



# THE LRRP/RANGERS

## OF THE FIRST CAVALRY DIVISION

### DURING THE VIETNAM WAR



NUMBER 33

FEBRUARY 2001

#### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Greetings One and All!

I am hopeful that everyone had a great holiday season. I understand many members of the Chapter exchanged holiday greetings this past season. Please do continue staying in touch throughout the year.

Bennie Gentry sent me a photo that was taken of him and James D. James, when he was delivering up near LTC James' home in Maine. As Bennie and Sandy travel around this country making deliveries, they always find time to look up someone and say hello. Sandy always has a camera close at hand.

Bruce Judkins has become a grandfather since our last newsletter. Jon Varesko's daughter Lacy will be making him a grandfather in the spring. I understand both grandfather and upcoming grandfather are quite proud.

I know there is only about 25% of our group that has email so I am passing on some bits from Bruce's email notices. There is a story about Paul Alfaro in this month's "Patrolling Magazine". I hope most everyone in our group has heard about the Army giving all soldiers Black Berets. The real added kicker is that the berets are being made in China. If anyone out there has contacts with members in Congress, please write to them and voice how disappointed you are with the Army Command.

I got an email from Bill Anton, our representative for the 75th RRA. Bill forwarded a message from the 75th RRA explaining the many unfortunate happenings at the Ranger Training Brigade that kept us and many others from participating in the Ranger Hall of Fame this year. Bill Anton will be receiving the requirement package soon for next year's nominations. It looks like it takes a year to get everything moving. I still would like to see someone from our group get a chance at the Ranger Hall of Fame.

As I stated in my first newsletter as President of the LRRP/Ranger Chapter, my hot issue for this year is chapter membership. I have been working with the Cav Assn to bring our records of membership up to date. I am required by Cav Assn Bylaws and IRS Codes for non-profit organizations to list

all Chapter members. Since we could not identify who on our roster were 1st Cav life members, we had to send a list of all known addresses. The Cav Assn agreed to check their records against our list and report all non-members. I received back a list of 242 non-Cav Assn names. I was quite disappointed at seeing who some of the names on that list were. Everyone who was listed as a 1st Cav Assn life member has received a new LRRP/Ranger Chapter Membership Card.

Because we did not have a good set of records of who has membership cards in the group, who should have cards, and who should not have cards, I had the Chapter Secretary issue all new cards. Only those persons listed as 1st Cav Assn life members received the new Chapter Membership cards. All old cards are void. If you did not receive a new card, you will need to send in an application for Life Membership to the 1st Cav Assn and pay the one time fee of \$10. The 1st Cav Assn will notify me and I will have a card sent out to you. If you would like to help pay for newsletters and chapter costs, please mail our \$15 dues to Doug Matze.

Please be advised the 1st Cav Assn will be keeping a close watch at all upcoming reunions. In recent years throughout the Association, there has been too many persons attending reunions who were not Association members. The 1st Cav Assn let it be known that this will not be tolerated. Please, if you are bringing a first timer or family/friend who is an adult, they must be a life member or associate member and must register for the reunion. You can pre-register or register at the reunion and pay the higher fee.

Don't forget to get your luncheon tickets for Saturday's LRRP/Ranger unit luncheon. I will not be supporting getting last minute luncheon tickets for non-registered persons. The number of pre-paid tickets determines the size of the room we will be getting. It is not fair to regular members to have family left out of the luncheon to make room for other adults.

Please! Let's all pull together on this and show the Cav Assn we are still the best Chapter.

Stay safe. Sam

**LLRP/RANGER**  
**MERCHANDISE PRICE LIST**

T-shirts (black) S, M, L, XL, XXL (white) XL, XXL	\$12.00
Hats (black or white)	10.00
Decals (interior or exterior)	2.00
Watches (Man's or Woman's)	35.00
Belt Buckles (Numbered)	20.00
Training Video (Recondo)	10.00
Lapel Pins (Chapter Logo)	3.00
Golf (Polo) Shirts (black or white) M, L, XL, XXL	24.00
Wind Shirt Pullover (black or khaki) M, L, XL, XXL	36.00
Sweatshirts (black or gray) M, L, XL, XXL	25.00
Cloth Scroll Patch (CO H 75th INF)	4.00
Cloth Logo Patch	4.00
Flag 28" x 42": Logo on 1 side	35.00
: Logo on both sides	45.00
(Specify with or without grommets)	
Annual Dues	15.00
Shipping (Additional)	3.00

Please mail check or money order Payable to LLRP/Ranger and mail to Doug Matze, Jr., 9623 Springhouse Drive, Chesterfield, VA 23832.

Note that we have two new items in our inventory, sweatshirts and flags. The flags are not being stocked in our inventory yet because of the cost and the minimum order quantity of 20. Your order could be delayed until enough orders have been placed to justify a purchase for inventory.

**LLRP/RANGER FINANCIAL REPORT**  
**8/1/99-11/30/00**

BEGINNING BALANCE	\$6245.10	
INCOME FROM REUNION 2000	\$2695.00	
LESS REUNION EXPENSES	(716.09)	
NET FROM REUNION	1978.91	
INCOME:		
DUES, MERCHANDISE, DONATIONS	724.25	
EXPENSES:		
INVENTORY PURCHASES	3270.11	
SHIPPING	70.49	
NEWSLETTER, WEBSITE	273.21	
DONATION:		
MEMORIAL	500.00	
FOUNDATION	200.00	
COPIES	44.52	
BANK CHARGES	3.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES	(4361.33)	
ENDING BALANCE	\$4586.93	
SUBMITTED BY DOUG MATZE, JR., TREASURER		

**WEB NEWS**

<http://www.geocities.com/Pentagon/5346>

We now have 182 names on the "Members E-Mail" page. The list continues to grow. Every member listed on that page is also included in a group folder. From time to time, I send messages out to the group. Our most recent experience with group messages has involved the signing of an electronic petition on the Internet asking the President to reverse the Army Chief of Staff's position on issuing the black beret to all army personnel. The response was very good and many of our folks signed the petition and got others to sign it as well.

The reunion in Killeen this year is earlier than previous years. It's all happening in June. Therefore, you need to make plans NOW! If you plan to attend, please let me know. My address is P.O. Box 2124, Lebanon, VA 24266 and my phone number is (540) 889-4974. We have a web page on our site listing the names of folks planning to attend. Let me know who will be going with you and I'll get your name(s) on that page. It's important to get your name up there so others can see it. Folks are a lot more likely to attend if they know that some of their old friends will be there. Let me know.

We have well over 1,000 photos from Vietnam on our site. We also are proudly displaying copies of Recondo diplomas there, as well. If you have photos that you'd like to submit, you can mail them to me at the above address. Package them well. I use the heavy cardboard "Priority Mail" mailers available at the post office. I'll scan them in and return them to you ASAP. If you don't want to risk loss or damage to your Recondo diploma, get a good color copy of it and mail it to me. I won't return copies of Recondo certificates unless you ask. Finally, if you have your own scanner or access to one you can save the photos as jpeg files and e-mail them to me at [exitexit@hotmail.com](mailto:exitexit@hotmail.com).

Bruce

**NEWSLETTER REPORT**

For the October mailing, I sent out 454 newsletters in the first mailing and 9 more letters at a later date. I had 7 letters come back, of which 3 were remailed with address corrections. For input to our newsletter, please send me an email or snail mail by January, May, or September.

### SECRETARY'S REPORT

I have issued 201 cards, although no one got card number 13. By chance our Sergeant At Arms, John Lebrun, did get card number 113. If anyone has a mistake on their card, please return it to me for correction. I will make the change and re-issue.

I still have left some copies of my book "For What Its Worth" about my five months with the 2-8th Cav grunts in Cambodia before my transfer to Hotel Company. If anyone is interested, I will send a signed hard back copy for \$12. I also look forward to seeing all of you at our next reunion June 13 to 17 at Ft. Hood.

God bless. Dave Klimek

### RECENT BOOKS

"It Took Heroes" and "It Took Heroes II" by Claude Newby. Claude Newby was the former chaplain for 1-9th, H Co 75th Rangers, 2-8th and 1-5th Cav. The prices for autographed books are \$16 for "It Took Heroes" and \$18.25 for "It Took Heroes II" (prices include postage and packaging). Get both volumes for \$33 and save on postage. Send order and check payable to Claude Newby, 641 West 3300 South, Bountiful, UT 84010. Please include the name to whom you want any book(s) autographed and whether that person(s) is a Vietnam veteran.

"LRRP Company Command—The Cav's LRP/Ranger in Vietnam, 1968-1969" by Gregg P.J. Jorgenson. Gregg's books can be found at most any store. If you need to order this book, the ISBN is 0-8041-1920-1.

Other books by Gregg P.J. Jorgenson

1. Acceptable Loss
2. Mia Rescue—LRRPs In Cambodia
3. The Ghosts Of The Highlands

## **1st Cavalry Division Association 54th Reunion 13 to 17 June 2001 Killeen, Texas**

### **REUNION REMINDER FROM 1ST CAV ASSOCIATION**

LRRP/Ranger members attending activities at 1st Cavalry Division Association Reunions are required to be a life member or associate member of the 1st Cavalry Division Association. Life member's family (spouse and children) are covered under the single registration fee. All other family or friend attending activities are required to be a yearly (\$15.00) associate or life (\$150.00) associate membership.

### REUNION INFO

This year's reunion is back in Killeen, TX from June 13 to 17, 2001. Our hotel of Area of operation is the Hampton Inn at 2702 O.W. Curry Drive, in Killeen, Phone Number 254-554-7110. Rooms for the reunion are block reserved by the 1st Cav Association.

Please reserve early so you will be able to get your room of choice. Be aware that the Cav will be working out of the Plaza as usual. LRRP/Ranger luncheon will be at the Park Inn as usual.

**IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU GET YOUR  
RESERVATIONS IN FOR THE LUNCHEON ON  
SATURDAY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**

### **Hotels, Rates, and Phone Numbers**

PLAZA HOTEL, \$65, 800-633-8756 FILLED UP  
PARK INN, \$65, 800-648-6551  
RAMADA INN, \$58, 254-634-3101  
LA QUINTA INN, \$59, 254-526-8331  
HAMPTON INN, \$69, 254-554-7110