

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

Hello to all from the soaking wet Midwest. Hope all of you have weathered the storms, floods and fires that have filled the news lately, and it raises a suggestion that applies to all members of Vietnam Triple Deuce.

Whether you're an old timer or brand new to VN222 you have a list now of phone numbers, email addresses or other contact methods to communicate with one or more of your Brothers in this organization. Now would be an excellent and appropriate time for you to contact those Brothers to see if they made it through this latest round of weather disasters OK or not. And if they did not fare so well, find out what they might need to recover, cope or replace and let the rest of us know about it so we can collectively do so. I don't have to tell you that we are all a "Family" from our time in Asia together, and that families help each other in times of need. Check on your Brothers when you can. They may need help that you and VN222 can provide.

Dick Nash, A Co. & HHC, 69

EDITOR'S COMMENTS THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

For many citizens, Veterans Day is one of those holidays that sometimes slips by without notice. Personally, I am looking forward to a variation in my celebration this year. But first, some information I do know about the holiday. . . There is no mail service, federal offices are closed and across the nations many celebrations are held to honor veterans. Veterans Day was established to recognize veterans of our armed services. President Wilson had called for a day of remembrance; Armistice Day was observed November 11, 1919. This was the first anniversary of the signing of the armistice that

ended WW I at 11 a.m. (The 11th month, the 11th day, the 11th hour.) In 1926, Congress requested President Coolidge to issue a proclamation calling for observance of November 11 with appropriate ceremonies. A Congressional Act of 1938 made November 11 a legal holiday which was to be dedicated to "the cause of world peace and to be thereafter celebrated and known as Armistice Day." Following WW II, President Eisenhower signed a bill into law in 1954 for the holiday to celebrate ALL veterans (trivia—the bill was introduced into Congress by a Kansan, Rep. Ed Rees from Emporia) Later in 1954 the bill was amended to have the holiday be known as Veterans Day

Our small town has a parade and community meal; it is well attended. Everyone stands and salutes as the color guard starts the parade. Since the grandkids started school at another Kansas town, I have attended their very impressive Veteran's Day celebrations. The program consists of the colors being posted by the cub scouts, patriotic songs, and a brief speech. Each veteran introduces him/herself, tells branch and summarizes service and notes which child invited them. Veterans then go to the classroom of their host child and are "shared" with all the children who do not have a veteran present.

This years celebration will be different. I am really anticipating it and hope to have pictures and details to share in an upcoming issue of the newsletter. The co-editor, our little dog and I will head out in the trusty old Winnebago to Branson, Missouri. Always a Veteran Friendly town, Branson goes "all out" the week before Veterans Day to honor veterans and to celebrate in numerous ways those who served. We will be traveling with an RV group whose acronym is SMART (Special Military Active Recreational Travelers) but you can be assured I will be wearing my Triple Deuce hat and shirt and looking for Brothers. All occasions are good times for finding a Brother; anyway that's how it seems to this old soldier.

Dan Streit D/69 DMOR

NEXT REUNION LOCATION ANNOUNCED

The next 22nd Infantry Regiment Society Reunion will be 4-7 Oct 2018 in ATLANTA and the National Infantry Museum at Ft Benning, GA. As planning progresses, watch the websites and newsletters for details.

INFORMATION NEEDED



SP4 Fred Arthur Zachary served in the A 2/22 from 1967 through 1968. He was my father. He lost his battle with agent orange related AML in 2013

I would appreciate any information, stories, pictures etc that you could share with me.

Kyle Zachary kazachary11@gmail.com

Sgt Quentin Kooiker, 2Bn 22 Infantry, arrived in Vietnam in late 1969. He was in 4.2 mortars in Bn. Co. unknown and was severely wounded in the early 70s by RPG tripwire.

If you have any formation please contact me.

Ray at dyerra@aol.com

Phone 515-681-4085

RED ANT STORIES TO BE ARCHIEVED

Bill "Mad Doc" Matz, ABO, has suggested (Actually he demanded with the threat that he would show up at a reunion with his EXTRA LARGE SYRINGE and his snake if he didn't get his way with this.) that all recipients of the ORA send their Red Ant Stories to Steve Irvine so that the stories could be put into the Vietnam Triple Deuce Archives. Everyone who has read Mad Doc's suggestion agrees that archiving Red Ant Stories would be a great addition to the History of VN 222. Consider that in years to come anyone looking into the History of VN 222 will have no idea why we were all so enthusiastic about being recognized by our peers and awarded an ORA unless our stories are there for others to read.

So, if you have e-mail, send you story to **Steve Irvine** at svirvine@gmail.com If you don't have access to e-mail, then Steve at 916-749-0923 for instructions on how to get your story to him. Don't be concerned with spelling or grammar issues, Steve will make any necessary changes.

Mad Doc has also suggested that we find a way to present ORA's to those who are not able to attend a reunion, either a 22nd Infantry Regiment Society Reunion or one of the many Mini-Reunions that are held. I agree that any Member who is unable to attend a reunion should not be prevented from receiving an ORA. As with all ORA awards, a Sponsor must vouch for the recipient. The Sponsor will be sent a signed ORA Parchment and ORA Medal. The Sponsor will have to complete the Parchment and make the presentation. The sponsor will also be asked to send the recipient's Red Ant Story in to Dan Streit D222@nckcn.com for the Newsletter. Steve Irvine will be If there are any suggestions that will help in either or both efforts, please pass them on to any Board Member.

Jim May, HMOR
Prov. Co, 1968

ESCAPING THE FIRE BREATHING ANTS

Mad **Doc Matz**, who I served with in Nam, sponsored me for the award.

Not long after we arrived at Dau Tieng to set up our base camp we were on a company (Bravo Co) size operation when we entered a rubber plantation. We met with these tall sand pinnales that we didn't pay much attention to, at first. As I plodded along behind my Platoon's RTO (1st Platoon) I noticed the men in front of us were running back toward our position in the column. They were panicked. We had no idea what was going on. No shots had been fired. Some of the men running toward us were swatting at themselves like a swarm of bees was chasing them. Some had dropped their weapons on the ground. It was a bizarre event. As some ran by the ants fell from them on to the ground and us. . . now we understood why they were in panic mode. These Red Ants took over our entire formation. Everyone was doing everything they could to get away from those burning fire breathing ants. I came out of the area with three extra rifles that others had dropped while trying to get away from those little bastards. All I could think of was "It's a good thing Charlie wasn't around because in our disarray he would have blown us away"...that's my Red Ant story. Hope you enjoyed it. Pax.

"Doc" **Karl Bergeron**

B & HQ Co. 66/67

*Deeds
Not Words*

ONE SOLDIER'S STORY AS RELATED TO A BROTHER

Got a phone call from **Bill Sealy**. He received a phone call from **Herb Mays** who lives in Portland, Tn. (It s a small town north of Nashville just south of the Kentucky line) Herb was seriously wounded on the Jan 27,1967 Night ambush patrol in the Michelin Rubber by the French hospital, northeast of the base camp. We had just returned from Operation Cedar Falls on Jan 25th in the Iron Triangle. The day of the 27th, we had been doing routine search and clear in the rubber. Herb Mays and about 3 other guys spotted about 100 NVA moving thru the rubber towards the French hospital around noon that day.

It was decided to send a 16 man ambush patrol in the area that night. They left the base camp around dark and were set up for ambush. About an hour later from the base camp you could see nothing but enemy green tracers as all the m-16 rifles jammed. Sgt Mays was in charge of the ambush patrol and he moved the AP into a more defensible perimeter. He then realized one man was missing and wounded. He and 2 other men went to get the wounded guy and a grenade went off and the 3 of them received shrapnel wounds. He filled in some holes about that night. Now I know why the AP was split into 3 groups. (Mays and 3 other guys. the rest of the AP, **George O Connor** by himself.) George was the FO and was calling in artillery fire that saved their lives until A/2/22 finally arrived at around 11:30 PM. (George was separated from the other guys because talking on the radio attracted bullets.)

I remember the guys being so frustrated awaiting for clearance to leave the base camp to help our buddies of the 1st platoon. On the way to rescue the 1st platoon AP, my APC received fire from the area of the French hospital (really just an aid station that treated the rubber workers and of course the local VC), I returned fire with the 50 Cal MG and was threatened with a court martial by the platoon leader for firing on a

friendly village???. I made a comment that I did not think the green traces coming at me were very friendly.

After the battle was over, we returned to the base camp about 1AM. The base camp aid station worked on Herb Mays, Bill Sealy, Dave Berkholtz and others. Of the 16 on the AP, 8 were WIA.

Some tidbits about the guys on the ambush: **Tyrus O Rourke** pulled a dead NVA soldier's body over him in an attempt to hide; his M-16 was useless. Rumor had it that **Bill Sealy** did not want his Purple heart, because he was a pro quality football player and was planning on trying out for the Cleveland Browns.

Herb also told me something that I found amazing, but first some background. **Don Smith**, our company clerk was down at the Dau Tieng aid station holding a flashlight for the Doctor and felt the doctor spent all his time removing intestinal waste from **Dave Berkoltz's** wound area and missed some internal bleeding that was not discovered. I doubted his story when he told it to me, as what the doctor did was necessary to prevent infection. But then Herb Mays told me he woke up on Jan 29th and asked what happened. In the 2 days, he had been moved to an evacuation hospital, a different doctor explained that he had been recovered from the morgue. The Dau Tieng doctor had instructed the medics to put Herb Mays in a body bag as he had lost a kidney and would die in 20 minutes.

After he absorbed this information, he saw that his good friend Dave Berkholz was in the next bed. He tried to talk to him, but Dave died 20 minutes later from internal bleeding that the first doctor had missed. From that hospital, he was sent to recover in a US Army hospital in Japan. When he was recovered, minus one kidney, the army in Japan asked him where he would like to finish his 2 years. He was to be assigned to Ft. Campbell, KY, which was the closest base to his then home in Nashville, TN. Everything was fine until he got to Hawaii. He found out the Army

had lost his records and he was stuck in Hawaii for 6 months and not paid. He was assigned to a small MP unit on Waikiki beach but had no money! When his time was done, he was sent to Oakland, CA for discharge and received all his back pay in excess of \$3200. So naturally he had a distaste for all things Army for the next 30 years until someone took him to the Vietnam Wall in DC. Herb today is a minister with a church.

In writing this up, I have to add a comment about the medical care we received in Vietnam. Out of all the Vietnam veterans I have heard stories from, this is the first time I have heard a negative comment about medical care. I thought the Army dust-off pilots and the medics and hospitals did an outstanding job. I was treated at the 45th Surgical Hospital in Tay Ninh and thought that if there was an ounce of life in a wounded soldier, the medical staff made sure he survived. From what I heard from guys treated at other hospitals, it was the same excellent care all over Vietnam.

contact info for Herb

Herb Mays
2621 Highway 76
Portland, TN 37140

615-517-2357 landline
615-717-5941 cell

Gary Hartt, A/65-67.

ONE NIGHT IN VIETNAM

Necessity, the mother of invention

When we had been out in the jungles of South Vietnam 20 or so days and made it back to base our first Sergeant would fill a trailer full of beer and cokes (on ice). Out in the jungles our water and cokes were whatever the temperature of the day was. We would have a great supper and party that night.

I found out I could get two cases of beer under my seat and found a way to cool them. When we set up camp for the night the gas truck would come around and fill our APC up.

Now gas doesn't get hot. So I had me a thing that would hold two cans of beer and I would let them down in my gas tank to cool. Later in the night when it was my time to pull guard duty I would have one. Well one night my Sergeant came by and I ask him if he would like to have a beer and he said wouldn't it be good. So I pulled them out and gave him one. You had to wash the gas smell off them and they were better than the 115 degrees water

Well you guessed it my Sergeant would come around ever night after that Now here I was fighting a war and I wasn't old enough to buy beer or vote

J.W. Jacobs, B/66 - 67

MINI REUNION HELD

It was time for another "mini-reunion" of the guys in the Triple Deuce!...**Terry Humpert** and **Vickey Woods** hosted a gathering in Oscoda, Michigan, (right on Lake Huron) from August 24-27. Everyone had a great time getting together and enjoying the cool weather there. It sure was a break from Florida at 48 degrees the first morning!

We got together for a dinner, "pre-reunion" at Vickey's home, overlooking the river, then an evening of snacks and gatherings on Thursday evening. Friday night, after cocktails and hors d'oeuvres at Vickey's, we all enjoyed a Riverboat Cruise on the Ausable River Boat with dinner and entertainment. On Saturday, we met at the American Legion for a "pig roast"...and all the fixin's...and our usual memorial dedication.

Some of the guys had time during the gathering for a pontoon boat ride on the lake where Terry

lives. Some of the guys golfed. The girls spent a morning shopping in Tawas, a quaint little berg, followed by lunch together.

Ron Picardi brought along some interesting videos of Viet Nam and the also photos of the "mini-reunion" in Traverse City, Michigan (from about 2004) Amazing how much younger we all looked in the photos? It was hoped that having this reunion in Michigan, many of the guys from that area would attend, and they did! There were about 40 some...and some new faces that we wish to see again!



We all enjoyed a wonderful Michigan gathering and hope to have many more in the future...somewhere? If anyone is wishing to host another "mini-reunion" please let me know...Betty (941)468-9918, or

<brenneman@realtyagent.com>....it's always a good time when we all get together, and we do have a great time visiting any where! No boundaries at our age! I'll be more than happy to help anyone that has any suggestions as to where or when...and I'll do the contacting and help.

The next Regiment Reunion is coming up in September so get ready for updates! Try to get together, wherever, whenever..., it helps heal and is fun as well.

Betty Brenneman, HMOR

ORGANIZATION DAY OBSERVED 2-22 Infantry, 10th

The morning of August 16 found me at the Syracuse airport handing over the 22nd IR Staff Car keys to **Skip Fahel, Bravo Co., 2-22, 1967-1968**. Skip, as many of you past readers know, is the Old Goats Squad Official Designated Driver. And, since we've not been in a wreck or jail in all the years Skip has held the keys, I am in favor of continuing the present arrangement. Anyway, Skip and I headed up to Ft Drum to for a visit at Battalion and then to check into our cabin. There were many new faces as well as some familiar faces at Battalion. I met the new CO, **LTC Scott Wence**, the new CSM, **CSM John Farlow**, the new XO, **MAJ Matt Vanputte** and the new S-1, **CPT Shayne Ellison**. Also at Battalion were many of the **AMVETS** and **NYC 9/11 First Responders**. As in the past, the 9/11 First Responders and the AMVETS were going to do all the cooking and serving during the following day's event. AMVETS also gets credit for supplying all the food.

Skip and I went out to our cabin but found that the 'secret entry code' didn't work. We were locked out of our lodging. Unfortunately, the office that handles temporary lodging was closed, but fortunately, I have the cell number of our contact person, Kathy Secor. I reached Kathy while she and her husband were in a super market. Kathy quickly helped with the entry code and Skip and I were in and getting ready for that evening's **Hail & Farewell** event that was being held in Watertown. We were greeted by **Rob and Kim Schexnayder, HHC, 2-22, 2013-2015** and **Dawn Esposito, HMOR**. Many of the AMVETS and First Responders were there to take part in the event. SFC Stafford was leaving Triple Deuce where he had been assigned for 8 years. He told the gathering that he was only leaving for a while and promised to return. After the ceremony was completed, Skip presented **SFC Stafford** with a Regiment Challenge Coin

and thanked him for his long service to Triple Deuce.

Skip and I returned to Ft Drum and settled in for the night. The cabins we stay in have two bedrooms on the first level, one has a single bed while the other a queen size bed. Skip knows the drill and heads for the room with the single bed. **Joe Dichairo, HHC, 2-22, 2002-2004**, had told us that he would arrive on the morning of the August 17. Since it was Joe's first showing with the Old Goats Squad and since he is the **HCOR**, Skip and I decided to present him with the room with the big bed. There are three small beds in a loft that is accessible only by climbing a vertical ladder. There is a caution sticker on the wall behind the ladder that rates the ladder at 200 pound maximum capacity. **Lon Oakley, Alpha Co., 2-22, 1969**, and I are the only Members of the Old Goats Squad who have been, at this point in time, qualified to climb the ladder. That has changed now that Joe Dichairo will be joining us on our visits. With all that noted, I climbed the ladder and Skip and I turned in for the night. Skip got up first and rummaged around until he gathered up what he needed to brew coffee. I am not a morning person, and facing a potentially dangerous climb down the ladder, I thought it best to stay where I was until the coffee was brewed. Besides, Skip is very capable and didn't need any help from me. Five more minutes was all I needed to physic myself into believing I was ready for the day. Skip and I were wondering where Joe, he arrived just in time for lunch at the Organization Day. Joe was impressed when he saw the 22nd Staff Car placards on the front door panels and the display in the rear window of the Expedition.

Organization Day was a family event. As such, there were Bounce Houses, kite flying, cargo net climbing, face camo applications, paint ball shooting and probably a few more that escaped my view. The kids were busy and busy kids make for happy parents. There was also a display set up by **Delta Company**, Delta is the Weapons Company. There were two HUMV's set up, one with a roof mounted M2-A1 .50 cali-

ber machinegun. The weapon is operated from down in the vehicle and is capable of shooting straight up. There was another M2-A1 mounted on a tripod. The M2-A1 has a quick detach and attach barrel that requires no head spacing or timing. And, it is 25% lighter than the MAW DEUCE we are all familiar with. The other HUMV was equipped with a roof mounted rocket launcher. Skip decided to explore this HUMV and got himself into position to fire the weapon. This position had him half in the vehicle and half on the roof. Well, getting there was easier than getting out. We all had a good laugh at Skip's contortions and twists. I believe Skip has a photo to add to the story. There were Grenade Launchers and M-4's and M-16's, to handle but the weapon that impressed Skip and I the most was an Mk-19 Belt Fed Grenade Launcher. We were told that the Mk-19 had been developed by the Navy and was very temper mental. Think of a machine gun type weapon sitting on a tripod or mounted on a PC with a huge ammo box next to it that is filled with M-79 type grenades and capable of throwing those grenades downrange at a practical firing rate of one round per second. Skip would have taken the Mk-19 home with him but didn't because he figured that he'd have a problem with airport security.



While Skip, Joe and I were out visiting with the Soldiers and their families, the AMVETS and the First Responders were busy preparing to cook and feed approximately 700 people.

Once ready, the dinner bell was rung and the lines formed. The feeding went on for hours; there were hot dogs, brats, ribs, hamburgers and all kinds of cold vegetables and salads. And, when that was done the deserts were brought out. Again, everything from cakes and pies and melons to ice cream sundaes were served. Nothing was left out. It was a First Rate event from start to finish. I would be remiss if this story didn't give full credit to those who were responsible for the food and the preparation, so I will post the names and duty units of those who deserve the credit.

AMVETS POST 1: Terry Forward and Lisa Forceua.

AMVETS POST 4: Larry Paige, James Gardner, Sue Gardner, David Jackman, Judy Jackman, Kim Mattice, Debby Farnsworth, Dave Rogers, Anthony Hubbard, Justin Prior, Nancy Curran and Vinnie Curran.

AMVETS POST 8: Edward Tatro, Cameron Herdman, Joe Gooden, Richard Razille and James Benware.

AMVETS POST 472: Chuck Marsillo.

AMVETS POST 722: Marty Ashman and Richard Lamoreaux.

9/11 First Responders:

Christopher Fitzgerald, Owen McCaffrey, John Stack, John Mc Ardle, NYPD ESU.

Gerry Murphy, FDNY Rescue 3.

Richie Schmidt, FDNY Rescue 4.

Thomas Oswald, FDNY SQ-18.

John Hogan, FDNY SQ-41.

James Earl, FDNY SQ-270.

Robert Schmidt and Larry Sica, HEART 9/11.

During the day I had the opportunity to meet the new Gulf, Support Company, CO, **CPT Steve Swafford** and **1SG Joseph Peters**. As per what has become my SOP when meeting new Support Company Commanders, I asked about attitudes such as weapons expertise and abilities to adjust indirect fire. I am pleased to report that CPT Swafford and 1SG Peters understand that they are part of an Infantry Battalion and, as such, their Soldiers must be ready to perform as Infantrymen if the situation dictates. After learn-

ing that these commanders know where they are and what they are doing, I explained that I have found that in the past some commanders were not aware of the situations that they and their Soldiers might soon find themselves in. I hope to visit with Gulf Company during my next trip.

The festivities were winding down so Skip, Joe and I gathered up the VN 222 Guidon, which had been prominently posted, and headed back to the cabin to prepare for the evening dinner with the Command Group. . Joe, would follow us in his car, but was impressed when he saw the 22nd Staff Car placards on the front door panels and the display in the rear window of the Expedition.

Present, in addition to Skip, Joe and me, were **LTC Scott Wence, MAJ Matt Vanputte, MAJ Matt Etheridge, CSM John Farlow and SGM Tim Toppin**. We dined at Pete's Trattoria Restaurant. (No relation to Pete Gaworecki.) When we arrived Skip and I commented that we'd been there years ago and found the food to be less than expected. There are new owners and the food is much improved. While we were getting settled in, Dawn Esposito and the 9/11 First Responders came in. It was as if we'd planned to spend the entire day together. We had a fine meal and interesting conversations with the Command Group. The attitude of the professional Soldiers has changed with the change in Commander in Chief. The Soldiers we were with expect that the efforts of the Military will produce greater result now that their hands will not be tied behind their backs.

It had been a long and event filled day and it was time for all to get some sleep, so we parted and headed back to the cabin. Joe and I finished up the Rebel Ale, it is a sin to waste good beer, and Joe and I are not sinners, so we did what needed to be done. In the morning Joe took Skip to the airport which made it possible for me travel across the Northern route back to Maine.

This story would be incomplete without recognizing **2nd LT Nicholas Aigeldinger** for all that he contributed to the success of the event. "LT Dinger" was everyone's go to guy for whatever

was needed. He was instrumental in arranging for all of the equipment that was needed for the fun events as well as the grills, coolers, tables, chairs, serving dishes and platters as well as the refrigerator unit. He went and found what was needed by anyone who asked for assistance. Tango Yankee, LT Dinger.

Jim May, HMOR
Prov. Co. 1968

MEXICO FISHING REPORT GIVEN FOR 2017

You may recall that last year's report was from Costa Rica where Team Milewski and Family celebrated **David and Judy Milewski's**, C Co. 1967-1968, (David, NOT Judy!) 50th wedding anniversary. I'll begin by letting the readers know that David and Judy are still married and saw no need to return to Costa Rica to, again, exchange vows. Apparently, the renewal of the vows last year appears to have had a permanent affect. You will also recall that the Team Milewski fishing members present spent a very fruitful day fishing the Pacific side of Costa Rica.

This year saw us visiting our tradition haunts in Baja California, Mexico. There were fewer fishing this year due to prior commitments and illness. David's daughter, **Kim**, had used up her vacation time attending a friend's wedding and visiting parts of the Northeast, something she'd never done before. **Bill "FNG" Bukovec**, Bravo Co 1/22 66-67 and Bill's friend, **Martin Tschoepe**, River Ron 15, 69-70 had planned on attending but a sudden illness kept Bill at home. However, **Gary Hunziker**, Charlie Co 63rd Maint Bn and **Waine Richey**, Delta Co, 1/9 Marines were able and present.

We started the trip in Cabo San Lucas visiting with David's daughter Deni and her family. David and Deni have adjacent time share suites

in **Playa Grande Resort**. Gary, Wayne and I arrived on the Wednesday so that we could enjoy time with David, Judy and family. We started bringing our own beer with us to Los Barriles a few years ago, so on Thursday we went on our annual beer buying trip. This requires visits to two markets because, well it's Mexico and that's how things work. We bought enough beer for our time in Cabo and Los Barriles and for Bill and Martin had they shown up. We go out to eat in nice restaurants while we're in Cabo and we usually manage to eat and drink far more than we should. This year was no different. As you might imagine, there aren't very many authentic Mexican restaurants here in Norridgewock, Maine, so I take full advantage of the cuisine when I can.

Gary booked a fishing trip for Friday, but it was unsuccessful. He reported catching many small Dorado, but no fish worth keeping and no Tuna. Wayne managed to fall down on Friday (He told us that he falls down whenever he visits a new place.) and I did laundry. (Should I ever visit anyone reading this, note that I always do laundry when I travel. There's no point in bringing enough clothing for two weeks when washing machines are going to be present.)

Saturday morning found us packing up for the trip up to Los Barriles. The beer took up more space in the vehicle than the coolers and suitcases, (The coolers were filled with beer.) so we knew we were not going to get thirsty. We dropped Judy off at the airport and headed up the coast.

We arrived at **Los Palmas De Cortez**, that's where we stay, and found that the rooms had been completely remodeled. We settled in and got the fishing tackle ready for the next day. We visited the swimming pool/bar and said our Hello's to the familiar staff. Wednesday evening found us at Tio Pablo's Restaurant for another traditional meal, appetizers and more appetizers. When I first started going to Mexico with David I noticed that everyone would order lots of appetizers and then order a meal they could not fin-

ish. I suggested that the group keep ordering the appetizers they seemed to like until they had their fill and not bother with a meal they couldn't eat. We ate our fill.

Sunday morning found us on **El Loco** with **Captain Paco and Mate Carlos**. We bought bait and went looking for Tuna. However, much like Gary found on his Cabo trip, Tuna were not to be found, with the exception of one fish. The beer was cold, so it wasn't a total disappointment. As usual, once we have no fish or too many fish we switch our attention to Marlin and Sail Fish. We'd trolled for a while when a Striped Marlin came along and took the bait. No one moved to take the pole from Carlos; that's because Kim wasn't with us. I'll explain. We take turns on bill fish. No one jumps the line. You have a chance at landing a big fish and no matter if it is caught or not, you go to the end of the line. Well, somehow, every day, year after year it is always Kim's turn to be first. So, naturally, everyone stayed put because it was 'Kim's turn.' Of course, Kim was somewhere in Orange County California, so David told me to take the pole. I am pleased to report that I did land a Striped Marlin of about 125 pounds.

We sent our one fish to the Smoke House for processing, got out of our fishing clothes and went to the pool/bar in order to find out if others had better luck and to drink beer while doing so. We found that some of the boats had gone north and got into some Wahoo, a fish I have not yet caught. Most others had had similar experiences to ours. We cleaned up and went to eat at the Smoke House restaurant, this was our first visit. I think they had a new cook or not enough cooks or some other problem because the process was slow and hardly worth the wait. I'll note here that our old friend, Germon's, restaurant was closed with a sign that reported the place would be closed until October. We assumed he was in jail somewhere.

Monday morning found us, once again, heading to the boat with hope and plenty of beer from our cache. We bought bait and headed back to

where we'd caught the one Tuna the day before. Today was different. We caught Tuna, nice Tuna and when the Tuna slowed down we were pleased to head out for bill fish. Like the day before, we caught only one Striped Marlin. Gary brought it to the boat. I'll note here, for those who are not familiar with our fishing practices, we keep Tuna, Dorado and Wahoo but release all Marlin and Sail Fish. I've never caught a Rooster Fish but today was the day we were going to put an effort in to changing that. Rooster Fish are caught in shallow water so Captain Paco set lines out with the appropriate bait and we headed to the shallows. We trolled for a long time, but in spite of Captain Paco's efforts, I have yet to catch a Rooster Fish. Maybe next year.

We sent 175 pounds of Tuna to the Smoke House for processing. This meant that those of us who planned on bringing fish home were not going home with empty coolers. After our usual visit to the pool/bar we went to the restaurant that is adjacent to Los Palmas De Cortez. This is an upscale restaurant. The food is always well prepared. We ate too much, kind of like what we do in Cabo and turned in early.

Tuesday, our last day of fishing, found us back where we were the day before and, like the day before, the Tuna where there. There were times that we all had fish on the line. This makes for an interesting dance on the deck as we try to keep from tangling lines. It always seems to be that whoever has a fish on the left side of the boat has to follow the fish to the right side of the boat while the person with a fish on the right side of the boat has to follow a fish to the left side of the boat. It makes me dizzy just typing this! Well, we caught more fish than we needed, a lot more than we needed. We'd figured that we needed another 100 pounds of fish to fill our coolers. (The processed weight is about 30% of the live weight of Tuna.) So, we sent 100 pounds to the Smoke House and gave the rest to Paco and Carlos. This was in addition to their daily tip.

Besides all the Tuna, David caught a Sail Fish and Waine caught his first Marlin, it was also a Striped marlin similar to the ones that Gary and I had caught. Waine did well on his first Marlin. He followed the suggestions provided by the rest of us and did not screw-up anything. We also caught a Blue Runner while Tuna fishing and decided to take it to the restaurant with the dirt floor. Good News is that this restaurant is slowly beginning to cover the dirt with cement, not all at once, but it looked like they were doing so in 15 foot wide sections. As always, the fish was properly prepared and served with all of the traditional side dishes.

It was back to the rooms to begin packing for Wednesday's trip to the airport and then on to our respective homes. I am pleased to report that I was not the victim of 'bad weather' or thoughtless airlines' personnel. Other than spending nearly two hours in endless lines customs in Atlanta, the trip back to Rhode Island was uneventful.

The regular readers of these reports are familiar with the naming of the "**FNG**." The awarding of this title, a title that no one wants, is usually an easy matter for the naming committee. This year was an exception. The committee anticipated that Waine would screw-up most everything not only because it would be his first trip, but he is, after all, a Marine. But, Waine did fine, just fine. His falling down didn't have any ill effects on the fishing; Waine was out of the running. However, someone did screw-up; they let themselves get sick causing them, and another member of the party, to have to cancel out. So, at the direction of the "**FNG**" Naming Committee I announce that Bill Bukovec has been awarded this year's "**FNG**" Title. I believe I speak for the committee when I say that we all know just how Bill is going to feel when he reads this.

Jim May, HMOR
Prov., Co. 1968

GUEST BOOK HITS

Name: **Chuck Weidner**

Location: Castro Valley Ca.

Email: 0909cew@gmail.com

Phone: 510-537-2732

Jude haven't seen you since WIA Sept. 70. Allen I don't remember you but you have lots of pics of the Shammer 32 . I rode the Shammer from Jan to Nov. 70

Posted on: Wednesday - Jul 26, 2017

Name: **Vernon Evans**

Location: Berrien Springs, Michigan

Email: vern_evans@yahoo.com

Phone: 269-921-2727

We buried Keith Layman today. He was a "boat original". He was in A Co. Only 2 of us left from Berrien County, Michigan. **Charlie Raas**, and I. Too many funerals lately with members of my own family. I hope it stops now. RIP Keith, we'll miss you.

Posted on: Thursday - Aug 10, 2017

Name: **Bill "Mad Doc" Matz**

Location: Nashville, Tn.

Email: docmatz222@comcast.net

Phone: 1-615-837-9854

Most of you have received The Order of the Red Ant. (That is the medallion with the red ant on the face of it) Unfortunately, no one has ever recorded your red ant experiences for posterity. These stories need to be saved for the historical record. Please send your story to

svirvine@gmail.com

Posted on: Sunday - Aug 20, 2017

Name: **Dara Griffith**

Location: Chicago, IL

Email: daragriffith@sbcglobal.net

My father, **Rodney Dean Griffith** (Co C, Apr-Jun 1969), has wondered what happened to his Kit Carson Scout, Le Van Be. I've determined that Be, a Bronze Star recipient, returned to the field after suffering horrible wounds in May 69.

Anyone know if he survived the war or reeducation camp?

Posted on: Monday - Sep 18, 2017

Name: **Steven Scott**

Location: New Braunfels, TX

Email: stevenandellen@sbcglobal.net

Phone: 512 650 6464

I was looking through the Company roster pages you have on the website and see my Father's name on page 9 of 12 for C Company October 1969. **Specialist Gary L. Scott** died in October of 2014, he is buried at Arlington. If any of you knew him, please reach out to me.

Steven Scott

512.650.6464

TAPS



Dennis M. Warren

Cary, NC

HHC 25th ID, 9-67 to 12-67

Dennis M. Warren, 77, of Cary, NC, died peacefully on July 26, 2017 at Rex Healthcare, after a long struggle with chronic illness in the company of his two sons, George and Jeff.

Dennis was born in Mena, Arkansas on Dec 24, 1939 to his late parents, Dewey Warren and Nettie Kelly. An only child, he spent his formative years in the care of his mother and maternal grandparents, the late Wade and June Kelly, of Oden, Arkansas. Dennis graduated from Acorn High School before attending and graduating from Henderson State Teacher's College in Arkadelphia, Arkansas. After graduation, Dennis was commissioned in the U.S. Army as a Signal Corps Officer, where he served meritoriously for over 20 years, which included two tours in Vietnam and training and assignments at Fort Gordon, Georgia, Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, the Pentagon, Panama, Fort Ritchie, Maryland, Richards Gebaur Air Force Base and Fort Huachuca, Arizona. He earned a Masters of Business Administration from Arkansas State University in Jonesboro, Arkansas, where he also taught ROTC. Following his storied career in the Army which culminated in his promotion to Lieutenant Colonel, Dennis had a successful career as a coin dealer and college instructor.

Dennis is survived by his two sons, George Hawver of McDonough, GA and Jeff Warren of Cary, North Carolina. He leaves being a loving family which includes, daughters-in-law, Sonya Hawver and Missy Warren; five grandchildren, Justin Moody, Nichole Maness, Brad Hawver, Chapman Warren and Mivvi Warren; and four great grandchildren, Isabella Maness, Gavin Maness, Christopher Kavanagh and Linus Moody; with a fifth expected in August.

An interment ceremony will be conducted at a date to be determined at his family plot in Macedonia Cemetery near Oden, Arkansas.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations may be made to Macedonia Cemetery Association, 182 Singleton Road, Pencil Bluff, Arkansas 71965.

Keith F. Layman

A Co. 4th & 25th ID, Sep.66

He was a "boat original" Drafted 12-9-65 Arrived in Nam about Sept.22 near Bear Cat. He passed away on Friday, August 4, 2017 at his home in St. Joseph. Keith was born April 7, 1946 to the late Forrest and Grace Layman. He graduated from lakeshore High School in 1965. He was drafted into the Army in 1965 where he proudly served his country during the Vietnam War. On

June 20, 1970, he married the former Janice Kay Maddox. Keith was employed by Michigan Fruit Cannery which transitioned into Dean Foods. He loved fishing, spending time outdoors and spending time with his twin granddaughters.

Keith is survived by his daughter Lisa (Jeremy) Duffy; sisters, Carmen Hora, Carol (Kenneth) Parrign, Natalie (Wayne Johnson; brother Dean (Cheryl) Layman; grandchildren Jayce Duffy and Jordyn Duffy. Burial took place at Rose Hill Cemetery, Berrien Springs.

Bruce Sewall

Died September 9, 2017

A Co. 69-70

Bruce G. Sewall of Maybrook, NY, a loving husband and father, died on Saturday September 9, 2017 after a short illness.

The son of the late Karl and Eileen Sewall, he was born June 09, 1947 in White Plains, NY. Bruce was a retired manager of CVS Pharmacy in Pearl River, NY.

Bruce grew up in Fair Lawn, NJ. He was drafted into the Army in 1967 and served his country honorably. Bruce was an Army Non Commissioned Officer who served with Alpha Company, 2nd Battalion of the 22nd Infantry, (Triple Deuce), attached to the 25th Infantry Division in Vietnam & Cambodia. Bruce distinguished himself during combat operations in the jungles and rice paddies of War Zone C in Vietnam. In the spring of 1970 he took part in the bloody fighting to push the NVA out of their border sanctuaries during the major offensive into Cambodia. Among his awards are the Combat Infantry Badge, three Bronze Stars for Valor, and Purple Heart

He was a member of the Maybrook VFW, 25th Infantry Regiment Society and Vietnam Triple Deuce. Bruce was extremely proud of his military service and loved his Triple Deuce Brothers with his whole heart and soul.

Survivors include his Wife, Ann at home, Son, Brian Sewall of Newburgh, NY, Daughter, Valerie Sewall of Latham, NY, Daughter, Colleen Sewall of Maybrook, NY, Daughter, Elizabeth Murtagh & Micheal of Warwick, NY, Daughter, Mary Hasbrouck of Tacoma, WA, Son, Michael Hasbrouck and Rebecca of Cocoa, FL, Granddaughter Giada Hasbrouck of Cocoa FL, Brother, Karl "Skip" Sewall and his wife Donna of Paramus, NJ, And is also survived by a niece, Gloria and two nephews, Karl and Danny.

Memorial donations in lieu of flowers can be made in Bruce's name to The Wounded Warrior Project, PO Box 758517, Topeka, Kansas <https://www.woundedwarriorproject.org/> or to The Honor Flight, Inc., Attn: Diane Gresse, 175 South Tuttle Road, Springfield, OH 45505, www.honorflight.org.

Burial was in Orange County Veterans Cemetery in Goshen, NY.

Charles E. Haney

Fairmont, West Virginia

A Co. 4th & 25th ID, Nov. 66 to Nov. 67

Charles "Chuck" Edwin Haney, 70, of Fairmont, passed away on Friday (Oct. 13, 2017) at Ruby Memorial Hospital in Morgantown. He was born in Fairmont, on May 4, 1947, a son of the late Jobie Haney and Lucy Mae (Tatterson) Haney.

Chuck graduated from East Fairmont High School. He retired from Mon Power after 37 years as a dispatcher in the Fairmont office. He was a faithful member of the Walnut Grove United Methodist Church and the A.F. & A.M. Masonic Acacia Lodge No. 157 of Fairmont. He enjoyed camping at Big Bear Lake with his family and friends.

He proudly served his country as a sergeant with the A Co. 4th and 25th ID, Nov 66 to Nov 67 dur-

ing the Vietnam War. He was awarded the Purple Heart and Bronze Star with Valor for his service.

Following his military service, he was active with the VFW Post 7048 and served as West Virginia state commander. He assisted with numerous military funerals. He was an active member of the Military Order of the Purple Heart. As a member of the Vietnam Veterans of America, Fairmont Chapter, he helped form the Marion County Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

Chuck is survived by his loving wife of 29 years, Doris (Lanham) Haney; his sons, Ryan Haney of Huntington and John Priollette of Fairmont; his daughter, Alison Bontrager and her husband Matt of Indiana; five very special grandchildren, Haley Bontrager, Nicole Bontrager, Jayden Priollette, Lukus Priollette and Taijanhanna Parker. He is also survived by his brother, Dave Haney and his wife Shirley of Fairmont; his sister, Jonell Ervin and her husband Jim of Fairmont; and many caring nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a daughter, Tina Priollette. Interment was at Grandview Memorial Gardens with full military honors conducted at the cemetery by the Marion County Veterans Council Honor Guard.

Online condolences and memories may be shared with the Haney family at www.carpenterandford.com.

HELLOES & COMMENTS

Terry M. Hackman

330-645-6281

thackman@neo.rr.com

HHC, 25th ID, Oct. 67 to Oct.68

Christopher A. Lefteroff

313-292-7456

cleft47@wowway.com

C Co. 25th ID, Mar 68 to Mar 69

"I was one of the cooks for A,B,C & HQ tracks in the field for 8 months. I would like to hear from anyone who remembers me.

Thomas A. Cofran

203 Sunset Rd

Newark, DE 19711

302-368-7422

tom@cofrandsons.com

C Co. 25th ID, Nov 67 to Apr 68

"Maybe it's time to reconnect with some of the guys I served with in Vietnam."

NEW FINDS

James A. Newell

580 Westfield Way #6

Pewaukee, WI 5307

414-257-2266

jnewell1@wi.rr.com

B Co. 25thID, 1968

Danny F. Scott

8103 E. Southern Ave #332

Mesa, AZ 85209

480-326-5737

D Co. 25th ID, Mar 68 to Mar 69

"I was in the Support Platoon and would like to hear from anyone who remembers me."

Robyn Zylman

2955 Baybery Court

Holland, MI 49424

616-399-6539

rzylman@gmail.com

C Co. 25th ID, Feb 68 to Feb 69

Rob would like to locate **Terry Sharp** and **Ron Orzell**.