

The VietNam Triple Deuce, Inc.

An Association of 2 Bn. (Mech) 22nd Infantry Regiment VietNam Veterans

Editors Dan & Vera Streit D 2/22 1969
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&...Welcome Home**

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**The Vietnam Triple Deuce
Website**
www.vietnamtripledeuce.org

Please Visit Today!

Mario Salazar
Webmaster
HHC 2/22 65-67

Editors Comment: Seems this newsletter followed pretty closely on the heels of the last one. Everyone has lots of commitments in his/her life. Only by working together can we get the new circulated in a timely manner. Please remember The Triple Deuce News Letter is only as good as the contributions received. Your brothers are counting on you.

A Message from the President

Again, my major message is for you to make your plans now for the 22nd Infantry Regiment Reunion in Kansas City. The reunion is schedule for the Memorial Day weekend, and it will be a great time for all. For the golfer's out there, make plans to bring your clubs and join me on the course for the 22nd Infantry Tournament and see who will take the 22nd Infantry Golf Guidon home. The tournament will be held Thursday morning.

I am still working on the 2/22 Power-Point presentation. I am still in need for a few pictures from the brothers that severed between mid 1968 till December 1970. If you have any pictures, please e-mail them to me at *****. For the B Company brothers, I have completed my PowerPoint that covers the period of April 67 to April 1968, which focuses on the 3rd Platoon.

We will also be having the election to our Board of Directors. If you would like to serve, or know someone that you would like to serve on the board,

please let us know. We will have several openings for new board members this year.

The 2/22 at Ft. Drum is having their Spring Formal on April 30th. I know that

Jim May and I will be there. Hope to see a few of you there also.

See you in Kansas City.

E. Q. Skip Fahel

B-2/22, '67-'68

President

The Officers and Board Members need some help, not a lot of help, but we need the Membership to **Get Involved**.

We are presently receiving more and more messages on the Web Site from Vietnam Triple Deucers. The messages are all very similar. The Company and dates served are posted. The guys leaving these messages want to know if anyone remembers them and then usually state that they'd like to get in touch with a Buddy. Names, e-mail address and phone number are left. Mario Salazar has the site set up so that this type of message is forwarded to everyone on the VN 222 Group e-mail.

That's the easy part. Many of us receiving these messages send a Welcome Home message back to the guy who left the message. However, for the most part we don't connect because we are unable to get the guy to identify with us. If the guy leaving the message identifies himself as being in Charlie Co. from July 69 to July 70, getting a Welcome Home from a Charlie Co. guy who served in 1967 is nice, but it isn't what this guy is looking for. This guy needs to get a message from someone who was there when he was there and if the message comes from someone who was in the same Company, all the better.

The message doesn't have to be anything

more than a Welcome Home and a few words about who the message sender is and that there are ways to find Buddies. You will be messaging with a Triple Deucer who doesn't know about the Newsletters, the contact that guys who served together now share or the reunions. The guy leaving the message has no idea of how much he is missing. We need to do more to bring these guys into the Vietnam Triple Deuce.

All you need to do to get the auto messages from the site is join the e-mail Group. Here are the instructions: Go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/vn2-22mz/members> Once you get there create your own ID and Password. If you have trouble, then ask Mario to help. Mario's email is

Those of you who don't have a computer can also help. The Newsletter contains a list of all the e-mails that have been sent to the site. If you want to respond to any of the messages, even if it is to say that you were in the Triple Deuce at the same time, then call the person who left the message. If there's no phone number, then contact anyone of the Officers or Board Members and we will get that phone number for you. Our phone numbers are also listed here in the Newsletter

We can all do more to make our Brothers aware that they are no longer alone. They are Vietnam Triple Deucers and have earned the right to be in the company of their Brothers.

The heading on this Newsletter reads, ***"Together Then... Together Again... Thanks for Being There... &... Welcome Home!"*** Let's all **Get Involved** and bring as many missing

Brothers into The Vietnam Triple Deuce as possible.

Jim May, VN 222

Editors Comment: Together is where we belong whether it was in the heat of battle, during our transition to civilian life or as we reminisce and finally put the pieces together. There is a strength in this band of brothers than one who has not experienced it can not begin to understand.

The Inside Track

By: The Kool-Aid Kid

-There has been some "age" talk on the Vietnam Triple Deuce users group...our chat room. We have finger pointing amongst the 50-somethings, and the 60 year olds aren't saying anything.

I was personally attacked by a young 50's guy, **Dennis Zollo**, from D/2/22, who called me and "Old Original Guy." Our Treasurer, **Jim May**, thought it was quite funny until I had him check his D.O.B. It was quite a shock for him to find out that he is the same age as the so called "Old Original Guy". He never loses count of our money, but it looks like some years slipped by him.

Bill "Mad Doc" Matz, being a former Medic (and a Triple Deuce Original), knows that one is only as old as their mind is. Bill is 140.

Conspicuously absent in the muck slinging was our beloved **Norm "Magnet" Nishikubo**, and my Triple Deuce Squad Leader, **Joe "Gung-ho" Dietz**. You figure it out. **Gary Hartt** was trying to laugh it all off...telling us that he was shedding tears of joy over the incident. Okay fine Gary. (Poor old guy.)

How old is K.A.K.? The body is 58 years

old. A lot of the mind is still 20.

Are These Reunions Important To You?

Are these reunions important to you? Only you can decide that, but you need to go to one and meet up with some of your combat brothers before you make a decision.

I have seen it over and over again at the reunions, when a guy at his first reunion will come in to check in and look around for someone he knows or recognizes and not know anyone in the room, and no one knows him. However, we do know he is a 22nd Infantry Guy, so some of us will take a further step and get him introduced to someone in his timeframe, his company, his platoon, as close to his squad as we can, because once we can connect him with someone from his time there and they connect, he is no longer alone and has a friend in the room.

We have a chance to reconnect our bond, our friendships, our brotherhood; whatever the feeling is that makes me feel so connected my fellow combat brothers. I do not have the words to express the feelings but it is a strong bond that I feel when I am around one of the guys I was there with and had a personal connection with over in Vietnam. This is someone who was in the same squad, platoon or company and that served in the same time frame that you did. That is where you will get the deepest personal connection that will have the most meaning for you.

The boat people, who cares, originals, so what, what matters to me and to you is the person who was on the listening post, ambush patrol, the 50 gun, digging sandbags, pulling berm duty, the bartender at the em club. When you find one of those guys, you have something to talk about. This is a very personal thing.

The first contact I had was a postcard from John Eberwine, sent to my mom's house in a town I had not lived in for 25 years. My mom called me, and said she had gotten a postcard about a reunion from some guy that was in the army with me in Vietnam. I did not remember him, but told her to keep it, and I would get it the next time I was out. A month later, I picked it up, and read it over and wondered what they wanted but I was a little curious so I gave John a call one day. He answered the phone and the call went something like this, Thanks for calling Jerry and Welcome Home and thanks for being there. I asked him how he got my name and he said Jim Nelson gave it to him from an old sketchbook. I barely remembered Jim Nelsons name, but then asked him what platoon he was in. I was in the third and he was in the second. I know a bunch of guys in the second but could not remember any names and did not remember John at all. I was sitting looking at my scrapbook. I asked him if he was at the battle of Fire Base Burt! In the next few seconds, we connected. He was in New Jersey and I was in Washington State, but we were back in Vietnam together. Come to find out, he was in the next track over to mine. His was the track I was running toward when I was wounded that night! Talk about a small world.

I was very lucky that the first reunion that I went to was put on by (the 50 gunner in the track next to mine at Burt), my old CO, 1SG,

two guys in my squad, and one guy from my platoon, the Chaplin, the battalion Commander. And to boot, it was held at a small town in LA where my wife had always wanted to go so she was all for the trip. It all fell together for me so I could make the trip and once I felt the feelings, I was hooked. I felt a connection with my fellow brothers that I have not felt with others before or since. I have been to every reunion since John Eberwine and Bill Allison formed the Triple Deuce in Gettysburg.

Two weeks ago, a member of 2nd Platoon of Charlie Company of the Triple Deuce, Charlie Loveless, died from natural causes. One of his combat brothers, Jeff Conduit attended the service. I called to order a wreath from Charlie Company, and the lady said this guy sure had a lot of friends because several of his Charlie Company Friends had been calling and ordering flowers that morning. That may not have meant much to Charlie, but I bet his family and friends knew he was missed.

We served together in 1967-68, and had said goodbye in Vietnam in September of 1968. The next time I saw him was at the San Antonio Reunion. His First!

I had never been in contact with him until the last reunion in San Antonio when Jeff and Charlie finally came to their first reunion. Charlie and I had been on R&R together in Taipei so I had vivid memories of Charlie.

In my scrapbook of pictures of Vietnam, I have 38 different guys in the pictures. Ted Angus is another combat brother that made it to a reunion

in Dallas and reconnected with his brothers before health problems took him. To feel connected with us again and feel like a warrior again was very precious to Ted as he fought a losing battle with his health. We went at each other every week just like we did in Viet Nam, no matter how he felt! And he loved every moment of it.

There are others as well who have been to the reunions and pass on. We have had fun together and they were glad they came and were with their fellow warriors again.

Gentlemen, most of us are well into our 50s and 60s now and it is time to start Finding your buddies while we are still healthy. If you have some time, we can show you how to bring one guy home with you.

Ps to all the boat people and originals: I know; it's important to you, just realize that you are just a part of the group, we are all important. That is why we are called the Vietnam Triple Deuce!

"Together Then...Together Again...Thanks for Being There & Welcome Home!

Jerry Rudisill--Vietnam Triple Deuce

Vietnam Era Artist Showing

The New York State Military Museum at 61 Lake Ave. in Saratoga Springs, New York, has advanced the showing of Jim Nelson's paintings and Dave Demauro's photographs to April 29, 2005.

The paintings and photographs depict many scenes that deal with the 22 Infantry 25 Division during the Vietnam War.

Courtney Burns, the curator, has decided

that the showing will last more than a year. For further information about the reception and showing, Mr. Burns can be contacted at

Sharon and Jim Nelson can be reached at *****. Their address is now Rt. 2 Box 13A, *****, *****

TWELVE STEPS FOR VIETNAM VETERANS.

Step 9 (Forgiveness & Self-Condernation). Got me to thinking about an article I read in a Pompano Beach newspaper back in the early 80's. It was about a group of Vietnam veterans living in the woods. Their experience led me to write the following:

"KISS THE TRAIN GOODBYE"

OH MY GOD, MY TIME HAS COME
TO KISS THE TRAIN OR CON-
TINUE TO RUN
THERE WERE FOUR AND NOW
THERE'S THREE
WHAT IN GOD'S NAME IS IN
STORE FOR ME!

SHOULD I FACE THE TRAIN OR
ONCE AGAIN FLEE?
OH MY GOD, WHAT'S IN STORE
FOR ME?
THERE ONCE WAS THREE AND
NOW THERE'S TWO
OH GOD IN HEAVEN, WHAT MUST
I DO?

SHOULD I FACE MY FEAR OR LET
IT GO?
SHALL I PULL THE PLUG OR MAKE
THE SHOW?

OH MY GOD, THERE'S ONLY ONE
SHOULD I FACE WHAT I HAVE DONE?

LOOKING BACK AS IT NEARS, I FACE
THE TRAIN WITH LACK OF FEAR.
I MADE A CHOICE SOME YEARS AGO TO
LET MY FATHER TAKE CONTROL

SO NOW THE TIME HAS COME TO
SEE.....

COMPOSED BY: IVAN B. DaPHISH
(A.K.A. **MIKE POUNDS**), B-2/22

HITS FROM THE WEBSITE

Name: Stephen Murphy

email: *****

Date: 12/17/04

Jerry Rudisill--Vietnam Triple Deuce

Comments I was with B company, 2nd platoon, 4th squad (white square) 2/22 from March 69 to March 70. I was home for about a month when I watched Triple Deuce on TV going into Cambodia. I carried the M-60 for 5 months before graduating to the 50 cal, then to squad leader for the last month and a half. At the time I knew the layout of the AO but, since no one ever gave me a map, I'm only now learning the names of a lot of places. Question: Our tracks were marked with symbols so you could identify anyone at a distance. If I remember correctly the colors were red, white, blue, yellow for A, B, C, and mortars, respectively. 1st platoon had a 1, second platoon a circle, third a triangle, and fourth a square. None of the pictures I've seen of Triple Deuce have these markings. When were they used? Joe Spado. I didn't have much to do with the mortars except to let them know where the ambush patrols were REALLY going to be before we went out. You guys could keep a secret from the Platoon Leaders and the CC and no rounds from H&I fire ever came close to us even when we were nowhere near where we

were suppose to be. THANX!! All the mortar support was great and the only time I ever saw a screw-up was when a short round (wet powder?) landed on some ARVNs. I think the brass came down on the CC over it. I saw the round hit and at first thought it was incoming from the NVA. This is a great site. Glad I found it.

Name: Joe Spado

email: *****

Date: 11/23/2004

phone: *****

and describe that person to me. I, like many, am having a hard time remembering people, places, faces and names. But the time has come for me to get my memory jogged and start to put it all together. I seem to be somewhat ready now. E-mail anytime.

Name: Don Stoffel

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Name: Don Stoffel

Comments: To anyone that receives a "Spado" tape from Bill Noyes or anyone else. If you are in the tape or you recognize anyone and remember their name, please e-mail me

email: *****

Date: 11/20/04

phone: *****

Comments C-2-22 65-67 It seems I lost an address of Patrick Walsh, if anyone has it I would be most grateful.

Name: Rod Thomas

email: *****

Date: 11/15/04

Comments Charlie Company, 2/22, 12/68-06/69 Alpha Company (Little Bears) 25th Aviation, 06/69-12/69

Name: Michael A. Rivera

email: *****

Date: 11/11/2004

Comments: My brother who is also my hero Jesse A. Rivera served C/2-22 between 9/67 and 5/68. I served Air Force in the late 70's I wish everyone a prayer this Veteran's Day God Bless You

Name: Donald (Mitch) Mitchell C/2/22 66-67

email: *****

Date: 10/5/04

Comments this is for the guys who served in Charlie Company 66-67. Do any of you remember Louis Kimes? I was looking at the names on the Vietnam Wall and his name came up or some one with the same name. But this guy was KIA on Nov.19, 1966 the same day we had a fire fight on Operation Attleboro when Charlie whipped our butts. The fly in the ointment is it give no age or hometown just KIA 11/19/66. Can anyone shed any light on this?

Name: Forrest Perreault

email: *****

Date: 11/07/04

Comments: I was a radio mech. in 2/22 first in Charlie Co. then HQ. Co. from 10/68 to 10/69. I still remember the great people I met there. Some are still difficult to remember without sadness. Enough said if anyone remembers me I would be glad to hear from them.

**Dau Tieng
XT493472**

When my "Hello Vietnam Triple Deuce" letter appeared in the December 2001 News-letter I wrote, "I am a Dau Tieng soldier;" I

had no idea that this statement could mean so many things to so many Members. I assumed that what went on in and around Dau Tieng during my tour was consistent with what went on before and after my time. Well, I have come to learn that I was very wrong in that assumption.

A while back Mike Groves asked me, "Just what did you do in Dau Tieng," and it made me realize that you were all entitled to a better explanation than the one I provided in the "Hello" letter. So I will do my best to provide some detail as to what I did. You won't read anything that is meant to compare to Soui Tre, Burt, Good Friday or any other battles that the Triple Deuce was involved in. I do hope to provide some insight as to what the dedicated people who supported you went through in their efforts to do what needed to be done. I believe that as you read about some of these events you will feel the frustration and you will laugh at some of the non-sense that we had to deal with in order to get things done.

It is important that you all know a little bit about what I did before I got to Dau Tieng so that you can see the events I am going to describe through my perspective.

My Enlisted MOS was 11D, Armor Cavalry Reconnaissance Specialist; we were simply called Scouts. I went to OCS at Ft. Eustis, VA and was commissioned as a Transportation Corp Officer. This is very different from the Infantry Officers some of you were and all of you are familiar with; more about the differences later. My first assignment was with the 197th Infantry Brigade at Ft. Benning, GA. While with the 197th I served as a Motor Officer, an Artillery Battery Com-

manding Officer and as the Brigade Assistant S-4. I worked for and with some of the finest men I had ever met. They were no nonsense Professional Soldiers.

That was my experience. I received my orders for the 25th Aviation Battalion in January 1967 and off to Vietnam I went. When I got to Cu Chi the 25th Aviation Battalion no longer needed me. I was listed as excess and after a couple of days was sent to the Division Support Command and then to the 25th Supply and Transport Battalion. I was excess there to.

I was introduced to CO, XO and the CO of Bravo Co. They all appeared to be quite normal to me, oh how wrong I was. I was put into a tent with other Lieutenants and learned that the Bn XO inspected this tent every day. I thought this was odd, that Officers would be inspected this way. Well, everything about the S&T Bn in Cu Chi was odd. The XO, Major L made a fashion statement by wearing a white T-shirts backwards so that the neckband was prominently displayed. A bright white neckband in a combat zone!

Enough of the Cu Chi characters for now, you'll read more about them later. I was very disappointed with my assignment. I had been the Assistant S-4 of the largest separate Brigade in the Army and now I was going to have someone check to see if my bed was made in the morning.

While I was sitting around in my "excess" status another Lieutenant invited me to go along with him on a convoy to Duc Hoa. I accepted the invitation and met him in front of the Orderly Room the next morning.

While the Lieutenant was in the orderly I began a conversation with the E-4 who was going to man the pedestal mounted M-60. I asked the E-4 how he had qualified with the M-60. He didn't understand what I was asking so I asked if he had qualified as a Marksman, Sharpshooter or Expert. He told me he was a truck driver and had never

fired an M-60 and that he didn't know how to load the M-60. When the other Lieutenant came out of the Orderly Room I told him what the E-4 had told me. I thought the Lieutenant would go back into the Orderly Room and demand an explanation and a qualified M-60 gunner. That's not what he did, in fact, he did nothing. He just said, "Well, that's who they sent me," then he started the Jeep and headed for the Main Gate. Here we are about to go off with two MP Jeeps on a 50 klick round trip convoy and the M-60 in our Jeep was manned by someone who had didn't know how to load or fire the weapon. And, the Officer in Charge didn't know enough to give a damn! Before we left the gate I switched places with the E-4.

It was becoming more apparent to me that I did not fit in with the other Officers in the 25th S&T Battalion. I first learned about Dau Tieng from an LT that was on his way home. He was an Infantry Officer who had been in one of the line units in Dau Tieng and then transferred to the 25th S&T Provisional Co. I don't remember his name or which line unit he had been in. I do remember that he was about 5'9" had brown hair, a small face and was taking home a ChiCom pistol as a souvenir. He was the man who advised me to ask to go to Dau Tieng. He said words to the effect that I would be able to get away from the S&T Brass' chicken sierra by going to Dau Tieng. He went on to say that the Brass never went to Dau Tieng because they were afraid of the place. The next morning, after my bed was inspected, I asked Major L if I could go to Dau Tieng as a replacement for the LT that was on his way

home. Major L thought I was crazy for making such a request but said he would discuss it with the CO, LTC H. All the Officers in the 25th S&T also thought I was crazy for making the request, but I knew I didn't belong with this crowd and was desperate to get away from them. So, after about three weeks in Cu Chi I escaped to Dau Tieng on March 16, 1968. To this day I do not regret my decision.

Hope the background wasn't too boring, you will read about the Supply Types, who I lump under the title of Quartermasters, later and I want you to have a good idea about how they thought and operated.

The CO of the Provisional Company, another Quartermaster type, greeted me by asking where I was from, when I replied Rhode Island he said, "Another Boston bread M...F...", then he told me that I was the Platoon Leader of the Truck Platoon and told me to go to the Motor Pool and find out what I was suppose to do. I asked about my duties as DTO Forward and he said he didn't know anything about that. He then put on a white cowboy hat and threw a lasso at a gas can. Lt C was from Oklahoma and, in addition to insulting people from New England, he needed to keep up his lasso practice.

I introduced myself to the Platoon Sergeant and he politely told me that he had only a few more months left in the Army and that he wasn't going to do anything that might get him killed. I met the two squad leaders and the two Motor Pool clerks and finally found some people who didn't have attitude. I also found that the NCO's in charge of the Supply Yard and the Petroleum Point as well as the First Sergeant didn't have bad attitude either. The two Quartermaster LTs were also hard workers and paid very close attention to what was going on. The NCO and Spec 4 at the helicopter Rearm Point were also good men. In fact, most of the people I met had a good attitude and would-

n't need any babysitting. I was sure I didn't have to check to see if their beds were made.

There is no note in my Diary, but it was on March 19th, 37 years ago, that someone came looking for me and told me that there some guys on a track in the Motor Pool looking for me. It was then that I met Erik Opsahl and Don Scrove. Don was a class ahead of me in OCS and I recognized him. I wondered how he got the Cross Rifles on his collar and if he knew the secret of getting away from the Quartermaster Types that I had already developed a complete contempt for.

Erik asked if I was the new DTO Forward and I said yes and then he asked if I knew what was expected of me and I said no. Without missing a beat Erik and Don began to list my duties and provide explanations as to why I had to do things exactly as they said. Erik said that he was leaving the Recon Platoon and Don was taking over. I was given a radio frequency and told to be at the convoy formation point on the Berm Road in front of the Triple Deuce Battalion area early the next morning and to begin inspecting vehicles as they arrived.

That's how my association with The Triple Deuce began. I will continue the story in the next Newsletter.

Jim May

**Submitted by
Katrina Eberwine-Shelby**

Hello all:

Well as most of you already know,

Joe is back in Iraq. This time wasn't supposed to be as bad though because he was going to a Compound with all of the modern luxuries. Unfortunately, things change and now he is in the middle of the desert with nothing. There is no ATM for cash, no stores, the phones cost .25 a min (which he must pay cash for), and once again, they are sleeping in tents. So as you can imagine, he would greatly appreciate anything you are willing to send him or the rest of the guys. So, here is his address if anyone would like to contribute anything, or even just drop a note letting him know that he is appreciated and that we love and care for him. Also, if there is anyone else who you think may like this info, please share.

Joe Shelby
411th MP Co 720th MP Bn
APO, AE 09390-2402

P.S. If you plan to send cigarettes, Joe smokes Marlboro Lites hard pack. BUT, they cannot be listed on the customs form. (just a little hint)

This is my second cousin's (Katrina Eberwine-Shelby) husband. Llike all our vets in Iraq he could use some of the amenities that we enjoy back home here that he can not get there.

Perhaps our Vietnam Vets can help him out a little?

PS - If you send anything, make sure he knows it comes from a Vietnam Vet who has been there and appreciates what he is doing.

Thanks much for your consideration. For further information contact

John Eberwine - Vietnam Veteran
Sep 67 - Sep 68
Charlie Co 2nd Bn (Mech) 22nd Inf
Rgmt 25th Infantry Div

NEW FINDS

Jerry Birmingham.
1st Platoon,
C/ 2-22, 1968 – 1969

Russell J. Sandstrom Jr.
B/2-22, 07-67 to 03-68

Ron Robinson
C/2-22 1969-1970

David Henderson
C/2-22 Oct 68 to April 69

I served in C Company 2/22 from
10/68 to Apr/69 as the Artillery F.O.

Thomas E. Gamrat
Bravo Co., 25th ID, Dec 68 to Dec
69

Kansas City Reunion

Time is fast approaching and I hope to see you at the 22nd Infantry Regiment Society reunion May 26, 27, 28, and 29 in Kansas City, Mo.

The hotel, Westin Crown Center, One Pershing Rd., Kansas City, Mo., has given the society a room rate of \$96.50 a night and has waived the \$12.00 a day parking fee for people attending the reunion. If you have made arrangements to stay elsewhere, and will be driving to the reunion daily please let us know so we can obtain a parking pass for you. The hotel is very different from anything the society has stayed in before with three floors of specialty shops, restaurants, a theatre and the Hallmark visitor's center all in the same structure.

As you can see from the registration form there will be golf tournament Thursday morning followed by the Hemmingway turkey that evening.

Friday there is a women's brunch at the Top of the Crown overlooking the downtown area. Also Friday is the tour bus trip to Fort Leavenworth. The tour will include the Memorial Chapel for the dedication of the Indian Wars plaque dedicated to the memory of the soldiers who served in the regiment during that time period. At present authorization has not come through for the location but all paperwork is in and the plaque is ordered. Irregardless the tour will include the Frontier History museum on post and the Buffalo Soldiers monument. I have been informed that Bell Hall, the Command and General Staff School building, will be open but the post will be in a training holiday. The tour is expected to take approximately five hours. There will be a Kansas City style BBQ buffet that evening with entertainment provided by the Chambers Family.

Saturday a new tour has been added of the Kansas City area and the Steamboat Arabia Museum. The Arabia was a steamboat that sunk in the Missouri River at Kansas City in 1856. The museum is built on the excavation site with displays of items recovered from the ship.

Also Saturday is the annual banquet with now three choices on the menu. There will be a DJ and dancing following the banquet.

Times have not yet been set for all of the events but a complete schedule will be in your registration packets.

There will be two raffles this year, one on Friday with the Triple Deuce and the Society's raffle Saturday. Members are encouraged to bring items they would like to donate for the raffles. There will be a special quilt made for the Society that will be raffled off Saturday.

This is a note for those of you flying into KCI for the reunion. The hotel is approximately a 25 minute drive for the airport. In each terminal there is a booth for KCI Express, which is a shuttle service, to the hotel. You can purchase a round-trip ticket to the hotel and back to the airport for \$23.00. At the booth they will tell you which shuttle to catch (note there are several shuttles going to different hotels, so been careful). I have worked out a special rate with AVIS if you want to rent a car. You have to give them the number J900992 to get the special rate and tell them you are with the 22nd Infantry Regiment Society.

Remember if you have a problem with getting a room reservation or anything else, please do not hesitate to E-mail me. I would prefer E-mail because I forward them to the hotel which has been great with solving problems.

Both Renee and I along with the Society members that are helping hope you will visit Kansas City and have a wonderful visit.

Ival Lawhon Jr.