

The Viet Nam Triple Deuce, Inc.

An Association of 2 Bn. (Mech)

22nd Infantry Regiment

Viet Nam Veterans

Together Then.....Together Again!.....

Thanks for Being There...&...Welcome Home



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The 2014 Stand Down in Branson Reunion was a huge success on many levels. A record attendance with a slew of first time attendees being the most important one. I know that I had the honor of awarding over 30 Order of the Red Ant awards—second most at one time since its inception back in '03 at the San Antonio Reunion. The only down side I heard about was that it ended. 22IRS President Lt. Col. (ret.) **Lon Oakley Jr.** did a great job of overseeing all activities to keep them on time, food and beverage needs met, and getting out of the way after delegating duties to our hosts, **Ken (Lumpy) Schulte**, and **Betty (The Fox) Brenneman** who worked tirelessly to make sure that all attendees had the time of their lives—succeeding on that point 100%. Hats off to **Pam Brown**, from **Gatherings Plus**, who put all the various shows and events together—getting attendees to the right places at the right times without losing anybody. ...not even any Triple Deucers, which is a feat in and of itself. All three pointed out a host of helpers and volunteers at the banquet that helped make this reunion the best one yet. Deeds, not words, was displayed by all involved.

At The 60's show, our generation's music was displayed by some terrific singers and dancers who had a moving presentation about the 22nd I.R. We also saw a retired Lt. Colonel shaking his booty on stage with the beautiful dancing ladies, and found out exactly who the mysterious **Dwight from Florida** really is, but I am not mentioning any names here or ever use the word "booty" again for fear of a hysterical laughing fit overcoming me. The golfers played on world class golf courses that are tough—no low score bragging that I heard anyway. I understand that a collection was taken up to buy a certain Honorary Colonel more golf balls as he lost his.

The *Show Me* state sure showed this guy a gem of a small resort city. Kind of like a mini Vegas without gambling and half naked dancing girls, but that's okay because of the fun we had together in a place that is not like the places we all came from. Thank you Branson MO. This Yankee loved your hospitality.

Congratulations to **Peter Holt, DMOR**, A/2/22, and his San Antonio Spurs for winning the 2014 NBA Championship. (For a Blazer fan, that hurt to say.)(As a Charlie guy, doubly so.)

Thanks to all of you who attended our 222, Inc. Business Meeting. We Directors got a lot of guidance from you on what you Members would like to see and do in the coming years. One issue I need to bring up here concerns the 22nd I.R. monument that will be built at The Infantry Museum just outside Fort Benning GA., the home of the US Army Infantry. The issue concerns the names on the monument of all who died in action while in service with

the 22nd I.R., which, of course, includes all Vietnam Triple Deucers. A very expensive proposition, but one that the VN222, Inc. has contributed to, and will add to that contribution in the near future if you Members wish so. Around an additional \$9,600 is currently earmarked. The names on the monument is the issue that has slowed progress on building the monument. According to Col. (ret.) Steve Russell, 1/22 Commander in Iraq, we are very close to meeting our fund raising goal for the monument with the names on it. The other consideration is that whatever we decide on to send Steve, it will be matched by an anonymous donor. Yep, that \$9600, or whatever we decide to send, would double when we send the funds to Steve. This is where we need some input from you Members.

Please email me your thoughts on this issue. Do we want the names on the monument? Do we want to contribute more? There is probably around \$50,000 more to commit to the project before building it can start. So, you see that the 2-22, Inc. can make a huge dent in the amount needed. Your personal contributions will be matched as well.

Email me at: dalpez222@gmail.com. All Director's email addresses are posted on the front of this NL, if you have any questions, or discussions for them, but I wish to present some kind of headcount on you Members wishes concerning the donation amount, and do we want the names of our fallen on that monument, to the Directors before we commit those funds. As I understand it, the monument without the names, could be built now. The names are difficult to do, which means expensive. I do not have the figures for the cost each, nor the exact total of Brothers lost in combat since the beginning of the 22nd I.R. ...thousands, I believe. I have the figure \$50,000 for the inclusion of the names. Let me know if you would like to receive accurate figures as well as if you think we should do this. Personally, I want it done with the names, but I am a President, not a King, so neither I nor the Directors can move on this issue without your approval. For those of you that are new to this issue, and don't know what I am talking about here, I encourage you to check out The Infantry Museum on-line, as well as the 22nd IRS website at www.22ndinfantry.org. For now, I will say that the monument will do you Members, and the families of our fallen, proud. Those men will not be forgotten.

Deeds, Not Words.
Lynn Dalpez, C/65-67
DMOR, President

SYRACUSE. . . START PLANNING NOW FOR THE
BEST REUNION EVER!!!



EDITOR'S COMMENT

As promised in the last edition, I want to share some thoughts about the reunion. Several Brothers indicated they would be submitting their experiences. That being said, all comments are my personal observations and opinions.

I was truly humbled to receive the Distinguished Member of the Regiment award. The primary mission of these special appointees is to perpetuate the history and traditions of the Regiment, thereby enhancing unit morale and esprit. Like most brothers, I work hard at all assigned tasks and try to meet needs as I identify them. Then my wife (the co-editor of the newsletter) received the Honorary Member of the Regiment award. It is designed to recognize non-regimental members for their service to the Regiment. She supports my endeavors. So, you think we have enough good for one reunion (or for a lifetime)? Well, the much coveted quilt in the raffle. . . but wait I think I will make her describe it.

The informal visiting. . . that is the highlight of any reunion. Like many of you, I left my hearing in Vietnam. But the weather was so beautiful that groups and clusters of guys gathered everywhere to reminisce, to renew bonds, to heal old wounds and to plan for the future. Bill Allison's presentation was educational, emotional and entertaining. (for my thoughts on his presentation see article in the next column.)

The business meeting was. That's about how I can describe it. Your board members were re-elected. I will serve as newsletter editor for another 18 months. What that means is. . . I will continue to plead for you to submit your story. The personal insights, feeling, experiences---YOUR STORY---is what makes the newsletter work.

The planned events were fun (that is what Branson is all about). The town respects veterans.

So, we just concluded one reunion and we have the location planned for the next two. Wonderful sites. . . but the location doesn't matter. What matters is the ability of Brothers to connect, of family members to share and of the Triple Deuce tradition to carry on. . . anyway that is how it seems to this old soldier.

Dan Streit,
D/69, DMOR

IF MOMMA AIN'T HAPPY..

You know the old adage. Well Momma had plenty to be happy about at this reunion. Betty Brenneman worked diligently to restore a fun event for the women while the men were in their business meeting. It was a great success. A fashion show with members modeling, a young fiddler to entertain us, and prizes, prizes, prizes. Ruth Crocker gave some tips on writing memoirs. Thought provoking even if writing never entered your mind.

Speaking of prizes, the raffles are always fun. A good selection of items were displayed. The money generated goes to a worthy cause. My personal opinion, the best prize EVER was the America the Beautiful Quilt donated by Jann Martin. It incorporated many types of quilting, pieced, appliquéd, printed panels, etc. It was beautifully hand quilted. And.....it came home with me.

If you haven't brought the significant woman in your life be it wife, mother, daughter, aunt, sister whatever. . . consider bringing her with you to the next reunion. . . there is much to enjoy.

Vera Streit HMOR

LEADERSHIP AND LOVE BILL ALLISON REVEALED

Those who attended the Stand-down in Branson had the opportunity to see the heart of a leader. With his trusty old slide projector and the assistance of his daughter, Bill revealed his passion for simultaneously leading and loving people. The following reflects what I heard and hopefully is not too far from what was really said.

Bill approached the history of his involvement in the Vietnam War with focus on FSB Burt, as Leadership in Combat but it was truly a love story, The planned lecture rapidly changed format as Brothers in the audience were engaged and offered experiences and expertise.

One himself, Allison noted that Awb Norris was a soldier's commander; he loved his men. Allison recalled a group of replacement soldiers rapidly became a combat ready unit. He approached young kids who were scared to death. Only a few hours earlier they had seen their first combat. He realized someone had entrusted him with a loved one whether it was a son, husband brother etc.

One life lesson he shared was to remember you know not the hour or the day your life will end. You will dig 360 fox holes and only about 6 of them will count. Dig every fox hole as if it's the one that really counts. The turmoil of the times set the stage for keeping his guys motivated and a creative work force.

Bill talked about being bitter after Thanksgiving 1967. He had an pivotal moment when listening to a Lee Greenwood song. The visual of The Wall and the words ***the men who died for me*** gave him a new perspective.

Allison observed things have continued to change rapidly in our nation. Not all change is positive. He recounted a story about another soldier and concluded by sharing (with permission) that Magnet had been born at the Santa Anita Racetrack; his parents were in a Japanese Internment Camp. (Magnet has a real name. It is Norm Nishikubo. But that is another story)

The evening passed too quickly. Bill concluded by focusing on the folded flag on the speakers stand in memory of the 28 men in C Company who made the supreme sacrifice that year.

Fifty eight thousand names appear on the wall. But, according to Allison, that is only the tip of the iceberg of what our nation has suffered. Each person's name etched into the wall represents family members, friends, communities.

An evening well spent. Coupled with facts and figures (and his trusty multicolored chart) was the passion of the gentleman who lead from the front.

Dan Streit, DMOR, D/69

BRANSON REUNION, 2014

It's difficult to begin to tell the story of what went on at this reunion because so much went on. The Spring edition of the 22nd Infantry Regiment Society's Newsletter covered much of the major activities and recognized those who did so much to make the reunion the success that it was. So, what I will attempt to do in this writing is to mention some of what I observed and to recognize those who I noticed lending a hand.

I'll start with a reunion "Regular," **Bill Bukovec, Bravo, 1/22, 66-67**. Bill, as always, spends much of the time ask-

ing if someone needs help and after helping, goes back to asking someone else if they need help. It doesn't seem to matter what the help needed might be, Bill just steps up and helps. (Bill, don't let these kind words fool you, you are still the FNG on the Mexico Fishing trip.)

Next I'll thank **Dick Nash, Alpha & HHC, 2/22, 1969, Jerry Rudisill, Charlie Co., 2/22, 67- 68** and my wife **Gail**, (who has been putting up with me since 1986) for all their help with the PX. And I must thank **Dan Streit, Delta Co., 2/22, 1968**, for chasing down all the delinquent Dues Payors. If you missed **Joe Motil, Lima Co., 3/22, 1942 - 1945**, telling his D-Day story to the **AFG, Iraq Vets and the 2-22, 10th Mtn Active Duty Soldiers** then you missed something. Joe began the story with the ramp on the landing craft being dropped and him yelling, "The pale-faces are coming, the pale-faces are coming..." while he ran from the water's edge, across the beach and to the sea wall. Joe's visit with these young men will serve better than anything I can think of to tie them to the History of the 22nd Infantry Regiment. Thank you Joe for being at the reunion and for spending time with our young Vets and Active Duty Soldiers.

I also made note that there were more 1/22 and 3/22 Vets present at this reunion than any other I can remember. It was good to see them and I hope that they will tell their friends that the reunion is for ALL who have served in any of the Battalions at any time. Following-up on that sentiment, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the Members for changing the By-Laws so that those who have served in direct support positions with 22nd Infantry Regiment Units will be recognized as Regular Members of the 22nd Infantry Regiment Society. The greatest number of Active Duty and Veterans affected by this rule change are those who served in the Echo Companies of both 1/22 and 2/22. Echo Companies are where most all of the Support Soldiers are located. They have been to war with the 22nd Infantry Regiment Battalions and some have bleed and died while deployed. However, because the Army does not allow women to serve in "combat units" Echo Companies, where the women are assigned, are not "officially" part of the Infantry Battalions. This change in the By-Laws recognizes the truth of the situation and tells all those who are serving or who have served in Echo Companies that they are welcomed into this Society as Regular Members.

I will close with a note that both the 22nd IRS and VN 222 PX's sold out of most of what I had brought with me. I did fill most of the back-orders I took in Branson but am still waiting for the VN 222 License Plate Frames to arrive so that I can fill those orders. Good news is there'll be no shipping charges to concern myself with at the Syracuse reunion. I'll just fill up the back of the vehicle and bring everything with me.

Jim May, HMOR
Prov. Co. 1968

REUNION THANK YOU

Hi to all you guys at the 22nd Regiment Society:

I just have to write a short note thanking each and every one of you for everything you have done to make the ladies welcome and a part of your reunions.

Remembering the first reunion I talked my husband into going to...St. Louis...I didn't know anyone there. But, it wasn't long and the "girls" got together and became "Friends Forever"...and that's not easy with most women! We still get together often, outside the reunions as well.

This reunion was the greatest!...all took part and gave their best...from the raffle to the hospitality to the ladies' event...there couldn't have been a more special group of people brought together! Not to mention, being in Branson, the friendliest area of the country!

So, a thank you to you guys, (especially Jim May...his toast was the best!)...for not only do we recognize your service and appreciate it everyday of our lives...we respect that you recognize us as loving you for your service to our Country and our men's consideration for the women in their lives now.

Thank you,
Betty Brennehan, HMOR

ANOTHER REUNION NOTE

For all that attended, I hope you had a great experience in Branson! There were some faces that we really missed, some due to the times of life, medical, family, etc. and we are sorry that you could not be there. We missed you all! I know that this newsletter is probably going to have many notes about the reunion, but, I wanted to add some "Thank You's" to so many guys and girls that helped it run so smoothly! I did have the opportunity at the dinner, however, you all know now how to make me "speechless"...just put a mic in my hand! Keep that in mind, because I am usually not ever at a loss for words!

The raffle items this time were unbelievable!...Almost 75 items were donated by so many talented friends that spent so much time and expense. Jann Martin, once again, quilted all winter as did Vera Streit and the quilts and table runners were just beautiful. Patti Harbour cross-stitched, George Dahl, a stained glass and sign, Frank Grisham (and his first reunion) made ornaments from fishing flies...there was a hand thrown ceramic bowl from an artist, compliments of the Jacobs, books, wines from all over the country, etched glasses (with wines) and tray from the

Bradleys...hand painted stones from the Kmoveks....., throws and too many other wonderful donations to elaborate here. Walmart "Duck Dynasty", compliments of the Polhmans, was a big hit too. You all should know how much everyone appreciated all your donations, that's what makes a raffle a success and fun!...Thank you all.

As I did say on Saturday night, when I should have said more, "Deeds Not Words"...it's the motto of the 22nd Infantry, however it has become the motto of all the spouses as well.

The entertainment that volunteered were so very talented and so appreciated. Branson has a real attitude...it's true..."God, Family and Country"...and they show their love IN their sincere attitude everyday. And, when in Branson, you feel as though you are family! They also do not hesitate to Honor our Veterans, every chance they can do so. Thank you to the folks in Branson!

As for the "Ladies Event"...Everyone just jumped in and helped put it together. The girls that volunteered to get fitted and then model...Cheryl Pohlman and her grandchildren making over 80 little filled flower pots, Ruth Crocker printed programs along with making items "to remember"...and we had roses for the ladies, only crepe paper, but (the meaning of pink roses is appreciation!) the tables were all decorated in style for the approximately 90 ladies at the Saturday morning "event"!

And, Thank You Ruth Crocker for speaking from the heart. I am still in awe that this came together so well with just emails and a few conversation. I'm sure the ladies would have liked to listen longer...your story is something that should always be told!

Pat Easley arrived with so many gifts that she had donated, as did Vera Streit, that, in fact all the 90 ladies in attendance did receive a "door prize"! and then.... Linda Trischner, owner of Grand Glitz (an upscale ladies shop in Branson) also gave generous gifts to the ladies. I spoke to her months ago, thanks to Pam Brown of Gatherings Plus...and couldn't believe how she, not only fitted the girls in great outfits, but also showed up to describe the outfits, and spent all that time with us, so very gracious and giving!

During the "fashion show", Jodie Goggins and I were making sandwich wraps for a promised "light lunch"...and I am so very appreciate of her help. Jodie is also with Gatherings Puls and she helped thought the reunion from early morning until the last call at night. We made Walmart runs together and she was always there, helping some-where. A great gal indeed, as is Pam and her husband John and Carol...the reunion planners from Branson.

The staff at the hotel were all very accommodating, even

the "clean-up" crew. You couldn't ask for more assistance. In our group, if anything needed done, I would look around and see so many girls helping (and sometimes guys, too)...they would just jump in and do whatever needed to be done.

My special thanks to Jan Coffey, Pat Easley, Janine Oakley, Norma Gross, Loretta Noon, and others too many to list...everyone wanted to help, thank you so very much. You all are the gals that I have come to know as friends and I love you all for your efforts in making everything happen! You are the best of the best and you know who you are!

I really want to add a "super special couple"...Nancy and Paul Birschbach...not only did they bring 50lbs of Wisconsin cheese for us to enjoy in the hospitality room...then they stood there the entire time and sliced it all...until it was gone...lots of help for Lumpy in the kitchen! Everyone enjoyed their donation, for sure...and Nancy said, "finally, it's gone"!

Of course, as usual, Martin and Cindy Oeklaus were there all the time checking in and making sure everyone was scheduled for events, etc. They both do so much work behind the scenes and are so good at what they do...and they also keep track of monies, etc. Thank you guys...

In closing...(put the mike in my hand and I'll shut up!) I am sincerely appreciative of all the wonderful people that I have come to know, the members of the 22nd Infantry Regiment Society and...I want to thank you guys, and Jim May (your toast was a special tribute to all the ladies!)...for recognizing the ladies as an important part of this reunion.

Till we meet again!

"Deeds Not Words"...thank you all!
Betty Brenneman, HMOR

GRATITUDE TO YOSHI

Now, most, if not all, have gotten your videos, photos, etc., from John Yoshikane and, his wife Paulette...(she has done a lot to help in getting them to the right people!) he did say she was a wonderful wife!...Thanks to you both!

It was a great reunion and thanks to Yoshi...he put it all in pictures and videos!... Now, the question, do we all send something to compensate his working so hard to capture us all (some of us in pictures that we really didn't want to see...LOL!) or what do we do as a group to help the costs of doing all this? He says no...he wanted to do this for the 22nd Regiment Society and he did. So be it...he should be thanked and somehow reimbursed, but for now....thank you!

Understanding that this man put his life on the line in Vietnam (a Silver Star recipient), and speaking to his fellow comrades...he did his part for us all, then...and now.... so much more.

There are certain people that you meet in life's journey that you will never forget...some are there but you don't know when or where...and here's one of them. A true patriot, a giver, a Veteran that keeps giving to others.

John, please accept our grateful thanks for now...You have gone beyond "Deeds not Words" and we are all very grateful.

Betty Brenneman, HMOR

YOSHI'S HEARING AIDS

I am going to attempt to tell this story as best as I can, however, my attempt will surely fall short, especially for those of you who were present when **John Yoshikane, Bravo Co., 2/22, 67-68**, told the story at the reunion.

If you attended the reunion you saw Yoshi. He began his reunion by passing out boxes of chocolate covered macadamia nuts. Yoshi lives on Oahu and thought it would be a nice gesture to bring an Hawaiian treat to the reunion. His next treat was to pass out DVD's of the trip he took to Vietnam back in December. Yoshi is a photographer and took many photos while on the trip. There were two DVD's, one of the trip from Hanoi to Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon) and the other DVD was of photos he took on his trip to Cu Chi, Tay Ninh, Dau Tieng and Cambodia. Yoshi found that 75 sets of DVD's he'd brought with him were not enough, so he called home and had another 50 sets made up and Air-Expressed to Branson. Yoshi is a very generous man. And, you couldn't miss Yoshi because he was always taking photos of everything and everyone. He is presently editing these photos and will be sending out DVD's of the reunion, to include the Fashion Show that the 22nd Ladies held.*

So, what we have here is a very energetic man. Think of a 68 year old who runs around like a 6 year old. Keep that in mind as I re-tell Yoshi's hearing aid story as told to some of us who happened to be sitting at one of tables outside the Hospitality Suite when Yoshi stopped to catch his breath.

Let me set the stage for you with this next paragraph.

We were all in general conversation when Yoshi asked someone to repeat something that had been said. Yoshi explained that he'd lost his hearing aids and that the VA hadn't replaced them. Yoshi explained to us that when he was in Cu Chi the tour visited a tunnel site that had been set up so that tourists could see how the tunnels were

FINDING OUR BROTHERS BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE

excerpt from presentation at 2014 Business Meeting

used during the war. Yoshi, who'd spent too much time in tunnels in 1967-1968, didn't want any part of the tunnel until an 83 year old man asked to go onto the tunnel. Yoshi said, "How can I let the old man go and I fail to go, so I went into the tunnel." Once inside the tunnel Yoshi had a flash-back. He doesn't know what happened next. He doesn't know how long he was in the tunnel and how he got out. What he did know was that he'd lost one of his hearing aids but he didn't want to go back into the tunnel to look for it for fear of having another flash-back. Yoshi went on to tell us that a couple of days later, while visiting an ancient temple in Cambodia, he went through some jungle to get closer to the temple in order to take better photos. After returning to the group he realized that he'd lost his other hearing aid.

The question was asked, why hasn't the VA replaced the hearing aids? At this point Yoshi gets very animated and continues with the story.

It seemed that when Yoshi went to the VA after returning from his trip to Vietnam the nurse he visited with didn't understand the answers that Yoshi provided when she asked how the hearing aids were lost. Yoshi told the nurse that he'd lost one hearing aid in a tunnel near Cu Chi and the other in the jungle in Cambodia. The nurse's response was to tell Yoshi that she wasn't interested in hearing any stories about what happened in Vietnam 40+ years ago. Yoshi, in an even more animated state, tries to explain that he'd been on a trip to Vietnam, but the nurse wants none of what he's saying. He insist that he's telling the truth and the nurse threatens him by telling him she's going to have the people come down from Mental Health and lock him up. Yoshi, who was wearing a shirt at the time that had something to do with the tour, is pointing to the shirt, but still the nurse wants none of it. Yoshi asked that the nurse contact his Primary Doctor to verify his story because Yoshi had received a tetanus booster before leaving, but the nurse is now calling Mental Health. Yoshi got up and left before he could be locked-up. Yoshi ends the story by pointing at his ears and says, "Five months, still no hearing aids."

My telling of this story doesn't do it justice. If you ever get the opportunity to listen to Yoshi tell this story, don't pass it up, you'll find yourself laughing the way all of us did when Yoshi told the story in Branson.

**Jim May, HMOR
Prov Co. ?68**

*If any of the Ladies haven't received the Fashion Show DVD, please let me know. Yoshi sent a few extras so that no one would be left out. I also have a few sets of Yoshi's Vietnam photo DVD's for anyone who would like.

The last time we dealt with the sixties and seventies we were young, strong, stud muffins who could and did handle anything that life and Ho Chi Minh threw at us. We lived hard, played hard, and listened to music our parents hated, and as members of the 2/22nd Infantry we soldiered as well as any generation ever did.

Well here we are again dealing with the sixties and seventies again, only this time it's our ages, not the calendar. We're no longer young, not nearly as strong, and the term stud muffin has been replaced with bran muffin with the hopes of staying regular. The music is still loud, but mainly because we don't hear as well as we want. Thank you Ho Chi Minh and heavy artillery.

Gentlemen, somehow, some way, we have become old guys. As you all know, we have to deal with life a lot differently than the good old days.

One sad carry over from 4 decades ago is that we have had to deal with the loss of Triple Deuce Brothers for many decades now. And those numbers are growing. By rough estimate we have found only about a third of the veterans who served in Triple Deuce from 1966 to 1970.

I need your help. This organization needs your help. The web site has many suggestions and systems to help find and motivate a long lost Brother to join in the fantastic feelings of closure, healing, patriotism, and Brotherhood that is overflowing in this room right now.

And as you know, you do not have to be at a reunion to experience these things. It IS the best of it, but if you think back to your first experience with Vietnam Triple Deuce, all of these benefits can be had in your own home, delivered by your phone, your computer or your mailman. You are my other family, and I sure don't have to be in the same room with you to enjoy your company.

The bottom line is this: Time is running out on this organization, and its members. If we are going to expand our membership to those who still don't know about us or haven't convinced themselves to join us, WE have to be getting after it.

Please do those Brothers, this organization, and yourself a great service by stepping up to using the many methods outlined on our website, or take one of these locating manuals, or invent a system of your own of locating and contacting just one of the guys you walked the walk with 4 plus decades ago.

You already know how much good you will do and how much good you will feel because you are in this room today.

One of our founders, Awb Norris said to us at every reunion, "If we all bring just one, we are twice as big". Some of us are going to have two or three more decades of life. Some are going to have two or three weeks. I offer you that challenge. I offer you that plea. Time is running out on Vietnam Triple Deuce, and we still have a lot to do for a lot of Brothers. Please step up, or as the DI's used to say, "Move it soldier."

Dick Nash, A/HHC 69



"Old Goats Squad."

Sadly it took me 45 years to make a personal visit to the 2/22nd Infantry Battalion...a.k.a. THE TRIPLE DEUCE. Mid-June's Dining In, (along with Ed Schultz, Skip Fabel, Jim May, and Peter Gaweroski). It was an outstanding evening. NOTE: Our Thursday had been spent trying to get from Texas to New York and 17 hours later it happened for Ed, Skip & me as Jim & Pete were already there.

We arrived Thursday at Ft Drum just in time to get dressed and hustle over to The Commons where Triple Deuce "Courage Leadership" Dining In participants were awaiting us "old goats." Upon arrival at the event we were ushered in to our seats only to find the entire event carried a Vietnam theme.

Battalion Commander **LTC Robert Schexnayder** and **1st Brigade Commander Col Frederick O'Donnell** were our hosts along with the battalion CSM, NCOs and Officers. It was quite an event, even though I felt the "grog" needed more chewing tobacco in it.

We presented the battalion a framed photo to of our visit to the Vietnam Wall in 2008 where we placed, by name, mini 22nd Infantry Flags for each of our over 800 brothers who

did not come home. Triple Deuce XO **Major Collin Mahle** went out of his way to make sure all in attendance knew of 2/22nd achievements in 'Nam including of course the Battle of FSB Burt. The "old goats" in attendance posed for photos with current leaders at evening's end.

As much fun as Thursday evening's "Courage Leader" Dining In was it would only get better Friday as we were invited first to the battalion HQ where we viewed the Memorial Room set aside for our fallen. Jim May presented the framed (and updated) listing of Triple Deuce losses in Vietnam to the XO. We were invited to our specific company areas. I was so pleased that **Alpha Co. Commander Cpt Graham Williams** and **1SG Craig Cunningham** escorted me to the company area. I was given the honor of addressing Alpha Company soldiers and presented a short video of photos from Alpha in Nam 1969. The first thing I did was ask if the third platoon fourth squad leader was in the room. He was and I "conned him" telling him I had his job 45 years earlier.



It was refreshing and rewarding to see these young soldiers leaning forward in their seats as they wanted to hear what it was like for us in the 'Nam.

(These combat vets expressed how they felt a special bond with 'Nam vets since our operations were so much alike...not knowing friend from foe and dodging booby traps/IEDs.)

Then Alpha made it even more special for me as the 1SG marched the company over to the battalion area, lined up the company and took photos of me with not only Alpha Company but also with Alpha Third Herd. Friday evening LTC Schexnayder and his staff took us out for a great meal and an additional time to share experiences from both 'Nam and Afghanistan. In short, this will be a visit I will never forget and so look forward to our reunion with the Triple Deuce in September 2015.

Lon Oakley Jr A/69
President 22nd Infantry Regiment Society

DINING IN, JUNE 2014

On Wednesday morning, June 11, I headed, once again, across Northern New England to Ft Drum to join with the other Members of the “**Old Goats Squad**,” **Ed Schulz**, **Skip Fahel**, **Pete Gaworecki** and **Lon Oakley**, to attend a Dining In that was being held by 2-22, 10th Mtn. The plan was for me to arrive a day early and prepare the way for the others’ arrival on Thursday. The plan was working. I met with **Kathy Secor**, Commons Housing, and got squared away with the two units we’d be staying in. Ed, Skip and Lon were flying into Syracuse where Pete would pick them up at the airport and bring them to Ft Drum. The plan was for those who’d flown in to get some rest before attending the Dining In. Remember how plans never quite worked out back in Vietnam, well it seems that “never quite” remains a force to still be reckoned with.

A band of thunderstorms that stretched from North to South in the middle of the country caused major air traffic delays and cancelations on Wednesday evening. Ed arrived at the airport on Thursday morning in Washington, DC, where he’d been visiting with his daughter, and was told his flight had been cancelled and that he’d have to wait until Friday for a flight. Ed made it plain that if the airline couldn’t get him to Syracuse on Thursday then they could refund his money. Seems that there was a way and Ed arrived in Syracuse about 1430 HRS. Skip and Lon, who’d started out from different airports in Texas, found themselves in Chicago waiting for a flight that wouldn’t get them to Syracuse until about 1630 HRS. They had been scheduled to arrive around 1300 HRS.

Pete gathered up all three and headed for Ft Drum. The Dining In was scheduled to begin at 1700 HRS with cocktails and then fully commence at 1900 HRS. The drive from Syracuse to Ft Drum is a bit over an hour, so none of the early morning risers got any rest time in before the event. In fact, LTC Schexnayder held off starting the event until we arrived.

When we arrived we found that the room had been decorated in a Vietnam theme. There were sandbags surrounding the opening to the service bar and instead of an elevated desk where the Vice President of the Mess would normally sit during a Dining In, a lookout tower had been erected and it, too, was surrounded by sandbags and painted in the camo fashion we used in Vietnam. There were two NCO’s, **SFC Tommy N. Hay** and **SSG(P) Joseph L. Pratt** dressed in Vietnam era Jungle Fatigues and Tiger Stripes, respectively. It was these two NCO’s who’d done all the work in getting the Vietnam theme set up. **1LT Trevor J. Sparkes**, who’d been the liaison for this visit, was the Vice President of the Mess and he, too, was dressed in Jungle Fatigues. I’m glad that no one dropped a tray or slammed a door because I’d have probably been heading for the floor while yelling “in-coming!”

Well, now that the guests of honor were finally present the event could begin. The events always begin with the mixing of the Grog. Everything that goes into the Grog represents something from the Battalion’s History. Ed Schultz brought with him a bottle of Ba Mui Ba, “33 Beer,” to represent the Battalion’s time in Vietnam. The punch bowl set was used to mix the Grog and I reminded all who were near the punch bowl that the inscription reads, 2nd Battalion(MECH), 22nd Infantry Regiment. George White’s silver cup was on the table alongside the bowl.

Dining Ins are attended by the Senior NCO’s and the Officers of a unit. The purpose is to let off steam and to share some non-work time together. As such, Dining Ins are where grievances are aired and judgments passed on those proven to be guilty of any and all forms of offences. The Vice President of the Mess, Mr. Vice, recognizes from his high point above the Mess, those who wish to make grievances. The person accused of whatever the wrongdoing might be, answers the charges. The grievance might be calling someone by the wrong name, a uniform violation or missing PT. The President of the Mess, LTC Schexnayder in this case, passes judgment and either the offender or offende has to present themselves in the center of the Mess and perform a certain number “grumbys.” A “grumby” is the combination of a jumping-jack and a squat thrust. The “punishments” were handed out in units 10’s, 15’s and so on. Remember, these Soldiers are all in their Dress Mess Uniforms. No one is exempt from a grievance. Even **CSM Manning** was found guilty and had to perform “grumbys.”

With the grievance portion of the event over, we took a break before dinner was served. I was standing with the Delta, now called Destroyer, Company Officers and NCO’s who I had been seated with when I heard Pete calling out, “*Jimmy, Jimmy.*” It sounded urgent so I went over to where Pete was seated and asked what was wrong. Pete’s reply was, “Do a squat thrust.” My reply was, “You want me to do a squat thrust?” “Yes,” was his answer and it was then that I noticed that the entire head table as well as a number of others seated near Pete were looking at me. So, I did a squat thrust, which made Pete happy and I was dismissed and allowed to go back to my beer and conversation. I soon learned that Pete had entered into a discussion regarding the origins of the “grumby” and I was selected to provide an historical perspective. I later learned that most of those in the discussion were surprised that any of the Old Goats Squad Members could get back up off the floor without help. I would like to make a point here to thank **CPT Bill Borath**, **SFC Tim Mooney**, **LT Grant** and **Lt Looney** for their warm hospitality.

It was also during the break that I met **LT Dan May**. Lt May is the Battalion Medical Officer. I was walking away from the head table when **MAJ Jay Gentile** hollered out **LT May!** My auto-response was to snap to attention. The

NCO's seated closest to me were impressed that I could not only still hear, but remembered how to stand at attention.

We had a fine dinner and it was now time for the "skits." This is the part of the Dining In where companies make fun of other companies or staff or whatever you might imagine. Fun was made of the way Charlie Company Members use their gym, the manner in which S-3 Major Jay Gentile dealt with LT's was made fun of. The winning skit was performed by Charlie Company. They made fun of LTC Schexnayer's Prius. Charlie Company had a very large cardboard box with PRIUS painted on the side and two men with toy AR style weapons; one was pink, in the box. The presenter, a supposed Retired E-3 working for a made-up defense contractor, told us that PRIUS was an acronym for Personal Reconnaissance Infantry Utility System. The two men in the box were moving it around as if there were sneaking up on an enemy position. The room was wild with laughter.

After another beer and some more good conversation it was time to head for our billet. My traveling companions were worn out with Skip and Lon closing in on 20 hours of traveling and partying without any rest.

We had two cabins next to one another. Each cabin had two bedrooms and a loft with three beds. Ed and Pete stayed in one unit while Skip, Lon and I stayed in the other. I had elected to climb the ladder (see squat thrust above) so there were no coin flips necessary. It was while we were getting ready to go to bed that Skip and I learned that Lon has "nice toes." Apparently, Lon was so informed by some of his family members and Lon wanted to share this revelation with us. So, when you next see Lon, you might comment on his "nice toes."

Just before we turned in, Skip and I informed Lon that as the FNG in the Old Goats Squad he was responsible for all of the expenses incurred during our stay. Lon was too tired to do much questioning and since Friday was going to be a full day he didn't give much thought to being the FNG until we got to the Commons Lodging Office where Kathy Secor, who I'd asked to go along with Lon being responsible for all of our expenses, handed him a bill for the entire charges for both cabins for both nights. Lon was more than surprised and we only let it go to the point where Lon gave Kathy his credit card.

After paying the bill we went to Battalion where we were expected. We separated, as we usually do, and went visiting. Lon had a super visit with Alpha Company.

I visited with as many Soldiers I could find to talk with. **CPT Scott Howe**, **Lt Looney** and **SSG Steele**, all three had attended the Branson reunion, were among the many Soldiers who I stopped to speak with. I received a lot of

smiles when I told the Echo Company CO, **CPT Joshua Wilson** and **1SG Reginald Nimox** and everyone else in the orderly room that the 22nd Infantry Regiment Society, in spite of the Army's position, considered them to be 22nd Infantry Regiment Soldiers and as such were entitled to the same respect and Membership Status as those who served in the other 22nd Infantry Regiment Companies. The mood was, FINALLY, someone recognizes us for the difficult and dangerous direct support that is provided to the other Battalion elements. The Company clerk, a female Soldier, had a big smile on her face. I was told by CPT Wilson that Echo Company would soon be re-flagged as Gulf Company because the Battalion would be adding two Infantry Companies. We'd heard that even though the number of Battalions was going to be reduced that the actual size of the fighting force would be about the same. This is interesting and we may learn more as these changes take place.

Friday evening saw us first at the Commons to help celebrate the Army's Birthday. From there we went to dinner, as is the Old Goats Squad's tradition, with the Battalion Commander and his guests, in this case, LTC Schexnayer, MAJ Gentile, MAJ Mahle and CSM Manning. The talk was about everything from the way the Army is changing, family life, and the 2015 reunion. There is always a possibility that some or all of Triple Deuce may be deployed, but the hope is that they'll all be there to greet us during the reunion. With dinner over, the bill came and Skip motioned the waitress to give the bill to Lon. Well, FNG Oakley politely handed over his credit card, again, thinking he was responsible for all bills, but Skip stopped the waitress and took the bill, then took our credit cards and came back with receipts for us to sign. I like it when someone else is doing the math.

In summation, I will re-state here what I and other have previously stated. The 2nd Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment is in fine hands. From the Privates to the Battalion Commander, the "**Deeds, Not Words**" attitude is present and lived.

Thank you, 2BN 22 IR for a wonderful visit.

Jim May, HMOR
Prov. Co.68

Our apologies about the limited number of pictures in this issue. Due to space limits and the number of good stories we received, we made an editorial decision (that's why we get the big bucks) See the offer for Yoshi's CD. . .his pictures are much better than ours anyway



VIETNAM WALL NAMES AND BATTALION POSTERS DISTRIBUTED

At the Branson Reunion, Vietnam (Era) attendees were offered 11"x17" color posters on heavy parchment paper of the Wall Names from their respective battalion in exchange for a suggested donation of \$5 to the Ft. Benning Memorial Fund. The \$542 in new donations collected will be matched by the anonymous donor.

More would have been collected if the hospitality suite had not been closed to set up for the banquet Saturday held in the same space. Not all attendees took their allotted poster.

Posters for 2nd & 3rd Battalions listed details (WIA/MIA dates, attached/subsequent units) on the backside in B&W sans graphics.

The casualty lists, by unit and incident date, are the culmination of more than 17 years of research in cooperation with the (Richard) Coffelt Database Team (<http://coffeltdatabase.org>) and the personal submissions of veterans and friends/family like you.

The pursuit of information regarding these sacrifices made by the 22nd Infantry Regiment in Vietnam continues.

Future availability of these posters to *members* is under consideration. Stay tuned or check our website for whether and how to get your copy.

Brad Hull, A/69-70, DMOR

Walk of Honor at the National Infantry Museum Ft. Benning Georgia

I am writing this note in regards to a mission I feel worthy of your interest. As President of the 22nd Infantry Regiment I am proud to be the face of the organization. The 22nd Infantry which has been in service to our nation since the War of 1812. During those 200 plus years many men have given their lives in the name of freedom. To honor them and all who have served in the 22nd Infantry Regiment I find myself in the process of raising funds to erect a memorial monument on the Walk of Honor at the National Infantry Museum, Ft. Benning Georgia. **We have an anonymous donor who will match dollar for dollar any donations I can secure between now and 9/11/2014.**

We have already raised over \$36K towards a goal of the \$100K needed. We are looking to raise another \$14K over the next 90 days and **with those funds matched** we can hit our goal. I would be most honored if you would consider contributing to our campaign. Page 12 is a copy of our monument concept and the rationale behind our efforts. If desired, donations can be forwarded directly to our Society Treasurer Martin Oleklaus at the following address He will sent tax receipt back to you.

Send to:

**22nd Infantry Regiment Society
PO Box 3258
Independence, Missouri 64055**

or to me at my return address.

As a combat veteran I am not ashamed to ask my friends for consideration in this worthy cause.

Cordially yours,

Lon D. Oakley Jr. A/69
President 22nd Infantry Regiment Society
LTC US Army Retired 210-878-7072

VETERANS MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTION RECOGNIZED

We, Vietnam Triple Deuce, received a letter of thanks from **Jan C. Scruggs, Esq.** Founder & President of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund for our donation of \$1,000. Mr. Scruggs provided an explanation of how the donation would be used "... to preserve the legacy of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, to promote healing and to educate about the impact of the Vietnam War."

Jim May, HMOR

Prov. Co. 1968

copy and use to gather donations. We will email receipt of this tax free donation.

“\$500 MEMORIAL MONUMENT FUND CHALLENGE”

YOUR NAME & Email ADDRESS

NAME & Email ADDRESS OF DONOR

AMOUNT OF DONATION

Send donation to 22nd Infantry Regiment Society
PO Box 3258 Independence MO 64055 (Place 22IRS Monument Fund on Memo line of checks please)

Regulars By God...Deeds not Words

Lon D. Oakley Jr. DMOR

LTC(S) U.S. Army Retired

President 22nd Infantry Regiment Society

Co A 2/22nd Infantry- 11B40 - Vietnam 1969

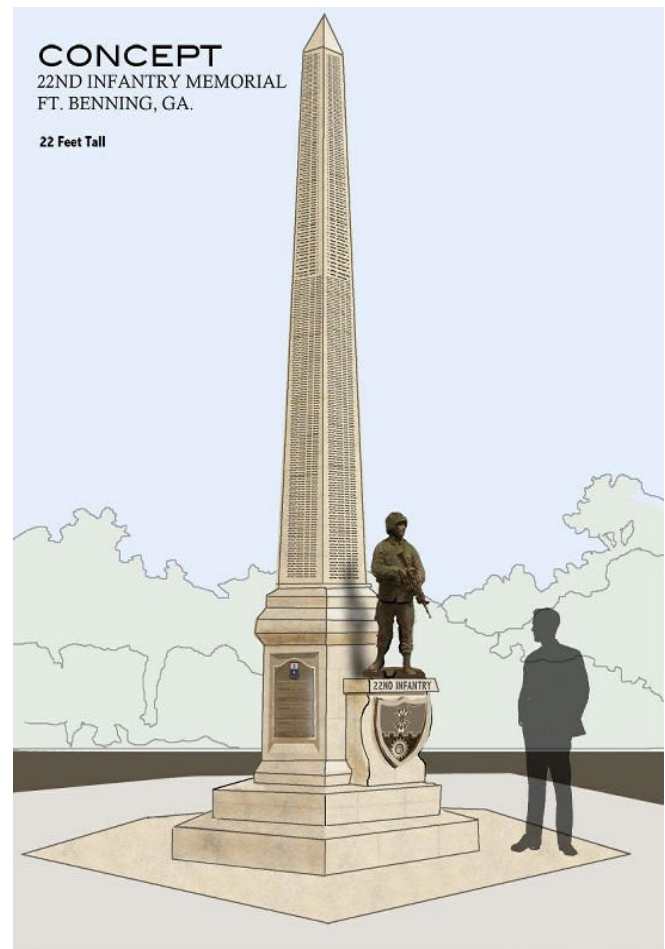
My Brothers: So many of you have served in the ranks of the 4th Infantry, 25th Infantry and 10th Mountain Divisions during our tours of duty with the Regiment. The 4th and 25th Divisions have recently dedicated monuments at the National Infantry Museum’s Walk of Honor located at Fort Benning, Georgia. Our memorial monument needs to join them to honor our “Fallen Brothers” since the 22nd Infantry first stepped on the battlefield in defense of our nation in 1812. That is over 200 years of service to the United States of America. We belong there too!

Background: The Memorial Walk of Honor stands at the crossroads of the National Infantry Museum, **U.S. Fort Benning**. Its meticulously landscaped grounds and gardens are the perfect place for quiet reflection and for honoring Soldiers for their service. Featured on the walk are monuments placed by military units and associations in this beautiful location.

Discussion: In conversation with our 22nd Infantry monument lead LTC(R) Steve Russell (1/22 Bn Cdr in Iraq 2003-2005) and assisted by efforts of John Bradley (A Co. 2/22 9/67-9/68), we have been blessed with an anonymous donor who has pledged to match dollar for dollar of “new” donations towards our monument goal. We currently have \$36,000 in “old money.” Steve feels if we can raise \$50,000 thru the efforts of our veterans (and it is matched) we can erect the 22nd Infantry Regiment Monument on the Walk of Honor; however, we need to move swiftly on this initiative or risk losing the opportunity to have a spot at the museum. The time to act is now!

“The \$500 22nd Infantry Regiment Memorial Monument Challenge”

Concept: We are not asking for you to contribute \$500 but instead go to your friends, community organizations and businesses to ask them to assist you in obtaining \$500. With the below form seek out friends, community and business leaders, fellow veterans to assist in each of us doing our best to raise \$500 each. (25 contributions of \$20 and you are there) Below is a form you can



PATROTIC?

Although the "Rock" family has been around for a few centuries, at least, we haven't done very well in wars. Two of my great-uncles were killed in World War I. I don't know any of the circumstances but they were from Poland.

Then, my uncle, Donald Neilson, lost his life fighting in World War II. I believe he was shot down over Germany and was killed in 1943.

Then, my uncle, Edmund W. Neilson Jr., was shot and killed on November 30, 1950, as the 7th Army retreated from North Korea during that war.

Then, I was drafted in April of 1968 and sent over to Vietnam to save the world from Communism. But they blew me up before I could do it to them. I was blown off a tract and med-evac'd but they messed up and didn't do the job right. I was still alive after the explosion.

So you see...we Rock's aren't very good at war. We either step on something, get in the center of some rifleman's sights, get shot down in flames, or whatever it may be. So if the world, and especially America, decides to go to war again, they should forgo any greetings letter being sent to our home.

It will also be cheaper for the country, as being wounded costs way too much money. And dying means they have to pay for the casket, headstone, and funeral. It's cheaper just to bypass us and send that letter on to the next home. Besides, I never had any sons to fill gaps in the ranks.

So even though the Rock family is pretty patriotic and loves this country dearly, the government should learn from our long history and look for John Wayne or Audie Murphy - guys that come back from the battlefield in one piece!

Peter Rock, B/68-69

KABOOM!!!

Here is my story and I am sticking to it.

While on our way to Gadsen or Cedar Falls riding from Dau Tieng down to the Iron Triangle, late 66 or early 67 we came across small little gardens, groves of cashews, pineapples, watermelons, etc. There it was just out side and a line of trees separating a rice paddy and the hooch and garden was a 750 pound U. S. bomb, 2/3 submerged in the dry paddy. For this adventure we had had two engineers attached to us. They had been showing us how to

use C 4, shape charges, crater charges, det cord, etc. One of the engineers, a guy from the deep south, who had red hair and a gold tooth with a star on it verbally told us how to set the charge. They also had M 14s. Two 1 pound sticks of C 4 with a three minute fuse were set on the bomb.. We set it up and having done a fuse burn prior, to know that 11 inches of fuse was good for about 45 seconds each supply of fuse was tested for a one foot burn) we screamed "fire in the hole" three times. We were in the tracks about 300 yards off when it blew with a CRACK. Then the radio lit up. It was the 1st squad with the LT and 3rd platoons RTO **Lynn Dalpaz** screaming about what we had done. They were in the wood line, but no one knew.

Then days later en route to where Charlie Company would loose about 5 APCs as well as our first **CO Captain Danielcheck**, my squad came across a couple of empty bunkers. We took turns being the one to be the final person out who set the charges. This time the crater charges, shape charges and C 4 would all be used with det cord. It was **Roy Harbour's** turn with someone else(can't remember who) but when he reads this he will remember. Roy would later become a driver. Now I know why. The fuse was lit and Roy came back to us (Me, **Dan Morris**, and **Roger Borgheiinck**) about 100 yards away. We waited.....and waited...nothing. I looked at Roy and said it was your baby. Knowing Roy, he mumbled something to me and off he went around the corner. He was gone about 30 seconds, when Kaboom. Logs, dirt, mud, trees, could be seem 50 yards in the air. We were numb and in silence...waiting. Then F..ing, sh..t, G D it, J C. In unison I think we said Roy is ok and he was swearing all the way back covered in debris.

I know he will correct anything I left out. Good fuse man. We re-met only 5 years ago at Dan Morris's house.

George Dahl, C/66-67

THE WALL

A little history most people will never know.
Interesting Veterans Statistics off the Vietnam Memorial Wall.

There are 58,267 names now listed on that polished black wall, including those added in 2010.

The names are arranged in the order in which they were taken from us by date and within each date the names are alphabetized. It is hard to believe it is 57 years since the first casualty.

The first known casualty was Richard B. Fitzgibbon, of North Weymouth, Mass. Listed by the U.S. Department of

Defense as having been killed on June 8, 1956. His name is listed on the Wall with that of his son, Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Richard B. Fitzgibbon III, who was killed on Sept. 7, 1965.

There are three sets of fathers and sons on the Wall.

39,996 on the Wall were just 22 or younger.

8,283 were just 19 years old.

The largest age group, 33,103 were 18 years old.

12 soldiers on the Wall were 17 years old.

5 soldiers on the Wall were 16 years old.

One soldier, PFC Dan Bullock was 15 years old.

997 soldiers were killed on their first day in Vietnam.

1,448 soldiers were killed on their last day in Vietnam.

31 sets of brothers are on the Wall.

Thirty one sets of parents lost two of their sons.

54 soldiers attended Thomas Edison High School in Philadelphia.

8 Women are on the Wall, nursing the wounded.

244 soldiers were awarded the Medal of Honor during the Vietnam War; 153 of them are on the Wall.

Beallsville, Ohio with a population of 475 lost 6 of her sons.

West Virginia had the highest casualty rate per capita in the nation. There are 711 West Virginians on the Wall.

The Marines of Morenci - They led some of the scrappiest high school football and basketball teams that the little Arizona copper town of Morenci (pop. 5,058) had ever known and cheered. They enjoyed roaring beer busts. In quieter moments, they rode horses along the Coronado Trail, stalked deer in the Apache National Forest. And in the patriotic camaraderie typical of Morenci's mining families, the nine graduates of Morenci High enlisted as a group in the Marine Corps. Their service began on Independence Day, 1966. Only 3 returned home.

The Buddies of Midvale - LeRoy Tafoya, Jimmy Martinez, Tom Gonzales were all boyhood friends and lived on three consecutive streets in Midvale, Utah on Fifth, Sixth and Seventh avenues. They lived only a few yards apart. They played ball at the adjacent sandlot ball field. And they all

went to Vietnam . In a span of 16 dark days in late 1967, all three would be killed. LeRoy was killed on Wednesday, Nov. 22, the fourth anniversary of John F. Kennedy's assassination. Jimmy died less than 24 hours later on Thanksgiving Day. Tom was shot dead assaulting the enemy on Dec. 7, Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day.

The most casualty deaths for a single day was on January 31, 1968 ~ 245 deaths.

The most casualty deaths for a single month was May 1968 - 2,415 casualties were incurred.

For most Americans who read this they will only see the numbers that the Vietnam War created. To those of us who survived the war, and to the families of those who did not, we see the faces, we feel the pain that these numbers created. We will, until we too pass away, remember them because they were our friends, fathers, husbands, wives, sons and daughters. There are no noble wars, just noble warriors.

Submitted by **Peter Rock** C/68-69

GUEST BOOK HITS

Name: **Warren I Vance**

Location: West Virginia

Email: Jungledoctor46@hotmail.com

Phone: 304 651 6206

Comments: Hello all I was with B Co 2 nd plt 2/22 7/67 to 10/67 as a combat medic Doc Vance. I was at FSB Burt, Tet Off, Hobo woods, :-) all over. Does any one remember 9/30/67 in Michelin rubber plantation Bravo Co and Charlie Co ambush patrols ran into each other and fought it out ? Well I was medic there.

Posted on: Saturday - Apr 19, 2014

Name: **James Tucker**

Location: Auburndale

Email: jim26627@hotmail.co

Comments: Served with B co 2/22 Sept 67-Sept 68 mechanic assigned to 4th. plt.

Posted on: Wednesday - Apr 23, 2014

Name: **Dick Nash**

Location: on the farm again

Email: nash222@frontiernet.net

Phone: 309-537-3536

Comments: Way to go Betty, Lumpy and Lon. One of the best reunions ever. Hope all had a safe trip home...Heads up Syracuse. We're coming in 2015...

Posted on: Monday - May 5, 2014

Name: **Lynn Dalpez**, President
Location: Beaverton, Oregon
Email: dalpez222@gmail.com
Phone: 503-848-3901

Comments: Best Reunion yet thanks to Betty, Lumpy, and Lon. I'm still not back on earth. Thank you members for trusting me to be your President once again. It's a humbling honor to say the least.
Posted on: Wednesday - May 7, 2014

Name: **Dorothy Freeman (Chambers)**
Location: Seattle, WA
Email: threerivers550@aol.com
Phone: 425-828-3075

12/15/1967 4 men died , all from Alpha Co 2/22, looking for info or a photo of SSG Michael B. Paquin PLEASE contact me if you know of this incident.

+ **SP4 Thomas B. Chambers**

Memphis, TN (my husband)

+ **PFC Hopson Covington**

Bristol PA

+ **SSG Michael B. Paquin**

Westport, CT

+ **PFC Stephen J. Whipple**

Posted on: Saturday - May 10, 2014

Name: **Bruce Sewall**
Location: Co. A 69 -70
Email: b.sewall@aol.com

Comments: GREAT Reunion. Very well done-except one complaint. The cold cut buffet was a joke! It should have been trays of cold cuts -rolls -slices of various types of bread-salads. Not a small dinner roll with 2 small slices of meat and slice of cheese. If we have to pay a few bucks more ok, but don't serve crap!
Posted on: Thursday - May 15, 2014

Name: **Phil Guiffre**
Location: A/2/22 Org Boater
Email: falcon1of5@aol.com
Phone: 347-432-0485

Comments: RIP my buddy from the 4th grade, **Robert De Dominic** B/2/22 KIA 5/16/67. Drafted with me 12/14/65. think of you and the best all the time.
Posted on: Monday - May 19, 2014

Name: **Kenny Eccles**
Location: PO Box 476
Madison Kansas 66860
Email: kennyeccles@gmail.com
Phone: 870-437-9372

Comments: My first reunion Branson 2014 Took basic

with Charlie Co went to Nam on the ship with support Plt in HQ I really enjoyed the reunion Was surprised how many people that I remembered Will be coming to as many reunions as possible from now on.
Posted on: Tuesday - May 20, 2014

Name: **Dick Nash**
Location: Illinois Sticks
Email: nash222@frontiernet.net
Phone: 309 537 3536

Comments: Just a note to all Brothers that we have a duty this weekend to remember those who gave all for American freedom long ago and since. They and we form a Brotherhood that will stand forever. I am honored to be one of you...
Posted on: Sunday - May 25, 2014

Name: Justin Davis
Location: Merrill, MI
Email: justindavis211978@gmail.com

Comments: Looking for information/ articles/ or people of the 4th 2/22 (Mech) A Co. 1966-67. My father is **Lyle Davis** who served during this time. He would like to see pictures or articles of people he served with. If anyone has any pictures or articles to share it would be greatly appreciated, thanks.
Posted on: Friday - Jun 27, 2014

NEW FINDS

Carl N. Rhinebolt
G-3193 Arlene Avenue
Flint, MI 48532
810-424-1548
wendywilson3193@aol.com
A Co. 25th ID, Jan 70 to Apr 70

Comments: looking for **Bucky May**. Hopefully, the 1970 Alphas will make a plan at the reunion on how to locate him.

William M. Freebern
302 Harbour Blvd, Apt 202
New Smyrna Beach, FL 32169
518-636-9160
proffree@hotmail.com
C Co. 25th ID, Sep 68 to Aug 69

Comments: "Nashville, June 2013, my first 2/22 reunion was a life changing experience. I'm sorry I'll miss Branson this year. Many thanks to the 2/22 Officers and other organizers for their continuous efforts. Sincerely. I am proud to be a Member."

S. Gregory MacKinnon
8910 S. Greenbriar Terrace
Boston, NY 14025
716-913-6305
gmack624@gmail.com
B Co. 25th ID, Mar 68 to Mar 69

Comments: would like to locate **Roger Marshall**. Gregory writes, "Say a prayer for all Veterans and current service members."

Jonathon P. Parsons
6375 Spring Brook Rd.
Rockford, IL 61114
815-742-4999
arco4999@sbcglobal.net
C Co. 25th ID, June 67 to June 68

Robert A. Collins
2 Hulse St.
Middletown, NY 10940
845-343-2932
collrcmk@earthlink.net
A Co. 4th & 25th ID, Dec 1965 to Sep 1967

Comments: would like to contact **Ted Collins** and **Anthony Cassierre**.

HELLOES & COMMENTS

Danny H. Spruill
2538 W. Mill Pond Rd.
Roper, NC 27970
252-793-2329
B Co. 4th & 25th ID, Dec 65 to Dec 67

Comments: " B Co. 2/22 MECH. 1st Platoon, Fort Lewis, Washington. Went to Vietnam on USS Walker, September 1966. Went to Bear Cat, Vietnam, then to 25th Base camp. I was there for Operation Cedar Falls, January 1967, Friday 13th got both ear drums busted. **Francis Grimes** got right elbow clipped from VC sniper. Charlie Co. lost 6 guys that day. By the way Francis, how is that little Red Devil on your shoulder?"

Ronald L. Henderson
770-460-1943
hronald55@hotmail.com
A Co. 25th ID, Nov 67 to Nov 68

Comments: would like to contact Smitty from New Jersey who served with him in Alpha Company in 1967-1968.

Michael L. Keown
gofigure@mchsi.com
B & D Co. 25th ID, 2-70 to 11-70

Comments: would like to locate Medic **James David** and **Roger Morris**.

TAPS

**Basil E. Patrick C Co. 4th & 25th ID,
Approximately March 1967 to March 1968 aka Sgt Patrick**

Basil Ed Patrick, 67, of Vincennes, passed away Tuesday, May 6, 2014.

Ed was born March 14, 1947, in Vincennes, the son of William F. and Cleo (Painter) Patrick. He married Mildred L. (Nowaskie) Patrick on Sept. 18, 1971, and she survives him.

Ed retired from Indianapolis Power and Light Co., then owned and operated ALP Trucking. He also farmed. Ed was a member of many clubs, including the Loyal Order of Moose Lodge 779 in Lawrenceville, Ill., American Legion Post 0073, VFW Post 1157, 40 et 8, National Rifle Association, Wabash Valley Sportsman Club and the AARP. He also served in the U.S. Army in the Vietnam War, where he was discharged with a purple heart. Ed was also a loving husband, father, grandfather, an avid fisherman and hunter.

Along with his wife, Mildred, Ed is survived by his mother, Cleo; daughter, Angie Gibbs and her husband, Steve, of Vincennes; grandchildren, Troy Brittingham and Shelby Brittingham; and sister, Rita Fox of St. Francisville, Ill. He was preceded in death by his father; two daughters, Amy and Cynthia Patrick; and one brother, Larry Patrick. We have lost another one of our heroes from our Vietnam family. Sgt Patrick took over 2nd platoon of Charlie 2/22 around October 1967 and left to go back to the states at the end of February 1968. He has attended some of our mini reunions as well as some of the 22nd IRS reunions. Sgt Patrick will be sorely missed.

John Eberwine, C/67-68

