

**THE NEWSLETTER FOR
THE LRRP/RANGERS OF THE 1ST CAVALRY DIVISION
DURING THE VIETNAM WAR**



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THIS NEWSLETTER IS DISTRIBUTED IN JANUARY AND SEPTEMBER OF EACH CALENDAR YEAR. IT IS FOR THE MEN WHO SERVED IN THE LONG RANGE PATROL UNITS OF THE 1ST CAVALRY DIVISION DURING THE VIETNAM WAR. THESE UNITS ARE: LRRP DET., 191ST MI; HHC (G-2) LRRP; CO. E (LRP), 52ND INF.; CO. H, (RANGER) 75TH INF.; AND DET. 10, (RANGER) HHC, 3RD BGE.

THE NEWSLETTER IS MAILED TO ALL OF THESE MEN FOR WHICH AN ADDRESS IS AVAILABLE. FUNDING FOR THE NEWSLETTER IS BY THE LRRP/RANGER ASSOCIATION OF THE 1ST CAVALRY DIVISION DURING THE VIETNAM WAR.

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BILL CARPENTER
713 DIAMOND STREET
FAIRMONT, WV 26554-3713
304-366-0022 (EVENINGS)
lrrp.rangers@comcast.net



**You can generate \$2.00 for
the LRRP/Rangers
association**

The 75th RRA will reimburse
us for each 1st Cav
LRRP/Ranger who joins the
75th RRA

5784

President's Column

From Bob Raab

While things are fresh in my mind, I thought I'd write my first column.

We had a great turnout for the reunion in Charleston this year. 45 Rangers and many, many family members. This was the 5th largest reunion for us. After Sunday's breakfast I tried to see everyone and say goodbye to all who attended this year's reunion, (a few of you left before I could say goodbye). I went to my room to gather my thoughts.

Our pledge to fellow Rangers is this . . . We will try our very darnedest to do this job to the best of our ability.

That said, a few observations;

Our ranks are growing thinner and we all know that our time on earth is running out. There are a lot of Rangers who haven't been to a reunion in a long time. There are also a lot of Rangers who have never been to a reunion. Many of us are living with Agent Orange affecting our body and/or dealing with PTSD. Now everyone knows that I am not a headshrinker, however one trip to the reunion is the best medicine money can buy. So plan to make the trip to Killeen Texas next June 5 through June 9th. You will be glad you did. There is a fund to send two first time attendees to a reunion, if you can't afford the expense. Call me at (517) 525-0747 and I will give you the information you need.

We as an organization just experienced our 31st reunion. Regarding things that have been said or done in the past, it is time to let bygones be bygones. The past is just that . . . the past. Please find it in your heart and soul to forgive and forget. We want to see all of you again and the reunion is a great place to do just that.

After 15 reunions in Killeen, we need to come up with new things for the membership to do. Listening to the regular attendees say the same thing about Killeen and Ft. Hood. It is no wonder the least attended reunions are in Killeen. I am asking for suggestions, ideas and considering asking our Texas based Rangers to form a committee to develop some ideas for activities in their home state.

Bill really needs some fresh material for the newsletter. There must be some stories or adventures that haven't made it into the newsletter yet. How about it guys.

One of our unsung Rangers (besides Bill compiling the newsletter), who goes about doing his job very efficiently and quietly, which requires considerable time is Benny Gentry. A big thank you should be on the lips of all of the members, for a job well done with our Ranger merchandise and our hospitality room at the reunions. I would be remiss if I didn't include Sandy as we know she works tirelessly at Benny's side. THANK YOU BENNY & SANDY.

Until next time.

Bob

5785

LRRP/Ranger Roster

from Sam Dixon

I have been providing the paper copies of our association roster since 1998. The then-president, Stan Freeborn, assigned the task to me. Over the years, I have refined the context and format. I have removed spouse names, nicknames, and ssn's. I have compacted the roster to one name and one line of information. The only names that have been removed were duplicate names with different spellings.

Bill Carpenter sends address changes to Larry Curtis and me after each newsletter mailing. Larry Curtis maintains a backup copy of names and addresses. I provide a free copy of the latest roster to everyone that attends the yearly reunion. Once a year, I go through the roster and do a name search on every member whom I do not have a good address for. I spend 20-30 hours on the yearly search and a second search for each name that comes back undeliverable as addressed from the newsletter mailing.

I also keep a list of LRRP/Ranger chapter members and their membership card numbers. If you have lost your chapter membership card, I can replace it with a new laminated card. Chapter membership cards are issued to LRRP/Ranger association members that have life membership with the 1st Cavalry Division Association. Every year our chapter is required to provide a set of forms for the IRS and the Cavalry Association. I provide that chapter roster that is attached to the packet of forms. The Cavalry Association gets an updated roster one time a year. Throughout the year, I keep up with the corrections on both rosters.

If you would like to know about the great things the 1st Cavalry Division Association is doing, it is necessary to pay one-time \$10 dues for life membership. For this \$10, you get the first year subscription to the Saber, a yearly collectable Association calendar that is a fundraiser and, with your email address, you get a password to the non-public access to 1CDA.org website.

I can provide you with an application. Send me a message by email or a simple note by snail mail. I am not very good about answering the phone, so just leave a message.

If you join the Cavalry Association before the 2019 reunion in Texas, I will send you the latest copy of our roster.

My email is Samuel.dixon@comcast.net

Snail mail is

4 Warwick Lane,

New Castle, DE 19720

Phone number is (302) 588-6667

RLTW, I hope to see you in Texas.
Sam

LRRP Rangers Chapter

Treasurer's Report,

Period 6/15/2018 - 7/12/2018

Balance, 6/15/18	\$10,666.78
Credits (+)	
Cash from Raffle Proceeds	\$1,395.00
Merchandise purchased	\$1,886.00
Dues paid	\$315.00
Donations	\$816.00
total credits	\$4,412.00
Debits (-)	
Hospitality room	\$(559.35)
Snacks and drinks	\$(654.37)
Arden family brkfst/lunch tickets	\$(189.00)
1st Cav Div Assoc Scholarship Fund	\$(500.00)
total debits	\$(1,902.72)
Closing Balance 7/12/18	\$13,176.06
Bill Hornbuckle	
Treasurer	

5786

2018 LRRP/RANGERS REUNION ATTENDEES

Robert Alexander	Ed Bailey	Jack Bowles
Jim Bracewell	Tom Campbell	Bill Carpenter
Harvey Claypoole	Howard Coble	Terry Cordle
Larry Curtis	Forrest Decker	Sam Dixon
Bobby Fisher	John David Floyd	Ron Flynn
John Fort	Stan Freeborn	Bennie Gentry
Art Guerrero	Scott Hancock	Bill Hand
Bill Hornbuckle	Jim Ketrow	John LeBrun
Craig Leerburg	Patrick Lyons	Doug Matze
Glenn Merritt	Bob Oakes	Wayne Okken
John O'Neal	Bob Raab	Jim Regan
Dan Roberts	David Russell	David Shows
Howard Shute	John Simones	Gene Sprague
John Trumbull	Bill Weaver	Jim Weidlich
Ken White	Richard Wilkie	Charles Windham

First time attendees were Terry Cordle, Ron Flynn, John O'Neal, and Jim Weidlich

In case you may be interested, Top attendance numbers are:

2006, Louisville, KY	64
2016 Las Vegas, NV	51
1987 Ft. Hood	48 (first reunion)
1988 Orlando, FL	47
2018 Charleston, WV	45

OBITUARY

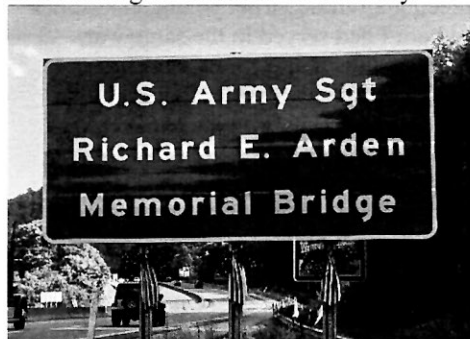
Dennis M. Moore (1967), Webster City, Iowa passed away on February 23, 2018 at the Trinity Medical Center, Fort Dodge, Iowa. Funeral services were held for him on Thursday, March 1, 2018, at First Lutheran Church in Dows, with Mr. Stan Watne officiating. Military graveside honors took place on Friday, March 2, 2018 at Fairview Cemetery in Dows.

Following high school, Denny attended Ellsworth Community College in Iowa Falls for a time, until being drafted into the United States Army.

RICK ARDEN'S BRIDGE

A high light of the 2018 reunion was a visit to Rick Arden's bridge on Friday afternoon. The bridge is located at mile marker 90 on I-64 / I-77 about 10 miles east of Charleston, WV. The bridge overlooks Marmet, WV (exit 89) where Rick was born and grew up. There is a Veteran Memorial Park at the bottom of the exit.

Rick's wife, Janelle, was a guest at the LRRP/Rangers luncheon on Saturday.



Rick was a 19 year old Spec. 4 team leader. He often had men on his team who outranked him. But this teenage West Virginia ridge runner knew how to make it in the woods.

Some of Rick's awards are:
Silver Star, 3/30/70; Bronze Star w/ V 2/18/70
Bronze Star For Meritorious Achievement 69-70
Medal of Commendation with Valor

8/25/69, 9/25/69, and 11/8/69
Purple Heart 9/25/69 and 10/15/69
Army Air Medal

Rick died from cholangiocarcinoma, the rare cancer caused by liver flukes that Vietnam vets are developing. By the time they found it (main symptoms seem like just bad indigestion or gall bladder trouble), he only lived 19 days. His wife has a claim open with the VA which has been turned down with various excuses, but other widows in the same boat have told her to keep appealing it.

5787

A reflection on the Reunion in Charleston, West Virginia, 2018

from Bill Hornbuckle

We are the LRRP/Rangers for 1st Cavalry Division in the Vietnam War. It is a dying chapter. It will expire as will its members.

That being said, this year in Charleston I experienced my third reunion. Before, I just couldn't see myself walking into the hospitality room and seeing all these virile, young, handsome men with whom I had served in the same war.

But they were just like me, not so virile, definitely not young, but still all so handsome in the character that shows on their faces.

Oscar Martinez had been encouraging me for years and finally in Las Vegas I was one of the guys again. Learning a lesson I will pass on now, do not show up late for the business meeting, even for a StarbucksAmericano, because I was nominated to be the Treasurer, and still am now. Thanks to all of you present there who had faith and trust in me, a newbie, to keep our financial records and more importantly your money.

Ken Gallagher had enough courage to tell me that he had planned to attend reunions, but had just backed out for reasons he could not explain. He is one of us, just like me.

Look, there are some of our guys who have been coming to the reunions since the start. I admire them because they had the insight to know what good times happen when you can see our members who you served with and meet guys who came before them or after them.

We come to tell our stories and relive those events that only those who were there can understand because they are our stories, too. You can share a drink of beer, wine, spirits (including moonshine) or a soda or a bottled water without being judged. Snacks abound and of course there is the merchandise faithfully hauled to wherever by Bennie and Sandi Gentry.

This year we had 45 of our members present in Charleston, WV (734 1st Cav. Div. Assoc. members present). A beautiful state and capitol

city filled with friendly folks. We walked around the city with no fear for our safety.

Sadly, ramps were out of season (ask Bill), but Bill Carpenter brought a local favorite, pepperoni rolls. I can't thank you enough Bill for your effort in bringing the reunion to Charleston and working to create a great time for those of us who came on your word of seeing a very special place (almost heaven).

We had, as we do nearly every year, a few guys who have come to their first reunion. All of you are welcome. The decision is yours. We are in Killeen, TX in odd years and at a new location in the even years. So Killeen in 2019 and Louisville, KY in 2020.

Think about it. I cannot guarantee that you will not be disappointed. But I can guarantee that we (whoever 'we' is) will be there until there are none left or just unable. Don't wait that long!

Family means the guys who show up for the reunion. And then there are our family members who we bring with us - spouses, girlfriends, daughters, sons, grandsons, granddaughters and even great grandkids.

You will be able to have men who were there to confirm all your stories are real because they were part of your experience. And they will tell your family that you are not crazy except for the small part of us all who lived "the Vietnam" part of our lives.

It was a time that changed each of us and will never be forgotten by those of us who survived.

We have our own memories and The Wall to keep alive those who did not return with us.

Rangers Lead the Way!

Bill Hornbuckle 71-72

EDITOR'S NOTE

My favorite reunion quote is from

Wayne Okken:

"I know that story is true, because I was there when it happened. But I still have trouble believing we did that."

5788

WHITE HOUSE VA HOTLINE

From Stars and Stripes

As Promised President Donald Trump vowed two years ago to create a White House hotline for veterans, promising them attention and action from the highest levels of government. He portrayed the hotline as a direct connection to the Oval Office and even indicated he might field a few calls. A hotline was established, but its connection to the White House is in name only. The operation is located in Shepherdstown, W. Va., about 70 miles northwest of Washington, and phones are answered by VA employees - not White House staff.

Some veterans have misperceived the hotline as a powerful link to the president's official residence. And the government hasn't done much to correct them. Since it became fully operational in November, the VA has released few details about the hotline, its budget or how it differentiates from numerous other VA call lines.

Requests for interviews about it have been ignored or shunted since April. "This isn't going straight to the White House, and I don't think veterans know that, or have a good understanding what this hotline is supposed to be," said Licia Lynn, a Marine veteran who's called the hotline multiple times. "It's rough, because some people don't know how to advocate for themselves and were hoping the White House would advocate for them."

On the campaign trail July 26, 2016, Trump spoke at the Veterans of Foreign Wars convention in Charlotte, N.C., and declared he would create a private, 24-hour White House hotline that veterans could use to relay their complaints about the VA. In the run-up to the 2016 election, Trump described the VA as the most corrupt federal agency and vowed that his administration would fix it. The hotline was No. 6 in his 10-point plan. "I will create a private White House hotline - that is answered by a real person 24 hours a day - to make sure that no valid complaint about the VA ever falls through the cracks," Trump said. "I will instruct my staff that if a valid complaint is not acted upon, then the issue be brought directly to

me, and I will pick up the phone and fix it myself, if need be."

He joked that the hotline could keep him up at night and "take the place of Twitter." "I want to have somebody, a real person and a really competent person, in the White House with that hotline going," Trump said.

This week marks the two-year anniversary of that pledge, and Trump addressed the VFW convention again - this time touting the hotline as a promise kept. "As promised, we established the White House VA Hotline," he told a crowd of about 4,000 veterans. Trump's administration, under former VA Secretary David Shulkin, did establish a hotline. After months of delays and a soft launch in June 2017, the VA declared it fully operational in November. It can be reached at 855-948-2311.

But there are many unknowns. While the VA has released some basic statistics, such as how many calls the hotline has received and how long it takes to answer the phones, the agency has refused to disclose the total cost of the operation, or say how successful it is in resolving veterans' problems.

Some veterans who have used it complained it's doing the opposite of what was promised and sending their calls back to local VA offices, rather than elevating their concerns to the highest reaches of government. Veterans aren't the only ones with questions and misperceptions about the hotline. Lawmakers who are tasked with VA oversight, as well as the VA inspector general, aren't receiving answers. When contacted by phone, VA Inspector General Michael Missal - who investigates VA programs and operations - said he was unaware about who ran the hotline and was uncertain whether he had oversight authority.

Jim Greer, director of corporate communications for AT&T, said only that AT&T is involved with the hotline and "proud of the services we've provided." He referred questions about their involvement to the VA.

5789

NONFICTION BOOKS

by and about LRRP/Rangers
in Viet Nam

LRRP/RANGER MERCHANDISE PRICE LIST

LRRP Crossed Sabers Pins	\$4
T-Shirts: Black/White sizes to 4X	\$18
T-Shirts Recondo: Grey sizes to 2X	\$18
T-Shirts Long Sleeve: Grey sizes to 4X	\$18
Golf(Polo)Shirts:Blk/White sizes to XL	\$30
Sweatshirts M to XXL	\$20
Hats: Black or White	\$15
Ranger Ring: size 10 1/2 only	\$50
Belt Buckles: numbered	\$20
Ranger Lapel Pin: On Hold	\$4
Sm Cloth Scroll Patch: (H - 75th)	\$4
LG unit crest patch	\$20
Recondo patch	\$3
Wooden Nickel:	\$1
Koozie can coolers	\$3
Ankony's book; LURP's	\$30
Seymour's book - Camping	\$15
Decals: interior/exterior	\$2
ANNUAL DUES	\$15
LIFETIME DUES	\$200
Shipping per order	\$10

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Tell City, IN 47586
812-619-6111
No email

The \$10.00 shipping charge covers
only one or two shirts.

Donations are gladly accepted

The Ghosts of the Highlands by Kregg P.J.
Jorgenson, Ivy Books. This is about the beginning
of the 1st Cav LRRP/Rangers, 1966-67

LRRP Company Command
by Kregg P. J. Jorgenson, Ballantine Books.
The 1st Cav LRRP/Rangers, 1968-69

Acceptable Loss by Kregg P. J. Jorgenson,
Ivy Books. Kregg's autobiography, 1969-70.

MIA RESCUE LRRPs in Cambodia by Kregg
P.J. Jorgenson, Ivy Books. One mission gone bad
during the Cambodian Invasion.

Above All Else by Ron Christopher,
PublishAmerica. Ron's autobiography about being
the TL of the first team to pull a mission
as the 1st Cav's LRRP/Rangers.

One-Zulu by Curtis "Randy" Kimes, published by
author. About one mission gone bad,
May 7-9, 1968.

**Lurps: A Ranger's Diary of Tet, Khe Sanh, A
Shau, and Quang Tri** by Bob Ankony
University Press of America, of Rowman and
Littlefield Publishing group, 1967-68

In The Jungle ---Camping with the Enemy
By Jim "Spanky" Seymour, Outskirts Press
Memories of Spanky's LRRP missions, 1967-69.

Lurps at War Vietnam
An anthology of personal stories by the
LRRP/Rangers and the chopper pilots who
supported them, compiled by Ron Christopher.
Christopher has added some personal foot notes.

5790

HOW TO TELL A HUMEROUS STORY

By Mark Twain

Retitled GUIDELINES FOR REUNION STORY TELLING

"I do not claim that I can tell a story as it ought to be told. I only claim to know how a story ought to be told, for I have been almost daily in the company of the most expert story-tellers for many years.

"There are several kinds of stories, but only one difficult kind -- the humorous. I will talk mainly about that one. The humorous story is American, the comic story is English, the witty story is French. The humorous story depends for its effect upon the manner of the telling; the comic story and the witty story upon the matter.

"The humorous story may be spun out to great length, and may wander around as much as it pleases, and arrive nowhere in particular; but the comic and witty stories must be brief and end with a point. The humorous story bubbles gently along, the others burst. The humorous story is strictly a work of art -- high and delicate art -- and only an artist can tell it; but no art is necessary in telling the comic and the witty story; anybody can do it. The art of telling a humorous story- understand, I mean by word of mouth, not print -- was created in America, and has remained at home.

"The humorous story is told gravely; the teller does his best to conceal the fact that he even dimly suspects that there is anything funny about it; but the teller of the comic story tells you beforehand that it is one of the funniest things he has ever heard, then tells it with eager delight, and is the first person to laugh when he gets through. And sometimes, if he has had good success, he is so glad and happy that he will repeat the 'nub' of it and glance around from face to face, collecting applause, and then repeat it again. It is a pathetic thing to see.

"Very often, of course, the rambling and disjointed humorous story finishes with a nub, point, snapper, or whatever you like to call it. Then the listener must be alert, for in many cases the teller will divert attention from that nub by dropping it in a carefully casual and indifferent way, with the pretense that he does not know it is a nub.

"But the teller of the comic story does not slur the nub; he shouts it at you -- every time. And when he prints it, in England, France, Germany, and Italy, he italicizes it, puts some whooping exclamation -- points after it, and sometimes explains it in a parenthesis. All of which is very depressing, and makes one want to renounce joking and lead a better life."

HISTORICAL OCCURRENCES

This space is empty because no one has sent in any stories about Viet Nam.

Is there no more interesting events to write up? Is the 100 + stories you have put in this newsletter all of them. Nothing else happened in those six years that the 1st Cav's LRRP/Rangers existed.

The next newsletter will be in the mail in January. Get me a story by Thanksgiving.

5791

PULLING SLACK

From Bill Carpenter

IMPORTANT NOTE: THE DATE FOR NEXT YEAR'S REUNION IN KILEEN HAS CHANGED TO JUNE 5-9, 2019. THE SHILO INN HAD A CONFLICT WITH THE PREVIOUS DATE

As you can see, the newsletter is thin like the last one. There is no "Historical Occurrence". Little was sent to me.

Another thing, with the 2018 reunion being in my home state, I was involved with it and did not get to spend the usual amount of time with you guys. So I did not pick up the usual tidbits that I can use as filler.

Then there is the fact that we aren't getting younger. This was the LRP/Rangers 31 reunion. Maybe all the stories have been told,

WITH THAT BEING SAID, THERE ARE A COUPLE OF ITEMS OF INTEREST.

CAPTURED 1917 .45 COLT REVOLVER

Got a phone call from Mike **Brennan**; when he came to the Rangers in August 1969, he had a choice of sidearm. He picked a 1917 .45 Cold revolver out of the inventory.

All markings had been filed off the revolver, so it did not come to H Company through routine requisition and probably was not on inventory. So when Mike DROSeD, he brought the revolver home.

Mike wants to know if anyone remembers taking this weapon off an enemy combatant before August 1969. He is looking for as much of the history of this 1917 .45 Colt revolver as he can find.

Contact Mike at:
7502 Sarelma Dr.
Summerfield, NC 27358
336-644-2044
336-988-4585
brennanmjmd@aol.com

CAMP LEJUNE WATER

From John **Simones**

Here are the presumptive conditions caused by the water at Marine Camp Lejune: Bladder Cancer, Breast Cancer, Esophageal Cancer, Female Infertility, Hepatic Steatosis, Kidney Cancer, Leukemia, Lung Cancer, Miscarriage, Multiple Myeloma, Myelodysplastic Syndromes, Neurobehavioral Effects, Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma, Renal Toxicity, and Scleroderma.

That's the list. The conditions are presumptive. The Camp Lejune Act of 2012 provides health care and health care funding. Whether or not a service connected disability(s) are forthcoming I have no idea. That's all I have now Bill.

The reunion, as they say up here "Was Pissah"!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Joan had a very good time. Don't let her quiet demeanor fool you.

john (SFF)

CYBER SECURITY

The new fifth branch of our military

Cyber warfare is the use or targeting in a battle space or warfare context of computers, online control systems and networks. It involves both offensive and defensive operations pertaining to the threat of cyber attacks, espionage and sabotage. There has been controversy over whether such operations can be called "war".

Nevertheless, powers have been developing cyber capabilities and engaged in cyber warfare, both offensively and defensively, including the United States, China, Russia, Israel and the United Kingdom. Two other notable players are Iran and North Korea.

Some governments have made it an integral part of their overall military strategy, with some having invested heavily in cyber warfare capability. One kind of cyber warfare involves the kind of hacking that is the concern of penetration testing; in such cases, a government entity has established it as a war fighting capability, or a non-governmental entity has used it as a weapon against a state or its concerns.

STRAWBERRY FIELDS FOREVER

5792

Chaplain's Box- Summer of 2018

From Jim Regan

As I attend our reunions, have made a bunch, there's always a regret when we depart and go our separate ways. I'm not sure how many guys are close/neighbors to each other. Reckon we're pretty much spread out over the States and even some fellows overseas. A world map with pins in it for our guys would probably look like measles! Ya know, when we're together, there is always a lot of talking and laughing'. After the reunion, we kinda drop off and don't communicate with one another. Over the years, I've done a lot of; card sendin', phoning/agitating fellas, and trying to stay in touch w/ my brothers. There are a couple of guys that are "regulars," as far as staying in touch.

There have been some "family dust ups." Somewhere along the line, someone got their feelings hurt or they really disagreed with someone about something. Sometimes, it's something that don't amount to a hill of beans. But hard headed as we are, we don't bury the hatchet or let it go. I know. I'm on the receiving end. Don't know what it was that got their nose out of shape, but they just flat stopped communicating with me. Oh well!

Here's what I'm getting at. Don't wait to hear about so and so in the "OBITUARY" Column! Get your roster out and call that guy you just thought about. We ain't indestructible teenagers any more. Time is a flyin' by. When I hear of one of our brothers passing on, I immediately know that he is in a better place, wrapped in the arms of the Big Ranger in the Sky.

We learned, 'bout a hundred years ago, that In order to complete our mission, we must be able to; Move, Shoot, and Communicate! The movin' part may be slowed down, and we don't get out to shoot as much as we used to, but communicating is getting easier for us every day. (All the gee whiz stuff they have from phones to e-mails, to whatever.) We just gotta DO IT! BTW, we still have a webpage with a message board. Haven't see any traffic on there for ages. Check it out.

Take 'er easy this summer, stay cool and dry. Give me a jingle or e-mail if ya want to. Be sure to let me know if one of our brothers or their family members is on the sick list. Lots of that going around at our age!

Love & Prayers, Jim RLW/L&P
859-224-0062(H) 859-559-1734(C)
homeofregans@gmail.com

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THE LRRP/RANGERS OF THE FIRST CAVALRY DIVISION DURING THE VIETNAM WAR



LRRP/RANGERS OFFICERS 2018-2020

PRESIDENT

Bob Raab
725 Tuttle
Mason, MI 48854
517-525-0747
rjbarsr@yahoo.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Bill Carpenter
713 Diamond St.
Fairmont, WV 26554
304-366-0022
lrrp.rangers@comcast.net

SECRETARY

Stan Freeborn
103 W, Church
Laurel, IA 50141
641-476-3244
danitafreeborn@yahoo.com

TREASURER

Bill Hornbuckle
5665 Southwestern Blvd Unit 33-A
Hamburg, NY 14075-3667
wfhornbuckle@aol.com

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

Joe (Doc) Gilchrest
253 Jackson Lane
China Spring, TX 76633
254-836-1382
gilchrest@hotmail.com

75th RRA REPRESENTATIVE

VACANT

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mike Gooding
10538 Alswell Court
St. Louis, MO 63128
314-849-2379
mgstimo@juno.com

Bennie Gentry
1347 20th St.
Tell City, IN 47586
812-547-4830
NO EMAIL

Ken White
3834 Inverness Road
Fairfax, VA 22033
703-966-8079
kenneth.white@mci.com

PAST PRESIDENT

John LeBrun
932 3rd Street
Blaine, WA 98230
604-764-9634
caabnranger@yahoo.com

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