

MACKENZIE'S RAIDERS



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September 2009

www.3-4cav.com

TUCSON REUNION

April 28 – May 2, 2010 are the dates of our 12th reunion.

The Hotel Arizona in downtown Tucson will be our hotel. Our guest rate of \$83.92 (taxes included) is not available after **March 28, 2010**. This rate includes a free full breakfast each morning. The hotel provides free transportation to and from the Tucson Airport. To register by phone call 800-845-4596 or go online at <http://www.thehotelarizona.com/> and use the code: SCD74. The hotel only has 5 rooms with handicap bath facilities. Register early if you need one.

For those who want to stay longer, Tucson has much to offer including many well-known attractions. The Grand Canyon is about 6 hours away by car.

Our golf tournament will be held on Thursday at the spectacular [Tucson National Resort](http://www.tucsonnationalresort.com).

Our tours will visit the Pima Air/Space Museum & Air Force Bone Yard, Ft. Huachuca/Tombstone, & the Sonoran Desert Museum. **Photo ID** is required for the tours on the military installations.

Make sure you bring your photos and films from Nam to share. Freshen up your stories too.

Remember to bring a gift for the raffle. Many folks may be flying, so keep the gift small.

Arizona does not allow smoking in any public building. If you plan a side trip to Mexico, bring your passport. It is required.

The 4th Cavalry Regiment was stationed here in the 1880s to combat the Apaches. Geronimo surrendered to the 4th Cavalry in September 1886. The 4th Cavalry Band played as Geronimo and the Apache prisoners were loaded aboard a train for Florida. A 4th Cavalry Re-enactors Band will play at a number of functions for our reunion.

Reunion Agenda

Wednesday April 28

Early Bird Registration
Hospitality Room

Thursday April 29

Golf Tournament at the Tucson National Resort
Registration
Tour #1 to Pima Air Museum/ Air Force Bone Yard
Hospitality Room
Ice Breaker

Friday April 30

Business Meeting & Ladies Breakfast
Registration
Tour #2 to Tombstone/Ft. Huachuca
Hospitality Room
Photo Session
Mexican Dinner & Mariachi Band
Hospitality Room

Saturday May 1

Memorial Service
Tour #3 to the Sonoran Desert Museum
Hospitality Room
Cash Bar & Cocktails
Banquet
Raffle

Hospitality Room

Sunday May 2

Departure breakfast

POTPOURI

You can still buy a memorial brick for the 25th IDA Memorial at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. Go to the 25th IDA web www.25ida.org or the 3/4 CAV web www.3-4cav.com for information.

Purchase the book "Centaur in Vietnam: Air Cavalry at War. Proceeds help 3-4 CAV projects. Email cwburns@optonline.net or go to our web.

ATTA BOY/GIRL

Atta Boy/Girl to:

Anonymous members for their donations.

Jim Peterson for his donation paying for the color photos in the June newsletter.

Mike Jackson for donation for CSM (R) Caesar's funeral on behalf of the association.

To all of you who renewed or upgraded your membership.

Your tax deductible donations and dues keep our chapter running. Please send you tax-deductible donations to Bob Bingham, treasurer.



TAPS

RON PEABBLES, D TROOP (AIR), 68-69

CSM(R) RODNEY CAESAR, B TROOP, 68-69

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

**FORMER SCO TAKES COMMAND
OF 2nd STRYKER BRIGADE**

COL Malcolm Frost, former SCO, 05-08, took command of the 2nd Stryker Brigade on June 25th. His wife has been selected to command the 500th MI Brigade in Hawaii in 2010.

MY LUNCH BUDDY

**By Jim Murphy
125th Signal BN**

My lunch buddy and I sat at the same lunch table during senior year.

My lunch buddy and I navigated the maze known as high school

My lunch buddy and I caddied at the golf course.

My lunch buddy was a good golfer, I was a duffer.

My lunch buddy and I signed each other's year books.

My lunch buddy and I parted ways at graduation.

My lunch buddy and I entered the service.

My lunch buddy volunteered, I waited my turn.

My lunch buddy and I both went to `Nam.

My lunch buddy and I both wore the "Electric Strawberry" patch.

My lunch buddy did not return, I did.

My lunch buddy's name is on "The Wall", mine isn't.

My lunch buddy was remembered by his classmates at the 40-year reunion.

My lunch buddy's classmates "rocked the house" at the 40-year reunion.

My lunch buddy's sister and I visited his grave.

My lunch buddy's sister entrusted me with his yearbook.

My lunch buddy, your lunch buddy will never forget you.

*Dedicated to the memory of Peter F. Kovach
West Orange High School Class of 1966
A Troop, 3/4 CAV, KIA 8/24/68
FSB Schofield
GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN*

SQUADRON NEWS

The squadron should be returning to Hawaii within the next 30-60 days. Do not mail anymore care packages, as they may not reach the unit(s).

The following are excerpts from LTC Hodne, 3-4 SCO, latest update. You may read the entire article with photos on our web.

“On a single day...1 August... I witnessed not one but two historic moments. It began with the first public meeting of the newly formed Dujayl Tribal Union and ended with the first meeting of U.S. Investors (Marshall Fund) with the Salah Ad Din Provincial government...

Task Force Raider anticipated the activity of those insurgents who thought they could take advantage of the new operational environment ... we took the fight to the rural canals, orchards, and farm country surrounding Bakir Airfield...

One of our major responsibilities includes perimeter defense of one of the major Forward Operating Bases that houses U.S. Soldiers and Airman and a major theater hospital and the largest forward deployed U.S. Air Force Air Wing. In 9 months the 3/4 CAV has reduced the number of attacks against this base by over 75%. Having operated from this same base in 2004, I can personally attest to the difference in the current quality of life for base personnel as compared to ‘back in the day’ when mortar rounds impacted with some frequency...”

I'll close this portion in revealing the paradigm shift that's occurring around us in this particular fight. To date most of these attacks are launched with primitive systems with extremely unpredictable trajectories... most simply miss the base... however, they have to land somewhere, and the damage to the infrastructure, farmland, livestock, and even fellow citizens is completely counter to the direction this country is moving in. Where this was once tolerated, Iraqis are no longer willing to do so...”

DAVID M. HODNE
Lieutenant Colonel, Infantry
Commanding

FOUND AND NEW TROOPERS

Wayne Fickert, B Troop, 2/70-12/70, Rockford, OH.

Kekoa Chu, A Troop, 2/06 to Present, Union City, CA

Jerry Brownfield, B & HHT, 10/69-11/70, Des Moines, IA.

CPT Gregory Lee, A & HHT, 11/05-5/08, West Point, NY.

Arnold Laurent, D & B Troops, 4/64-11/66, McKinney, TX

Current number of former 3/4 Cavalry troopers found – **1,475**

NOTE: 554 are on the mailing list.

Keep searching for former troopers.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The 25th Infantry Division Association awards scholarships to all sons/step-sons, daughters/step-daughters, and grandchildren of ELIGIBLE 25TH veterans. For the student to be eligible the parent or grandparent has to have been a member of the 25th IDA for a minimum of one year. JOIN NOW.

The 3/4 CAV Chapter annually donates at least \$1,000. In 2009 we donated \$2,000. The 3/4 CAV had two winners for 2009. Dylan White, grandson of Marvin Runyon, D Troop, 70, received the 3/4 CAV Scholarship. He'll attend Texas A&M. Joseph Washington, Jr., grandson of Bill Singleton, HHT, 69 also received a \$1,000 scholarship. This scholarship was named in honor of Homer Louya, A Troop. His sons and son-in law donated \$1,000 in his memory. He'll attend Shippensburg University.

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. **Attach a copy of your DD-214, if you've never sent one.**

25th Infantry Division Dues

Send your 25th Infantry Division Association dues to P.O. Box 7, Flourtown, PA 19031-0007. **Attach a copy of your DD-214 or other documentation of service.** Check out their web www.25thida.org for dues costs.

***"One good turn usually gets
the blanket."
E. JOSEPH COSSMAN***

***QUARTERMASTER
STORE***

NOTE: POSTAGE FOR SHIPPING AND HANDLING IS INCLUDED IN YOUR ORDERS. SEND YOUR CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO 3/4 CAVALRY CHAPTER TO P.O. BOX 23678, LEXINGTON, KY 40523-3678, EXCEPT WHERE NOTED.

SPECIAL OFFER. Red T-shirts with design when squadron was in Afghanistan. 14 left. Only L, XL. Cost \$15.00

POLO SHIRTS. Navy Blue with embroidered 4th Cavalry Crest, crossed sabers and Mackenzie's Raiders on left front. Cost \$35.00. S,M,L, XL, \$40.00 2X, 3X

SWEATSHIRTS. Navy Blue with embroidered 4th Cavalry Crest, crossed sabers and Mackenzie's Raiders on left front. Cost \$35.00. S,M,L,XL. \$40.00 2X,3X.

T-SHIRT. Navy Blue T-Shirt with embroidered regimental crest on front. Get one for your grandkids. Cost \$22.00. S,M,L,XL. \$27.00 2X, 3X.

PINS, WINDOW STICKERS. We have a few cap pins left from past reunions (Chattanooga, KC, Ft. Mitchell). Pins are \$5 and stickers are \$3. Get them while they last.

CAPS. Cost \$15.00. Black with embroidered regimental crest and motto. Better get two!

CAV LICENSE PLATES. Cost is \$12.00. First come first served. Order now!

CHALLENGE COIN. 3-4 Assn. Challenge coin. \$10 or 2 for \$15.

PATCHES. We have two different types that are like our crest. One is ornate and for wear on a blazer or sports jacket. Cost \$25. Another is a sew on like you had in Nam. Cost \$5.

CROSSED SABERS. Crossed sabers pin like on our newsletter. Cost \$8.00.

MINATURE CREST. Cost \$5.00.

PRINT. Commissioned by the squadron while in Afghanistan. Portrays the history of the 3/4 CAV. Each copy is signed by the artist. Cost \$30.00

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.**

NEW! 3/4 CAV CARDS. Pkg of 25,10,5 Color drawing of unit crest, crossed sabers, unit guidons on front cover. Old Bill on top of inside. Description of crest on back. Use for personal notes, thank you, or whatever. Includes envelopes \$25.00, \$10.00, \$5.00.

Stadium Cups. While they last. From reunion. 2 for \$5.00. Have crossed sabers logo on two sides.

Band of Brothers Poster. Bob McCarthy will provide a free poster of the Henry V siloquoy, "We Band of Brothers." Write to The Printing Center, 7518 Fullerton Rd., Springfield, VA 22153 or email yourprinter@aol.com.

LUAU PLANNED

SFC Nui Aumua sent word that his family is planning a Luau for the squadron when they return from Iraq. Everyone is invited. This includes 3-4 Association members too! Many of you met Nui at our last reunion.

"My family is throwing a welcome back Luau and everyone is invited. The tentative date is 30 October. Here's my mother's email, if there are any changes she will know first, so please contact her."
aumuab@byuh.edu."

LES STAFFORD WILL HOST BAR-B-QUE

Les Stafford, A Troop, 66-67, who resides in Sierra Vista, AZ, says he will host a Bar-B-Que at his home on Monday, after the reunion. All he asks is that you notify him if you will attend so he knows how much food and liquid refreshments he needs to purchase.
maryandles@aol.com.

ARTICLES BY AND ABOUT MEMBERS

Article written by Jerry Hart (C Troop, 68-69) on his visit to Vietnam.

Jerry and his brother Larry visited Vietnam in February 2008. They stayed in Saigon and traveled throughout the 3/4 CAV area of operations. Passing through Hoc Mon to Cu Chi where they were unceremoniously told they could not go onto our old base (the guide said it was the first time he'd never been allowed). They then headed to the Cu Chi Tunnel Complex. From there to Trang Bang where nearby they placed a wreath at a former battle site. Then toward Dau Tieng (which is now mostly covered by a lake), to Go Dau Ha and back to Saigon.

Article about Jim Ross (B Troop, 67-68) in Dublin, GA newspaper.

When Richard Copas went to Jim Ross' home for a power washing job it would be the end of a journey that began 39 years ago. Copas was 15 and living in Florida when he was notified that his 19 year old brother, Archie Ray Copas (1-5 IN BN), was KIA. The story goes on to tell how Ross researched on the internet and found former buddies who had served with Archie in the "Bobcats" and that he'd received the DSC.

Read both articles, with photos, on our web.

MAPS OF VIETNAM

Want some maps of our AO? You can order map sheets at \$9.00 each from USGS. Go to <http://store.usgs.gov/>. DUC HOA 61144, TRI TAM 61148, TAY NINH 61151, HIEU THIEN 61149

IN SEARCH OF

Mrs. My Thann Nguyen is searching for a former D Trooper, Jim Goldsmith. It may have been F Troop then. He served at Long Binh and was a mechanic. He also flew as a door gunner Dates are Feb 71-April 71. One of his friends was believed to be Homer and he worked for a SGT Daniel. She believes he went to Ohio after DEROS. You may contact Mrs. Nguyen at mtnguyen5000@yahoo.com.

480 SPURS SHIPPED TO SQUADRON

480 spurs were awarded in a ceremony in August. Our association paid half of the costs, \$3,708.27. The money came from the Jerry Headley Soldiers Fund. If you'd like to make a donation to help reimburse the fund for future projects, please send your donation to our treasurer.

2012 REUNION

If you are interested in hosting the 2012 reunion, please contact one of the officers so you can be provided planning information. Roy Glover, C Troop, is getting info for Dallas, TX.

CHECKLIST: HAVE YOU

- X Paid your dues?
- X Joined the 25th Infantry Division Association?
- X Made a donation to the Scholarship Fund, General Fund, JH Soldiers Fund, Division Memorial?
- X Found a new member?
- X Registered for the Reunion?