



# 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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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

President's Message	1
Editor's Comments	2
The Power of the Newsletter	3
Photo Archive	3
Identification Needed	3
My 2/22 Brothers	4
Canadian Club the Lone Survivor	5
New Finds	5
Helloes & Comments	6
TAPS	6
Guest Book Hits	7
Reunion Highlights	8
Traditions Honored	8
Ft. Carson Tour	11
A Brother Honored	12
Vietnam DVD Available	13
Flag Protocol	13
Dining Out	13
Vietnam War Commemoration	15
Merchandise	16

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**Steve Irvine B/68-69**  
**Harold Metcalf**

## *Vietnam Triple Deuce Leadership*

- ◇ **President**, Lynn Dalpez
- ◇ **Vice President**, Dick Nash
- ◇ **Treasurer**, Jim May
- ◇ **Secretary**, Dean Springer
- ◇ **Newsletter Editor**, Dan Streit
- ◇ **Web Master**, Steve Irvine
- ◇ **Chief Locator**, Dick Nash
- ◇ **HHQ Locator**, Ken Helms
- ◇ **Recon Locator**, Erik Opsahl
- ◇ **Alpha Co Locator**, Gary Hartt
- ◇ **Bravo Co Locator**, Dean Springer
- ◇ **Charlie Co Locator**, Harless Belcher
- ◇ **Delta Co Locator**, Dan Streit

## President's Message Fall 2012 Greetings Members

It sure hurt to miss the 2012, 22<sup>nd</sup> IRS Reunion in Colorado Springs. From what reports I have received, it appears to have been another huge success. Not that I am one bit surprised by that, with the group behind the Chairman, **Mark Woempner** 1/22, (LTC ret.) and with his great sense of humor, how could it fail? ...and my reason why it hurts to have missed it.

Congratulations to our new Distinguished Members. We all owe these Brothers our heartfelt thanks for all the work they have done on behalf of the Vietnam Triple Deuce, Inc. **Joe D. Chario**, **John Eberwine**, **Bruce Gast**, and **Jim Nelson**. ...truly men that live our motto. This was an easy vote for the Directors to pass, and long overdue. I sure am proud that I got to vote "Yea" on it. I must thank the Directors of the NV222, Inc. Board for electing me as your President for

a second term. And through our Directors, thank you Members for your votes, and trust in us. We will move our organization only in the direction that you members desire. It must be legal however, so no Fonda hunts, or the like, will be approved by the Board. My second term will continue my first term goals of working hard to keep us all united in our mission of finding our long lost Brothers, promoting our place in history, and uniting with other Veteran's groups, with the mission of helping Veteran's and their families through tough times. Actually, we help each other when times are not so bad when you think about it. That sure is how you members have helped me deal with the past, and offer me tons of help in coming out of my foxhole and becoming a part of our wondrous group. Many of you have expressed the same feelings to me over these last nine years of my involvement with the NV222, Inc. that you cherish these feelings as well. That's what it is all about as far as I am concerned.

You may recall my past postings about starting your own mini-reunion, and my encouragement to do so. Our group of Chargin Charlie Boat Originals recently had our annual mini-reunion in Aberdeen WA. (Yes, it still stands...sort of.) Our Brother **Jim Neeley** chaired the event, which now has grown into a not-so-mini reunion with 70 or so attendees in tow. Of course, Jim's beautiful wife **Della Neeley**, and her crew did all the work, (but you knew that already.) A few years ago our first gathering was attended by 14 attendees. So, if you decide to be the person that makes that first phone call about getting together again, hang on to your socks because the ball will start rolling for you as it did for us. **Gary Hartt** got many Alpha Boat originals together for their mini-reunions and now they boast an attendance of around the size of a real-deal Infantry line company. (Hmmm. I wonder what they are up to. ...a whole company? Watch out world!) You can see what we Charlie guys did at our reunion <http://www.originalboatpeople.com> we had a blast! Thanks again Jim.

Veteran's Day is just around the corner. I am

looking forward to marching in a parade or two with my local 25<sup>th</sup> Div. Veteran buddies, and wearing my colors around town while telling all that will listen about how I single handedly took on 46, no, 47 enemy with nothing but a P38 and a can of ham and claymores.

Happy Veteran's Day Brothers!

Deeds, Not Words,

**Lynn Dalpez, D.M.O.R.**

President

## EDITOR'S COMMENT

As with most of the country, it has been a long hot summer in Kansas. There has been much time for setting on the deck with a cold beer and thinking

Crops have failed. The livelihood of the area is threatened by lack of rain. Small in comparison is the toll the weather has taken on our yard and garden. Oh yes we have had onions, lettuce, green beans, beets, asparagus and peppers. But the usual fare of tomatoes, cucumbers, and cantaloupes was not to be. Nothing seemed to help. We are still hoping the fall garden will produce some broccoli. The fruit trees have been bountiful. The freezer is full of apple crisp, pie filling and sliced apples.

While the birds are always here, we added extra watering containers and monitored the food religiously. In stark contrast to the brown grass the orioles, cardinals, and blue jays were awesome. Yes the rabbits, squirrels, starlings and sparrows had to eat too.

In rural America the county fair is a major event. This year it was one of the best ever. A time for visiting, playing and sharing of skills in a relaxed environment, a large crowd usually attends. While our quilts received some blue ribbons; there were reds and whites also. The judges were brutal.

The new Harley trike and toy hauler have spent most of the time in the garage /driveway. As the

cooler weather of fall approaches we are anticipating many fun outings.

The big event of our summer was the birth of our first great grandchild. Before you ask. . .yes he looks like me. What a joy to participate in the growing of yet another generation. I am a bit proud to know he sleeps in an oak cradle that I made before we started having grandkids.

Like all of life, the Triple Deuce has had both good times and bad. Your officers and locators are here to help. At the business meeting the slate was chosen. Please see the list under publisher information on page one.

Please contribute to the organization and draw from it. The harvest will be good. The uniqueness of each individual is appreciated. While you might not always get the praise you deserve; there is a great reward in the joy of Brotherhood and the anticipation of the future. Anyway, that's how it seems to this old soldier.

**Dan Streit D 69**

## THANKS EXPRESSED

**Ahhhh.....the power of the Newsletter**

Thank you for placing my request in the June newsletter. Over the weekend, I received an email from **Thomas Petro** who was good friends with my father and helped me place him in HHC. He was in the maintenance section, but in fact moved into the recon section later into his deployment. Furthermore, Tom was able to tell me his nickname "Papa Bear".

just wanted to thank you again for your assistance.

Very Respectfully,  
**Michael T. Bustard**  
(732) 406-4047 (C)

## PHOTO ARCHIEVE CREATED

We are creating a photo archive on Face book for anyone that served with, was attached to or supported the 22nd Infantry Regiment. Send your photos to: [webmaster@22ndinfantry.org](mailto:webmaster@22ndinfantry.org). Please include name, rank, unit (company-Bn-division) and dates served. This year will be our regiments 200th birthday!

*Please visit:*

<http://22ndinfantry.org>

<http://www.1-22infantry.org/>

<http://www.vietnamtripledeuce.org/>

**Peter Gaworecki, DMOR**

C/1/22 67-68

[Webmaster@22ndInfantry.org](mailto:Webmaster@22ndInfantry.org)

cell 315.727.0861

## IDENTIFICATION NEEDED

This was sent to me from **Bob Owens**, C Co. May 67 to Feb. 68

I was in the Weapons Plt. from 23 Feb. 68 to Feb. 69 C Co. I had the recoils rifle which I carried for a while. **I would like to know the name of the one sitting down in the photo.** He was shot in a fire fight. we had left the PACs on the road and were going through rice paddies when



we started taking fire. They could not get him on a helicopter because they were taking too much small arms fire. We had to carry the body to the road. It was sometime between Mid March through May. My records show that I was in A and C Co. I do not remember changing Company's.

Thanks for your help

--

**Al Sperry**

[al.sperry@gmail.com](mailto:al.sperry@gmail.com)

406-961-0035

C Co. 2/22 25th, ID, Feb. 68 to Feb. 69

## MY VIETNAM TRIPLE DEUCE BROTHERS



**Lon Oakley and Skip Fahel**

As I embark on the new position as President of the 22nd Infantry Regiment Society I wanted to take a moment and thank all of you for your support, wise counsel and shared wisdom provided to me over the past six years I have held jobs on the Triple Deuce Board. I cannot express my gratitude in words to guys like **Bob Babcock**, **Skip Fahel**, **Dick Nash**, **Dan Striet**, **Jim Nelson**, **Lynn Dalpez**, **Jim May**, **Ken Schulte**,

**Joe Esser**, **Brad Hull**, **Dean Springer**, my Third Herd Alpha brothers and so many others who have assisted me in my appointed position as Chief Locator and later on my selection as Vietnam Triple Deuce Vice President. Your efforts have not gone unappreciated and have prepared me for this new challenge. Please understand I know where my roots are and that the Vietnam Triple Deuce Association remains the largest block of our membership in the 22nd Infantry Regiment Society. WE WILL NEED EVERY ONE OF YOU IN THE FUTURE PLUS OUR BROTHERS WE CAN LOCATE TO GET OUR MISSIONS DONE AND TO PLEASE SHARE YOUR STORIES IN THE NEWSLETTER. (That means you too Palooka & Tex!)

In short, I will humbly request your continued support as we move forward to getting our tasks accomplished in a timely manner in the Regiment Society, keeping in mind the 11B "mind set " of (1) Accomplishment of the Mission (2) Welfare of the men. I am so thankful to have been a part of the leadership of Vietnam Triple Deuce and pledge to do a job as President of 22nd Infantry Regiment that will be in keeping with how I began my 23 year military career mentored as an E5 squad leader by **Cpt David R. Crocker**, Co A 2/22nd Commander (KIA RVN '69) and **ILT Dick Nash**.

See you in Branson, MO Spring 2014 God Speed & Keep Chargin'

DEEDS NOT WORDS

**LON D. OAKLEY JR**

LTC(S) USA Retired

A Co 2/22 RVN 11B40 1969

President 22nd Infantry Regiment Society





## CANADIAN CLUB – THE LONE SURVIVOR

In either late October or early November of '67 **John Midemia** returned from R&R. Where he went on R&R I don't recall. At any rate while he was in the processing area for his return to C/2-22 he made several trips to the Duty Free Shop where he purchased a large number of bottles of Canadian Club Whisky. He was able to do this because his ration card was never punched so that it reflected the fact that he had purchased his three bottle limit of the 'hard stuff'.

Upon John's return to C/2-22 he had a duffle bag full of the precious Canadian liquid. The liquid gold was offered for sale, at cost, to any 1<sup>st</sup>. Platoon member that was interested. **John Lewis** and I pooled our resources and purchased a bottle.

A few days later **Bill Allison**, our CO ordered C/2-22 to form up in the Company Area by our tracks. After we had complied with his command he ordered that all of the tracks lower their rear ramps. John Lewis and I knew what was about to happen and had anticipated it when we purchased our bottle. As a result we did not keep our bottle of Canadian Club in our track. Instead we hid ours under the floor boards of our tent in the Company area. Before Bill Allison started his search for the whisky he lectured the Company

concerning who was allowed to have hard liquor and who was not. (At the time EMs below grade E-7 were not allowed to have hard liquor.) After the lecture Bill and **Gordon Kelley** began the search for the Canadian contraband. When a bottle was discovered it was dashed on the lowered ramp of a track. The look on the faces of the men whose bottles were being destroyed was utter shock. The look on the faces of John Lewis and mine reflected maximum strain to keep from laughing.

John and I enjoyed every drop of the lone survivor of the Allison – Kelley destruction exercise.

Pictured is the 'lone survivor'.

**Norm Nishikubo**, C/2-22  
9-67 to 8-68

## NEW FINDS

### **Robert Fenton**

673 Cypress Point Dr.  
Egg Harbor City, NJ 08215  
609-965-5582

[foxmech@comcast.net](mailto:foxmech@comcast.net)

A Co. 4<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> ID, Apr 67 to Apr 68

Comments: Looking for **Lester Brown**. Robert writes, " I was contacted by **Garry Hartt** recently, he served in "A" Company 3rd Platoon. I served in "A" Company 1st Platoon. I talked to Gary for 3 to 4 hours. He was the first Brother that I talked to from "A" Company 2/22 Inf. in 44 years since I left Vietnam. I was in darkness about some of the things we talked about and Gary shined a lot of light on those things that I did not know. He was so knowledgeable about the 2/22 Inf. I have a severe memory problem that I am dealing with and Gary was very patient with me. Your Brother, Bob Fenton

## Michael Pennington

3301 Portland  
Amarillo, TX 79118  
806-282-1838  
[mpennington@afiama.com](mailto:mpennington@afiama.com)  
C Co. 25<sup>th</sup> ID, Sept. 68 to Dec 69

# HELLOES & COMMENTS

## Bob Hixon

38 Emerald Street,  
Uniontown, PA 15401  
Alpha Co. 1970

Comments: Would like to hear from anyone who remembers him. Bob was on the "Easy Rider" track. He can be reached at 704-437-0294.

KAREN FRANKLIN  
#252-492-3417

Could you help me find some Triple Deuce people who served in Vietnam with **JIM FRANKLIN**, B Co.25th ID, Sept 6, 68 to Aug 27, 69 Weapons Platoon? He was in at the same time as **Pete Rock**. He is looking for **Larry Flack** and **Doug Dixon**. Both were from North Carolina.

Thank you for any help.

Editor's note: below is from last news letter

Name: Dan Trzaska  
Location: Denver Pennsylvania  
Email: [dantraz@yahoo.com](mailto:dantraz@yahoo.com)  
Phone: (717)278-2417

Comments My father was **James Trzaska**, he served in 1967 co B 2nd 22nd. Thank you for posting my info in the news letter as well! Dad passed away July 30th 2003. He suffered from esophageal cancer in Philadelphia. I recently found a few of his medals and have been doing some research, If anyone served with or knew him, I would be interested in finding out more.

New comment that goes with above:

I finally got this DD 214 form from my Mother. My Father, James Trzaska's rank was Ssgt , co B 2 Bn 22 infantry Apo 96268 . He was inducted Dec 14 1965 and was in till Sep 22 1967. If you could forward this to the archives and if you come across anyone from his platoon, please forward my info to them, I'd like to find out more.

Thank you. Dan Trzaska (717)445-9922  
[dantraz@yahoo.com](mailto:dantraz@yahoo.com)

Name: **Donald F. Carpenter**  
Phone: 405-919-8909  
Email: [doncarpenter@cox.net](mailto:doncarpenter@cox.net)  
C Co. 25<sup>th</sup> ID, July 68 to April 69

Comments: Don would like to contact **Sgt Wally Schodtler, Clyde Burr, Sgt Fletcher, Jerry Van Slythe, Paul ?, Sgt Burdick-FO, Capt Kaufman, Guliano, James Myers, Jerry Fasset, Ernie Pratt. Randy Dotson.**

Name: **William R. Deckard**  
Phone: 812-682-4837  
Email: [wmdeckard@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wmdeckard@sbcglobal.net)  
C Co. 25<sup>th</sup> ID, 1968 to 1969

## TAPS

**Frank D'Aurora**, Jan 67 replacement of C/2/22 died in 1997, in Portland Maine. He had lost a leg in Vietnam and was buddies with **David Brilyea** (KIA) and his squad leader **George Dahl**.

By **Gary Hartt** A/2/22

**William H. Durden (Bill)**  
C Co. 2<sup>nd</sup> Plt, 25<sup>th</sup> ID, 68 to 69  
Pass away suddenly Dec. 30, 1996  
By his widow Deborah Durden

## GUEST BOOK HITS

Name: **Dorothy Chambers**

Location: Seattle WA

Email: [threerivers550@aol.com](mailto:threerivers550@aol.com)

Comments

If anyone remembers this incident or knows these men PLEASE contact me.

12/15/1967 TayNinh Cu Chi

Four men died , all from Alpha Co 2/22,

+ **SP4 Thomas B. Chambers**/Memphis, Tn

+ **PFC Hopson Covington** Bristol PA

+ **SSG Michael B. Paquin** Westport, CT

+ **PFC Stephen J. Whipple** Portland ME

Name: **Dick Nash**

Location: on the farm in Illinois

Email: [nash222@frontiernet.net](mailto:nash222@frontiernet.net)

Phone: 309 537 3536

Comments

If you want to enjoy your own "mini" reunion, go fishing with a few of the guys from 4 decades ago. Just back from four days on Lake Erie with **Kenny Schulte**, **Joe Goike** and **Larry Gallager** from the old platoon, and no therapy is better than this. And three big bags of walleye fillets doesn't hurt too.

Name: **Kirk Ramsey**

Email: [kramsey214@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kramsey214@sbcglobal.net)

Comments

Lytell B Christian appears to have been serving with 2/14Inf -KIA 3-13-68

I have no information that Christian was serving with 2/14th. What does the Coffelt database list him with?

Name: **Gary Hartt A/2/22 65-67**

Location: **Oregon**

Email: [gchartt@bctonline.com](mailto:gchartt@bctonline.com)

Phone: **503-632-6955**

Comments

Our NW 25th group is having our summer picnic

on Sunday, July 8th, in the Oregon City area. All are welcome. I provide the steaks. If you would like to join us Give me a call for details. Last year we had about 60 people attend, 25th & 1st Air Cav.

Name: **KIRK OLSEN**

Email: [trout65@yahoo.com](mailto:trout65@yahoo.com)

Comments

Hope everyone out there has a safe and happy 4th of July.

Name: **Chuck Fagone**

Location: Portland, Maine

Email: [chuckmaineg@aol.com](mailto:chuckmaineg@aol.com)

Phone: 207-653-4206

Comments

I am looking for info or details on how **PFC Stephen Whipple**, **PFC Hopson Covington**, **SSG Mike Paquin** and **Thomas Beeb Chambers** were KIA. I am PFC Whipples cousin. Any info would be appreciated.

Name: **Moniek Cymerman**

Email: [markcy07@optonline.net](mailto:markcy07@optonline.net)

Comments

Anyone that remembers me from 4th Inf HHC - radar section or Co. A in Fort Lewis and in Viet Nam send me an e-mail. I was also in Cu Chi with 25 Inf Div at the PX. Thanks. Would also to hear from **Sergeant Sheperd**.

Name: **Joe Spado**

Location: River Falls, Wi

Email: [spadoman@me.com](mailto:spadoman@me.com)

Phone: 715 209-0241

Comments

Just got a call from Karen Franklin. Says she is looking for anyone that served in the Triple Deuce with her husband, **Jim Franklin**. 1968-69. Sounds like he was in Bravo Company mortar plt. and was wounded. Does anyone remember Jim Franklin? E-mail me if you can help. Denied benefits, needs proof.

Name: **Edward Bowen**  
Location: **Mill Ville, NJ**  
Email: [ARMINTHA19@AOL.COM](mailto:ARMINTHA19@AOL.COM)  
Phone: **856-765-0730**

Comments

I am looking for anyone who serve in the 2nd 22 Triple Deuce from 1969 to 1970 firebase Jackson.

Name: **Mike Pennington**  
Location: Amarillo, Texas  
Email: [mpennington@afiama.com](mailto:mpennington@afiama.com)  
Phone: 806-282-1838

Comments

Served in the 2/22 C Company from Sept. 68 to Dec. 69. Don't remember many names. **C.L. Barefield** who died on Jan. 14th 1969. And **Capt. Crocker** who was also KIA. **Lt. O'Leary**. If anyone remembers any of that please contact.

## REUNION HIGHLIGHTS

The reunion has come and gone and we are preparing for the next best reunion ever in Branson Spring of 2014. Just some thoughts to share with those who could not be present; hope this will encourage others to share their highlights. **Mark Woempner** did an excellent job organizing and hosting the event. **Martin and Cindy Olkelaus** have registration down to an art. The process moved swiftly. I hear the golf tournament was outstanding (I was in the Hospitality Room). I have addressed the traditions of the event and the Ft. Carson tour in separate entries. The dinners were good; the DMOR/HMOR was inspirational. The criteria and recipients can be seen on the 22 IRS web site. The ORA presentations were memorable. The business meetings were routine; some things just have to be done. The gavel was passed for the 22 IRS from one able Brother to another. The Triple Deuce meeting affirmed the leadership (which is only as good as the members hold them accountable to being.) The ladies breakfast (I hear) was fun and prize filled. Unfortunately, scheduling forced me to miss the memorial service but I have heard very positive reports. And what can be said about the free time? Colorado is beautiful and the aspens were beginning

to turn. I am told the shopping was phenomenal. Something for everyone but the most important part of any reunion is the sharing and healing that takes place as Brother visits Brother. Welcome home and Thanks for serving.

## TRADITIONS HONORED



**CPT McCarthy and Bill Greenlee**

When any group of people shares common bonds they also share meaningful traditions. For the 22 IRS one of those has become the carving of the HEMINGWAY TURKEY. Ernest Hemingway attached himself to Colonel C.T. "Buck" Lanham's 22<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment during its drive across France. He stayed with the 22<sup>nd</sup> through the Hurtgen Forest Battle. After the war Hemingway was invited to one of the early 22<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment Society Reunions. When Hemingway could not make it to the reunions he sent a smoked turkey, with his warm regards, to be shared with the participants in the hotel room they used as a Hospitality room. After Hemingway's death, the tradition of the Smoked Turkey has been perpetuated as an integral part of every reunion. The slicing of the Hemmingway Turkey signifies the official opening of reunions and is done by the oldest and youngest 22<sup>nd</sup> members present.



The active duty Soldiers of 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 22<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment conducted a time honored tradition at the Saturday evening banquet. The tradition, known as THE PUNCH BOWL or MIXING THE GROG, involves pouring and mixing of various beverages, mostly alcoholic, into what is called THE GROG. Before each liquor is poured into the BOWL, one member of the Regiment speaks of the Regiment's involvement during the battles, wars and conflicts in which the Regiment has participated. Then, an explanation of why the particular liquor has been selected to represent each action is provided. At that point, with great flourish, other members of the Regiment pour the selected liquor into the GROG. While the pouring is going on, the speaker provides brief historical facts and tributes to the bravery, deeds and sacrifices of the Soldiers who were involved in the actions.

It is my understanding that the additions to the punch bowl vary from ceremony to ceremony depending on what is available. This was a fast moving festivity so I can only identify some of the elements for the reader. Representative of the War of 1812 was Canadian Whiskey; The Spanish American War, Tequila and Rum; of WWII, French and German wine; of Vietnam, Rice Wine; of Iraq, Chi; of the Rocky Mountain Home of the unit, Coors (two emptied cans were included in the GROG); and of Afghanistan, pomegranate juice. Sharing of the end result was ceremonious.

An honored tradition of The Vietnam Triple Deuce is the awarding of the Order of The Red Ant Medallion and Certificate. Each recipient relates his personal story of an encounter with the red ant.



**ORA recipients Michael Kush, Chuck Allison, Ed Lara, Gary Odgen, Ray Kauffman, and Dennis "Tex" Holt**



**LTC Erich Campbell** was the Sat. night banquet speaker. He was commissioned as Field Artillery Officer in 1988. Erich served 3 tours in Iraq, 2 in Afghanistan, 2 tours in Kosovo, and 2 years in Saudi Arabia...all as an Adviser. He worked with the Iraqi National Police, Iraqi Special Police, Iraqi army, Afghan National Police, and Afghan

Army. Erich was wounded in 2008 in Iraq by a suicide vest during an ambush. He spent 18 months in rehab at the Traumatic Brain Injury Clinic at Fort Riley.

He currently holds the position of Senior Regular Army Advisor in the Kansas Governors Office where he is liaison to the National Guard of Kansas.

Erich served in combat with 1st ID, 1st AD, 1st Cav, 3rd ID, 4th ID, 101 ABN, 3rd ACR. Some of Erich's Awards are, Combat Action Badge, Valorous Unit Award, 3 Bronze Stars, Purple Heart, SW Asia Campaign Medal, Kosovo Campaign Medal, Iraqi Campaign Medal(3 Stars), Afghanistan Campaign Medal(3 Stars), Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, and German Rocket Missile Artillery Badge in Gold. He also is fluent in Arabic and German.

A most inspirational banquet speaker, Erich's presentation which he introduced as *Dysentery & How It Changed My Life*, was fun filled but thought provoking. His dialogue about his Brothers in battle was detailed and entertaining. His conclusion of "Battle Buddies" and how your life partner takes care of you forever was inspirational. Without a doubt it was one of the best speakers I have ever had the pleasure of hearing.



**Jim Tobin**, 3<sup>rd</sup> Bde Chaplin 67-68 visits with **Jim May** HMR and others in the Hospitality Room.



**Mario Salazar** was awarded the Distinguished Member of The Vietnam Triple Deuce. Accepting for Mario is **Dwight Brenneman**.



**Jim Nelson** was awarded the Distinguished Member of The Vietnam Triple Deuce. Pictured with Jim is **Ed Schultz** and **Skip Fahel**

For complete listing of the Honorary and Distinguished Members and the selection criteria see the 22nd Infantry Regiment Society web site

## TOUR OF FT. CARSON FUN AND ENLIGHTENING

Fort Carson is a United States Army installation located near Colorado Springs. Fort Carson is the home of the 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, The 10<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group, the 71<sup>st</sup> Ordnance Group (EOD), the 4<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion, the 759<sup>th</sup> Military Police Battalion, the 10<sup>th</sup> Combat Support Hospital, the 43<sup>rd</sup> Sustainment Brigade and the 13<sup>th</sup> Air Support Operations Squadron of the United States Air Force.

The post also hosts units of the Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, and the Colorado Army National Guard.

Fort Carson was established in 1942, following Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor. The city of Colorado Springs, Colorado purchased land south of the city and donated it to the War Department. Construction began immediately and the first building, the camp headquarters, was completed January 31, 1942. Camp Carson was named in honor of the legendary Army scout, General Christopher "Kit" Carson, who explored much of the West in the 1800s.

At the construction's peak, nearly 11,500 workers were employed on various construction projects at the new camp. Facilities were provided for 35,173 enlisted men, 1,818 officers and 592 nurses. Nearly all of the buildings were of mobilization type construction, with wood sided exteriors. The hospital complex was constructed of concrete block, and considered to be semi-permanent, and had space for 1,726 beds, expandable to 2,000 beds. The 89<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division was the first major unit to be activated at Camp Carson. During World War II, over 100,000 soldiers trained at Camp Carson. Along with three other infantry divisions – the 71<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division, 104<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division and the 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division—more than 125 units were activated at Camp Carson and more than 100 others were transferred to the Mountain post from other installations.

Nurses, cooks, mule packers, tank battalions, a Greek infantry battalion, and an Italian ordnance company trained at Camp Carson during the war years. Camp Carson was also home to nearly 9,000 Axis prisoners of war – mostly Italians and Germans. The internment camp at Camp Carson opened on the first day of 1943. These POWs alleviated the manpower shortage in Colorado by doing general farm work, canning tomatoes, cutting corn, and aiding in logging operations on Colorado's Western Slope.

Between 1942 and 1956, pack mules were a common sight at Camp Carson. The first shipment arrived by train from Nebraska in July 1942. The mules were used by Field Artillery (Pack) battalions to carry equipment, weapons and supplies over mountainous terrain. The most famous of these animals was Hambone, the pride of the 4<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Regiment. For 13 years, he carried First Sergeants up Ute Pass to Camp Hale. Camp Hale, located near Leadville, Colorado, was where the Army conducted cold weather and mountain warfare training. Hambone died in March 1971, and was buried with full military honors.

Activity at Camp Carson was greatly reduced following the end of World War II. By April 1946, the military strength at the Mountain Post had dropped to around 600. It appeared that Camp Carson would be closed. With the onset of the Korean War, however, activity once again increased. Many Reserve and National Guard units were called to active duty and stationed at Camp Carson during this time.

Camp Carson became "Fort Carson" in 1954. In the 1960s, mechanized units were assigned to the Mountain Post.

Exercises and deployments continually hone the skills of Fort Carson soldiers. When not deployed, soldiers train annually at Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site and the National Training Center near Barstow, California. Additionally, units participate in joint exercises around the world, including Central and South Africa, Europe, and Southwest Asia. In 2003, most Fort Carson units



were deployed in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. Troops from the 984th Military Police CO, 759th Military Police BN were also sent in support of the guard mission at Guantanamo Bay Naval Base, Cuba. President George W. Bush addressed soldiers and family members at the post on November 24, 2003, in praise of the soldiers' determination and the sacrifices their families have made.

Fort Carson's beautiful scenery has made it one of the most requested duty stations in the U.S. Army. It is considered the second most popular CONUS duty station, after Fort Lewis, Washington, and adopted "Best Hometown in the Army" as its motto in 2007.

Fort Carson has undergone a construction boom in 2007 and 2008 in preparation for the return of the 4th Infantry Division (4ID) from Fort Hood, Texas. The 4ID sat up headquarters at Fort Carson after returning from their 2008 deployment to Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The tour of the motor pool was a highlight of the tour. All new since 2010; it was impressive. The seasoned vets and some spouses were guided and allowed to climb on various vehicles.

## A BROTHER HONORED

The attached is a short composition concerning Sergeant Major Arthur A Werner (First Sergeant Bravo Company 2/22 and a member of the US Ranger Hall of Fame) Those of us that deployed to Vietnam in 1966 with the 2/22 may remember him, but not his many military achievements. He was a tough man with a touch of soft heart.

**Mike Carpentier** (Bravo Company 3rd Plt Leader and Exc., Recon Plt. Leader)

### The First Sergeant

For many of the original 2/22 that deployed from Ft. Lewis in 1966 there was a deep, gruff voice that struck fear in the hearts of both enlisted and officers. The man with the voice was tall, had a strong build and piercing eyes. He was the First Sergeant of Bravo Company 2/22, Sergeant Ma-

ior **Arthur A Werner**.

When I first reported to Bravo Company as a young 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in early March 1966, First Sergeant Werner took me aside and stated in no uncertain terms that if I had any problems with an NCO or enlisted personnel in Bravo Company I was to bring it to his attention and he would rectify any and all problems. After observing Sergeant Warner in action at Ft. Lewis, I realized there would be no problems. His long weekend marches for the offender or offenders (while he rode a bike), the notorious 6 ft x 6 ft x 6 ft fox hole with an offender's weekend pass buried in the bottom, the hole refilled, and the pass only to be retrieved a couple of weeks later by the offender, greatly limited problems.

Sergeant Warner enlisted in the Army in March of 1941 at the age of 16. He was stationed at Pearl Harbor when it was attacked in December 1941. He served on Guadalcanal and later with Merrill's Marauders in Burma at age 18. In the Korean War, he was a "Mustang" (2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant) reaching the rank of Captain. In 1955, he found himself a Sergeant due to a reduction of force after Korea. In 1966, he deployed with the 2/22 to Vietnam as First Sergeant of Bravo Company. He went on to a second tour in Vietnam in 1969.

Sergeant Major Arthur A Werner's military awards include: CIB with 2 Stars, 2 Silver Stars for Gallantry In Action, 1 Bronze Star for Valor, 4 Bronze Stars for Meritorious Service, 2 Purple Hearts, and numerous campaign and service decorations. In 1999, Sergeant Major Werner was inducted into the United States Ranger Hall Of Fame, America's most extraordinary RANGERS. Despite the rough exterior of this man he carried a heavy heart for those men of Bravo Company that were wounded or killed in action in Vietnam during his tour. It was an honor and privilege to have served with a man of his stature.

**Mike Carpentier**  
Bravo Company 3rd Plt Leader and Exc.,  
Recon Plt. Leader

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## There may be some of our men who do not know this!

<http://www.military.com/flag-day/rules-for-saluting-us-flag.html#.T9nYe203LRk.email>

Law Now Allows Retirees and Vets to Salute Flag

Traditionally, members of the nation's veterans service organizations have rendered the hand-salute during the national anthem and at events involving the national flag only while wearing their organization's official head-gear.

**The National Defense Authorization Act of 2008 contained an amendment to allow un-uniformed service members, military retirees, and veterans to render a hand salute during the hoisting, lowering, or passing of the U.S. flag.**

**A later amendment further authorized hand-salutes during the national anthem by veterans and out-of-uniform military personnel. This was included in the Defense Authorization Act of 2009, which President Bush signed on Oct. 14, 2008.**

Here is the actual text from the law:  
SEC. 595. MILITARY SALUTE FOR THE FLAG DURING THE NATIONAL ANTHEM BY MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES NOT IN UNIFORM AND BY VETERANS.

Section 301(b)(1) of title 36, United States Code, is amended by striking subparagraphs (A) through (C) and inserting the following new subparagraphs:

“(A) individuals in uniform should give the military salute at the first note of the anthem and maintain that position until the last note;

“(B) members of the Armed Forces and veterans who are present but not in uniform may render the military salute in the manner provided for individuals in uniform; and

“(C) all other persons present should face the flag and stand at attention with their right hand over the heart, and men not in uniform, if applicable, should remove their head-dress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart;

Note: Part (C) applies to those not in the military and non-veterans. The phrase "men not in uniform" refers to civil service uniforms like police, fire fighters, and letter carriers - non-veteran civil servants who might normally render a salute while in uniform.

**"If we ever forget that we're One Nation Under God, then we will be a nation gone under." --Ronald Reagan**

**John Eberwine**

(Retired-County of Atlantic)

Vietnam Veteran C 2nd Bn (Mech)/22nd Inf Rgmt., 25th Inf Div Sept '67 - Sept '68

## DINING OUT JULY, 2012

On July 19 I headed, once again, to Ft Drum to attend a Dining Out with the 2nd Battalion, 22<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment, 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division. **Pete Gaworecki** was going to meet **Ed Schultz** and **Skip Fabel** at the Airport in Syracuse, so I traveled across the northern most roads in New Hampshire and Vermont. The interstates might be convenient, but America lives on the two-lane roads, and I like to see America.



I arrived at the Ft Drum Inn and waited for Ed, Skip and Pete to arrive and so that we could all check in at the same time and, hopefully, avoid some of the small problems we've had in the past. Once checked in we headed for the LeRay Mansion site where we would be staying in one of the guest houses that are near the Mansion. We had hoped to have both the guest houses, but the incoming Division Chief of Staff needed a place to stay, so he was given the smaller of the two guest houses. This meant that one of us would have to stay in the Mansion itself because the guest we did manage to keep has only three bedrooms. Since there were four of us and since Ed is the HCOR it was decided that he should stay in the Mansion. It is widely believed that a ghost visits the Mansion, but none of us has ever had the pleasure. Ed was hoping to have his own story for the Newsletters as well as a visit with the cable TV people who travel the world looking for ghosts.

We settled in and made plans for the traditional first evening's meal with the Battalion Commander and his guests. However, the Battalion, along with 7,000 other 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Soldiers, was preparing for a Division Level Training Exercise and LTC Brett Funck and his staff was all tied up preparing for an on base deployment. Good News was that LTC Mike Loos was going to join us. Mike is presently the Division G-3. Normally, a Colonel is the G-3, but Mike has the job because MG Milley knows he can do the job. Well, Mike was his usual gregarious self. He was also interrupted by four or five cell calls that dealt with the upcoming training exercise.

Mike reports that Shelley and the kids are all doing fine and that Angel Mesa, former OX of Triple Deuce, was taking command of 3/71 Cavalry Squadron and that the Change of Command would take place in the morning. After dinner Mike went back to work and we prepared for a busy day.

We attended the Change of Command where we prominently displayed the VN 222 Guidon. Angel and Sarah were surprised and pleased to see us. We also visited with Dennis and Brenda Sullivan. Dennis, like everyone else on post, was busy and didn't have time for a proper visit, but we all understand how the job isn't a Monday to Friday, 9 to 5 affair.

After the Change of Command I spotted MG and Mrs Milley walking towards the Division HQ Building. In

my normal shy and retiring fashion I walked up to the general and introduced myself. I wear a name tag, so the general had some idea about whom I might, but there was no doubt that he'd heard about the Vietnam Vets who regularly visit Triple Deuce. While the general was asking what I did in Vietnam Ed, Skip and Pete came to see if I was in trouble or making friends. The general asked each what they had done and from that point on referred to us, not by name, but by the rank we carried in Vietnam. It was Lieutenant this and Major that. Of course, we called the General, General, so it all seemed like 40+ years ago for me. General Milley is a direct, but pleasant man. He is a graduate of Princeton and knows what is going on is the Division. He's a hands on type but appears to let his subordinates do their jobs without interference.

Well, it was off to get something to eat. We'd had breakfast, but when traveling with Pete, the dining schedule takes precedent. We ate at the food court at the PX and then spent some time shopping. That done, we headed for the Battalion Area and managed to visit with Brett Funck. Brett wasn't sure how he was going to get the things done that needed to be done and still be able to host the Dining Out, so we didn't take any of his time. We did visit the History Room where CSM Giovanni Sanchez continues to add to the displays. I will mention again, that Soldiers presenting themselves to promotion boards are asked questions about the Battalion's history. To prepare, Soldiers have small group meetings and discuss the battalion's history. In past visits we have been asked about Soui Tre and Burt. These Soldiers are well informed.

We arrived at the Commons earlier than usual. This gave us time to look for familiar faces and to make new acquaintances. We sat with our respective Companies and passed on many pearls of wisdom. I sit with Echo Company, the support company. Many of the NCO's have been deployed more than once, so they get it when I preach about being familiar with personal weapons and there need to remember that all Soldiers are Infantrymen. There's no time to improve one's skill with a rifle at 3 AM when the Bad Guys are in the wire. It's difficult to get Soldiers who joined the Army to learn how to repair comms equipment or repair diesel engines to understand that they may be in the fight at any moment. My hope is that they listen to what others who have been there tell them.

The Dining Out was a success. The food was fine, the music was fine and the Ladies all looked fine. I was invited to dance and I'm sure that the young lady was surprised to see that I was able to dance. After all, I'm probably older than the young lady's grandfather.

As usual, we stayed until the end and then went back to our lodgings for a nightcap and a some conversation about how proud we are to know these your Men and Women who are answering the Nation's call.

**Jim May, HMOR**

### **Post Script. October 8, 2012**

Brett Funk reports that the Battalion has returned from the National Training Center. In an e-message I received late last week, Brett said that he was on his way to AFG, this indicates that the Battalion will deploy within 30 days.

Be Safe Triple Deuce

## **VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION UPDATE**

In a proclamation issued 25 MAY, President Barack Obama urged Americans to remember the courage and sacrifice of U.S. military members who served during the Vietnam War, and he declared May 28, 2012, through November 11, 2025, as the Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War. In his proclamation, Obama called upon federal, state, and local officials "to honor our Vietnam veterans, our fallen, our wounded, those unaccounted for, our former prisoners of war, their families, and all who served with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities" during the 13-year commemoration. "As we observe the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War, we reflect with solemn reverence upon the valor of a generation that served with honor," Obama said in his proclamation. "We pay tribute to the more than 3 million servicemen and women who left their families to serve bravely, a world away from everything they knew and everyone they loved.

"From Ia Drang to Khe Sanh, from Hue to Saigon and countless villages in between, they pushed through jungles and rice paddies, heat and monsoon, fighting heroically to protect the ideals we hold dear as Ameri-

cans," the president continued. "Through more than a decade of combat, over air, land, and sea, these proud Americans upheld the highest traditions of our armed forces." Today, grateful Americans "honor more than 58,000 patriots -- their names etched in black granite -- who sacrificed all they had and all they would ever know," Obama said. "We draw inspiration from the heroes who suffered unspeakably as prisoners of war, yet who returned home with their heads held high. We pledge to keep faith with those who were wounded and still carry the scars of war, seen and unseen. With more than 1,600 of our service members still among the missing, we pledge as a nation to do everything in our power to bring these patriots home. "In the reflection of The Wall," he continued, "we see the military family members and veterans who carry a pain that may never fade. May they find peace in knowing their loved ones endure, not only in medals and memories, but in the hearts of all Americans, who are forever grateful for their service, valor, and sacrifice."

Obama urged citizens to "renew our sacred commitment to those who answered our country's call in Vietnam and those who awaited their safe return." The federal government will partner with local governments, private organizations, and communities across America to participate in the Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War. The 13-year commemoration, he added, will "honor and give thanks to a generation of proud Americans who saw our country through one of the most challenging missions we have ever faced." No amount of words will ever be enough or fully worthy in praising military members for their service in the Vietnam War, nor any honor truly befitting their sacrifice, Obama said. However, "it is never too late to pay tribute to the men and women who answered the call of duty with courage and valor," he said, adding it's also important to "renew our commitment to the fullest possible accounting for those who have not returned." Obama urged all Americans to provide "our Vietnam veterans, their families, and all who have served the fullest respect and support of a grateful nation."

Visit the website

**<http://www.vietnamwar50th.com/>**

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 Other colors available Add \$ 3.00

All items are shipped US Mail with delivery confirmation. Shipping charges are: one hat \$6.00 one shirt \$8.00, one hat & one shirt \$8.00. two shirts \$8.00 Add \$3.00 for each additional hat or shirt. No additional shipping charges when pins and patches are included with the purchase of hats or shirts.

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**Summer hats**, mesh back. White or Black \$15.00 (Shipping is same as other hats.)

This is a new style. This is a six panel "Round" style, cost \$15.00. (Shipping is same as other hats.)





## CUSTOM EMBROIDERY

The accompanying photos are of a jacket and shirt that were custom embroidered by

Karyn Miltich of Scappoose Outfitters of Oregon.

The demand for custom embroidered jackets and shirts was raised at the last reunion. As a result of this demand arrangements have been made with Karyn to provide custom embroidered items to Vietnam Triple Deuce Members.

Those who have seen and were impressed with Rich Miller's, Charlie Company Original, embroidered jacket will be pleased to know that Karyn is responsible for the fine embroidery on Rich's jacket.

Karyn has all that is necessary to be able to apply the Vietnam Triple Deuce Challenge Coin embroidery, the ORA embroidery, all of the service ribbons as well as 4<sup>th</sup> ID and 25<sup>th</sup> ID patch embroidery. From conversations with Karyn I believe she can provide any custom embroidery you desire.



Go to Karyn's web site,

[www.ScappooseOutfitters.com](http://www.ScappooseOutfitters.com)

and look through the jackets and shirts she offers.

Call Karyn, 503-543-2020 or e-mail her at

[Karyn@ScappooseOutfitters.com](mailto:Karyn@ScappooseOutfitters.com)

with your questions.

All orders will be placed with and payments made to Karyn.



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I served with the 2-22 in Vietnam: Company \_\_\_\_\_ Division \_\_\_\_\_ Dates served \_\_\_\_\_

I served in support of the 2-22 in Vietnam: unit and dates served \_\_\_\_\_

I did not serve in or support the 2-22 in Vietnam but wish to be an associate member \_\_\_\_\_

Men you served with who you would like to contact: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

My dues are enclosed for year(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Amount\* \_\_\_\_\_

Sorry, there are no Life Memberships

Additional amount you elect to give to the Helping Hand Fund. Amount\*\* \_\_\_\_\_

A few examples of how these funds will be used are: to support  
The Sponsored Attendees Program, our Active Duty Soldiers, and  
disaster relief such as 9-11.

Total Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Attention New members:

Do you wish to have your name, address, phone number and e-mail address listed in the Comments  
section of the next newsletter? Y \_\_\_\_\_ / N \_\_\_\_\_

Make your check out to: Vietnam Triple Deuce, Inc. and mail it to Jim May with this form filled out.  
Jim's address is: P.O. Box 665...Norridgewock, ME 04957. His e-mail address and phone number are:  
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Your comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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