

THE LRRP/RANGERS



*OF THE FIRST CAVALRY DIVISION
DURING THE VIETNAM WAR*

NUMBER 24

March 1998

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Dear Friends,

I trust everyone is now looking forward to Spring, and that none of our West Coast or Florida members suffered any of the major disasters we see on the news.

I've had a busy few months and a lot of news to report so I'll get right to it. At last, I have heard from quite a number of you. It seems the Internet is growing in popularity. I love the messages, so please keep them coming. Unfortunately, not all the news is good. Three of our members have recently died. They include Allan Harris, Martin Cleveland, and Clark Surber. Clark had spent a brief period as Commanding Officer of our unit, and to the families of all three men, we offer our deepest condolences.

I've also had the opportunity to talk with or "surf" with Ed Beal, Bill Hand, Frank Duggan, Jerry Lewis, Lou Bruchey, Lou Carista, Doug Sterner, Bennie Gentry, Gregg Jorgenson, and the parents of Allan Harris. Gregg is rapidly finishing his book regarding our unit; and is only waiting for some procrastinators like me to finish reading. To all who sent messages or called, I do truly enjoy hearing from you.

Those at last year's reunion may recall Captain Anthony Judge giving us unit

medallions from the LRSD unit. As you remember, we were short eight medallions. I have them now, and if you let me know who you are, I will get one to you. I also will have them at Buffalo. The medallions are very nice, much classier than our wooden nickels and we thank Captain Judge for remembering. I shouldn't hear from more than seven of you, as one is for me.

I've recently had considerable correspondence and conversation with Steve Crabtree of Mesa, Arizona. He is on a crusade, if you will, to honor all killed in action LRRP/RANGERS from the Vietnam war with a memorial brick at the Ranger Memorial at Fort Benning. We have been somewhat out of the loop on this, mainly because we are a chapter of the 1st Cavalry Assoc. That said, that our deceased members are honored has an appealing sound to me. I've told Steve I would publish his open letter to you in our newsletter. The letter speaks for itself. As you review the list of names, please note that this list is not completely accurate and I have already updated Steve. I have also been sent pictures of the memorial and the individual bricks, and they are very attractive. I don't know quite what to do with this. Our chapter does not have this kind of money, yet I like the idea. My solution is to let you decide for yourself. Steve says the donations will be

anonymous. I will let you know that I have made a donation. I tell you this only to let you know I think the project and Crabtree are legitimate. If you have the interest and resources, please give it some thought.

I've also enclosed an e-mail from Charles Burckhardt. Remember back to Vietnam and recall how important mail was, and take a few moments to write.

Finally, our reunion is August 12-16, 1998 in Buffalo, NY. Consider taking your spouse or significant other for a romantic short excursion to Niagara Falls. Or, depending upon your circumstances, have her go over in a barrel--just kidding wives!!! I hope to see you there. Remember, we'll be electing officers and its a chance to step up. The 1st Cavalry Association Saber paper has all the registration materials and the Hyatt Regency Buffalo will be the host hotel.

Best Wishes,

Bob Gill

4501 Tonkawood Rd
Minnetonka, MN 55345
612-933-2953

E-mail<RGILL@logis.org>

From: Charles Burckhardt
<lrrp1969@hotmail.com>

Good afternoon, folks,
I hope this message finds you and your family in good health. I am now in Bosnia with the UN Mission. I will be here for a year, returning to the good old US of A sometime in December. As it stands now I will miss the reunion this summer, but am really looking forward to attending the one planned in 1999.

This place is as different (physically) from Vietnam as you can imagine, although there

is still the basic unreasoning hatred between the people. As an outsider I have a very difficult time trying to grasp what the differences are between individual people, although the overriding politics are equally unfathomable.

Take care of yourselves and tell all I said hello and send my best. If you have a chance please write.

Your Friend,

Charlie Burckhardt

His address is

DynCorp Aerospace Technology
Charles Burckhardt-Bosnia
Program

One Ridgemar Centre

6500 West Freeway, Suite 600

Fort Worth, TX 76116-2128

You can only send flat mail of
11 oz's or less.

LRRP/RANGER

FINANCIAL REPORT

8-1-97 THRU 2-27-98

BEGINNING BALANCE \$1533.66

REVENUES:

INTEREST

DUES, MERCHANDISE,

DONATIONS

TOTAL REVENUES +549.75

EXPENSES:

REUNION +921.50

INVENTORY PURCHASES

SHIPPING \$ 18.00

SECRETARY

(NEWSLETTER, ETC) \$ 450.00

MISC Checks

TOTAL EXPENSES - 468.00

ENDING BALANCE \$2536.91

SUBMITTED BY: DOUG MATZE, JR.

TREASURER

LRRP/RANGER
MERCHANDISE PRICE LIST

T-shirts - Black or white (silk screen):size M, L, XL: \$11.00.
XXL: \$13.00.
Hats - white or black: \$10.00.
Unit logo belt buckles (brass): \$20.00.
Unit logo watches: \$35.00
Unit logo decals (window): \$1.75.
Ranger training video: \$10.00.
Belt Buckles: \$20.00
Lapel Pins: \$3.00
Rings: \$35.00
Cloth Scroll Patch: \$2.00
Annual Dues: \$15.00.
Shipping (additional): \$3.00.

Please mail check or money to:
Doug Matze, Jr., 9623
Springhouse Drive,
Chesterfield, VA 23832
804-744-4332.
Made out to LRRP/Rangers.

SECRETARY'S FINANCIAL REPORT

From 6/1/97 Through 3/16/98
BALANCE 6/1/97 +100.21
INCOME \$450.00
TOTAL INCOME +550.21

EXPENSES
MISC \$ 54.16
PHONE BILL 0.00
PHOTOCOPIES 0.40
POSTAGE \$161.78
SUPPLIES \$ 6.82
NEWSLETTER \$157.82

TOTAL EXPENSES -380.98

BALANCE 3/16/98 \$+169.23

SECRETARY'S REPORT

I mailed out 434 newsletters in January, 1998.

We've added William Joseph Francis, PFC to our KIA list. His date of death is March 9, 1970.

If you know of anyone else not on our list please let me know. We need to have a complete list.

The son of Jaime Pacheco has contacted Doug Sterner and he called Bob. Anyone interested in this please call Bob Gill.

Leo Rabago is in Saudi Arabia, his e-mail address is <csm@riyadh-emh5.army.mil>. His mailing address is CSM Leonardo Rabago, CMD GRP, Unit 74001, APO AE 09808.

Tom Titus says he is the state coordinator for Idaho for Run For The Wall. Check out the web site www.rftw.com. Anyone interested call Tom.

BIO FROM ROBERT DE CESARI, CSM, USA RET.

e-mail address
<decesari@psnw.com>
Served Feb. 69 to Feb. 70 (two Tet offensives) mostly at Phouc Vinh, Communications Chief (think I was the only guy in the LRRP's that has never jumped out of an airplane...does jumping 25 feet off a helicopter with 80 lbs on your back count?...all this thanks to 1SG Price!)

Retired as CSM at Fort Ord in 1984, then on to college...was a Paralegal, then on to become a real estate broker and retired in February.

My son and son-in-law are Air Force LT. Col's & F-16 pilots. Bob says he wants to hear from you that served with him. He also has some 8mm film of everyone (including our pet monkey) getting awards, etc., and how we trained. He hopes to put it on Video one day.

BIO FROM MICHAEL BLYMYER
Worked 20 years in the "field" as a wildlife biologist and Resources Supervisor, and is

now east of the 100th Meridian in Northern Virginia doing his Washington tour with the Bureau of Land Management (part of the Dept. of the Interior). He's presently in the budget shop leading the budget development for the Bureau's Rangeland Management, Riparian Management, and Soil, Water, and Air programs. Mike says it's been quite an experience and in many ways very enjoyable, doubly so since my parents and brothers live in the area.

Mike's wife Judi is teaching first grade at a School in Woodbridge; oldest son, Tad, is a Senior at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff; oldest daughter, Laurel, is a Sophomore at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia; and youngest daughter, Rosemary, attends a Jr. High near Manassas (when she's not riding her pony).

We'd love to get more bio's from all of you to put in the newsletter when we can. Please send them to myself or any Officer of the LRRP/RANGERS.

Enclosed inside this newsletter will be the letter from Steve Crabtree to all of you. Next newsletter will have our ballot for Officers and Board Members. Please contact Bob Gill if you wish to nominate someone.

For the reunion, read the Saber or call the 1st Cavalry Div. Assoc. at 817-547-6537.

Your Secretary,
Bonnie Echterling
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