



# THE 12TH CAV Trooper



## Semper Paratus

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

Volume XI, Issue 1

February, 2013

### We Honor our Fallen Brothers

This year A Troop reunited in Washington DC with the express purpose of honoring our fallen brothers. On October 7th at 1415 hours we formed as a Troop once more, under the guidon we served under 44 years ago and so very far away.

When the Troop left Fort Carson to deploy none of those troopers would have ever imagined, that 44 years into their future they would be reunited again not as a Troop of Cavalry but as a family ready to remember our brothers that fell so many years ago and those that have gone on to Fiddlers Green since we returned home.

We were blessed this year to have four new troopers in attendance, John "PeeWee" Handshoe, Ken Kline, Richard "Doc" Parker, and Roger League. I know that we can all say it was great seeing each of these men again, and rekindling the friendships we had so many years ago.



Members of the 3rd Infantry Divison "The Old Guard" assisting us with our ceremony

## As Frank Canda Award Retired Three Honored

From time to time, A Troop wants to acknowledge and say thank you to the individuals who have contributed to keeping the Flame and the Spirit of the Brotherhood of the Cav burning brightly. These acknowledgements follow the guide lines listed below.

Keeping the Spirit Burning is awarded to individuals who have made significant contributions to: A Troops Web site, locating Troopers, or for other actions that have benefited A Troop and the Brotherhood of the Cav.

The Keeping the Flame Burning award was first presented at our second reunion in 2002 to five individuals who thru their efforts. A Troop was reunited, our membership expanded by their efforts to find additional troopers, and by the creation of our web site.

After the death of LTEE Frank Canda this award was renamed in his honor. Since 2002 the Canda award has been awarded to only 5 additional troopers. This award recognizes those individuals who made contributions above and beyond the call of duty in regards to A Troops web site, locating troopers or for other actions that have benefited A Troop. As Jim Clark once said in a presentation speech” It is not a prize you can set out to win but is an award that shows what kind of character you have when no one is watching.”

2012 brings an end to the Frank Canda award as we know it today. This award has been presented rarely during the years since its inception. And this year after much debate and discussion, the awards committee decided the time was right to make another presentation of the Canda Award, and with that presentation to discontinue that award and attempt to come up with a new award that would have specific criteria and would reflect the pride felt by troopers for one of their own who went above and beyond in their service to the troop and helping the troop meet its goals.

With that decision the committee scoured the ranks and found three troopers that were deserving of the Canda Award, and to be fair to each of them it was decided to make 2012 a special year and award the last Canda Award to the following Troopers.

Chairman John Sharp was presented the Crossed Sabers and 12th Cavalry Crest by Dennis Perrino, Ken Dye was presented his honor by Jim Rinaldi, and Robert “Bob” Taylor was presented his by Keith Eaton. Many words were spoken in praise of each of our award winners by the presenters. But the main theme as it has been since the first award was presented , was that due to their unselfish service to A Troop our Brotherhood has grown and continued to flourish.

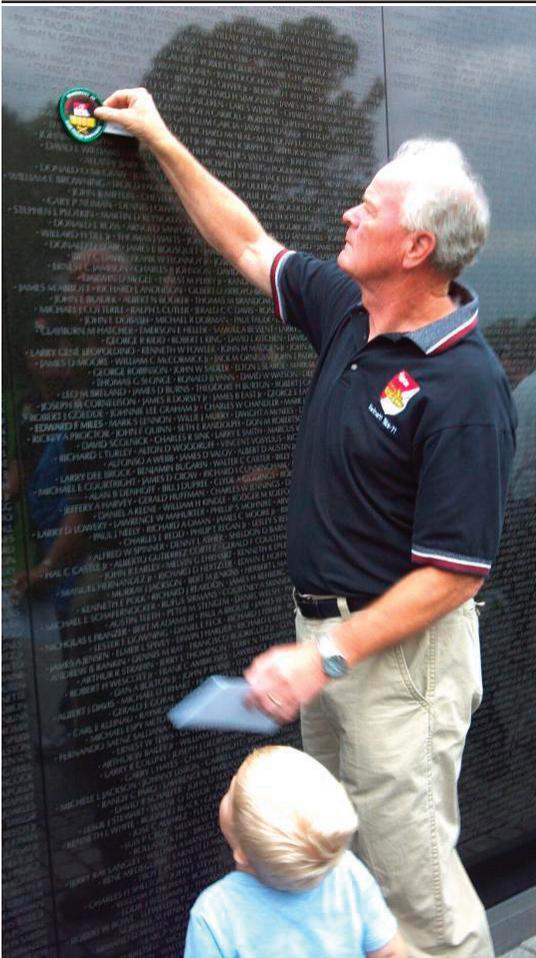


Frank Canda Addressing the 2002 Reunion



2013 Canda Award Winners: Ken Dye, Bob Taylor, and John Sharpe





Dave Larson and Grandson Levi Struckmeyer make the Trip to the Wall a special event.



Each of our Fallen Brothers was honored by a placement of a new unit patch designed and donated by Bob and Cheryal Taylor



Warren Swinford and Jim Rinaldi making new memories at the wall.



Four Troopers were selected to assist the Old Guard in the placing of our wreath. From left to right: Merle Reed, Dexter Lehtinen, Richard Parker and Bob Taylor.

**The reunion in 2013 is being run by the 1st Platoon Ken Dye, Joe Shue and Jim Rinaldi are the reunion group. Contact information listed below:**

Ken Dye- [kendye7@msn.com](mailto:kendye7@msn.com) - Phone 253-229-5796  
 Jim Rinaldi- [jazrinaldi@netzero.net](mailto:jazrinaldi@netzero.net)  
 Joe Shue- [Shue@vogent.net](mailto:Shue@vogent.net)



Row 1 : Jessica Garrett, Bob Rebbec, Diane Rebbec, Ken Kline, Vicki Kline, Neal Smith, Diane Smith, Tom Oldham, Sybil Oldham, Lori Shue, Joe Shue, Brian Russell, Janine Drake, Ileana Ros-Lehtinen

Row 2 : Gene Reiter, Merle Reed, Reda Reed, John White, Jean White, Alec Wolkiewicz, Connie Wolkiewicz, Sean Kerin, Linda Kerin, Bob Kerin, Dennis Perrino, Blake Russell, Kent Drake, Dexter Lehtinen, Patricia Lehtinen

Row 3 : John Handshoe, Danny Hawn, Janice Aune, Jim Davis, Jan Davis, Dennis Patrick, Joyce Patrick, Arnette Hunter, Margo Elges, Charles Russell, Trudi Russell, Frank Palumbo, Kevin Drake, Gary Russell

### Our Capitol Tour

When I saw that the troop had a White House tour in the works I thought that why not a tour of the Capitol Building. I called the visitors center and they said that I could arrange a tour thru my congressional representatives office. I called and they ask how many in my party. I then had the idea of making the tour not just a family tour but a part of the reunion. I ask how many tickets I could get and they said how many did I want I told them 60 and they said okay without batting an eye. The tour was on and working with the reunion committee we were able to get transportation lined up and we filled the tour working thru

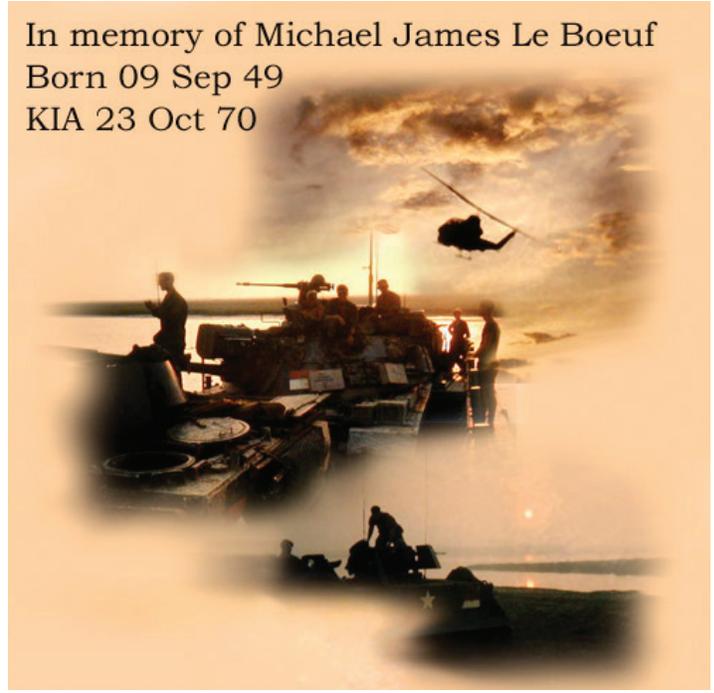
the commo net.

Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, Dexter's wife, and her staff stepped forward and took charge. They and my Senators representative met us at the visitors center. Ileana's staff took us by the hand and made everything happen. We saw the Rotunda and all the paintings and statues, and for icing on the cake we were escorted to the House chamber and sat where the Supreme court sits during the State of the union address. We were then lead to the front of the Capitol and had our photos taken by a Photographer. It was an experience of a lifetime.

Charles Russell 3rd Platoon

# A Remembrance

In memory of Michael James Le Boeuf  
Born 09 Sep 49  
KIA 23 Oct 70



These two images are of a remembrance card designed and produced by Bob and Sherri Taylor. These cards have been used at the Wall ceremony in 2004 and for remembrance when another Trooper leaves us for Fiddlers Green. The Trooper and all of A Troop would like to thank Bob and Cheryal for their thoughtfulness in matters such as this.

*from the Troopers of the  
4/12th Cavalry*



Kent Drake, Tom Lang, Jimmy Clark and John Sharpe at the Banquet



Guest Speaker, Abe Lincoln

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas, and may your New Year be blessed.

The White House tour was a memorable event. We had a very successful turnout with seventy-five in attendance. We toured the main level on a self guided tour.

I would like to thank Congresswoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen for sponsoring the troopers visit to the White House. Also thanks to Keith Eaton for a wonderful reunion and arranging the busses for our transportation to the White House.

On a final note, I would like everyone to rest assured that all information supplied to me for the White House security check, has been destroyed.

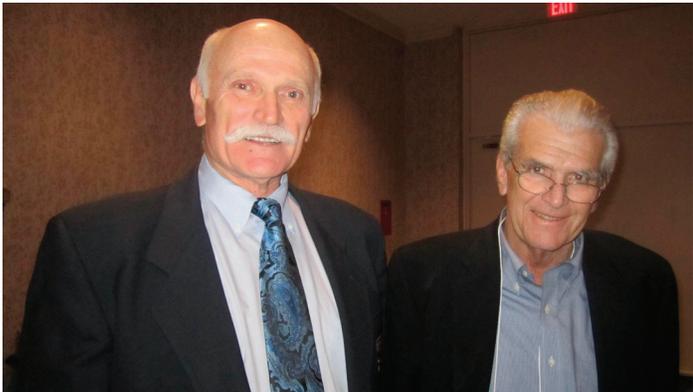
Sincerely Joyce Patrick



Arnette and Willie Hunter with Ileana Ros-Lehtinen before the Wall Ceremony.



Remembrance Table at the Banquet



Chairman John Sharpe and Bill "Blue Max" McShane



Dexter Lehtinen, Bugler from the Army Band and Bob Curnell

The Trooper, would like to thank the following people for the photos appearing in this edition. Joe and Lori Shue, John and Cheryl Sharpe, Charles and Trudi Russell, Bob and Cheryal Taylor, and Dave Blancett



A Troop formed at the wall as Jim Clark read the words spoken by Earl Schorpp at the 2004 Wall Ceremony