

Excerpts From Our December 2003 Newsletter

MACKENZIE'S RAIDERS



3/4 CAV NEWSLETTER

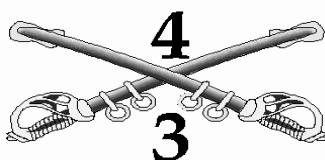


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www.3-4cav.com

MACKENZIE'S RAIDERS



3/4 CAVALRY

JUNE 24-26, 2004 REUNION PLANNING PROGRESS

OK, you need to make your room reservations now at the Holiday Inn Lakeview in Clarksville, IN. Call 1-800-544-7075. Indiana residents call 1-800-824-7740. Reservations must be received by June 2, 2004. Any reservations made after that date are subject to availability. We have a special rate of \$65.00.

Tour description and costs can be found at the end of the newsletter. Send the form with amount to Visitours. Friday evening plan on attending the Derby Dinner Playhouse for a great show and meal. Saturday evening will be our banquet followed by our traditional raffle to raise funds for our chapter projects.

There will only be one more newsletter published prior to our

reunion. Don't wait until the last minute. This is a great opportunity for you to meet with old friends and to make new ones!

There is plenty to see and do in the Louisville area. Visit the Falls of the Ohio State Park. It is only a few blocks from our hotel. Travel back to Southern Indiana's Stone Age and discover 400 million-year-old fossil beds. The Forest Discovery Center is nearby. Discover the wonders of wood. A glass -enclosed skyway connects the facility to Koetter Woodworking state-of -the-art rough mill plant. The Huber Orchard and Winery-Farm Market, established in 1843, features a Farm Market, Cheese Factory, Winery with 22 international award-winning wine varieties, petting zoo, and gift shop with arts, crafts, collectibles and souvenirs. Plan on making a vacation for the reunion.

ATTA BOY/GIRL

Atta Boy/Girl to:

CPT April Gasparri, S-1. Female member of the 25th ID (L) & USARHAW Army 10 miler team. The team placed 2nd in the 19th annual Army 10-miler race.

SGM Glenn Wildhagen, Sqdn Opns Sgt. Member of the 25th ID (L) & USARHAW Army Masters 10 miler team. The men's team placed 8th.

SP/4 Brian Wilson, HHT. Placed 3rd in a cake bake off celebrating the 62nd birthday of the 25th ID (L)

Michael Tulang, A & HHT 64-66, appointed to the Hilo, HI county council.

Oren Albright, A Troop, 67-68, donation to scholarship fund.

Your tax deductible donations and dues keep our chapter running.

Please send you tax-deductible donations to Bob Bingham, treasurer.

AT THE WALL, VETERANS DAY

A great turnout of 25TH Infantry veterans were at the Wall this

Veteran's Day. A little morning drizzle did not deter the camaraderie of all present.

Besides myself, present from the CAV were Dave Garrod, B Troop, 67-68, Andrew Giordano, C Troop, 66- 67 and Mike Greber, D Troop (Air), 67-68.

PLANNING A CAV REUNION

By Carl Quickmire, Vice-President

Our first reunion was in 1988 at Quantico, VA hosted by Jerry Headley. Since then we have had reunions in: Radcliff, KY, Huntsville, AL, Columbia, SC, Vicksburg, MS, Indianapolis, IN, Lexington, KY, and in 2004 we will be in Clarksville, IN (across the river from Louisville, KY). Each reunion has been planned and conducted by the following members: Jerry Headley-3, Carl Quickmire-2, Bobby Bingham-2, Bobby Hollis, Bob McGowan, Dave Nelson, John Hollern and Wilbur Duggins have each hosted 1 reunion. Most of the reunions have been in or near to the city where the host lives. Several members help at each reunion on site. IT IS TIME FOR OTHER MEMBERS TO PLAN AND HOST OUR REUNIONS! The remainder of the article will focus on how to plan and run a ¾ CAV Reunion.

LOCATION. Most of the previous reunions have been within 500 miles of the homes of the majority of our membership. Attendance has increased at each reunion. In 2002 we had 344 attendees and we expect more in 2004. Reunions in cities like: Seattle, WA, Miami, FL, Bangor, ME and El Paso, TX will not be successful since they are at the geographic extremes of the continental US. What does the location offer to make it attractive for the reunion? Is it on the beach, scenic mountains, historic sites, sites of military significance, major league sports, a popular tourist destination? How accessible is the city to the Interstate? Do major Airlines and AMTRACK serve the city? In my opinion, locations west of the Mississippi River, except locations near the river like Kansas City, will not have a good attendance since they are too far from the majority of our members.

DATES FOR THE REUNION. June, July and August are usually the best months for most members. However, we had 344 attendees at Chattanooga, TN in the first week of September. Begin the reunion

on Thursday and depart on Sunday is the preferred format.

GETTING THE HOTEL. Use the Convention and Visitors Bureau to help you. They will arrange for you to make site visits to appropriate hotels, forward your bid information to the hotels, provide you with points of contact for tours and local attractions. Many bureaus will make name tags and provide help at the reunion registration or make arrangements for hotels to give you a free night to check out their services.

THE HOTEL BID. Specify your requirements in specific terms. Include attendance figures, room block and room pick up from the previous 2 reunions. You can get this data from the people who ran the reunions. Example of required bid information: Dates: Arrive Thursday, depart Sunday in June, July or August. Estimated Room Block: Thur 100, Fri 150, Sat 160. Need banquet capacity for 400 for Saturday night dinner and possibly Friday, if you do not go off site. Hospitality Room to accommodate 150 people – flow. Meeting Room (no cost) for 150 people, theatre style, 2 hours, Saturday morning Quote best net non -commissionable room rate under \$80.00 (tax not included). Quote Gratuity and Taxes for Food and Beverage. NOTE: the ¾ Cavalry Association is a private non-profit 501(c) organization and may not have to pay certain taxes. Quote comp rooms on a cumulative basis. Value of unused comp rooms to be applied to the Master Bill. The association pays for all dinners Friday and Saturday nights (collected from members who attend) and for beer and soft drinks consumed in the Hospitality Room. Individuals pay for their rooms and drinks other than beer and soda in the Hospitality Room. Hotel provides bar tenders for the Hospitality Room. Reunion room rates to be available 2 days before and 2 days after the reunion. Hospitality, meeting Room(s) and Banquet rooms to be provided free of charge. Include menus for dinners and charges for kegs of beer, soft drinks and bartenders.

The Association will bring in snacks for the Hospitality Room. Include any other fees, such as parking, in your proposal. Specify reservation cut off date for reunion rate and, if space is available, reunion rate after cut off. Send all proposals to Mr. John Doe, Anytown, USA. Phone:..... Deadline for receipt of proposals is Month, Day, Year.

HOTEL NEGOTIATIONS. Based upon site visits and discussion with hotel staff, you probably have determined the best hotel for the reunion. Once the bids are received analyze them carefully. If your preferred hotel has a higher room rate or is quoting a lower comp room rate, talk to them and point out that Hotel A's room rate is \$10 less or Hotel B is offering 1/25 comp room rate. Negotiate in a positive friendly manner. Everything is negotiable except taxes. Your job is to get the best hotel at the best price. Wrap up negotiations within 1-2 weeks. After selecting the hotel and signing the contract ask the CVB to inform all hotels that bid on the reunion which hotel will host the reunion. I prefer to write a letter stating the hotel selected and thanking all of the hotels that bid. Do not list your reasons for selection or non-selection. Give this letter to distribute to all hotels that bid.

HOTEL CONTRACT. The contract can be simple or very complex. Some things to check for: written guarantee of room rates, comp room rate, what is to be billed to master bill, what attendees must pay for, what is taxable, what is service charge and tax on food & beverage, what is the reservation cut off date, will room rates be available before and after the room block dates, what other charges will there be, e.g., rental of Vu-Graph, what the hotel is providing free, e.g., no charge for Hospitality, Meeting, Banquet rooms. Make sure that a "Force Majeure" clause is in the contract. Typically theses read, "No damages shall be due for a failure of performance occurring due to Acts of God, war, government regulation, disaster,

terrorist act or strikes, any one of which make performance impossible." Cancellation penalties - do not agree to any penalties longer than 1 year before the reunion date. If you are not an experienced meeting planner, have Jerry Headley or me and perhaps an attorney review the contract before signing it. Remember, you are signing and acting on behalf of the association which can be held liable for non-compliance with any aspect of the contract.

HOSPITALITY ROOM. It is desirable that the room or rooms be away from the common areas frequented by other hotel guests. In recent years the Hospitality Room has been non-smoking, but designated smoking areas nearby should be available. Local liquor laws and hotel policy will govern how food and beverage is handled in the Hospitality Room. In the past we have had hotels that allowed us to bring in our own snacks and in some cases beer and wine. It is very costly to purchase hotel snacks and hor's d overes. My personal preference is for the hotel to provide bar tenders in the Hospitality Room who dispenses all drinks, alcoholic and non-alcoholic. We bring in our own snacks. Draft beer and soda are free to attendees who have paid the registration fee; the attendees pay for wine and alcohol drinks. The Association pays for beer, soda and snacks. This procedure reduces our costs for snacks, somewhat reduces our potential liability for alcohol liability and reduces manpower needed to staff the Hospitality Room. If the hotel does not permit snacks to be brought into the Hospitality Room, it should not be considered. .

SIGHTSEEING AND TOURS. Usually we have 2 or more sightseeing tours to local nearby attractions. Contact with a local tour to do these. Make sure the contract allows you to cancel if not enough people sign up for the tour before the cutoff date. Make sure the contract specifies the minimum number of people required to operate the tour. Arrange for one of our members to be on each tour

with a list of people on the tour. This person does a headcount before departure and before departing each stop on the tour. The CVB can provide you with brochures and in some cases local maps for shopping and sightseeing that attendees can do on their own. These brochures should be in each registration packet. You might have to pay for some of these, but it is usually a minimal fee. Also, ask for discount coupons for various attractions and shopping. Many of our attendees qualify for Senior Citizen Discounts.

GOLF TOURNAMENT. We normally have a golf tournament on Friday AM with 4 or 5 foursomes. In selecting your city, make sure there are some public golf courses where our members can play. If possible, select a course that is near the hotel. Put one of our golfers in charge of the tournament.

REGISTRATION DESK. If possible, locate the desk near or adjacent to the hotel check-in desk or near the Hospitality Room. Some people prefer to have the Registration Desk in the Hospitality Room. The Registration Desk must be open from Noon – early evening on Thursday, 10 AM –6PM on Friday, and 10AM – around 3 PM on Saturday. Normally, everyone attending the reunion has arrived by 3:00 PM Saturday. Get help for the Desk, you cannot do it alone. Plan on 2 people at the Desk at all times. People manning the desk must be familiar with the hotel, nearby attractions, restaurants and the reunion agenda. In some cases the CVB will provide help at the Desk. Commander. of the squadron. McMahan has REGISTRATION PACKET. Prepare a registration packet for each member. Use a 9X12 Manila envelope. The packet should have nametags for the member, family members and friends, a roster of attendees, reunion agenda, any business handouts to be voted on at the business meeting and local sightseeing information. Put the member's name in an upper corner of the envelope and store alphabetically in cardboard boxes.

MEMORIAL SERVICE. *This may be held at the hotel or at an appropriate site away from the hotel. Work closely with the President and Chaplain on the location and date of the service. Arrange for a bugler to play Taps and, if possible, a bagpiper to participate in the ceremony.*

SATURDAY NIGHT BANQUET. *Arrange for an appropriate banquet speaker. We have used Association members, general Officers and local leaders. The association normally pays for the speaker's room, registration fee and dinner. For the dinner have one meat and one fish selection. Normally, we will have a carafe of wine on each table to be used for the Toast ceremony. If possible, arrange for a color guard to present the colors.*

FINANCES. *Open a special checking account for the reunion. Have the President and the Treasurer be authorized signers on the account. All reunion monies received go into this account. All reunion expenses are paid from this account. Maintain a ledger that shows by date where money came from and where it was spent. After all reunion expenses have been paid, the balance (profit) in the account is sent to the Treasurer and the account closed.*

SOME TERMS:

COMP(complimentary) ROOMS. *For large groups like ours the hotel will give us some free "comp" rooms based upon a rate that is included in the contract. Standard comp rate is 1 free room for 40 or 50 rooms used. Try to get a better rate.*

ROOM BLOCK. *Means the number of rooms you reserved for each night. ROOM PICK UP means the actual number of rooms used per night. See chart below:*

TH FR SA SU TOT

BLOCKED 10 100 150 20 280

PICK UP 5 100 160 20 285

Comp Rooms

Per day based

On 1/40 per day 0 2.5 4 .5

You get no comp rooms on Thursday, 2.5 or 3 rooms on Friday, 4 rooms maybe 1 on Sunday.

Using the Comp rate on a Cumulative Basis you get $285/40 = 7.125$ rooms to use as you desire. This is why the Cumulative Comp Rate should be used.

PLUS PLUS ++. This refers to the charges added to food and beverage prices. Gratuities are 15-20% and local taxes vary. Example: A \$25 dinner with 20% gratuity and 5% tax will cost $\$25 \times .2 = \5 , $\$30 \times .05 = \1.50 so the actual cost of the dinner is \$31.50

RACK RATE. This is the normal rate you and I pay when we stay as individuals at a hotel.

GROUP RATE. This is the rate groups like our reunion gets. Typically the group rate is 10-15% lower than the rack rate. Because of the size of our group and the large amount of money we spend on food and beverage we will normally get at least 25% lower than the rack rate. This is part of the negotiating process. Many reunion and meeting planners work on a commission basis to conduct reunions. Example: Group rate is \$75 per night, the planner adds a 10% commission so the rate an attendee pays is \$82.50, the hotels gets \$75 and the planner gets \$7.50 for each room used per night. We use the Net Non-Commissionable Rate to give our members the

lowest possible hotel rate.

SALES & CATERING STAFF. *When you are planning and booking the reunion you will be working with some one in the sales department. After the contract is signed, you will be working with one or more people in the catering and service departments, since they are the ones who take care of the food and beverages and all meeting room or other requirements. Once you have signed the contracts make it a point to meet those who you will be working with in catering and service.*

CUTOFF DATE. *This is the last date the hotel reservations can be made to take advantage of the reunion rate (some hotels will honor the reunion rate if rooms are available but they are not obligated to). We also use a cutoff date as a deadline to sign up for tours and to pay your fees to the association for the reunion.*

I hope this helps you to plan for a future reunion. If you think you might be interested for 2006, come to the 2004 business meeting prepared to discuss your site using the info above. I will be happy to work with anyone who wishes to plan and host the next or future reunions. My address is 1 Sweet Bay Drive, Columbia, SC 29209; phone 803-776-6703; email: dewb4ubs@earthlink.net

IN SEARCH OF...

Max Shrock, SGT, B Troop, vehicle 17, 6169-7170 needs your help with a VA claim. If you remember Max, please contact him at 2136 Oyster Creek Dr., Englewood, FL 34224 or call (941) 475-6627. Email: browndog34224@yahoo.com

Rebecca Doran, is searching for anyone who served with her brother

SSG Larry B. Curttright and was KIA 29 February 1969. He had originally served in A Troop until early Feb. 69 when he transferred to B Troop. You may reach "Becky" at gsdbeatingcleats01@msn.com.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

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. Note: AT THE 25TH IDA Executive Committee's mid-year meeting, they voted that for a student to be eligible for a scholarship the parent or grandparent had to have been a member of the 25th IDA for a minimum of one year. JOIN NOW!

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 in 2003. Nicholas Parisi received the 3/4 CAV Chapter Scholarship. Nicholas is the son of Bob Parisi, B Troop, 69-70 and is from Buffalo, NY. Steve Sloan was the other 3/4 CAV recipient and he is the son of Joe Sloan, Paducah, KY, CIHHT, 68-69. You can continue to make Tax deductible donations to our treasurer, Bob Bingham.

NEW MEMBERS FOUND

Mike Fleming, C Troop, 69, Williams, OR

William Johnson, A Troop, 2/68-5/68, San Antonio, TX

Jerry Lowder, B Troop, 64-65, Salisbury, NC

Michael Reed, B Troop, 70, Eureka, CA

John Abosto, C Troop, 67-68, Manteca, CA

Gary Schmidt, D,F Troops (Air), 69-70, Clermont, FL

Stanley Allen, D Troop (Air), 69, Creswell, OR

Mike Boone, D Troop (Air), 70, Juneau, AK

Marvin Runyon, D Troop (Air), 70, Reynoldsburg, OH

Dennis Piper, D Troop (Air), 69-70, Bridgeport, VT

Marcus Kempson, D Troop (Air), 69-70, Union City, GA

Kenneth Strand, D Troop (Air), 70, Great Falls, MT

Les Scott, Jr., D Troop (Air), 69-70, Lexington Park, MD

Michael Wilson, D Troop (Air), 69-70, Florence, MT

Michael Holder, D Troop (Air), 70, Plano, TX

Warren Bonner, D Troop (Air), 70, Ozark, AL

William Byers, D Troop (Air), 69-70, Chatsworth, CA

"Keith" Williams, D Troop (Air), 69-70, McDonough, GA

Alvin Simon, D Troop (Air), 69-70, Gig Harbor, WA

James Sapwell, D Troop (Air), 69-70, Eloy, AZ

George Aguilar, D, F Troops(Air), 70-71, McAllen, TX

Current number of former 3/4 Cavalry troopers found – 1,259

NOTE: 1,068 are on the mailing list.

Keep searching for former troopers.

MEMBERS LOST

***The following members have been lost since the last newsletter.
Please help in locating them.***

Jim Balinger, Salem, OR

Robert Bigelow, Fremont, MI

Gary Ward, Georgetown, KY

Jim Arp, St. Louis, MO

DUES

3/4 CAV Dues

***Send your dues (\$10 Annual/\$75 Life) payable to 3/4 CAV Chapter to
P.O. Box 23678 Lexington KY 40523-3678. 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.

"Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever."

Mahatma Gandhi

September 2003 NEWSLETTER

2004 REUNION PLANNING PROGRESS

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ATTA BOY

Atta Boy" to the below for donations to the chapter.

John Hollern

Jim Locklear

Dues paying members. 247 Life and 115 Annual paid to date. Remember, dues are on an annual basis, i.e., Jan-Dec.

Your tax deductible donations and dues keep our chapter running.

Please send you tax-deductible donations to Bob Bingham, treasurer.

TAPS

John Danlychuck, LRRP, C Troop, 66-68

Steve Morey, LRRP, 4/68-4/69

Gary Roller, C Troop, 65-66

NOTE: In the June newsletter, "Rusty" Albright was listed as having been a member of C Troop. He was in B Troop, 65-66.

To the family and friends of those departed, you have our deepest sympathy and we share your grief.

3/4 CAV CHANGE OF COMMAND

President Headley attended the change of command ceremonies of the 3rd Squadron, 4th U.S. Cavalry at Sills Field, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii on June 24, 2003.

Outgoing squadron commander, LTC John Hansen, passed the regimental colors to incoming commander LTC Michael J. McMahon.

LTC Hansen is a graduate of the United States Military Academy and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant of Aviation upon graduation. LTC Hansen has served in numerous aviation and cavalry units including an earlier tour as Aeroscout Platoon Leader in the 3/4 CAV from 1985-1989 when the squadron was with the 3rd Infantry Division (M) in Germany.

Prior to receiving the Meritorious Service Medal (oak leaf) from MG Olsen, the 25th Infantry Division (L) commanding general, LTC Hansen received the Order of Saint George. The heroic and legendary image of St. George defeating the dragon exemplifies the mounted gallantry and righteous bravery that we have come to associate with the horse-mounted knights of old. The legend of St. George, who is the only saint portrayed as fighting mounted, can be traced back to 280 AD. Through the centuries, his name has been linked to famous battles, military orders, and cavalry forces.

In 1986, the United States Armor association established the Honorable Order of St. George to recognize the very best Tankers and Cavalrymen.

President Headley presented LTC Hansen a work of art drawn by former B Trooper, Barry Anderson. The award recognizes LTC Hansen's successful command with the 3/4 CAV and his support to the 3/4 CAV Association.

LTC Hansen and his wife will remain in Hawaii as he assumes his duties as special assistant to the commanding general of the United States Army Pacific (USARPAC).

LTC Michael J. McMahon was born at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. He graduated from the United States Military Academy in 1985 and was commissioned in Aviation Branch. He married LTC Jeanette McMahon in 1987.

LTC McMahon's assignments include numerous aviation and cavalry units and staff positions. His most recent assignment was as executive officer of the Aviation Brigade, 25th Infantry Division (L). He holds a Masters degree of Science in Operations Research from Kansas State University and is dive master certified.

In addition to his military awards LTC McMahon is a member of the Order of Saint Michael and Athapaskan.

President Headley presented a 3/4 CAV cap and other memorabilia to LTC McMahon as the new commander of the squadron.

LTC McMahon has pledged his support to the 3/4 CAV association and requested that any former member visiting Hawaii to please come by the squadron to meet with him and the members of the squadron.

VIETNAM KIA PLAQUE REDEDICATED

During President Headley's visit to attend the change of command ceremony of the squadron, a ceremony was conducted at the squadron headquarters to rededicate the plaque that contains the dogtags of the 3/4 CAV members who were killed in action in Vietnam.

Troopers and NCO's completed the plaque under the supervision of the squadron adjutant, CPT April Gasparri. The plaque was completely refinished, painted and Plexiglas added. New dogtags were placed as a result of locating new names, especially those that served in F Troop, 4th Cavalry. F Troop was organized from D Troop (Air) and other elements of the squadron before the squadron deployed back to Hawaii in 1970.

The memorial plaque will be on display in the squadron headquarters for all to see.

NEW MEMBERS FOUND

Jim Brothers, D Troop (Air), 9/69-10/70, Bloomington, IN
Jack Craig, D Troop (Air), 6/69-6/70, Phoenix, AZ
Charles Godfrey, D Troop (Air), 5/69-5/70, Enterprise, AL
Charles (Ed) Hawkins, B Troop, 67-68, Chehalis, WA

Gary LeBarge, A Troop, 68, Glenolden, PA
Clay Maxwell, D Troop (Air), 67-68, Beaverton, MI
William McKenzie, A Troop, 8/66-8/67, Meyersdale, PA
Manny Montanez, A Troop, 68-69, San Diego, CA
Tom Pullium, C Troop, 66-67, Canton, OH
Bruce Sikkema, D Troop (Air), 69-70, Thomson, IL

Current number of former 3/4 Cavalry troopers found – 1,238.

NOTE: 1,064 are on the mailing list.

Keep searching for former troopers.

MEMBERS LOST

The following members have been lost since the last newsletter. Please help in locating them.

Paul Davidson, Jacksonville, OR
Harold Hatter, Jr., Pine Grove, PA
Bob Phillips, Brumley, MO
Bruce Rolland, Naples, NC
Tom Tabaca, St. Louis, MO
Michael Wagnon, San Bernardino, CA

NOTE: Some of you are temporarily away. The newsletter does not get forwarded to you unless you notify the post office. It is returned to the chapter at a cost. Please have it forwarded or let us know when you will be gone so we can remove you temporarily from the mailing list.

DUES

3/4 CAV Dues

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25th Infantry Division Dues

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“Not in vain may be the pride of those who survived and the epitaph of those who fell”

Winston S. Churchill



ARTICLES NEEDED FOR NEWSLETTER

Articles, tales, information, etc. are needed for the Mackenzie's Raiders newsletter. Sometimes it's quite difficult to find "stuff" to put in the newsletter. We must fill 8 pages for each issue to get a price break.

If you have anything stored away in your attic or basement or even your gray cells then why not submit them for publication?

Send them email to jaheadley@adelphia.net

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