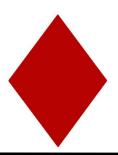


## The 12th CAV

# **Trooper**



# Semper Paratus

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

Volume XIV, Issue 2 August, 2017

### 2017 Reunion Las Vegas Nevada

#### **Gold Coast Hotel and Casino**

4000 West Flamingo Rd.

Las Vegas, Nv. 89103

This years reunion is being hosted by the 1st Platoon, Jim "Rag" Rinaldi and Ken Dye are co-hosts for this years event. They have been working hard since our last reunion to bring a special feeling for this reunion. As you know we are getting a little long in the tooth these days and it's not going to reverse itself in the foreseeable future. On Veterans Day A Troop will form once more and participate in the Las Vegas Veterans Day Parade. For those Troopers that feel they cannot make the trek Rag has assured me that we will have transportation available. For those of you that have not been able to attend in the past this Parade is for all of us a welcome home that we never got before. This I would say is one of the largest parades of it's kind anywhere



2006 Veterans Day Parade Las Vegas Nevada Hosted by the Second Platoon our First parade together in 35 Years

# 2017 Reunion , Las Vegas Gold Coast Hotel and Casino Wednesday November 8th Through Sunday November 12th

Registration \$50.00
Dinner @ \$50.00 per person
Total Cost
Number of Ladies wanting to attend
ladies Luncheon on Friday
Number of Men wanting to go to the
Shelby Heratige Center on Friday

10908 66th Avenue East

#### 2017 Reunion Las Vegas, Nv. Hotel Information

This years reunion is being hosted by the 1st platoon, Jim Rinaldi and Ken Dye are co hosts for the event. If you have any further questions regarding the event feel free to give them a call at the numbers listed below. There are two ways you can make your reservation for the reunion, the first is on line, the second is by phone in both cases you need to give the group reservation ID or group Code: **ATroop7** this allows them to give the special rates we have contracted for this reunion.

Option 1: Is reservations on-line: Go to (http://www.goldcoastcasino.com/groups) this page will ask for the Group reservation ID or Code listed above. Our special rates will be available for the contracted dates. If you want additional days other than those listed you will need to do the phone reservation.

Option 2: Telephone reservations for the dates of the reunion and any additional nights requested pre or post reunion, call the Central Reservations department toll free at 888-402-6278. You will need to reference the Group Number **ATROOP7** to receive your special discounted rate.

Room rates prior to our cut off date of October 7th 2017 are listed below.

Room Rates	Deluxe Rooms	Rates including resort fee and taxes	
\$35.00	Sunday thru Thursday nights	\$57.62	
\$79.00	Friday and Saturday nights	\$107.34	
	Premium Rooms		
\$45.00	Sunday thru Thursday nights	\$68.92	
\$94.00	Friday and Saturday nights	\$124.29	All

rooms have one king bed or two double beds; both smoking and non smoking rooms are available. Inventories of specific room types are limited. The hotel will make every attempt to accommodate requests for specific room types but cannot guarantee availability. Currently we have a block of 50 rooms set aside for this reunion and have the availability for more if these rooms are taken prior to our cut off date. After the cut off date rates are subject to the current prevailing rate or a minimum 20% increase.

Please Make your reservations early.

#### Chairman's Corner

On my bucket list of things I've wanted to do or see before I cash in my chips is see Omaha Beach. I had the opportunity this last May. The experience was moving to say the least. It was sunny and warm, not at all like it was June 6, 1944. It was a French holiday, there were children playing in the sand and flying kites. At 9:00 in the morning there was no beach, by 12:00 noon there was 300 yards of beach. That's how big the tide is. Omaha Beach is part of the 45 mile stretch of beach that the Allied forces landed on. Most, perhaps all the German bunkers remain. Their walls are four and five feet thick of solid concrete. Some have monuments built on top of them. Many of the guns are still in the bunkers, blocked by chain link fences. This beach was assaulted by the 1st Infantry and the 29th Infantry divisions. Somehow in my mind, I imagined what it would be like for the Cav to have done the same thing. I remember crossing the Cua Viet river in landing craft and thinking of D day at the time.

I visited the cemetery in Colleville. It was the most pristine cemetery I have ever seen. All the graves face the west. It overlooks the beach. There is not a weed, a stone out of place, a scrap of paper. As I said it was a French holiday. The place was full of people placing flowers and showing their respect for these Americans that gave their lives for the freedom of others. The cemetery is one of seventeen cemeteries America has on foreign soil. This one has the graves of 9,387 Americans, 307 unknown, and the names of 1,557 missing. The area around Normandy is much the same now as it was a hundred years ago. Narrow cobble stone streets, small farms, stone houses and barns. It was like going back in time. There were no McDonalds. Walmarts, strip malls or even skate boards.

I visited the World War II museum in Caen, France. Quite frankly it was 90% dedicated to the American soldier. It was full of French. I have made a few pot shots at the French in the past, but believe me, they are very appreciative of D Day and Americans in general.

I was wearing a Cav hat and heard someone say, "Thank you for your Service." It was an American couple serving in the Army stationed in Germany. They were both Doctors and on vacation. It was I that should be thanking them.

#### The 12th Cav Trooper

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

#### Mission Statement

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

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George Gersaba aka Pineapple 1st Platoon 1969



John Sharpe on Omaha Beach 2017

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



#### Disclaimer

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#### **Change of Address**

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



# The 12th Cav Trooper **Needs Your Support**

We hope you enjoy receiving The 12th Cav Trooper. As you can see, the format and contents are new and will continue to improve. The production of a quality newsletter, however is not inexpensive. The newsletter constitutes one of the highest expenses of the Association budget. Many thanks to those who have contributed. Many more Contributions are needed. Please send your check (Payable to A Troop 12th Cavalry) along with the form below to: Neal Smith.

3002 Arapaho Dr.

Fitchburg, Wisc. 53719

# **Thanks for Your Support**

Michael Harrison James Rodell Jim Good Kenneth Carlson Thomas Lang Andrew Scheffler Ronald Brundage Billy J. Sams Ted Vires Walter Ferguson Larry Corso David Kagimoto Bruce Coleman



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