

The Banshee Gazette

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The Banshee Gazette is the OFFICIAL PUBLICATION of B Troop 2nd 17th Cavalry Association

David Martin

Editor



AIRBORNE – AIRMOBILE – AIR ASSAULT



President's Message



by Jim Matthews

Fellow Banshees,

As we near the end of another year, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and yours a very happy and safe holiday season along with a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year wish for 2007.

As you have probably heard by now, Dave Martin has resigned as Vice President of our Association after nine years of service. Dave has been invaluable to me for giving advice and usually telling me where to go since we created the B Troop Association. Although we have strengthened our friendship and family relationship through the Association, his help and dedication getting us over some of the hurdles we faced has been greatly appreciated. He has assured me that his input for the betterment of the Association will not stop as well as him telling me where to go will not stop either. Dave has graciously offered to publish our gazette, produce membership packets and will continue serving on the Scholarship Committee.

Along the same lines, if you haven't heard, William (Bill) Crawford has been elected as Vice President at our annual Reunion in Colorado Springs. We're hoping for a long-standing relationship with Bill serving as Vice President. He has already started to tell me where I should go.

We still have a little more time before the end of this year and I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that the 2007 Association yearly dues of \$25.00 (If you pay after September you are allowed to carry that over for the next years dues), is now payable. If you are tired of getting

obnoxious colored ties and sox from Santa Clause, ask him to pay for your next year's membership. Even if you're skeptical about Santa, there is nothing wrong with buying yourself a Christmas present. Besides supporting a fantastic organization full of some of the bravest people I ever knew, your membership is considered a tax-deductible contribution to a non-profit organization. Even if it's too late for this Christmas, remember your Association membership when you return those unwanted gifts for cash to buy something else you need or should have.

In closing, I would again like to extend my best wishes for a happy, healthy and safe holiday season to all of you. Hope to see you at our 2007 reunion at Ft. Campbell.



"Out Front"



Vice President's Message by Bill Crawford

As your VP My family and I would like to take a moment to thank God for all of us for our blessings. As you know everywhere we turn people taking God out of our lives, so again we need to take a stand. Bless God every day for what you have, because it all belongs to him.

GOD BLESS AMERICAN!!! Hope each of you and your family has a great Christmas and a happy new year.

Our 2007 Reunion is closing in quickly (July 26-29), so we need to start our plans and make this our biggest turn out ever. All we need to do is for each of us to bring someone new and don't forget those that have been in the past but not recently...get them back!

All of our days are numbered...time is short so lets have the biggest turn out ever!

Also, membership is for one year (January – December) so if your dues are not paid please send them in. We need you and we need new members, our Association cannot live without you.

REUNION NEWS

2007 Mini Reunion Planned

On May 6, 2007 we are planning a Mi9ni-Reunion on a 7-day Cruise from Galveston, Texas on Carnival Cruise Lines ship the Conquest. There will be No Official Association Meeting. We will have some get togethers while on-board and be able to visit each other for 7 days. Friends and Relative are welcome but if they do not have proof of Military service the price will be higher.

Jinger and I have been on this cruise twice and it's great! Wonderful food anytime of day or night, Free Room Service, Wonderful food anytime of day or night...Ports of Call are Montego Bay, Jamaica (Appleton Rum Factory Tour), Grand Cayman Island (where you can visit Hell!), and Cozumel, Mexico (Great Starfish when snorkeling). This year's price is \$713.10 per person (as of July 26, 2006 including Port Charges & Taxes) for an Ocean view room for the 7 Days that's everything except for tips and shore excursions. (Based on Double Occupancy Normal price is \$885.60 per person)

If you go with an Interior Room the price will be less.

WHAT-a-DEAL!

Price is subject to change so the sooner you book the better...plus we will have a better chance of getting cabins close to each other. Jinger and I have the 18:15 Dinner Seating. Carnival provides ALL VETERANS with MILITARY RATES all you have to do is provide a copy of your DD-214 or a copy of your Military ID. A \$250.00 deposit per person is due at booking and the remainder is due on or before February 20, 2007. If you are interested in this trip please let me know A.S.A.P. or contact:

Aksoy Ahmet

1-800-819-3902 Ext. 85720 AAHMET2@CARNIVALPVP.COM

Just click Link to e-mail

[Carnival Cruise Line Website \(www.carnival.com/\)](http://www.carnival.com/)

Please let him know you are with B Troop 2nd 17th Cavalry Association!

If you plan on driving to Galveston let me know you can get Discount Parking by booking online. If you fly into Houston they have Buses available and can be booked on the Internet.

David C. Martin

The 2007 Reunion will be held at Ft Campbell, Kentucky.

July 26 – 29, 2007

Dinner/Meeting Friday July 27th

Cookout with Active B Troop Saturday afternoon July 28th

We will provide additional information to the website as it becomes available!

[Joseph "Guy" LaPointe Endowment Auction](#)

We will be having an Auction for the Joseph "Guy" LaPointe Endowment at our Dinner/Meeting. If you want to Donate Items please let [Dave Martin](#) know or bring them to the Reunion. We also still need Monetary Donations (Tax Deductible).

Hawaii Trip

Jim and Dave recently spent two weeks in Hawaii on vacation where they were fortunate enough to meet Ria Keltz-Remenar, widow of recently deceased Clinto Keltz.

Clinton served as the Platoon Sargent of the Blues during our training period at Gray Army Airfield and during our first eight months in Vietnam.

Clinton never told Ria what he did, where he was or what his experiences were. She informed us that he was very proud to have served with such an outstanding unit but she also told us that he became very withdrawn and wouldn't tell her much about any of his experiences.

If anyone has photos of Clinton Keltz from this time period Ria would greatly appreciate a copy of them. Her e-mail address is Riakremenar@yahoo.com.

E-Mail from Ria on November 12, 2006

Hello everyone:

Meeting Jim and Dave in Hawai'i last week was awesome! I had been waiting for 37 years to hear about this and their gracious families gave us the time and space to talk all night; I am very grateful!

It would really be fantastic if anyone of you remembers Clint and especially if anyone has a photograph of him. My daughter has created a website in Clint's honor and has a whole bunch of photos on there, but none are of Clinton; I think she hoped or thought that was her dad in one of the photos, but none were.

Thanks again for any thoughts and memories.

I hope to meet some of you!



Aloha!

Jim, Ria (Modeling the new B Troop Jacket) and Dave

[More Colorado Springs Reunion Photos](#)



Randy, Forty, Martin



Seven Falls



Mr. Thompson



Greg LaPointe



Roman & Miriam Martinez



Randy & Helen Kunkleman



Dave Livingston



Robert Bohler



Dinner Group Photo

Heard on the Internet

PRONOIA... The condition that causes you to feel the world is out to help you.

From Ria-Keltz-Remenar

You have two choices in life: You can stay single and be miserable,

Or get married and wish you were dead!

From Lyon Chapman

Veteran Benefits

Veteran benefits come from two sources the Veterans Administration and your state. Be sure to check with your states Veterans Affairs Office on benefits you might be entitled to.

Joining the Association

When you join the Association you are helping insure that our Association will continue to grow. We are going into our tenth year and have come a long way. We started with a Gazette that was sent to about 20 people. We now have over 1000 addresses for people who served with B Troop some go back to the 1950's. We have funded a \$10,000.00 Graduate Endowment at **Texas Tech University** in the name of Joseph "Guy" LaPointe Jr. Please consider joining the Association dues are only \$25.00 per year.

You will receive;

1 Membership Certificate

1 Membership ID card

1 Association bumper sticker

Thank you for your support

Taps

John-Michael Orlan Hendrix

John-Michael O. Hendrix was born February 12, 1949 in Bremerton, Washington, to Prince and June Hendrix and died November 13, 2006 in Granite Falls, Washington, from complications of PTSD and pericarditis (heart infection).

John, an Eagle Scout, grew up in Seattle and Yakima, Washington. On the street in Seattle he befriended a small, lost Tibetan boy, whose family became life-long friends. Because of this boy, John developed an avid interest in Tibet and managed to convince multiple people to finance a trip to India for him to work with the Tibetan refugees. He was 16. John brought back a rug for Hubert H. Humphrey, who also became a friend and met with the Dalai Lama.

His life journey took him to join the Army to become a pilot. He graduated from Helicopter Flight School at Fort Rucker and served three tours in Vietnam. He was shot down seven times and wounded three times. He received the Bronze Star Medal and four Distinguished Flying Crosses for his amazing work as a Light Observation Helicopter Pilot. He and Patti Gingell, an Army OR nurse at the 85th Evac Hospital, were married in Phu Bai Vietnam in 1971. After leaving the Army, he flew all over the world doing oil exploration mostly as a "long-line" pilot and fighting forest fires. He hung up his "rotor-wings" for good in 1993 and began a career in writing, which gave us To Have and To Hold. Granite Falls' students read the book and brought about the reinstatement of the Veterans Day Parade in 1994, which put Granite Falls on the world map. His dedicated service to his world and his country will never be forgotten. He will be missed.

His true joy in life centered around his daughters, of whom he was very proud. He is survived by his daughters Heather and Heidi; his mother June; sister Anna Mae; and brothers Patrick, David, and William.

He was predeceased by his daughter, Hollyann (2005) and his father.

Interment will be at Tahoma National Cemetery. Celebration of life will be held from 1-3 p.m., at the family home on Sunday. In lieu of flowers, please send donations in his name to your local Vietnam Veterans Chapter.

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Where to Send Things

Please mail order forms for the Supply Room or any questions on your membership to:

Jim Matthews - President

6743 Madison Avenue - West Mifflin, PA 15122-2737

412-466-3557

General Information on the Association and questions on Reunions to:

Bill Crawford – Vice President

1281 Echo Trail – Watkinsville, GA 30677

706-769-6838

Related issues to The Banshee Gazette, comments on The Banshee Gazette, membership materials or The Joseph LaPointe Endowment to:

David Martin – Editor Banshee Gazette

232 Rabbit Shadow Trail - Whitney, Texas 76692

254-694-5529

Please mail membership dues, contributions, and anything else that has to do with money to:

Randy Kunkelman – Secretary / Treasurer

2395 N. Conant Road - Elida, Ohio 45807

419-339-3984

Membership Application

NAME _____ E-Mail _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ TELEPHONE _____ - _____

DATES ASSIGNED TO B TROOP _____

IF YOU WERE ATTACHED - WHAT WAS YOUR HOME UNIT ? _____

WHAT WERE YOUR DUTES WHILE ASSIGNED TO B TROOP ?

(ie; Infantry, Pilot, Crewchief) _____

Current Occupation _____

MEMBERSHIP TYPES

REGULAR - _____

(All persons who served with B Troop in any capacity, or surviving spouse, parents, or children of deceased veterans)

ASSOCIATE - _____

(All persons interested in belonging to the Association, so long as they abide by the By-Laws of the Association)

HONORARY - _____

(Please see the By-Laws of the Association)

Yearly dues for Regular and Associate Membership is \$25.00 per year.

AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

PLEASE MAIL APPLICATION TO:

B Troop 2nd 17th Cavalry Association

c/o Randy Kunkleman 2395 N. Conant Road Elida, OH 45807