-4414
C Co. 4th ID, 1965 to 1967

Comments: Harry writes, "I look for your Newsletter all the time. Keep up the good work. You can't believe how much these letters help everyone."

Name: **Daniel F. Michalec**
501 Hadley Dr.
Palm Harbor, FL 34683
Phone: 727-785-9338
Email: tarmdan_83@yahoo.com Underscore
A Co. 2/22, 25th ID, 1-69 to 1-70

Name: **Michael S. Ochoa**
362 Michaelangelo Dr.
Osprey, FL 34229
Phone: 914-966-0066
Email: mochoa_fl@yahoo.com "Underscore"
HHC, 4th & 25th ID, 12-65 to 9-67

Name: **Stephen L. Nelson**
3039 Olcott Street
Santa Clara, CA 95054
Phone: 408-727-9980
Email: nelsongen@msn.com
A Co. 25th ID, Feb. 68 to Feb. 69

Comments: Steve writes: " I had mixed feelings about reliving Viet Nam with men that fought there. Sometimes I think that the reason I can't remember names of men I served with is because so many of them didn't make it. I can't forget their faces. Since I was new and nobody volunteered, I inherited the 50 caliber after a few weeks into my tour. I started out in the 1st platoon and a short time later I was assigned to the mechanic's APC as a gunner. When the mechanics stayed in base camp, I would be assigned as a gunner on an Infantry APC or as the gunner for the CO. I was very fortunate to have made it without injury. I was the only one that completed the full year of the 17 others that were with me when we arrived at A Company."

Name: **John E. Waters**
18200 U.S. 31 N. Lot 98
Westfield, IN 46074-9299
Phone: 317-867-3386
C Co. 4th ID & 25th ID, 1967 to 1968

Comments: John writes: "I want to thank my old Buddies, **Norman Nishikubo** and **Bob Owens** for finding me. I had no idea reunions were going on. Looking forward to seeing everyone in 2008.

Name: **Kenny R. Crisenbery**
27754 Fulton County Road S.
Fayette, OH 43524
419-237-2923
Email: texcarol@peoplepc.com
B Co. 25th ID, Apr. 67 to Apr. 68

Name: **George B. Gonzalez**
8384 Neff Rd.
Mt. Morris, MI 48458
810-687-0166
A,B,D Co. 25th ID, 1970

Comments: George would like to hear from anyone who was in the weapons platoon that remembers him.

Name: **Donald C. McPhee**
P.O. Box 294
Hansville, WA 98340-0294
Email: amcphee45@yahoo.com
HHC, 4th ID, Apr. 66 to Aug. 67

Comments: **Donald** would like to contact **Joe McCowna, Joe Van Meter** and **Paul Planting**.

Name: **Vance A. Gustafson**
35423 Gustafson LN.
Astoria, OR 97103
Phone: 503-325-2842
Email: vgus@pacifier.com
A Co. 2/22 25th ID, July 70 to Dec. 70
Comments: Vance would like to locate **Mitch Moore, Richard Byers, Orville Rickard, Mike Banais**.

Name: **John D. Marts**
Sequoia CT.
Taylorville, IL 62568
Phone: 217-824-8751
Email: thcos38@consolidated.net
C Co. 2/22, 25th ID, 1967 to 1968

Name: **Robert Price**
1827 Dacatur Ave.
North Bellmore, NY 11710
Phone: 516-785-2601
Email: bob222bco@aol.com
B Co. 2/22, 25th ID, Sept. 67 to Sept. 68

Comments: Bob would like to **locate Billy Ray Johnson**.

Name: **Donald F. Carpenter**
805 Wendy Ln.
Edmond, OK 73013
Phone: 405-341-7775
Email: doncarpenter@cox.net
C Co. 25th ID, July 68 to April 69

Comments: Don would like to find **Jerry Fasscett, Tom Adams, Wally, Jerry Myers, SSG Cook, Ernie, Neal, Thomas, Arthur, SFC France**, anyone from the 3rd Platoon.

Name: **Andrew Diffley**
2523 Kittiwake Dr.
Wilmington, DE 19805
Phone: 302-547-0477
Email: as@designcontracting.com
A Co. & D Co. 25th ID 1969 to 1970

Comments: Andrew writes, "Haven't talked to anyone that I served with since 1971 - Long Time. I would like to share some photos with the Group. What is the best way to do it? Does anyone have their photos on the web Site? Never attended any reunions but D.C. in 2008 is definitely doable!"

Name: **Paul Guetter**
4008 Riviera Grove # 101
Colorado Springs, CO 80922
Phone: 719-573-7366
Email: paulguetter@msn.com
2nd Bn. 77th Arty, 25th ID, Sept. 66 to Sept. 67

Name: **Hugh Don Keith**
152 Williams Rd.
Chickamauga, GA 30707
Phone: 706-931-2637
A Co. 4th ID & 25th ID, June 67 to June 68

Name: **Michael F. Kush**
10868 Burr Oak Way
Burke, VA 22015
Phone: 703-919-1509
Email: michael.kush@capgemini-gs-com
A Co. 25th ID, Aug. 69 to May 70

Name: **Larry D. Peckham**
P.O. Box 2428
Kailua-Kona, HI 96745
Phone: 808-326-1101
Email: appraiser@hialoha.net
C Co. 4th & 25th ID, April 67 to Nov. 67

Name: **Marvin Peterson**
2417 290th Ave.
Ada, MN 56510
Phone: 218-784-7589
C Co. 4th ID, Aug. 66 to Aug. 67

Comments: Marvin writes, "Would like to hear from anyone who remembers me."

Name: **John Van Fleet**
155 Egret St.
Ft Myers Beach, FL 33931
Phone: 239-463-0271
A Co. 4th ID, Sept. 66 to Sept. 67

Name: **Carl S. Yamasaki**
626 Wyllie St.
Honolulu, HI 96817
Phone: 805-595-2673
A Co. 25th ID, Jan. 70 to Oct. 70

Comments: Carl would like to contact, **Lt Joe Yarashus, Dave Shafer, Michael "Blue" Blumill.**

Name: **David S. Van Galder**
P.O, Box 591
Roscoe, IL 61073
Email: interioas@tds.net
B Co. 2/22, 25th ID, 67 to 68

Change of Command 2nd Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment 21 September 2006

The trip to Ft. Drum started in the usual fashion with an eight-hour drive from my home in Maine to meet **Skip Fahel** at the Syracuse, NY Airport. Skip's flight was arriving at 4:28 PM, so I didn't have to leave home at 2 AM as with some other trips.

It takes about an hour to drive from the Airport to Ft. Drum; Skip and I were at the main gate check-in presenting and ourselves for inspection without any difficulty. The security types do a very thorough check on driver's license and vehicle registration and insurance papers. In addition to a valid driver's license, a military ID is accepted as proof of identity. Even the 30-year-old Army Reserve ID that Skip presented was acceptable! An examination of Skip's ID revealed that there was a problem with the camera used to take his picture. The lens must have been defective because it made Skip look very thin. This deficient lens was obvious to many. Every time we came back on to the Fort we had to present our ID's. Skip got quite a few comments from all the security types regarding the age of the ID and the bad lens.

Once we were through security we made our way to the Ft Drum Inn where Skip had made reservations for our stay. We were told that there was no room at the Inn but that one of the cottages had been reserved for us. (When the clerk said there was no room at the Inn, I felt like I was back at St. Anthony's grade school with a part in the Christmas pageant.)

Well, off we went with a key and a set of directions to find the cottage. We were expecting the worse because we kept getting farther away from the Inn and were passing many vacant buildings. However, we were pleasantly surprised when we found the place and then even more surprised when we got inside.

We found ourselves staying in a two-bedroom bungalow equipped with a bath and

a half, and a full kitchen that was completely equipped. There was even a laundry room. And, better still there was a very comfortable living room with a big TV with cable hook-up. In fact, both bedrooms also had big TVs and big beds and everything I described was new. Oh yes, there were pillows, the kind of pillows that the ladies like to cover chairs and couches with. Well, this place was packed with pillows. No expense had been spared to furnish the cottage and to make visitors comfortable, and all for \$46 per night. That's \$46 per night, divided between Skip and me. \$23 per night! I can't live anywhere I know of for \$23 per night. I thought about moving!



We had plans to go to dinner with Joe and **Kate Dichairo**, but the good **Colonel Dichairo** was stranded at the Atlanta Airport so Skip and I did the honorable thing, we took Kate to dinner, and a fine dinner it was. For those of you who don't know the Dichario's, Joe was the CO of 2/22, 10th Mtn when they deployed to Afghanistan in 2003. Kate represented 2/22, 10th Mtn at the San Antonio reunion.

After dinner we found our way back to Ft Drum where another security type made another comment about the age of Skip's ID and the bad camera lens.

In the morning **Pete Gaworecki**, 1/22 Vietnam, came by and joined Skip and me for breakfast at the Unicorn. This is the breakfast place where the large pancakes are 18 inches across. The serving is so big that the wait-

resses won't let you order them if they figure you can't eat them. At least that's what happened when **Cathy Groves** tried to order the big pancakes during another visit. I didn't attempt to order the pancakes, but did have a fine breakfast.

After breakfast it was off to the Battalion Headquarters where we were looking for familiar faces. Those that know us are quick to introduce us to newer members of the Battalion. Of course, the Army continually rotates personnel, so there are always new faces and new friends to greet.

From there it was off to Magrath Field for the Change of Command Ceremony and visiting with more friends. I had the opportunity to speak with **LTC Kevin Brown**, the outgoing CO, and thanked him for his fine and successful efforts during the recent deployment. I also had the opportunity to speak with **CSM Huerta** and also thanked him for his successful efforts in Iraq.

It is very busy at an event like this and there is much that must be done, but you should know that the Active Duty Types saw to it that a proper stand was provided for the VN 222 Guidon. And, the Guidon was placed right up front for all to see. And, as always, we were recognized as guests of honor.



The ceremony was flawless with one surprise. The Ft Drum Band was not available for the ceremony, so a band from one of the local Army Reserve Units provided the music and the marches. The surprise was the elec-

of each other and to get involved in coming to reunions.

Our visit continued around the Battalion Area. We stopped in the various Company Areas to say hello and then we looked over the sight where the Memorial will be erected. We saw something else that is very different from the ways things were in 1966. Soldiers were mowing the lawn with various types of power lawn mowers. No one does KP any longer, but they mow the lawn. Very different. After our visiting Pete headed back home and Skip and I headed for the Cottage. We decided to visit an outdoor museum area near the Cottage. Displayed were various wheeled and track vehicles. There were a number of M-113's on exhibit and Skip gave them all a thorough going over. There were also a number of towed artillery pieces on display, some American and others Russian. With no one around, we considered how easy it would be to hook up the trailer hitch on my Expedition to one of the 155-mm guns and tow it back to the cottage. After a short period of consideration we decided against taking the gun because our intent may have been misconstrued by the MP's.

Skip and I decided to head down to Watertown and do some shopping and to pick-up some food for the evening. Skip and I like Burger King; we loaded up and headed back to the Cottage where we made good use of the Big TV's and the cable hook up.

Skip had an early return flight on Friday, so we turned in early. I dropped Skip off at the airport and headed east. The ride gave me plenty of time to think about the fine soldiers I had been in the company of and just how lucky we, as a people and a Nation, are to have men and women of such fine character and dedication serving us.

Thank You, 2nd Bn, 22nd IR, 10th Mtn for the invitation and the fine visit. I look forward to seeing you all again.

Jim May
Vietnam Triple Deuce

Visit Our Web Site

Please check out the Web Site. Some of the pictures from the Omaha Reunion have no names with them. If you know who they are email Mario and let him know and he will add the captions.. Also if you have pictures you would like to share send them to him and he will add them to the site.

<http://www.vietnamtripledeuce.org/OmahaReunionPhotos.htm>

Take a minute to look over the site and let Mario know how much you appreciate it.

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