

Excerpts From Our December 2001 Newsletter

MACKENZIE'S RAIDERS

3/4 CAV NEWSLETTER

Jerry A. Headley, President *email - jheadley@dcr.net* December, 2001

Edward D. Kayler, Editor *email - edkayler@erinet.com* <http://users.erinet.com/20573>

NOTE: OUR MAILING ADDRESS HAS CHANGED TO:

**3/4 Cav Chapter
PO Box 23678
Lexington, KY 40523-3678**

THANKSGIVING IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY

By Chaplain Dennis E. Roe

We have now come to, what is probably the most joyous time of the year for most Americans, the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. However, in the light of the horrific events of September 11, we are mindful that this holiday season will be filled with tears and sorrow for far too many of our fellow citizens who mourn the loss or injury of their loved. We also think of our nation's military personnel who will not be home for the holidays, especially those who are in "harm's way" defending justice and liberty for all.

As you celebrate Thanksgiving this year remember what the first Thanksgiving was all about. A band of pilgrims had come to the shores of the New World to embark a quest for freedom. They were willing to sacrifice everything to obtain this precious treasure we call freedom. Many had to sell everything they owned to go to America. Furthermore, they knew full well they were risking their lives to come here. The trip alone was enough to kill them. Even so, they were willing to make this sacrifice in order to secure freedom for themselves and for future generations. Surely we can thank God they were willing to do so. Another most notable thing about the "first Thanksgiving" is that it came after the Pilgrims first winter. A winter which saw half the Pilgrims die of sickness and starvation! In the face of adversity they still gave thanks.

I recall reading of one of God's faithful missionaries, Allen Gardner, experienced many physical difficulties and hardships throughout his service to the Savior. Despite his troubles, he said, "While God gives me strength, failure will not daunt me." In 1851, at the age of 57, he died of disease and starvation while serving on Picton Island at the southern tip of South America. When his body was found, his diary lay nearby. It bore the record of hunger, thirst, wounds, and loneliness. The last entry in his little book showed the struggle of his shaking hand as he tried to write legibly. It read, "I am overwhelmed with a sense of the goodness of God." Think of that! No word of complaint, no childish whining, no grumbling at the circumstances – just praise for God's goodness.

It has been my prayer ever since the September 11 tragedy that God will use this great evil against our nation to bring about the greatest good, as He is only able to do. Think about what evil was brought against Jesus Christ the Son of God. He came to heal the sick and raise the dead, yet they crucified him! But even more think about what God did. Though Evil men intended the greatest evil, God brought about the greatest good, *"for God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."* John 3:16

Yes there is evil in the world. Yes bad things happen to good people. But evils will not triumph for there is a God in heaven whose love is far greater than any evil this world will ever know. Listen to these words of the Apostle Paul in Romans 8:34-39 who wrote, *"Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also make intercession for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?"*

As it is written: *"For your sake we are killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."*

I hope then that when you come to remember what Christmas is all about, the birth of Jesus Christ, your hearts and minds will be filled with the knowledge of the goodness and love of God.

Let us pray for our countrymen and their families who, like our Pilgrim fathers and like God Himself, have made the greatest sacrifice in laying down their lives so that we may continue to enjoy "liberty and justice for all." Let us give thanks in the face of adversity.

2002 REUNION INFORMATION

This is your second notice for our reunion, September 5-8 2002, Chattanooga, TN.

Reminder. You can get your room reservations NOW. DO IT! Too often, folks wait to get their room and then they're not available. The Chattanooga Choo Choo Holiday Inn is a prime retreat. Get your room

now. You can always cancel later if you need to. The 3/4 Cav Reunion rate is \$79.00 per night. Call 1-800-872-2529 direct to the Choo-Choo or 423-266-5000. Deadline for room reservations is August 15, 2002.

Carl Quickmire has worked very hard on your behalf to arrange tours and events to keep you entertained. Take advantage of these.

You also need to register with Carl. The form is at the end of the newsletter along with general reunion information.

THANKS!

Another "Atta Boy" to the below for donations to help pay for the pad at our monument at Ft. Knox. Total cost was \$2,743.00. Please send your donations to John Hollern.

Charles Porter, Rocky Orozco, Mel Moss, Bob Tegelman, Jerry Headley, Jim Skiff.

LAST CALL FOR TRAVEL BACK TO VIETNAM

This is the last time that information for the trip back to Vietnam in March 2002 will be provided. The trip coordinator, Dave Devries, C Troop and D Troop (Air) Dave has been back nine times and is well qualified as an escort.

Dates: 7-23 March 2002

Time: Actual departure/return times TBD.

Purpose: To re-visit cities, base camp areas and battlefields where we served.

Benefits: To see Vietnam restored to the vibrant, tropical, and beautiful country it is today.

Main Stops: Hanoi, Hue, DaNang (Hoi An), & Saigon with side trips of interest to vets and free time for relaxing & exploration in each city and surrounding area.

Cost: Approximately \$2,300.00 per person. A \$500.00 deposit will be required to hold your space. ** Limited to 25 total pax. Approximately 15 spaces left!

Contact: Dave Devries@ 616-669-6952 or dgdvries@msn.com or Al Northouse @ 616-669-8101 or anorthouse@modeldie.com.

SQUADRON AND CHAPTER DONATE TO THE PENATGON VICTIMS FUND

When LTC John Hansen, commander of the 3rd Squadron, 4th U.S. Cavalry, asked me if the 3/4 CAV Chapter would like to go together with the Squadron to make a donation to the Army Families that were victims of the attack on the Pentagon, I readily agreed.

The "hat was passed" among the Squadron and \$234 was raised. Several Squadron members had previously donated. I instructed John Hollern, our Treasurer to write a check for \$250 for the fund. A letter from the Chapter explaining that the donations are a joint effort of active duty soldiers and veterans to help our Army Family members accompanied our donation.

If you would like to help replenish our treasury for the donation please mail your contribution to John Hollern, 306 Greenbriar Lane, Vine Grove, KY 40175.

3RD SQUADRON, 4TH U.S. CAVALRY WINS DEPLOYMENT AWARD

A successful Joint Readiness Training Center deployment has resulted with the 3rd Squadron, 4th U.S. Cavalry receiving the Army Chief of Staff's first ever Deployment Excellence Award. This award was created to recognize units and installations for outstanding deployment accomplishments that meet or exceed established deployment standards and to capture and share innovative deployment initiatives that has improved the deployment process.

The 3/4 CAV successfully deployed 568 soldiers, 41 aircraft and other equipment to Louisiana for the October 2000 rotation at JRTC.

3/4 CAV VETERANS VISIT SQUADRON

Thirteen 3/4 CAV veterans visited with today's 3rd squadron, 4th U.S. Cavalry officers, NCOs, and troopers on "Tropic Lightning Day" at Schofield Barracks during the 25th Infantry Division Association's reunion on 4 October.

Prior to visiting the Squadron, the 3/4 Cav veterans passed in review one more time. All 25th Division veterans were invited to march together before the "Tropic Lightning" soldiers. The veterans were led by Past Association President and 3/4 CAV Chapter President Jerry Headley. The rest of the 3/4 CAV veterans, wearing their Yellow caps and 3/4 shirts, filled the front rank. Les Stafford (A Troop, 66-67) carried the 3/4 Cavalry guidon, which had been provided by the Squadron Commander, LTC John Hansen. There was no doubt that the CAV still led the way!

After lunch with the troops at various "quads" the Squadron shuttled us to Wheeler Army Airfield and the wives were taken to the PX. In a hangar we received a briefing on how today's Squadron is organized and how they train. We then proceeded to an equipment display to see what the troopers use today.

Today's Squadron is organized with a HHT, 1 ground troop (A), 2 Air Cav troops (B&C), and a maintenance troop (AVUM) (D). A Troop has HUMVEES (no tracks) and B & C has the Kiowa Warrior helicopter. The Squadron, just as we, has more firepower than any other unit in the Division. What is most exciting is their night fighting capability. Most of their training is done at night. (Oh, if we could have had what they have today!)

After ceremoniously (or not) cutting a cake with LTC Hansen, we were taken to a nearby golf course, where we were joined by our families for refreshments and more visiting with the troops. The day was

capped with LTC Hansen presenting the 3/4 CAV veterans with certificates of appreciation from the Squadron.

Everyone agreed that the day visiting with our Squadron and meeting the troopers was the hi-light of our stay.

PRESIDENT SPEAKS TO SQUADRON

3/4 CAV Chapter President, Jerry Headley, had the opportunity to speak with the officers, NCOs, and troopers of our Squadron during the 25th Infantry Division Association reunion.

President Headley spoke about the history of the 4th Cavalry Regiment and in particular the 3rd Squadron and its history with the 25th Division. In light of current events he spoke about the importance of being Prepared and Loyal. About being prepared today to go to war tomorrow and about the last time the 3/4 CAV went in 1965-1966. About what their mission really is. About being loyal to the Division, the Squadron, but most of all to each other.

Afterwards LTC John Hansen, Squadron Commander, presented President Headley with a certificate of appreciation and inducted him into the Order of the Spur presenting him with a certificate and a set of spurs.

Later, President Headley had the opportunity to meet with several officers, NCOs, and troopers and signed several books of "A Hundred Miles Of Bad Road".

Note: After spending quite sometime with the soldiers in our Squadron, there is no doubt that they are trained and ready to go anywhere now. They will continue the great traditions of our squadron. They will make us proud!)

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Remember that the 25th Division Association awards scholarships to all sons/step-sons, daughters/step-daughters, and grandchildren of ELIGIBLE 25th veterans. To be Eligible you MUST BELONG to the 25th Infantry Division Association. If you haven't joined yet you need to do so. See DUES for information.

The 3/4 CAV Chapter annually donates \$1,000. This is awarded to an ELIGIBLE child of a 3/4 Cavalry veteran. There were two children of 3/4 CAV veterans who received 1,000.00 scholarships this year. You can continue to make Tax deductible donations. Send your donation to our treasurer, John Hollern.

NEW MEMBERS FOUND

Kyle Alexander, C Troop, 66-67, Lincoln, IL

Billy Blackmon, 161st AVN, 4/69-10/70, Amarillo, TX

Lee Burgess, D Troop, 67-68, Chattanooga, TN

Stanley Copeland, HHT, 1/70-2/71, Ft. Huachuca, AZ

Tom Heiart, C Troop, 67, Stuart, FL

George Lehman, B Troop, 5/69-11/69, Folkston, GA

Marc Lewis, C Troop, 69-70, Henryville, IN

Charvis Morse, F Troop, 9/72-2/73, Huber Hgts, OH

Ron Noble, C Troop, 67, Yulee, FL

Mark Ponzillo, D Troop (LRRP), 4/66-11/66, Atlanta, GA

Robert Prescott, HHT, 8/69-8/70, Flint, MI

Steve Stepler, HHT, 12/69-12/70, Ardmore, PA

Ray Valencia, HHT, 70, Tulare, CA

Martin Wells, B Troop, 8/70-11/70, Almont, MI

Joe Wimberly, C Troop, 67, Jacksonville, FL

Current number of former 3/4 Cavalry Troopers found – 1,087. NOTE: 998 are on the mailing list.

Our web page has been a big help in finding former troopers but YOU are the best way. Keep searching for former troopers.

MEMBERS LOST

The following members have been lost since the last newsletter. Please help in returning them to the roster. If you live in their state, see if you can find them.

Ronald Klunowski, Pittsburg, PA

IN SEARCH OF...

CH (Maj.) Stanley Copeland, HHT, 1/70-2/71, is looking for the name(s) of the HHT 1SGs during his tour. Contact Stanley at (520) 452-8028 or email Stanley.Copeland.1989@alcom.bu.edu or write to 113 Dove Ave., Ft. Huachuca, AZ 85613

DUES

3/4 CAV Dues

Please send your dues (\$5 Annual/\$75 Life) payable to 3/4 CAV Chapter to: 3/4 CAV, Box 802, Ft. Knox, KY 40121. Your dues pay for the publication and mailing of your *MacKENZIE'S RAIDERS* newsletter.

25th Infantry Division Dues

Send your 25th Infantry Division Association dues (\$15 Annual/ \$150 Life) to P.O. Box 7, Flour Town, PA

19031-0007.

"The highest obligation and privilege of citizenship is that of bearing arms for one's country"

General George S. Patton, Jr.

QUARTERMASTER STORE

NOTE: POSTAGE FOR SHIPPING AND HANDLING MUST NOW BE INCLUDED IN YOUR ORDERS.

3/4 CAV CHALLENGE COIN. Cost \$7.00. Send your order to the Squadron Adjutant, 3rd Squadron, 4th Cavalry, 25th Infantry Division (Light), Wheeler Army Airfield, HI 96854.

Polo SHIRTS. Navy Blue with embroidered 4th Cavalry Crest, crossed sabers and Mackenzie's Raiders on left front. Cost \$30.00 + \$3.50 S&H. Send your check or money order, payable to 3/4 Cav Chapter to JERRY HEADLEY, 1234 POWELL TAYLOR RD., LAWRENCEBURG, KY 40342

SWEATSHIRTS. Navy Blue with embroidered 4th Cavalry Crest, crossed sabers and Mackenzie's Raiders on left front. Cost \$30 plus \$3.50 S&H. Make checks payable to the 3/4 Cavalry Chapter and mail to Jerry Headley.

PINS, BUMPER STICKERS & "HENRY V" Poster. We have a few cap pins, and bumper stickers left from the last reunion. Pins are \$3 and stickers are \$2. Poster \$1. Shipping & Handling \$1.00 for each. Get them while they last. Contact Bob Bingham, 4505 Arvice Ct., Lexington, KY 40515.

CAPS. Cost \$10.00 + \$1.00 S&H. CAV yellow with embroidered regimental crest and motto. At this price you better order two! Send check or money order payable to 3/4 CAV Chapter to John Hollern, P.O. Box 802, Ft. Knox, KY 40121.

CAV LICENSE PLATES. John Hollern has acquired some Cavalry license plates. Cost is \$10.00 + \$1.00 S&H. First come first served. Order now!

PATCHES. John Hollern has three different types that are like our crest. One is ornate and for wear on a blazer or sports jacket. Cost \$20. Another is a sew on like you had in Nam. Cost \$3. Last is a decal that you can put on your vehicle or wherever. Cost \$1. S&H .50 cents for each item

MINATURE CREST. Cost \$5.00 + .50 cents S&H. Order from John Hollern.

BELT BUCKLE. Cost \$15.00 + \$1.75 S&H. Only 5 left. Once these are sold there will be no more made. Get your order in now! The buckle is pewter in color, has crossed sabers and has 25th Infantry Division, Vietnam and our motto inscribed. Send your order to Bobby Hollis, 4702 Calvert Road, Huntsville, AL 35816.

POEM. Cost \$10.00. Jim Locklear wrote the poem "Vietnam Vet" and his new one "Welcome Home". Jim

will donate all money made from the sale of these poems to the scholarship fund. Send your order to Jim Locklear. P.O. Box 824, Pembroke, NC 28372.

CHECK LIST

X Are your dues current?

X Have you joined the 25th Infantry Division Association?

X Have you made plans to attend the 3/4 CAV reunion in Chattanooga, TN, SEP 5-7, 2002?

X Have you made a donation to the scholarship fund or for the pad around the 3/4 Cavalry monument?