



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



Vol. 15, No. 1

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Hi Triple Deucers,
2
2 Hard to believe that this blasted winter is almost
4 over, but the robins in my yard say that Spring is
5 at us. That means I have to remind us all of a job
6 we have every 18 months or so... It's time for us
6 all to get off our collective duffs, wipe off the dust
6 we've accumulated over the winter, and get after
7 the wonderful job of finding, informing, and moti-
7 vating one (or more) of those long lost Brothers
8 who would be attending their first Vietnam Triple
12 Deuce/22nd Infantry Regiment Society Reunion
13 in October at Seattle. As Awb said so many
14 times, "If we all bring one, we're twice as big".
14 Hard to argue with that logic.
15 I'm afraid that I have little good news to tell you
16 about the project to take AMTRAK to Seattle.
18 Bottom line is that it is considerably more expen-
19 sive than flying, and of course will take one to
19 four days longer to commute to & from the reun-
22 ion. I've only received one phone call (thanks
Paul) about this possibility, and won't be able to
do it myself because of the limited time I can get
away at harvest time. If you want to check out
AMTRAK schedules and prices just Google AM-
TRAK. I would be happy to coordinate your join-
ing up with others. Just let me know you're inter-
ested, and I'll get you in touch with any others
who have contacted me. Phone is 309 537 3536
e-mail is nash222@frontiernet.net. Have a safe
and happy Spring,

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The Vietnam Triple Deuce
Website

www.vietnamtripledeuce.org

Mario Salazar HHC 65-67
Steve Irvine B 68 - 69

Dick Nash
A & HHC 69

Editor's Comment

Recently I participated in the funeral for a World War II veteran. His action was in the European theater then an extended service with the National Guard. Another piece of history slipped away. I was honored to participate in the flag folding. I watched with pride as the military rights (gun salute and taps) were performed. I was filled with emotion as the flag was presented to the grandson.

Time is limited to find our Brothers and complete the work of reuniting. Phone calls, e-mails, mini reunions are all good. But...the face to face contact of many Brothers makes the 22 IRS Reunion the best place to begin the process or to come together again. Start making your plans for Seattle. We owe ourselves the opportunity to share with our Brothers before the taps are played for us. Anyway...that's how it seems to me.

Dan Streit D/69

The 22nd IRS Seattle Reunion 2009

It's time to register and reserve your rooms for the 22nd Infantry Regiment Reunion, Seattle, WA. The registration forms are on-line at www.22ndinfantry.org, or in the back Newsletter.

Place: Marriott Seattle Airport (SeaTac)
3201 176th Street
Seattle, WA 98188
Phone: 206-248-0789
<http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/seawa-seattle-airport-marriott/>

Dates: Tuesday Oct. 6th - Sunday Oct. 11, 2009

Tuesday, Oct. 6th - Early bird arrivals can get the special hotel room rate of \$111.28 per night including tax for a single or double room, starting

Tuesday. This is our reunion set up day. Come give us a hand if you like...I won't say "volunteer". Hahahaha!

Wednesday, Oct. 7th – The Hospitality Suite is open, and what a great place it will be to hold our impromptu Order of the Red Ant ceremonies; sit around and have a few drinks together; and party! It is a very comfortable room with a large sunken floor. We can change the seating arrangements ourselves—to meet special needs. We serve beer, wine, soda pop, and will have cold cuts and other munchies every day in the Hospitality Suite. This is the place to meet with your long lost buddies, and get to know the other members of the society that will surely become fast friends for you for the rest of your life. You will find a room full of guys that have walked the 22nd Infantry Regiment walk just as you did, and know what is in your Soldier's Heart. Many consider the Hospitality Suite the main event of the reunion.

Thursday, Oct. 8th – Traditional early events include the Golf Tournament, hosted by Jerry Rudisell, C/2/22. The individual Company Veterans usually have their dinners together this day. I know that C/2/22 does. The Hospitality Room cooks on Thursday night! You'll want to be there for the comradely and sheer joy of being reunited again.

Friday, Oct. 9th – This is actually the start of the Reunion itself. The 22nd IRS Officers and Directors are your Co-Hosts along with myself, as the Reunion Chairman, and the President of the 22nd Infantry Regiment Society, Skip Fahel B/2/22.

This is our field trip day. The bus trip this year will be to walk the walk that the 22nd Inf. Reg. walked together in the last place that the three Battalions of the Regiment were together, Fort Lewis WA. We will tour the Fort and the barracks area where we all trained together back in 1965-66, and visit the Fort Lewis Museum.

We will have photo op time around the barracks area. You will see the rifle ranges, motor pools, and all the other areas that the Original Vietnam

22nd Inf. Reg. Soldiers lived and trained in together. Now, Crack Stryker Brigades are moving in and we will see them.

Then, we will board the buses and go visit The Washington State Museum in Tacoma WA that houses memorabilia from the USNS Nelson M. Walker troop ship that carried us all to Vietnam. The ship has been scrapped, but some very wise people saved a lot stuff to build this museum around, including the many canvas bunks that we all wrote our names and sayings on. You may see your scrawl again—I know that I wrote on one, but hope I didn't write something I might regret. Hahahaha!

Friday night is the buffet, an informal dinner in the hotel's banquet room. The event starts with the carving of the Hemingway turkey. Yep, that Hemingway. You'll have to attend to learn of Ernest Hemmingway's involvement with the 22nd IRS. It's a good time to mingle with all the interesting people, like our World War II Veterans that landed on Utah Beach during D-Day, active duty 22nd Regiment Soldiers that we are pretty sure will be well represented. We will have some surprise guests too--both planned, and always some unplanned ones.

Friday night is the time that we make our DMOR & HMOR Presentations. (Distinguished Members of the Regiment, and Honorary Members of the Regiment.)

Saturday, Oct. 10th – We will hold our Business Meeting Saturday morning at 0900 hrs (9 o'clock in the morning you idiots!) Please attend as we need your input on a number of society issues. It is your Society after all, and the Directors and Officers of the 22nd IRS need your input. Our meetings are very interesting and informative, as well as important in regards to taking our society where the members want us to go—the things that we wish to honor, future reunion destinations, and other society issues that we need to vote on or discuss. Your input is very important to your society, so please plan on attending. VN222 will have a meeting as well, but I am not sure when at this time.

The Ladies Brunch is held at the same time that the Business Meeting is, and we are planning a very special Brunch for the ladies in an outstanding area on a large raised deck around the swimming pool, which is all under a covered area inside the hotel.

Saturday afternoon is Free Time. This is a very good time to head on down to downtown Seattle City Center to say so-long to the Emerald City, and visit the sights that you may have missed on your other trips.

Our Banquet, the main event, is held Saturday night. It usually starts around 1800 hrs (Got the time figured out yet you old grunts?!) The Banquet is always very special, with many surprises. Attendees always have a blast at the banquet. Some dress up for the event, some don't, so don't worry about any of that stuff. We selected the Chicken dinner, and the Salmon dinner—both are promised by the hotel to be first class dinners.

Sunday, Oct. 11th – We wind down the reunion with our Memorial Service lead by Chaplain Tobin, a Triple Deucer himself, and one swell guy that we all love dearly. This is the time to honor our fallen Brothers, and say “So long” until the next reunion, which, by the way, will be held in Atlanta Georgia. We are going to go see the brand new Infantry Museum at Fort Benning GA. Bob Babcock will chair that reunion, and will give us a talk about what we will be experiencing there.

We will be honoring our recently departed Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, Col. Awbry “Awb” Norris, former Commander of the Triple Deuce in Vietnam, 1967 -68. Those of us that knew Aub will have him in our hearts throughout the reunion. Awb was always a soldier's officer, never forgetting his men, and always respecting them. As a Society leader, he was an inspiration to all of us in the society and always made a point of making all members feel more than welcome. We will miss him very much.

Sponsored Attendees Program

Visiting Seattle - <http://www.seattle.gov/html/visitor/> Check this site out for info.

I highly recommend taking an Argosy Dinner Cruise when visiting Seattle. I have done it twice and the memories are wonderful and life-long. The ship will tour the Puget Sound area around Seattle, while you dine on gourmet food. Go with the seafood for sure. For information visit <http://www.argosycruises.com/royalargosy/default.cfm> or contact their business office at 1101 Alaskan Way, Pier 55, Suite 201, Seattle WA 98101 Phone: 206-623-1445 or 800-642-7816 Thursday afternoon – evening would be an ideal time to plan the traditional Company night out on the Royal Arogosy.

As shown on <http://www.seattle.gov/html/visitor/> there are many interesting and unique things to see and do in Seattle. Some of my favorites are:

The Space Needle www.spaceneedle.com

Pike Place Market, a must see in Seattle. This place is totally unique to Seattle—nothing else like it that I have ever seen <http://www.pikeplacemarket.org/frameset.asp?flash=true>

The Museum of Flight <http://www.museumofflight.org/>

The Seattle Aquarium <http://www.seattleaquarium.org/>

The Seattle Art Museum <http://www.seattleartmuseum.org/>

There are so many other interesting sights to see that I could fill two more newsletters to tell you about them. So, check out seattle.gov as shown above and investigate them yourselves. I busy soldier!

Hope to see you there!

Lynn Dalpez, C/2/22
Reunion Chairman

The Board of Directors has adopted a plan that will provide funds to support some of our needy Members in their efforts to attend reunions. Consideration has been given to what we can afford to do, and to protecting the privacy of anyone who is ultimately selected by the Board to attend.

The program name is “Sponsored Attendees Program.” The accompanying list will provide some of the highlights and conditions set forth by the Board.

The Sponsored Attendee, SA for the balance this piece, must be an active member of the Vietnam Triple Deuce and be sponsored by an active Member of the Vietnam Triple Deuce. The SA must be truly needy. Someone who just paid \$25,000 in college tuition or put an addition on their home may be temporarily broke, but that doesn't make them needy. Someone who has been struggling with PTSD and all the associated problems may be a better candidate. Someone who currently has an uncontrolled substance abuse problem to include drugs and/or alcohol would not be a good choice. The person sponsoring the SA will have to arrange for transportation to the reunion and be responsible for the incidental expenses incurred by the SA during the reunion. Incidental expenses would be such items as breakfast and lunch. Another might be transportation expenses on city buses. These incidental expenses will be reimbursed by the Treasurer at the close of the reunion. The sponsor must provide the Treasurer with the receipts and a check will be issued. A sworn affidavit will be accepted whenever expenses are not readily documented with receipts. The Sponsor will be responsible for their own incidental expenses.

The Vietnam Triple Deuce will pay for all room and registration cost associated with the 22nd Infantry Regiment Society reunion. Rooms will be set up as double occupancy. We'll work out the Smoker, Non-Smoker issue as we go along. No charges for room services or movies or mini bar use or telephone calls will be paid for by the Vietnam Triple Deuce. Sponsors will have to make this understood by the SA's.

The Board will make every attempt to select SA's from as many of the Companies as possible.

The Board has decided that funds are available for 4 Sponsored Attendees at the 2009 Seattle Reunion.

This program will give us the opportunity to do for our Brothers what they would like to do for themselves, but are unable, because of circumstance, to do for themselves.

Those of you who have donated extra money when you pay your dues or bought Triple Deuce Merchandise have provided the seed funds that were necessary to bring this effort to reality. You can thank yourselves for your unselfish actions. To perpetuate the funding for this program, members and corporate sponsors will be encouraged to make additional donations earmarked specifically for this program. Those of you that will sponsor a needy Member will be able to take great satisfaction in bringing another Vietnam Triple Deucer back to where they belong, with the men they lived and fought with. You will personify the motto, *“Deeds, Not Words”* and make all of us very proud of your unselfish efforts.

Jim May
Treasurer
(207) 634-3355
jlmay@tds.net

Reunion Loan Program

During the Business Meeting at the Kansas City reunion ways were discussed that might be used to help bring more Vietnam Triple Deucers to future reunions. I believe it was **Dwight Brennerman** who suggested that we consider some type of **loan program** that would help Members who wished to attend a reunion, but needed some financial assistance to do so. I am please to report that the Board has adopted a **Reunion Loan Program**.

Here's an outline of how the **Program** will work:

Funds will be available for lodging, reunion registration, 22 IRS Reunion activities including tours and banquets. And incidental expenses. Incidentals include breakfast and lunch expenses.

No cash advances will be made. Vietnam Triple Deuce, Inc. will pay all approved

items directly to the provider. This does not include incidental expenses. The Treasurer will be responsible for incidental cost.

No bar expenses or room service charges will be considered as **Program** expenses. The Member taking the loan and the Treasurer will agree to loan repayment schedules. There are no timetables for repayment and there are no interest charges.

The Board will, 12 months before the next 22 IRS Reunion, determine the amount that is to be allocated for the **Program** and the number of Members allowed to participate. (This requirement is waived.)

Selection will be considered on a “first come, first served” basis.

The identity of the Member taking the loan will not be announced or in any way made public.

The Board has allocated \$3,000 for the SeaTac Reunion to be split between 5 Members. This is not to say that a Member must borrow all of the \$600 available to him. If a Member wishes to have only part of his expenses covered under the **Program**, that will be fine. In fact, it would be very fine because it would allow for more Members to take advantage of the **Program**. So, if you have been considering coming to a Reunion, but haven't because your budget won't allow for it, well here's your chance to come and visit with your Vietnam Triple Deuce Brothers. The funds we have in the Treasury are intended for this type of use and nothing would please your Combat Brothers more than to have you come to the SeaTac Reunion in October 2009.

Anyone wishing to take advantage of the **Reunion Loan Program** should contact me or any board member. Remember, this is a “first come, first served” arrangement.

Jim May
Treasurer
(207) 634-3355
jlmay@tds.net

Minnesota Honors Vets

On June 13, 2009, the Military Order of the Purple Heart along with the Department of Veterans Affairs of Minnesota, are sponsoring a Welcome Home Viet Nam Veterans ceremony at the state Capital Mall in St. Paul. Registration will start at 9:00 AM Saturday morning followed by the reading of veterans killed in action, throughout the day. The moving Viet Nam Veterans Wall will be on display also. Booths will be set up under a large tent for any information you would want or need pertaining to benefits. Speakers will also be invited to take part. The ceremonies should wrap up about 6:00 PM Saturday evening.

I am thinking this would be a good time to have a C-2/22, 4th Infantry Division reunion with anyone wishing to attend. Therefore I have a block of 50 rooms set aside at the Kelley Inn for the Triple Deuce, 4th Infantry for Friday June 12, 13, for either one night or both. Our reunion would be Saturday June 13 in the evening after the ceremonies at the Capital. The Kelley Inn is one block west of the Capital so we would have parking! We can get a hospitality room for the evening to party in, share slides, CD's or other memorabilia anyone would like to share.

Reservations must be made by April 1, 2009 @ a cost of \$99.00 per night + taxes. For reservations call 1-800-528-1234 or -651-227-8711 and tell them you are with the Triple Deuce 4th Infantry Division to get the special rate. The address is:

Best Western Kelly Inn
161 St Anthony Ave
St Paul, MN 55103

If you know of someone who might be interested in attending please make a copy of this letter and send it to them. The more the merrier! Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, or wherever, we invite everyone to attend.

Contact **Van D Karg** – 320-275-3453
E-mail – vlkarg@hutchtel.net

Thanks,

Van Kard C Co. 66-67

Attention Bikers !

I am looking for men and/or ladies wanting to ride their motorcycles to the Seattle reunion in October of 2009. Last year I rode my Harley from Tulsa, Ok to Washington D.C. and it was a very rewarding trip. My date for leaving for Seattle is open but around Oct.1st.

I will be leaving from Tulsa to Wichita, Denver, Cheyenne Wy., Casper Wy., Buffalo, Sheridan Wy., Billings Mont., Helena Mont. Bonners Ferry Id., Spokane, Wash. and Seattle, Wash,. I would like to visit Glacier Nat. Park while going through Montana.

The return trip plan is south to Portland, Los Angeles, Ca. east to Phoenix, Az, Tucson, Az, Gallup N.M. Albuquerque, N.M., Amarillo, Tx, to OKC, Ok., then home, Anybody wanting to join the trip along the way would be welcome.

Greg Michael B/67
9843 E.500rd,
Claremore, Ok.
918-381-0218

g.michael6625@sbcglobal.net

Plywood APC's

It was sometime during 1967 that Sarge came by Battalion Maintenance with some other guys we did not know and said, "You and you mount up. We have got a little job to do." Well, we were going through the brush with a deuce-and-a-half as the third vehicle of four and the truck had something in its bed that we could not figure out what it was because it was starting to get dark. We stopped because we were apparently where we were supposed to be, wherever that was, and dismounted. We had to unload the deuce-and-a-half, which was loaded with fake M113 KITS that were made from plywood. Once we had the plywood M-113's unloaded the three real M-113's and the deuce-and-a-half pulled out

and left us. We had to put these "KITS" together. Anyone within 500 meters could smell the fresh paint! The KITS had fake 50's painted black with broom handles for barrels. There were about eight of us, an M-60 MG, an RTO and whatever we had carried with us. We were a mixed squad of people from different platoons. This mixing of troops was something that was occasionally done for Ambush Patrols and I hated being with troops I did not know and they probably felt that same towards me I suppose. Anyway, you can bet we never made a sound or slept that night. We were expendable Decoys trying to lure Charlie out. Nothing happened that night, probably because Charlie could not even believe this was happening either!

Pap, Boat Original
James Papczynski
pappy.jj@comcast.net
B Co. & HHC, 4th & 25th ID, 65 to 67

A Brother Hurting

Just spoke to **Gary Hartt** and wanted to let everyone know (and he asked me to do so)...there was an electrical fire in his home the other day and he lost everything in his office (his phone, computer, all records and memorabilia, etc.)...along with the better part of the rest of his home which he considers a total disaster. I spoke to Scarlett also... who is her usual up-swing self just thankful that all things weren't completely lost in the bedroom, some of her clothes, antiques, etc....but, things are a mess and they are living with their son at the moment until they can rebuild. The good thing is, if there is good in this....it all happened while Gary was outside (mid-afternoon) and Scarlett was at work and the dogs were with Gary so no one was hurt, the bad thing...it took too much time for the fire department to get there because Gary had to go to two different neighbors to get help (the first one was out)...there is no cell phone service where he lives...so, time was not on the side of the fire department putting things out, so, yes it is a mess! So, for the time being, there will be no emails from Gary. He phoned me back at

(503)759-4111, so I would assume this is the only number right now to reach him at. I know he is right now at a complete loss about all that has burned and is irreplaceable. I asked, sincerely, if any of us could help, but, he said, "let's wait and see what happens next"? Just so you know..... Love to all,

Betty Brenneman wife of
Dwight Brenneman A / 65-67



Personalized License Plate

David Milewski has a personalized license plate that relates to his military service and thought it would be a good idea if all of us could see his plate as well as the personalized plates of those who have them. The Newsletter was considered as a forum, but due to the lack of color and size restraints it was decided that the Web Site would be a better place to display and view these Specialized License Plates.

Send the e-photos of your Specialized Plates to svirvine@gmail.com I will set up a place on the Web Site where all of these plates may be seen. <http://www.vietnamtripledeuce.org/license%20plates/license%20plates.htm>

Steve Irvine B Co. 68-69

Deeds Not Words
Deeds Not Words

Editor's Note This is the same story that appeared in the 22nd NL with the exception of the ADDENDUM. Ft Drum stories will continue to appear in both NL's because many of our Members do not belong to 22 IRS and that this is the only time they will see these stories.

FORT DRUM VISIT

December 2008

The 2nd Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment, 10th Mountain Division returned to Ft Drum during the last days of October and the first days of November. During their thirteen month tour they saw many successes in the elimination of the enemy from much of their AO. However, as we all know, wars are not fought without loss. During the deployment four Triple Deucers, **PFC Nathan Z. Thacker, SGT Timothy R. Van Orman, PFC Jack T. Sweet** and **SSG Tyler E. Pickett** were KIA. These Soldiers as well as the Soldiers who were KIA in Afghanistan and Iraq during the previous deployments were to be honored at the dedication of the 2-22nd, 10th Mtn Memorial on December 17, 2008. Five Vietnam Triple Deucers were invited to attend the dedication of the Memorial and to attend the Semi-Formal gathering on the evening of the 17th. The Battalion was going on block leave on the morning of the 18th with many of the Soldiers going on to schools, other duty assignments and home. Hopefully, this brief account will provide the reader with some sense of what it is like to spend two days in the presence of the Active Duty Soldiers of the 2nd Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment.

The visit began as I left my driveway at 0200 HRS, 16 DEC 2008. I live 500 miles from the Syracuse Airport, an eight hour drive. **Ed Schultz** and **Roger Frydrychowski** would be arriving just before 11 AM and I didn't want to be late in meeting them. **Pete Gaworecki**, who lives about an hour's drive from the Syracuse Airport, would also be on hand to help transport the group to Ft Drum. I arrived at 10 AM and met Pete for coffee and then we went to collect Ed and Roger. **Skip Fahel's** flight wouldn't be coming in until 2:30 PM, so we decided to have lunch. Pete,

who was credited by Awb Norris, with knowing where all the good places to eat were, led us to Stella's. This is another family owned business that feeds everyone like they were a cousin. There was too much food on our plates for some of us, however one of us did manage to clean his plate. (Pete, I didn't mention you by name.) With lunch completed we gathered up Skip and his belongings and headed for Ft Drum.

We had reservations for the Ft Drum Inn, and Army Housing facility, that provides first accommodations at unbeatable rates. However, every rose has a thorn, and the Ft Drum Inn's thorn is usually getting you into the room they had promised. This trip was no different. We were told that we would be staying at the LeRay Mansion, an old mansion that once belonged to an influential family. The building has been completely restored and comes with a ghost. When we checked in we were told that some of us would be in the Mansion proper. Since our last visit to Ft Drum many of the street names have changed. This provided us with a grand tour of the Fort as we drove in circles looking for familiar street names that were no longer present. This was Roger Frydrychowski's first visit and I am certain that he was regretting his decision to travel with us. Once we figured out that we were looking for what didn't exist, the rest was easy, we got out the map. When we went into the Mansion we found that only Ed's key would open any of the bedroom doors. Confused, we called and were told that only two of us would be in the Mansion, Ed and Roger. That wasn't going to work because there was only one bed in the room! Again, I'm sure that Roger was rethinking his decision to make the visit. We were told that one of the keys we had was for one of the adjoining buildings. After checking this out, we found that there were three bedrooms in that building. That still left two of us with one bed. After more waiting and confusion we were told that none of us would be in the Mansion, but that another adjacent building with two bedrooms would be opened for us. All of this took time, time I had planned on using for a nap. Ed had also left his home at about the same time I left mine, so he was also looking for a nap before we

went to Watertown for dinner with Battalion Staff members. No nap, just shower and go.

Dinner was at Sboro's in Watertown. We've settled on this restaurant because the food is good, the atmosphere is pleasant and the wait staff is always friendly. LTC Sullivan, CO, wasn't able to attend because he had a far more important engagement. He was attending his daughter's recital. There is no doubt that after his long absence his proper place was with his family. LTC Sullivan's absence had no ill effects on the appetites of those present. That would be recently prompted LTC Friant, S-3 during the deployment, MAJ M....., XO and CPT McNally. Many of you will remember Brent McNally from the DC Reunion. (Brent was so impressed with the 22nd Infantry Regiment Society Reunion that he has joined the Society and plans on attending the Seattle Reunion. I look forward to seeing him.) The conversation during dinner was mostly about how operations were conducted in Iraq and how the Army operates today. Three deployments in five years has taken a toll on Soldiers and the Army. And, with an anticipated deployment scheduled for November 2009, there appears to be no change in site. We are fortunate to have such dedicated men and women defending our freedoms.

It wasn't all business at the dinner. It was noted that one of the Vietnam Vets wasn't wearing an ORA Medal. An explanation of what the ORA Medal represented and how it was awarded was demonstrated when Pete Gaworecki, Charlie Co., 1/22, 4th ID, 1967-1968, was asked to tell a Red Ant story. The story involved enemy action and getting nearly naked while the Red Ants chewed away and in accordance with the rules, Pete was awarded an ORA. Pete, a regular attendee at all of the 2-22, 10th Mtn functions is a Member of The Vietnam Triple Deuce and represents us quite well. Congratulations, Pete. It was now time to retreat to our beds, hoping that we wouldn't find someone sleeping in them because of another mistake made by our hosts. We were all pleasantly surprised to first find the street we were looking for and to find that no one had forced out into the cold night. And, it was

cold with just enough snow to make our three Southern companions put on all the clothes they had brought with them when we left for the days activities. Our first stop was the Golden Unicorn for breakfast. We thought we had plenty of time for breakfast, but some mess-up in the kitchen left us rushing down our food and heading to our meeting with the Battalion Officers and NCO's. The purpose of the meeting was to address the issues that Soldiers face when they return from a combat situation. Many of the Soldiers we were addressing had had three tours in combat and were certainly well aware of the changes that take place in someone and how those changes affect their views and attitudes once they return home. The meeting turned into a question and discussion session with many contributing. The hope was that what we discussed would be passed down to those who were not present, especially those Soldiers who would be returning home. They are the ones who, because they will not have their Buddies close to them to share and discuss the changes they experience, are most likely to have problems with readjustment to a "normal" life style. All five of us made it very plain that we are available to help with any readjustment issues faced by the returning 2-22, 10th Mtn Soldiers.

After the meeting we were invited to visit with the members of the Companies we had served with. I was escorted by SSG Taylor. He was very informative and answered all of my questions without revealing that he was wondering why I was asking so many questions. Thank you SSG Taylor for your company and attention. It was during this time that I had my first visit with CPT Adrienne M. Harrison and 1st SGT Johnny B. Shaw, both of Echo Company. Echo Company is a Forward Support Company, something we didn't have in Vietnam. If you imagine a company where all the support types, communication repair, vehicle mechanics and supply types were together and then add in a Transportation element like what was in the Provisional Company, you'll get an idea of what Echo Company is all about. The Transportation element has responsibility for recovering vehicles, broken down, blown up or otherwise unable to move on their own and as such provides its own security. That

means that they ride their own HUMVVS with .50 Cal MG's mounted on them. Many of Echo Company's Soldiers have been awarded the Close Combat Award. This CCB is similar in intent to what the CIB represents. From my point of view I believe it is a very good thing to provide an award to Soldiers who have served in combat. Like the CIB, when you see someone with one, you know you are dealing with someone who has "been there." 1st SGT Shaw is actually a 19K. That's a Tanker for those of you who don't remember. That might help put the mission of Echo Company in perspective. You will also like knowing that Echo Company, technically part of the Brigade Support Command, made their own Echo, 2-22 Guidon in Infantry Style. This upset the Brigade Support Types. I thought it was a fine idea, something I would have done. All of you in Echo Company know where you were and you know what you've done. You should also know that the 22nd Infantry Regiment Society would gladly and proudly see you as members.



Left to right Roger Frydrychowski , Ed Schultz, Pete Gaworecki, Skip Fahel, Jim May

Now it was on to the dedication of the Memorial. The dedication was held outside and this meant that the Southerners were going to be cold unless they put on some clothes. Both Ed and Roger put on gloves and ear warmers. Skip, however, was dressed like a character in *Enemy at the Gate*. He had on a long overcoat and a black fur hat that took on the shape of a black cocker spaniel. Skip was warm! The monument consists of three obelisks type

granite stones, one for each deployment. Each stone bears a bronze plaque with the name of the Fallen Soldier. The obelisks were uncovered, each in turn, by family members of and by Soldiers who served with the Fallen Soldiers. When this was completed all of the Soldiers in 2-22, 10th Mtn who have served in the Battalion during all three deployments were brought forward for the uncovering of the central statue. It was at this time that the five of us were invited to help in the uncovering. The center piece is a bronze statue of the helmet, rifle and boots. It sits atop another obelisk and overlooks the entire site. When approaching the center piece one walks on blocks with the names of those who have donated funds to the construction of the Monument. There are familiar names on many of these blocks but one stood out. The block bears the name of Awb Norris. It was donated by Ed Schultz in Awb's memory. (I don't think Ed will be too happy with me for telling you this, but I'll take the butt chewing because you should know that Ed didn't forget Awb and doesn't want anyone else to forget him.) Opposite the three obelisks are two granite benches, one bears the inscription, "Donated by the Vietnam Veterans of the 2nd BN(MECH), 22nd Infantry Regiment, The Vietnam Triple Deuce." The entire ceremony was very moving and conducted in a manner so that each of the Fallen Soldiers was recognized. However, Military Manner was observed and the long winded speeches were left for others. After the dedication we were treated to coffee, pastry and visits with Battalion members and members of the families of the KIA's. Next we made a brief visit to the new living quarters and office facilities. These building were erected during the deployment. The living spaces are finished, but the Battalion and Company Officers are still without furniture. The living space consists of what looks like wings in a hotel. Each door leads to two private rooms with a shared kitchen and bathroom. I am not certain of who gets to live in these rooms, but my sense is that all unmarried Soldiers E-5 and below live in these semi-private suites. Now it was back to our rooms for a bit of rest and to prepare for Semi-Formal.



Peter Gaworecki C/1/22 67 Kate Dichairo Wife of Col. Joe Dichairo, Skip Fahel B/67-68

When we arrived at The Commons, we found that the VN 222 Guidon had made its way from the dedication site and was, as always, prominently displayed. I must thank CSM Smith for his continued attention and help during all of our visits. (CSM Smith is on his way back to the 82nd Airborne Division for his next assignment. I hope he joins us in the future at a reunion. It would be my honor to introduce him to the Members.) We were assigned seats with our designated Companies and I found myself seated with CPT Harrison, 1st SGT Shaw, The Tanker, can't forget that, and the Company XO, 1st Lt. Luis E. Rodriguez. During the entire evening Soldiers were bringing drinks to the table and placing them in front of their CO and 1st SGT. There were many brief exchanges of thanks between the CO, 1st SGT and the Soldiers. I might also add that Echo Company has some very attractive members. I'll leave that there because I don't want to be known at the 22nd Infantry Regiment Society Letcher.

There were many good-byes exchanged at this event because the morning would see many of these fine Soldiers leave for other places and other lives. We know they'll all be looking for each other in 20 years from now, but most of them don't. We also know that we must do a better job of making the 22nd Infantry Regiment Society more attractive to Soldiers from both Battalions. Something is being done and you'll see more on this in another article.

The party was ending and the Duty Troops were

standing at the exit with breath-o-lizers making certain that no one was going to be driving while under the influence. To everyone's credit, I saw no resistance and those who did need rides took them.

We went back to the rooms where Ed asked, "Are we going to sit up and talk or are we going to bed, like pansies?" No pansies were present and we drank up all the beer that was on hand and talked until it was clear that another night would pass with little sleep. At 0600 I pulled up in front of the cottage where Ed, Skip and Roger were staying and we loaded out for the airport. Pete stayed in bed. I dropped off everyone at the airport and later found out that Skip and Roger got so enthralled talking about their tours in Vietnam that Skip missed his plane. Even with the delay, he still got home before I did. I was very tired when I got home and it wasn't until the next morning that I realized that I had slept for only 12 hours in a 90 hour period.

I'd do it again, but we've decided to change our methods and arrive a day early. Maybe next time we can get the LeRay Mansion all to ourselves. I'd like to meet the ghost.

If any of you are interested in brief view of the Memorial Site, go to

<http://22ndinfantry.org/222monument.wmv> This will bring you to a video clip where I was being interviewed but the camera shots are of the Memorial site.

Jim May, HMOR
Provisional Company, 1968

ADDENDUM

It is important that the Members of VN 222 know how much their individual donations and the donation made by VN 222 were needed and appreciated. There are pavers with the names of those who donated to purchase one and the bench that was purchased with some of the VN 222 donation is clearly marked as stated above. I have been back to Ft Drum twice since the dedication but have not been able to get a good photo of the bench and the inscription because the bench is covered in snow. I will be back once the snow melts and get the photo for the Newsletter.

You should also take pride in knowing that of all the Infantry Battalions at Ft Drum Triple Deuce is the only one to have completed its monument site. In fact, none of the other Battalions have broken ground at their sites. This says a great deal about those who now serve in the Battalion that you served in. Triple Deuce was the BEST in Vietnam and remains the keeper of that honor today.

I was asked by many to send their thanks to the Members of VN 222 for providing the funds that helped get the project completed.

Some of these Soldiers are leaving the Army and others are changing assignments but many have said they will be at future reunions. When you meet them, you can thank them for adding another page of courage and dedication to the History of The Triple Deuce.

FSB Burt January 68

This is what I recall of FSB Burt from January 1-2-3, 1968

I didn't have to go to the Army. I was in a church when I was drafted. I was and am an ordained Baptist minister. When I was drafted they said if I would use the church I could get out and not go. I told them the president liked me so much he called me, so I went like all of us did.

I got to Dau Tieng the middle to last of December 1967. C. Co. came in late in the evening. They called us out there. New men were there, I was one of them. One sergeant said I understand that there is a preacher in the bunch. I told him that I was the preacher, so that stayed with me. Charlie 6 called me Carolina, he said that I talked so southern, that was alright with him.

We left Base Camp and were told that we were going to a place where there was a big build up of gooks. They said that it was really going to be bad. Charlie 36 my 1st Lt. asked me could I do what I may have to do and live with it. I told him I would do my best to do my part to keep myself alive and also help take care of our men. No one else said anything to me about it after that. 36

said I will call you "preacher" I told him, I was, so it would be O.K. That is how it happened.

We got to Burt close to the last of December just before January 1, 1968. When we got there they sent us to the southern end of Burt. They told us to dig in. It was late, the top of the ground was as hard as concrete. We got a small place in case we were hit maybe we could have a little place to get. The next morning we dug a bunker that 4-6 men could get in. I had gone out on patrol one time before the first.

January 1, I was able to stay in the lager, I was in the bunker. After awhile mortars were lobbed in. Ohio jumped in and said we were under attack. Before long RPG, small arm fire was coming from everywhere. Chief our 50 gunner grabbed a 60 and got beside our bunkers. Everyone was firing; the 50's barrels were cherry red. All were firing all they had. I had the 60 inside. Ohio and others were bringing us ammo. These were brave men, they were being fired on. Many were hit; some were killed. Our medic got killed. You could hear men calling for ammo/ Medics. It sure was getting rough. Small arms fire came in. I was hit on my right hand. It felt like it was on fire. Chief was hit also. Something hit my helmet; it felt like a ball bat hit me.

You could see gooks at the tree line; all I know is when morning came there were dead gooks all over; they even made it close to the tracks and bunkers. We lost a lot of men and were told to make a survey; the dead gooks were put in a ditch, there were close to 400 dead. We went to get the APC but it was shot up too much to come in. A bunch of dead men, there were close to 200 wounded. A lot were taken care of in the field. I looked at my helmet; I had been hit above my right eye. I was sure glad I wore my helmet or I would have been killed. We got them in sight and went back out. As we were sweeping, Charlie 6 jumped to the side, a live gook was against a tree wounded. He was searched with nothing found. Charlie put him on his back and carried him in. They questioned him and found out we were going to be hit again on the 2nd of January. It didn't happen.

I was going out on AP on January 2nd. I was always afraid the next man would go to sleep. Well it happened, they finally got Angus awake. We had to come in during the night. The gooks could have come in and killed us or taken us in. I never went to sleep on patrol again. The next night we were sent back out to the same spot. This was January 3rd, Cook, Ohio and I were set up in one spot. About 1 a.m. the gooks lobbed mortars into Burt, you could hear the men hollering "In coming". The mortars stopped, you could hear on the radio, men were crossing the road. They fired the twin 40s down the road. After a while I got close to Cook, who was watching my back and I was watching his. I told him I could hear men walking. He said the bamboo was cooling off, I told him I knew the difference between bamboo and a man. I got real close, I told him they were coming in. Cook started to speak; I put my hand over his mouth. I told him there were three men behind him. Cook started to speak. I will never forget what the gook said. He said "LEMA". I could feel the sweat from Cook's face. They started to back out. All I knew was not to give my position away. I opened fire with my M16. I was so afraid they would come in and lob mortars on us. When daylight came we found one. I told them that there were three of them. About two days later we found the other two about 75 meters from where we were at. The one we got his AK47 plenty of ammo, the other two their weapons were gone. I know this was bad but I thought I had done the right thing to give me away and maybe save my men.

I will never forget the smell of rotten flesh the rest of my life. I know now what it will smell like at the last battle on earth. What a smell.

John Wayne said in one of his movies you go to war, fire your weapon, and live with it the rest of your life. I am glad that I never caused one of my men his life. I am still a preacher and pastoring at a church today.

"Preacher"
Donald Blaine Jones C 67-68

All that were there were the bravest men that anyone could know.

12th Evac Remembered

I saw your e-mail address in the 22nd infantry newsletter. I see that **Skip Fahel**, our president & our famous artist, **Jim Nelson** attended the 12th Evac reunion. I served with the Triple Deuce in Dau Tieng between 9/67 & 9/68. Some of your nurses saved my life in early 1968. I was sent to Sgt's training school in Cu Chi at the end of Jan in 68. Just before the Tet attack began I came down with a terrible case of malaria & was sent to the 12th Evac. I was completely out of it, my fever hit a high of 106.2. One of your staff decided to put me in a bed of ice, I believe in a body bag. As weak as I was I still tried to fight off the nurses due to the extreme pain. I'm sure I was cursing out everyone in sight but luckily they won the battle. This little trick broke the fever and saved my life. I later found out that I had the falciparum type of malaria which has a high fatality rate. During Tet I remember the rocket attacks on the hospital with the Quonset huts offering little protection. I seem to remember that the nurses put an extra mattress on the floor next to each bed and would roll us onto it when the attacks began to get us as close as possible to the floor. Some time later I was sent to a convalescent center at Cam Ranh Bay. It would be great to hear from anyone that might remember this event. This was my only contact with the 12th Evac but obviously I gave you a 100% approval rating. I was treated for wounds @ Dau Tieng, Tay Ninh and Saigon at other times but somehow managed to survive the entire year. Please express my gratitude to any of your staff that may have been at Cu Chi during the Tet offensive.

Bob Price B 67/68

DUES NOT WORDS

Letter to All 2/22 My Brothers

While trying to reach my best friend at Dau Tieng, Victor Dante Cupido, I learned from his nephew, Ron Cupido, Jr., that Vic had passed away from an auto accident in 2004 or 2005. Ron & I spoke by telephone for about 45 minutes and I related a few stories of good times that Vic and I had together. Ron told me his father, Ron, Sr., is Vic's brother and he would like to speak with me sometime. Vic's nephew said that if anyone wanted to contact Vic's family they could send mail to:

Ron Cupido
133 Rome Street
San Francisco, CA 94112

or call at:

415-584-0543

Vic had no children, he was liked by everyone and he was my best friend.

James A. Mancini
HHC, 67 to 68

The Unsung Heroes

"Deeds, Not Words" started me to think about the many individuals of the 2/22 during my tour in 1966 and 1967 as 3rd Plt. Leader/ Ex Officer of B Company at Ft. Lewis and Dau Tieng and later Recon Plt. Ldr. As any soldier, you evaluate the strengths of individuals in your unit. You soon find that there are some that have, shall we call it "hidden strengths". One such individual that comes to mind in my 3rd Platoon was young PFC, who I believe was from Cicero, Illinois. He was not what one would call an ideal garrison soldier. While he performed his duties, he had a way of verbalizing his displeasure with military life in general. His comments, at times while having a touch of truth were almost always in the form of barracks humor. His hidden strength was an attribute desired by many units in the military. He was flat out an exceptional scrounger, and had an uncanny knack for the midnight requisition.

Just before deployment the 2/22 were issued M-

16, but no manuals on the functioning, care and maintenance of the weapon were issued and any hope of ever getting such manuals was dismal. The NCO's of B Co. put their collective thoughts together and told **1st SGT. Warner** of a possible warehouse at Ft. Lewis where the manuals might be stored. The PFC was immediately dispatched to a work detail at the warehouse and two days later all of B Co. had the M-16 Manual.

After planting our flag in the Dau Tieng area and trying to establish a base camp, it became evident that electric power was a very lacking necessity. 1st SGT Warner, a participant of many deployments, (Merrell's Marauders WWII, Korea, etc.) packed large volume of trade goods. In a joint discussion, SGT Warner and I decide it was a top priority to get another generator. Armed with a list of items we had to barter with the young PFC was promptly assigned as a convoy guard on a truck headed to Bien Hoa with instructions to "locate and start negotiations for a generator". When the convoy returned, the young PFC came into the CQ tent and announced he found a generator and asked where I wanted it. I instructed him to put it next to SGT Warner's desk. He informed me to look at the generator because he was fairly certain that "by SGT Warner's desk" was not in his opinion, an ideal location. To my amazement there was a huge diesel generator mounted on a trailer, hitched to the deuce /half. As it turns out, the young PFC saw some generators lined up in a compound at Bien Hoa, so he had the truck driver get near the lead of the convoy on the return, pulled out of the convoy at the compound, waved some papers at the gate guard, hitched up the generator and rejoined the rear of the convoy. His plan was executed with precision. B. Company had power for our refrigerators, radios and lights. SGT Warner took the liberty of supplying the Eng. Battalion behind our area with power in exchange for truck loads of laterite, sand bagging and lumber for our bunkers under constructions on the perimeter. The engineers reneged on the lumber and immediately and lost their power to their ice makers and refrigerators. Within a couple of days, **Col. Julian** confis-

cated the generator and hooked up the whole battalion. So 2/22, when you recall the occasional cool beer upon returning to our base camp outside of Dau Tieng in those early days, raise your preferred beverage and salute the hidden talent and deeds of a young soldier.

"Deeds, Not Words"

God Bless Isbecki

Mike Carpentier B 66-67

Guest Books Hits

Name: **Joseph L. Mancini**

Email: jlimitalia12@yahoo.com

Date: 1/12/09

Comments: My father was in HHC 222 from Oct 67 to Oct 68. Just seeing if anyone remembers him or served in his company at the same time.

SP4 **James A. Mancini**

Name: **Raymond S. March**

Email: raysmail49@peakinet.net

Date: 1-24-09

Comments: The date that I signed the guest book is 01-24-2009. As I stated before I served in Viet Nam and Cambodia in 1969 and 1970 with the Triple Deuce in mechanized 4.2 motors and the platoon was nick named **High Angle Hell**. I have been contacted by one of my old Army buddies after 39 years and it was great hope to hear from others that I served with.

Name: **Tom Kearney**

Email: turkeytk@verizon.net

Date: 01/25/09

Phone: 215 646 6247

Comments: Welcome Home, Everyone I'm thinking of my brother today, **Sgt. Frank Kearney**. He served in Co B 222 with Lt. **John O'Farrell** from 3 68 to 4 69 and was wounded in action April 28, 1968. Frank passed away on Jan 25, 2005. He loved his country and he loved his Philadelphia Eagles and we loved him. Miss you, Frank.

Name: **Larry Hamilton**

Email: larrypembroke@localnet.com

Date: 01/29/09

phone: (207) 726-5887

Comments: Hello: I served with **John Caldwell**. I think he was with Alpha Co. I was a combat photographer and worked with him at Dau Tieng. I know that he was from Bogalusa, Louisiana and sadly is deceased. Does anyone know what happened to him? We went through a lot together, both good and bad. Please drop me a line if you have any info. I believe he died back in the 70's. Thanks, Larry Hamilton.

Name: **Sgt. Jeri Neal**

Email: jmn773@gmail.com

Date: 01/31/2009

Comments: Served in country Aug 68 to Aug 69, Charlie Company, 1st Platoon, 1st Squad. Looking for **Randy Dotson, Ernie Pratt, Clyde Burr**.

Name: **Kenneth D Eccles**

Email: kjeccl@hbeark.com

Date: 02/21/2009

phone: 870-480-2344

Comments: Went to Nam on the ship with super platoon of Headquarters Company. I was the driver of the HQ 48 track.

Name: **Steve Gray**

Email: sgoodboy@tds.net

Date: 3/3/09

Phone: 870 325 6941

Comments: I have pictures of two tracks, My Girl and Dirty Five, from fall 1969, near Trang Bang. I will send them if you provide an address.

Name: **Kenneth D. Eccles**
Email: kjeccl@hbeark.com
Date: 03/04/2009
Phone: 870-480-2344

Comments: Original boat HHC some names that have come to me are **Ron Logan, Paul Switzer, Kenneth Davenport, Vernon Webb**. last name **Canon**, last name **Harvey** all of these guys were in the HHC support platoon. We were the guys who sent all of fuel, food, ammo, beer some-times. We also had to unload the KIA's some-times we operated out of base camp other times we operated out of forward camps,

Name: **Jared Percival**
Email: jpercival@loganutah.org
Date: 03/15/2009

Comments: I thank all of you for your dedication to this great nation. My uncle **Alton D Percival** was a part of this unit for a short time. Unfortunately he gave everything he could on 01-28-1969.

Name: **Clarence 'CJ' Simpson**
Email: cacie1@optonline.net
Date: 03/16/2009

Comments: Hey **Gary Hartt** and the "Original Boat People". Where in the world is **Roger Newkirk**? Has anyone heard from him? What about **Shepard, Wegener, Pazoga, Renner, Sukaskas**?
All you Brothers have a Happy Easter.

New Finds

Burt Lockwood
4406 Dogwood Trail
North Olmsted, OH 44070
440-734-2649
aptfin@hotmail.com
HHC, 25th ID, July 70 to Dec 70

Comments: Burt would like to contact **General**

Vail, CPT Townsend Clark, CPT Jim Schmidt and CPT McCauley.

David S. Mullins
618 Lane Drive
Millen, GA 30442
478-982-2670
B Co. 25th ID, Oct, 68 to Sep. 69

Comments: David writes: "I really appreciate you finding me. I have been in and out of the hospital since I've been out. I suffer from PTSD and diabetes. So, I have trouble remembering. Thank you very much for finding me.

Roger L. Helms
4011 El James Dr.
Spring, TX 77388
281-353-5609
helms911@juno.com
HHC & D Co. 25th ID, Aug 69 to Aug 70

Comments: Roger would like to contact **Sgt Dick Amonette, Tim Daugherty, Sgt Gilbert Paris** from Owensboro, KY.

Roger T. Brosseau
3373 Baldwin Rd.
Hinesburg, VT 05461
802-482-2884
rtbross@gmavt.net
D Co. 25th ID, Jan 69 to Feb 20, 1969

Comments: Roger writes: "Dan Streit replaced me in Vietnam after I was Med-A-Vaced out in 69."

James A. Mancini
58 California Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15229
412-931-7630
HHC, 25th ID, Oct. 67 to Oct. 68

Comments: Jim would like to locate **Lester Freedale**, and **Rickey D. Razor**.

Raymond S. March

P.O. Box 963
Florissant, CO 80816
719-687-6669
raysmail49@peakinet.net
HHC, 25th ID, Dec. 69 to Dec. 70

Comments: Ray would like to locate anyone who was in the Four-Deuce Section, **High Angle Hell**, in 69-70. Ray writes: "So great finding several old Army Buddies after 40 years."

Raymond E. Miley

P.O. Box 389
Tannersville, PA 18372
570-620-0305
mcmiley@ptd.net
HHC, 25th ID, July 69 to May 70

Comments: Ray writes that he was in the Four-Deuce Mortars.

Victoria S. Mojica

38780 Orchid View Pl. # 219
Palmdale, CA 93550
661-526-5934
witchi48@earthlink.net

Comments: Vicki is the wife of **Anthony 'Mojo' Mojica**. Anthony was in the 1st Plt. of C/2-22 and passed away in June 2008. He was a member of the Tiger One AP during the Battle of Burt. Vicki would like to hear from anyone who remembers Anthony.

Jeri M. Lilly

773 Abbe Hills Rd.
Mt Vernon, IA 52314
319-895-8171
jmn733@gmail.com
C Co. 25th ID, Sep. 68 to Sep.69

Comments: Jeri would like to locate **Randy Dotson, Clyde Burr** and **Ernie Pratt**. Jeri writes:" I was in C Co. , 1st Platoon, 1st Squad, Sep 68 to Sep 69. For 40 years I tried to forget all I went through and now I try to remember and can't. I have found three close friends and hope to get together with them soon. The Triple Deuce site is fantastic."

Joseph M. Goike

28565 Anchor Dr.
Chesterfield, MI 48047
586-949-1436
sallyshrimp@yahoo.com
A Co. 25th ID, 1968 to 1969

Comments: Joe writes, "It was great to hear from **LT Nash** over the holidays. I also talked to **Pa-looka, Otis Hines** and **Lumpy** from our unit. God Bless you all. I will stay in contact."

Thomas E. Pentecost

20418 Willow Trace Dr.
Cypress, TX 77433
281-373-3407
papa-t@sbcglobal.net
C Co. 4th & 25th ID, June 67 to June 68

Comments: Tom writes, "I served with 2/22nd MECH from June 1967 to June 1968. I was with the 4th & 25th IDs. The unit changed colors during my tour. It's been 40 years and I don't remember a lot. But I think I was with Company C. Maybe you can help me find out if this was the right Company. Our base Camp was Dau Tieng. I ran across your website while looking for info on Triple Deuce. Glad I found you."

Richard F. Stoltz

605 Easthill St. SE
N. Canton, OH 44720
330-499-2693
rickdivit@aol.com
A Co. 25th ID, Dec. 69 to Dec. 70

Comments: Richard writes, "I served with Co A 2/22 MECH Inf, 25th Inf from Dec 69 to Dec 70. Some of the names I remember are **SSGT Wayne Weaver, Ralph Gibbons, David Fouey, Larry Gartski, Doc Hicks, Ed Skosnick, Beeh Jones, David Coffey, Capt. Lechner**. I remember the tracks 'Think Snow' and 'Alice Dee III' "

Helloes & Comments

Robin Harrington

1105 Minnesota
Borger, TX 79007
806-274-3847
robmar@arh.net
C Co. 25th ID, 1967

Comments: Robin is still looking for **Paul Cross**

Douglas R. Lyall

P.O. Box 269
Berkeley Spgs. WV 25411
304-258-8189
lyalldp@aol.com
B Co. 25th ID, June 68 to June 69

Comments: Doug is looking for **Raymond Wal-mack**

Charles E. Weidner

18531 Center St.
Castro Valley, CA 94546
510-537-2732
weidner@slac.stanford.edu
A Co. 25th ID, Jan 70 to Oct. 70

Comments: Chuck writes: "Hope to see some new faces in Seattle. I've already booked my room." Chuck would like to contact **James R. Bird**.

Allan L. Zwiag

1015 Weston Hills Dr.
Brookfield, WI 53045
262-792-1015
alzkyz@milwpc.com
B Co. 4th & 25th ID, March 67 to Jan 68

Comments: Allan writes, "I remember **George Dahl's** article on Soui Tre. I arrived there 2 days after the fight and we were digging up graves for documents. I was with Bravo Company, 3rd Platoon & later became the RTO. My Platoon Leader was **LT. E.Q. Fahel**.

Harvey Nall Jr.

1822 Rilla St.
Asheboro, NC 27205
336-629-9420
B Co. 4th & 25th ID, and Rec, Plt. Dec. 65 to Sept. 67

Comments: Does anyone remember the name of the Chaplain who deployed with the Battalion from Ft Lewis? He was a Major and a very nice man. If anyone remembers the Major, let me know.

James J. Papczynski

4376 Armand Ave.
LaPorte, IN 46356
219-879-3512
pappy.jj@comcast.net
B Co. & HHC, 4th & 25th ID, Dec. 65 to Dec. 67

Comments: Jim would like to locate **Walt Koehler, Fred Goodwin, Ian Gordon, Carl Applewhite, Inacone**, from New Jersey.

Vance Gustafson

35423 Gustafson Ln.
Astoria, OR 97103
503-325-2842
vgus@pacifier.com
B Co. 25th ID, July 70 to Dec. 70

Comments: Vance would like to contact **Richard "Doc" Byers, Orville "Doc" Rickard, Sgt. Mitch Moore** and **Terry Huff**. Leave a message on the answering machine.

Thomas E. Ellis

P.O. Box 309
Creswell, OR 97426
541-895-5000
tellis@centurytel.net
C Co. 4th & 25th ID, Dec. 65 to Nov 67

Comments: Tom would like to hear from any and all that remember him.

Wyndham D. Jones
602 Southwest Jaslo Ave.
Port St. Lucie, FL 34953
772-336-3648
C Co. 25th ID, May 68 to Feb 69

Comments: Wyndham would like to locate **SP-4 Henry** and **SGT Whittle**. He is also looking for **Gilbert Lilly**.

Died At Home

Wallace W. Gonzalez B Co. 2/22, 1968
Deceased 1998 per his sister Ruth Gonzalez
Wallace Gonzalez and **Bill Frey** were best man at each others weddings but had lost touch with each other.

Timothy Blazei B Co. 1969
Died in 1997 from a heart attack

Rich Miller of C/2/22 informed me that **Jerry L. Dwinell**, a Charlie Boat Original passed way at the VA hospital Saturday, Feb 28,2009 at 8PM. Jerry had a cancer tumor by his heart and was given 4 months, but only lasted 2 months. He was playing with a grandchild when stricken and rushed to the hospital. Jerry Dwinell was in the weapons platoon and is survived by his wife Mary, children and grand children. Traveling to Redding Ca to pay tribute to their combat buddy are the following C/2/22 vets.

Richard Miller, **Steve Cowlthorp**, **Larry Mason**, **Leroy Henning**, **Arnie Freeman**, **Jim Neeley**, **Dan Morris**, **Mo Johansson**, **Jim King**, **Alberto Flores** and **Nick Docsanes**.

Rich Miller has arranged for the Patriot Guard to carry a 22IRS flag on lead bike, along with 25ID and 4thID on other bikes.

Gary Hartt A/65-67.

Change of Command

3 February 2009

Events happen rapidly in an Army that has its units in constant deployment rotation so the Change of Command came as no surprise, but the timing did. When we were at Ft Drum for the dedication of the Triple Deuce 10th Mountain Memorial we came away with the idea that the Change of Command, CoC, would take place in mid March, so much for what we expected.

When the invitation arrived on 24 Jan 09 to attend the CoC I knew there was little chance that many of the regular visitors to Ft Drum would be able to make this visit. A few e-mails later and my suspicions were confirmed. It would be Pete Gaworecki and I representing the Vietnam Veterans.

In my reply to LTC Dennis Sullivan I wrote that only a blizzard could keep me away. The weather held good and I headed for Ft Drum early on the morning of 2 Feb. Pete and I had made plans to go to dinner with LTC Sullivan, his family, CPT Greg Hoteling, CO Delta Company and CPT Hoteling's son, Tabor. We were pleasantly surprised to learn that Dawn Esposito and Kate DiChairo would also be joining us.

We met at Pete's, an Italian restaurant in Waterville. I was most fortunate to sit across from Mr & Mrs Sullivan. They are the most delightful people and Mr Sullivan is quite a story teller. He had us all laughing at some of the predicaments he has found himself in. Should you ever have the pleasure of being in his company ask him to tell the story about being mistaken for a priest. I learned something else at this dinner table. The family members of the Active Soldiers are far closer than I had imagined. Kate DiChairo and Brenda Sullivan were discussing their children and how they cover for each other with transportation for their daughters' gym classes. All of you WW II and Vietnam Vets would have also been surprised to see that these ladies, without regard to their husband's ranks, are friends. I

will add here that I find the way that the family members interact in the New Army a far sight better than the way it was in my day.

After dinner Pete and I retired to the LeRay Mansion. We had the entire building to ourselves and after we discussed the plans for the following day we turned in. There were no Ghost disturbances to report. I must assume that the LeRay Ghost only appears to those who held far higher rank than either Pete or I.

In the morning we headed to Alexandria Bay to visit the Memorial Site that has been erected in honor of PFC Jack T. Sweet. Before we made the visit we stopped at a local pub for breakfast. The breakfast was just fine and the local patrons were very friendly once they learned why we were in Town. The Memorial Site is in a park that overlooks the headwaters of the St Lawrence Seaway. It is in a place where many will visit. PFC Jack T. Sweet will not be forgotten. After we paid our respects at the Memorial we went back to Ft Drum to meet CPT Hoteling and then go to an awards presentation at Division Headquarters. LTC Sullivan was awarded a Meritorious Service Award for his actions in Iraq and Brenda Sullivan was presented with a Medal in recognition of her work with the Triple Deuce families during the deployment.

We left Division Headquarters and went straight to Magrath Gym for the Change of Command. By the time we arrived the snow filled parking lots were also filled with vehicles. This is not a problem for us because we are traveling in the 22nd Infantry Regiment Staff Car. That means one of those RESTRICTED parking places was ours. CPT Hoteling said that he liked traveling in the 22nd Infantry Regiment Staff Car. As always, we were treated with great respect. Pete and I found ourselves seated in the second row of invited guests and dignitaries and we were introduced with that group. The Change of Command was conducted with all the precision one would expect. LTC Sullivan thanked his Commanders, CSM Smith, the Triple Deuce Officers, NCO's and Soldiers for making his time with the Battalion a success. He also thanked

his family for their support and he thanked the families of the Triple Deuce Soldiers for their support. It was more than apparent that LTC Sullivan wished circumstances were different and that he didn't have to leave Triple Deuce. This wasn't just a job that he needed on his resume, the Triple Deuce had become his home. During his time as CO the Battalion added many distinguished accomplishments to its History. We can all be grateful that Triple Deuce was in the hands of a Commander who understands and appreciates the proud lineage of the Battalion. However, it was time for LTC Sullivan to relinquish Command and he handed the Battalion Flag to LTC Michael J. Loos.

After the ceremony was completed Pete and I went to a reception for LTC Loos. We assembled the VN 222 Guidon and walked into the room not knowing what to expect. I placed the Guidon in the most conspicuous place and got in the receiving line with Pete. LTC Loos was gracious, as one would expect, but with other well wishers entering the line there was no time for talk. I will tell you that I was very apprehensive about how we would be received. I had no sound reason for my thoughts, just concern about the unknown. Pete and I found friends and chatted until the receiving line had run its course and LTC Loos was standing there alone. Pete and I went up to ask LTC Loos if he would pose for a photo holding the Guidon. Pete handed him the Guidon and just by the way he looked at it and held it during the photo I knew my concerns were groundless. In fact, Pete and I found ourselves talking with a man who wants as much participation from us as we can provide. It was during this conversation that LTC Loos told us that he had his pick of Battalions and that Triple Deuce was his first choice. And, LTC Loos is no stranger to Triple Deuce, he is a past Bravo Company Commander. I am more than confident that our mission to support the Active Duty Troops as well as to introduce them to the 22nd Infantry Regiment Society and to encourage their participation in the Society will be encouraged by LTC Loos.

That evening Pete and I were invited to a dinner at the Carriage House in Watertown hosted by Dawn Esposito. In attendance was the Sullivan family, including Dennis' brother, Joe, whom we hadn't met before. Also in attendance were CPT and Mrs Eichelberger. This meant we had a REAL Chaplain in attendance in addition to the imposter, Mr Sullivan! Also in attendance were CPT Brent McNally, SFC Johnny & Mrs Broughman, SSG Brody & Mrs O'Farrell, SSG Patrick & Mrs Hines. These three NCO's were the close friends of SGT Michael J. Esposito, Jr., KIA 18 MAR 04. It was especially good to see them and their continued display of their loyalty to their fallen Combat Brother.

The following is extracted from the hand out from the Change of Command

Biography

Lieutenant Colonel Michael J. Loos

Lieutenant Colonel Michael J. Loos was born in the Republic of Korea. He enlisted in the United States Army in 1985, and was assigned to 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment. In 1992 he graduated from the United States Military Academy and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Infantry.

From 1993 to 1995, Lieutenant Colonel Loos was assigned to Fort Polk, Louisiana. He first served as an Anti-Tank Platoon Leader in the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment and then moved to 1st Battalion, 509th Parachute Infantry Regiment as an OPFOR Rifle Platoon Leader. Leaving Louisiana for Fort Lewis, Washington, he was subsequently assigned to 2nd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment as a Weapons Platoon Leader.

Lieutenant Colonel Loos spent two years at Fort Drum, New York, from 1997 to 1999. He served as a Division G# Operations Officer, and then commanded B Company, 2nd Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment. Following company command, he returned to 2nd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment as the battalion Assistant Operations officer. In 2002, he deployed with 2/77 Ranger to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom I as a Liaison Officer.

Following his deployment, Lieutenant Colonel Loos became a G3 Plans Officer for the United States Army Europe in Heidelberg, Germany. In 2004, he was assigned to the 173rd Airborne Brigade in Vicenza, Italy, where he served as Brigade Supply Officer, Brigade Operations Officer, and Brigade Executive Officer. He deployed with the 173rd ABCT to Afghanistan in 2005 and again in 2007, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom VI and VIII. His most recent assignment was as a Brigade Operations Observer Controller at the Joint Readiness Training Center, Fort Polk, Louisiana.

Lieutenant Colonel Loos' military education includes the Infantry Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, the Combined Arms Services Staff School, the Joint Planning Course and the Command and General Staff College. His civilian education includes a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Engineering from the United States Military Academy, 1992.

His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters, the Joint Services Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters, the Army Achievement Medal with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters, the NATO Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, the Humanitarian Service Medal, the Combat Infantryman's Badge, the Expert Infantryman's Badge, Ranger Tab and Master Parachutist Badge.

Lieutenant Colonel Loos and his wife Shelly have three children, sons Nicholas, age 12, and Nathan, age 11 and daughter Olivia, age 6.

TRIPLE DEUCE DAY

It seemed like I just unpacked my suitcase from the Change of Command visit when CPT Burnett called with an invitation to attend Triple Deuce Day. "Well, of course I could attend," was my reply and plans were made. Skip Fahel was going to be able to attend, but the other Southern

States Members of the Old Goats Squad hadn't recovered from their December visit, so they sent their regrets.

We all arrived at the Ft Drum Inn at about the same time on Thursday afternoon. Pete Gawarecki had picked up Skip at the airport, saving me the extra mileage. We've been at the reception desk a lot lately, so much so, that we're recognized. A quick check in and we were on our way back to the three bedroom cottage at LeRay Mansion.

We met LTC Loos and, for the first time, CSM Mio Franceschi at Sboro's Restaurant and spent the evening getting acquainted. Both of these Soldiers are every bit the professionals we have come to know. They know what their mission is and they know that during the Battalion reorganization that their hands will be full. My sense is that they know that there are many unknowns in front of them and that they are well prepared to deal with events as they unfold. I am confident that Triple Deuce is, once again, in good hands. We had an early call so that we wouldn't miss breakfast. When you travel with Pete you will never miss a meal. Pete has his priorities. We were to meet CPT Greg Hoteling at Delta HQ and then proceed to a mess hall. Skip, the designated driver, was doing fine following the driving directions provided by Pete, the designated navigator. Well, doing fine until the MP's stopped us for being on a restricted street. The MP's, apparently, have little regard for the 22nd Infantry Regiment Staff Car placards, something I plan to remedy. My thought is that a Five Star placard might get some respect. Anyway, we finally found CPT Hoteling's HQ and headed for the mess hall. When we arrived we found that the mess hall had hours posted. It was like a Denny's, except that Denny's opens earlier. After much huffing and puffing we got ourselves fed and to Magrath Gym with about 5 minutes to spare. When we entered, the Battalion was forming by Company and we, with our Guidon, were instructed to join the formation. We didn't have enough time to powder our noses, "Fall In," still means "Fall In."

Once the Battalion was formed LTC Loos asked his Soldiers to note that there were seven Guidons in the formation. The Old Goats were back!

The entire day was devoted to activities that everyone in the Battalion and their families could participate in. There was softball in the snow with the players wearing Mickey Mouse Boots. There were relay races, children's activities, a basket ball tournament and a Combatives tournament. There was even a Hot Dog Eating Contest. Lunch was prepared by Echo Company and Senior Staff helped with serving the hungry attendees. The event was fun for anyone who wanted to participate.

After lunch there were closing comments, and a surprise. Those who had won the Combatives Contests in their respective weight classes were presented with Army Achievement Medals by LTC Loos. He considers Combative skills as a high priority for his Soldiers and had shown that he is prepared to recognize those who develop these skills. Those receiving the AAM were SPC Derrick Stogner, PFC William Medlin, PFC Brandon Martell, 1LT Colin Thorne and SSG Carl Brown.

That evening we found ourselves back at the Carriage House Restaurant in attendance of a Hail & Farewell Dinner. We arrived early with plenty of time to visit and I believe that Pete and Skip did just that. I wanted to shake every hand of those who were leaving as well as those were coming, but someone asked about joining the 22nd Infantry Regiment Society and I went into recruitment mode. It was working because before it was time to sit down to dinner a number of those in the group I was talking with made it plain that they were joining the Society. One of the members of this group said that his first assignment was with Triple Deuce, he'd been on two deployments with Triple Deuce and had grown-up in Triple Deuce. He was not only going to join the Society, but was going to announce his Affiliation with the 22nd Infantry Regiment. (For those not familiar, Soldiers can select a Regiment as *their* Regiment even if they are in

another Regiment. Think loyalty.) Others made similar statements and each who did received an oversized 22nd Infantry Crest to wear on their Class A's. This oversized DI, Distinctive Insignia, will tell all that the Soldier wearing it is an Association Member and has selected the 22nd Infantry Regiment for Affiliation.

Well, I was told to stop talking and sit down so that the evening's events could get underway. Each person and their spouse, if present, were asked to come forward and make departing or arriving comments. As you might imagine, those who were leaving had a great deal to say. There were many thank you's and stories of how these Soldiers had been helped to make their time with the Battalion a memorable one. Those who were new with the Battalion said they were pleased to be assigned to such a fine unit and how they hoped to live up to the traditions which had been set by those who came before them.

Those leaving the Battalion are:

CPT Steve Coleman
CPT Matt & Mrs Kacie Lee
CPT Elias & Mrs Emily Renteria
CPT Douglas & Mrs Cari Serie
CPT Lorin & Mrs Alexis Veigas
1LT Andrew Archer
SFC Timothy & Mrs Toni Mooney
SFC Carlton & Mrs Heidi Yarborough

Those arriving at the Battalion are:

LTC Michael & Mrs Shelley Loos
CSM Mio & Mrs Jennifer Franceschi
MAJ Rich & Mrs Cheryl Garey
CPT Brian Fisher
1SG Michael & Mrs Karrie Gobeau
1SG David & Mrs Christina Hanson
1SG Daniel & Mrs Eva Johnson

It is my sincere hope that those who are leaving will remember their time in the Triple Deuce and will know that they are part of our Regimental Family and that they join us at future reunions. It is also my hope that those who are arriving will have a successful tour in Triple Deuce and will catch the Triple Deuce Spirit and become part of the Regimental Family.

There's another point I need to share with the readers.

For those who traveled with Awb Norris you are well aware that Awb was always misplacing/losing his ID. He made all sorts of attempts at overcoming this problem even going to the point of carrying a special floating ID holder. We were nowhere near any open water when Awb showed me this special holder, but he was certainly proud of it. He misplaced it a short time later and had to hunt for some time to re-locate it. Like I said, this misplacing/losing business was a constant. I'm telling you this because I want you all to know that Skip, ever one for tradition, has taken up where Awb left off. Skip, the designated driver, left LeRay without any form of ID. And, this didn't become apparent until we were in Watertown. You should also know that Ft Drum is a "closed" post. An approved ID must be shown every time one enters one of the gates. We assumed that Pete and I would have to leave Skip at the gate, go to LeRay, get his ID and then retrieve him. However, again in the spirit of Awb, Skip sweet talked himself past the gate. Of course Pete and I testified to whom Skip was, but it was mostly charm that got Skip past the guards.

Jim May, HMOR

See you in Seattle

October 9-11, 2009

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MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM
(Dues Amount \$15.00 per year)

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Phone _____ E-Mail Address _____

I served with the 2-22 in Vietnam: Company _____ Division _____ Dates served _____

I served in support of the 2-22 in Vietnam: unit and dates served _____

I did not serve in or support the 2-22 in Vietnam but wish to be an associate member _____

Men you served with who you would like to contact: _____

My dues are enclosed for year(s) _____ Amount* _____

Sorry, there are no Life Memberships

Additional amount you elect to give to the Helping Hand Fund. Amount** _____

A few examples of how these funds will be used are: to support
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Do you wish to have your name, address, phone number and e-mail address listed in the Comments
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Make your check out to: Vietnam Triple Deuce, Inc. and mail it to Jim May with this form filled out.
Jim's address is: P.O. Box 665...Norridgewock, ME 04957. His e-mail address and phone number are:
jlmay@tds.net and (207) 634-3355.

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