



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 2

August 2013

The 2013 A Troop Reunion Is Just Around The Corner



Memories of reunions Past
From the first to the last.
How many do you Know

The Cavalry Heads to the Great Northwest

October is quickly coming and with it the 13th annual A Troop reunion. This years reunion is being held at the Emerald Queen Hotel and Casino in Fife, Washington. Fife is a suburb of Tacoma near SEATAC airport and many other places of interest in Tacoma and Seattle.

If you have never made the trip to a reunion there are a few things to remember. Be yourself, we know who you are and where you spent a time in your life that you would probably like to forget. It is not a sin to have a tear weld up in your eye when you meet a friend you have not seen in 40 years. This reunion is not only for you but for your family. We know they wonder why you do the things you do and when they meet the rest of the Troop they will find out you are no different than the rest of the guys. The guys you shared a fighting position with or who stood bunker guard duty with, those days are past but the friendships remain.

The main reason for our annual reunions is our own mortality, we have lost so many of our fellow troopers since we returned as kindred souls we enjoy the time the reunion allows us to spend together. If a year is missed we may lose a friend without ever getting to say goodbye. Another reason is that some of our brothers have made it a mission in their lives to assist us in our relations with the VA and to help us understand the affects Agent Orange can bring upon us, and to give us the knowledge that will allow us to live better lives.

When we returned home many years ago, we had no brass bands and roaring crowds to greet us, we went home and started to live our lives the best we could. In 2001 a small group of Troopers began to locate the members of A Troop that served in Vietnam , they had a great success and found 450 Troopers still alive after all these years. Thus began the Brotherhood of the Cav and a new portion of our lives. As a unit in Vietnam we had to provide for ourselves most of the time and many considered us the Black Sheep of the Fifth Division. We all knew better we were the ones they called when stuff hit the fan. We are together again not in War but in Peace. Long Live the Cav.

Currently this year my wife and I have attended a mini reunion in Florida, are planning to attend a mini reunion in July in Michigan, going on an Alaskan Cruise with some very special Cav friends, and planning on attending the reunion in Fife. Is that too much, no at all, A Troop is a family where you like everyone and no one can remember any of the mistakes you might have made so many years ago. Officers, NCOs and EM are all the same today friends forever.

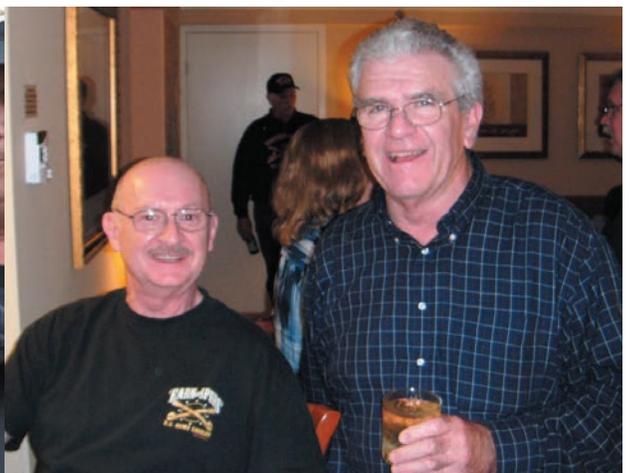
So Pony Up, get on the phone and make your reservations for the reunion, reservations must be made by September 11th 2013.

Reunion Location: Emerald Queen Hotel and Casino in Fife
5700 Pacific Coast Highway East
Fife , Washington 98424

Reservation Phone Number: 1-888-820-3555



Gene Reiter, Don Scott, and Merle Reed



Charlie Brown and Blue Max
AKA James Kershner and Bill McShane

Registration A Troop 4/12 Cavalry Reunion

October 2nd thru October 6th 2013

Emerald Queen Hotel and Casino, Fife Washington

Trooper Name, Platoon and Year _____

Names of others attending with Trooper _____

Registration Fee is \$50.00 per Trooper _____

Banquet Fee is \$45.00 per person _____

Total _____

Make Checks Payable to: A Troop

Mail to:

Ken Dye
10908 66th Avenue East
Puyallup, Washington 98373

Attention All Troopers

Dennis Perrino, has been working with Holland America cruise lines to get special pricing for the last cruise of the season to Alaska. The more people we get to sign up for the cruise the better the prices get. The cruise leaves Seattle on Sept. 22nd and returns on the 29th just in time for the reunion in Fife.

The cruise takes in the scenic Tracy Arm, and has ports of call of Juneau, Sitka, Ketchikan, and Victoria British Columbia. We will be sailing on the Oosterdam which is smaller than the mega ships. This should be a great trip and a great prequel to our 13th reunion.

If you are interested in this cruise, please contact Jannelle Rutkowski , with Holland America, the phone number is 877-932-4259 ext 29336. Our group number is TQ10343 please give it to Jannelle when you call to book your cruise.



Third Herd rides again, Gary Thrappas, Charlie Russell, Jim Good and Earl Schorpp 2006 Veterans Day Parade Las Vegas



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Change of Address

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Columbus, Ohio 43229



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

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



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