

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



Editor: Dan & Vera Streit D 69 DMOR - HMOR

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website www.vietnamtripledeuce.org for current contact information.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hope all is well and good with you Triple Deucers today and that you are all signed up for attending the next greatest reunion ever in Vegas May 3-6. If you are not going OK, let's talk about what else you can be doing to either connect for the first time with the guys you walked the walk with in Vietnam, or keep connections that you have already made.

There of course is no substitute for sitting across a table from one or more of your combat Brothers at a reunion, but who says it has to be there? Just this week one of my Nam squad leaders made a connection with our organization and me for the first time in 48 years. As we talked on the phone we discovered that he lives only 15 minutes from another of the old platoon, **Joe Esser** in a Chicago suburb. You can bet that he and I and Joe will be doing that sitting across the table routine real soon. This is a good example of how important it is to get the contact and home location information of every guy you make contact with, and keep it handy. You may not live close, but another Brother may, and you can be the go between to getting them together face to face.

The locator link on our web site offers several proven methods for finding and contacting your Brothers in Arms . Look them up and use them as this long winter winds down. You may just find yourself doing a bit of traveling towards a table that will have a very important person sitting there waiting for you...

Dick Nash, A /HHC/69

EDITOR'S COMMENT

Much has been said about the next greatest reunion ever to be held May 3-6 in Las Vegas. A few thoughts come to mind, please see page 4 for the schedule. The three most prominent definitions of a reunion are

1. an instance of two or more people coming together again after a period of separation.
2. a social gathering attended by members of a certain group of people who have not seen each other for some time.
3. The act or process of being brought together again as a unified whole.

www.dictionary.com/browse/reunion

1. Regardless of how many attend the reunion, the real coming together is the face-to face interaction you have with Brothers with whom you served or Brothers you have become acquainted with since the war. Having attended numerous 22nd IRS/Triple Deuce reunions, I have formed many friendships and close bonds. However, this reunion promises time with not only someone else from D company but one who was beside me during that time. The anticipation is growing.

2. The social times are always fun. There is also the lure of Las Vegas. There will be free time scheduled to see the sights (I have promised the co-editor a few outings to celebrate) Just know the Hospitality Room is open for your use. You never know who else might show up in there and join your conversations So whether it has been 50 years, a year or a day since you have seen that Brother...enjoy

3 At the reunion there will be many guys our age (we are not the young ones anymore; did anyone notice?), there will be a few old guys and a growing number of younger ones. We all have a common bond. We served this great country. Since returning, our paths may have varied but the one constant is. . .we all fought for the freedoms we enjoy today.

So. . .my final thoughts are. . . Come to Vegas, enjoy our freedoms, renew friendships, make new ones and create some memories. That's what it is all about. . .anyway. . .that is how it seems to this old soldier.

Dan Streit D/69/ DMOR

REUNION LOAN & ATTENDEES PROGRAM

It's time to start planning for the Las Vegas Reunion. If you would like to attend but find yourself, or one of your close Buddies, in less than a good financial situation, then you should read the full description of both of the Programs, they are posted in this Newsletter. One of them may just help you to get to the Las Vegas Reunion. Your Vietnam Triple Deuce Brothers have contributed to both of these Programs because they want you at the Reunion.

If you have any questions, call me, or anyone you feel comfortable talking with about the Programs. The names of those who come to Reunions with the help of these Programs are not made public. Only the Board Members know who is participating.

Jim May
Treasurer
(207) 634-3355
jlmay@tds.net

REUNION LOAN PROGRAM

The Board of Directors has created a Reunion Loan Program for the purpose of providing Financial Assistance to Members who wish to attend a reunion. Here's an outline of how the **Program** works:

Funds will be available for lodging, reunion registration, 22 IRS Reunion activities including tours and banquets. And incidental expenses. Incidentals include breakfast and lunch expenses. No cash advances will be made. Vietnam

Triple Deuce, Inc. will pay all approved items directly to the provider. This does not include incidental expenses. The Treasurer will be responsible for incidental cost.

No bar expenses or room service charges will be considered as **Program** expenses.

The Member taking the loan and the Treasurer will agree to loan repayment schedules. There are no timetables for repayment and there are no interest charges.

The Board will, 12 months before the next 22 IRS Reunion, determine the amount that is to be allocated for the **Program** and the number of Members allowed to participate.

Selection will be considered on a "first come, first served" basis.

The identity of the Member taking the loan will not be announced or in any way made public.

So, if you have been considering coming to a Reunion, but haven't because your budget won't allow for it, well here's your chance to come and visit with your Vietnam Triple Deuce Brothers. The funds we have in the Treasury are intended for this type of use and nothing would please your Combat Brothers more than to have you come to the Reunion. You earned the right to be at a reunion. Come and join us.

Anyone wishing to take advantage of the **Reunion Loan Program** should contact me. Remember, this is a "first come, first served" arrangement.

Jim May
Treasurer
(207) 634-3355
jlmay@tds.net

ELECTING THE BOARD

The coming of another greatest reunion ever also brings about the election of another Board of Directors for the leadership of Vietnam Triple Deuce. The term is for the 18 months until the next reunion. And the election takes place at the reunion business meeting held right after the meeting of the 22nd Infantry Regiment Society's meeting on Saturday. If you are interested in running for one of the 5 seats please let me know so I can get you on the ballot, or line up someone to nominate you from the floor at the meeting. The officer positions are elected by the 5 members of the Board after the election...see you there.

Dick Nash, A/HHC,/69

REUNION SCHEDULE

Tuesday May 2

0900-1700 Set Up /Hotel Coordination

Wednesday May 3

0900-1700 Registration

Thursday May 4

0900-1700 Registration

0800-0900 Golf Preparation

1000-1500 Golf

0900-1800 Free Time

1800-2300 Dinner on your own

Friday May 5

0900-1800 Registration

0900-1800 Free Time

1900-2300 Hemingway Turkey
DMOR/HMOR

Saturday May 6

0900-1100 22nd IRS 2-22 meetings

0900-1000 Ladies breakfast

0900-1800 Free Time

1900-2300 Banquet & Memorial Service

May 2-6

1200-2400 Hospitality Room

WHAT ARE THESE GUYS THINKING?

Some guys just don't think like me. When someone says something or does something I would never say or do, my first reaction is, "What is this guy thinking?"

I'm simply not getting it. This man is coming from a different planet than the one I live on. OK...I'm not typical. I do things differently and regret it some times, but usually I'm right on and just a little ahead of the crowd. Not that I'm a trail blazer either. The pack is a good place to hide sometimes when you want to. Hiding behind the person in the row ahead of you sometimes keeps you out of sight of the teacher.

But if you've broken enough rules then the teacher generally already knows who you are and calls on you even when you're scrunching down. Not only do they know your name but they know where you sit! When I was heading out into the field in a country called Vietnam, I was in a line (always in one of those) that ran past this sergeant. He was checking each soldier off his list asking everyone if they got a superficial wound would they want their parents notified. Everyone was saying no except this kid behind me. "Yes," he said, and I thought what a

knucklehead. Why worry the family back home on something that wasn't serious? I never saw him again so I don't know if he made it back to the world in one piece, but by the decisions he was making, I had my doubts.

Same thing with the letters they wrote back home. Many guys would write their loved ones telling them exactly what was happening. How they earned their CIB for being in a firefight, how the pointman triggered a booby trap and lost his legs, and how dangerous it was to be living there. On a TV program, you might have seen; Letters from Vietnam. Why would any thinking soldier do that to their family?

What would be the purpose? To create more anxious moments for them? To let them know their son or husband is going to be the next John Wayne? My letters were boring. I only complained about what the Army called coffee and perhaps the heat. No action. No firefights. No mines in the road. No snipers shooting at us or air strikes needed to support us. No guys getting wounded or killed. Even when I was blown off a track by a 60lb mine, 2 days later when I regained conscious I wrote home that I had fallen off the track. No problem Mom, just a little scratch. No need to worry.

Perhaps it was because people from my family didn't do very well in wars. Two were killed in World War I, an uncle was killed in World War II. Another uncle was killed in the Korean War and I almost joined the unlucky group. Maybe that's why I never had any sons, they wouldn't have done well over in Iraq or Afghanistan.

If you know a reason I'm not thinking of please clue me in (I got that from Kookie on *Seventy-Seven Sunset Strip*) Many guys are lost in the 60's. Me, as I said I'm a little ahead of them. I'm lost in the late 50's...

Pete Rock B/68-69

CBOs AND ONE GO ELK HUNTING

On a cold Winter day last November, a secret and sinister meeting took place in Cove, Ore., a tiny town in the foothills of the Blue Mountains in Eastern Oregon. Five of us had planned this meeting for a year. Now, the long awaited day was here! Our annual Elk Assassination, oops, I meant hunting trip, was here. I had picked **Jimmy May** up at Portland International Airport from his long flight from Connecticut, then another 5 hour road trip to Cove to meet up with 3 more Charlie Company guys, **Rich Miller**, from Cove, **John Layman** from Phoenix, Az, and **Steve Cowthourp** from Portland, Ore.

Now that we were together, we sat down for dinner to discuss what lies ahead, the weather, is their snow at the camp yet, have elk been spotted in our camp area, who's digging the latrine? Well most of the conversation was about priorities, so we talked about who was on latrine duty that week, well, it was voted 4-1 that Lt. James May, will take on, such an important duty. I don't think I have to tell you who the "No" vote was. Lt. Jimmy is meticulous to the fine details and that is why he has been voted the last several years to Volunteer for such a highly esteemed duty to take care of his men! Hats off to the LT!!!! As usual, he did an Exemplary job! We got our camp set up, and now was the time to go after the prized Elk. This year their didn't seem to be the "Best" year for Elk; very few were taken, we saw a some Cows but few Bulls. We hunted hard, but the elusive elk, was just that, elusive!

So, we'll look ahead to next years assassination, oops again, I mean "Hunt" and maybe try Montana!!!! All had a Great time again this year!!! Elk or not, it's always wonderful to spend time with your Brothers....

Jim Neeley, C/65-67
to and when.

GUEST BOOK HITS

Name: **E. Q. SKIP FAHEL**
Location: Humble, TX
Email: eqf15@aol.com

Looking for individuals that were with A or B Companies on November 27, 1968. On that date, A & B 2/22 went to reinforce elements of the 4th Battalion, 9th Infantry that were hit hard near Nui Ba Den.
Posted on: Thursday - Jan 19, 2017

Name: **Frank Mezzanotte**
Location: Warrenton, Virginia
Alpha Co. Aug '70 - Nov '70
Email: oldfatman250@comcast.net

I was recently diagnosed with prostate cancer at 66, just started my radiation regimen, and would like to hear from others who are dealing with it or who have dealt with it. Age when diagnosed? Treatment selected /outcome? Filed with VA? Outcome of filing? Whatever you're comfortable with sharing.
Posted on: Saturday - Jan 28, 2017

Jerry J. Harder
641-742-3773
joswybak@iowatelecom.net
B Co. 25th ID, 8-69 to 9-70
Would like to locate **Mike Hudak**

Thomas B. Jennings
606-724-0621
tbi@stny.rr.com

Sorry that I will miss the Vegas Reunion due to a knee replacement.

James J. Papczynski
pappy.jj@comcast.net
B Co. & HHC 4th & 25th ID, 12-65 to 12-67

Please keep up the good work! We need to keep our part of History available so it is not lost.

Name: **John Mascaro**
Location: Ocala, Florida
Email: jmascaro@bellsouth.net
Phone: 352-304-6264

Survivor of the Battle of Soui Tre) or "Suoi" Tre Mar. 21, '67. I served with Hq. Btry. 2/77th Arty (Survey Sec.) Great to see many photos from your members' albums from the "Boat Trip" to stop in Okinawa to Vung Tau and on to Dau Ti-eng. I will be attending the 50th Reunion in Colo. Spgs. Mar. 2017.
Posted on: Saturday - Feb 18, 2017

Name: **Charles E. Lynch**
Location: 2003 Wedgewood Ave.Alexandria, LA. 71301
Email: charleselynych49@gmail.com
Phone: 318-201-8585 Cell+318-704-186 5
HOME
CO.A-2/22 (3rd PLT.) Nov.09,1968-Aug.1969 .
(Co.A 4th/9th)Aug 69- OCT. 25,69.
Posted on: Tuesday - Feb 21, 2017

TAPS

Gary L. Smith
Lewisville, TX
B Co. 25th ID, 67 to 68 LTC Ret.
Died Jan. 10, 2017 from cancer due to Agent Orange
By His wife Kendra

Kenny R. Crisenberry
B Co. 25th ID, 67 to 68
Died last spring
By Paul Plasse, B Co. 67 to 68

Ron C. Bartlett
C Co
Stock Bridge Georgia
Died March 3, 2017
By Harless Belcher

Stockbridge, Georgia- Ron "R.C." Bartlett, age 66, resident of Stockbridge, Georgia and former resident of Columbus, passed away on Friday,

March 3, 2017 at his residence. Funeral services were at Edgewood Hall of Striffler-Hamby, Columbus on Saturday, March 11, 2017, 3 p.m. with interment at Parkhill Cemetery.

Mr. Bartlett, son of Betty Lou Briggs Bartlett and the late Ronald Dean Bartlett, was born March 11, 1950 in Salina, Kansas. He served his country honorably with the Armed Forces Network during the Vietnam Era Conflict. After leaving the military, Mr. Bartlett continued his career in the television industry where he faithfully worked for over 43 years. During his distinguished career he was a producer and director serving both the Columbus and Atlanta communities. He was a member of American Legion Post #197, Zebulon, Georgia and enjoyed fishing. Mr. Bartlett was preceded in death by a sister, Cynthia Sutherland. He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Alieen Bartlett of Stockbridge, Georgia; a daughter, Tracy Boyd and her husband Sean of Pine Mountain, Georgia; mother, Betty Green of Central Valley, California; two sisters, Shannon Bartlett and Stacey Bartlett, both of Redding, California; three grandchildren, Caleb Boyd, Silas Boyd, and Lily Boyd; many other relatives and friends.

Published in Columbus Ledger-Enquirer on Mar. 8, 2017

NEW FINDS

John J. Germick

10135-51 St.
Grand Junction, MI 49056
269-767-0494
jackgermick@gmail.com
HHC-Recon, Nov 67 to Dec 68

John F. McCambridge

4935 Castaway Lane
Barrington, IL 60010
RMCCAMB2@hotmail.com
A Co. 25th ID, May 68 to May 69

Great Group of Guys - at our early years- I hope all have aged gracefully & lived to their full capacity. Would like to attend reunion but having hip surgery. Enjoy your time together in Las Vegas.

William C. Thompson

5344 Central Av
Western Springs, IL 60558
312-972-9171
thompkano@aol.com
A Co. 4th and 25th ID, Mar 67 to Mar 68

HELLOES & COMMENTS

William C. Allison

334-462-0488
C6_222@bellsouth.net
C Co. 25th ID, 7-67 to 7-68

George M. Carter

301-642-0628
georgemcarter47@gmail.com
A Co. 4th & 25th ID, 3-67 to 3-68
Can't remember names but there was a guy, last name Thompson, good friend, same time frame as me. Love the Newsletter, planning to attend reunion.

Edward M. Fagan

646-326-6047
efagan2@nyc.rr.com
A Co. 4th & 25th ID, 66 to 67
Good to be back; see you in Vegas.

Timothy E. Fannin

210-725-8185
montexi@hotmail.com
D Co. 25th ID, 9-68 to 9-69
Would like to locate **Anthony D. Carlo**

Larry J. Gunnels

253-961-1343
l.gunnels@comcast.net
C Co. 4th & 25th ID. 11-66 to 11-67

Frank Mezzanotte

540-349-8805
Oldfarman250@comcast.net
A Co. 25th ID, 8-70 to 11-70
Would like to locate **Mike Golden** and **Mike McCain**.

Clarence F. Simpson
631-627-9502
cacie1@optohline.net
A Co. 25th ID, 12-65 to 12-67

Thomas J. Taluzek
630-985-1397
B Co. 4th & 25th ID, 9-66 to 9-67

Andrew J. Crane
951-235-2239
recon-jack@live.com
B Co. 25th ID, 7-70 to 11-70

Harless W. Belcher
276-930-2321
harlessbelcher@yahoo.com
C Co. 25th ID, 9-68 to 6-69
Would like to locate **Randy Dodson** and
Kenny Chinn

David G. Binder
920-642-0224
binde222@yahoo.com
C Co. 25th ID, 9-67 to 9-68
Great Mini-Reunion, thanks for a great time &
cooking 'till next time. Welcome Home!! Great
memories & men & women, thanks.

James L. Michel
262-497-6127
cheekaux@yahoo.com
C Co. 25th ID, 8-69 to 2-70
would like to locate **Bill Heers, Rodney Dixon,**
John Campbell, Dave G. (Italian last name,
Medic/Clerk)

Allan Bridge
772-631-8318
abdebpsl@gmail.com
A Co. 69 to 70

VIETNAM SERVICE LEADS TO INTERESTING CAREER

Information copied from the Military Assistance Command Vietnam/Office of Information website solved a question posted in the e-mail about years of service for a Triple Deucer. It is copied here . Pictures were furnished by Harless Belcher

Ron Bartlett boasts that, after spending the Fourth of July 1969 in hell, he spent the Fourth of July 1970 in Heaven. If that's not an attention-getting opening sentence, there's no such thing, but what is he talking about?!? Well, Ron was drafted, and he was sent to Vietnam with an 11B10 MOS as a member of Charlie Company, 2/22nd Infantry/25th Infantry Division. His vivid description of sleeping in the mud and burning the leeches off his body every morning, along with numerous firefights, would induce gastric distress in many grizzled career infantrymen, and would truly be hell for many of us. So when he found a path to salvation, he trod it gratefully



Deeds Not Words

His salvation came in the form of the unit Re-Up NCO, who offered him the chance to take a short discharge and exchange his two-year draft commitment for a three-year enlistment with a choice of duty assignments. He probably had to pinch himself as a reminder that he was in an Army reenlistment office and not a tent revival service. In short, he began a new life as a TV director with AFVN in Saigon, with an air conditioned work environment and living in a hotel with maid service. "I couldn't see," he says, "how life could get better."

Ron describes his Vietnam adventure as "a trip from disaster to director," and it was literally a trip that did change his life. Suddenly he found himself at the age of 19 in a TV studio directing news broadcasters. "AFVN was and is one of my fondest memories," he says today, "and so are the people."



Although his main job from September 1969 to August 1970 was to direct newscasts, he also directed a number of entertainment shows. "Star Search" was one of those. It was an amateur talent show which would bring GI's in from the field for a moment under the spotlights. It predated, by more than a dozen years, the late retired Marine Reserve Colonel Ed McMahon's civilian nationally syndicated show of the same name. Another program was "In Town Tonight,"

in which dignitaries and celebrities who had come to Vietnam to visit and entertain the troops would be interviewed in a Johnny Carson Show format. Another show, and Ron's favorite, was the 31 December 1969 New Year's Eve special. This was a live presentation of the stage show "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown," aired in its entirety to welcome in 1970.

Ron left Vietnam 1 August 1970, and after fulfilling his obligation to American Forces Radio/Television he returned to civilian life, where he put his Army experience to good use. For the following two decades Ron was manager of a local NBC TV affiliate. He then rejoined government service as TV director and editor for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta.

Along the way, Ron found the time to study at Columbus State University in Columbus, Georgia.

**If the date
on your
mailing label
is 2016,
your dues
are past due.**