
The Banshee Gazette

The Official Publication Of B Troop 2nd 17th Cavalry
Association

Volume Issue

Airborne ~ Airmobile ~ Air Assault

March, 2006

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Former and Present Members of B Troop,

As you can see we have decided to send the Gazette out first class mail, enveloped again. We found that we have better success in reaching the majority of you in this manner than any of the ways we experimented with previously. We originally tried to publish and mail four Gazettes per year, but due to the rising costs of producing the Gazette and mailing it, we have had to reduce our publications to one or possibly two issues per year. If you are receiving this newsletter in error or do not want to receive the Gazette anymore, please contact me at jhmatthews1@verizon.net or 412-466-3557 so we can take you off of our mailing list.

Dave Martin, our Vice President, had been working diligently at organizing this year's reunion in Colorado Springs, CO and this issue contains the registration form and jacket order form (Yes, we decided to go all out for this years attendees and get jackets again). We have also decided to send limited information about the reunion itself, and send a more detailed reunion package only to those of you that register for the reunion.

In the event you cannot register in advance, but still have intentions of attending, please let us know ahead of time so we can make sure you have the necessary information. We are trying something different this year and want to make sure everyone has the correct information. Hope to see you in Colorado Springs.

"Out Front"
Jim Matthews

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.

HARDSHIP -
Hardship membership is approved by the Association's officers.

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 AND DUES TO:
B Troop 2nd 17th Cavalry Association
c/o Randy Kunkleman
2395 N. Conant Road
Elida, OH 45807

Make checks payable to: B 2/17 Cav. Association

ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

If you served with B Troop you are not automatically a member in our Association, BUT you are eligible to join as an active member in our Association. You have to complete an application and pay the yearly dues of \$25.00. Membership runs from January to December of each year and you must pay your dues to keep your membership up to date. Your membership includes a membership card, a copy of the Association's By-Laws, two bumper stickers and voting privileges at our dinner/meetings. Due to several problems I haven't been able to send out membership packets, but will try to catch up as soon as possible

In the event your membership is expired, you can make it current by paying the 2006 dues. We are not interested in making you pay for dues for the years you missed. If you are unsure whether your membership is current or not, please contact Randy Kunkleman at kunkleman@hotmail.com or phone: 419-339-3984.

Included in this issue is a membership application. If you would like to join our Association, renew your expired membership, or just pay your 2006 membership which is due now, please fill out the application so we can update our records. If you cannot afford the dues you can apply for a hardship membership. Any dues paid after the 2006 reunion will be applied to the 2007 membership year.

Remember, you do not have to be a member to attend our reunions, but you do have to be a member to have a voice and vote on issues during our regular meetings that are held during the reunions.

To be perfectly honest with you, our organization cannot exist without your financial support. We would like to extend our sincere appreciation to those of you who have supported us over the previous years. For us to continue as an Association we need your continued support and interest.

THE JOSEPH GUY LAPOINTE ENDOWMENT FUND



GOOD NEWS

The Joseph Guy La Pointe Endowment Fund has been met. At the Las Vegas reunion 2005 Dave Martin, the endowment fund chairperson, informed us that we were endanger of not meeting our commitment to Texas Tech University. This failure to reach our commitment would have resulted in the forfeiture of all monies that we had previously donated toward the fund. Several things happened in Las Vegas that made the dream of establishing the endowment fund in "Doc's" honor, become a reality.

(Endowment Fund Continued)

First, thanks to the generosity of many reunion attendees that participated in our auction and especially those who made additional personal donations brought the goal within reach. Secondly, the membership attending was asked to supplement the outstanding pledged donations with Association funds until the pledged donations arrived. The vote by members in attendance was overwhelming and we were able to reach our commitment. Now the “Joseph Guy La Pointe Scholarship Endowment Fund” through Texas Tech University has become a reality.

WHERE TO SEND THINGS

Dues, Donations, Reunion Money

Randy Kunkleman
2395 N. Conant Road
Elida, OH 45807
419-339-3984
kunkleman@hotmail.com

Change of Address, Watch Orders

James Matthews
6743 Madison Ave.
West Mifflin, PA 15122
412-466-3557
jhmatthews1@verizon.net

?? IF YOU HAVE BEEN WONDERING ??



Did you ever wonder what the bold footer <http://www.vietnamproject.ttu.edu/banshee/> is at the bottom of most pages of our Gazette? Just in case you didn't know, this is the Internet address of our website that is managed by our webmaster Dan Schave. Texas Tech University has graciously provided us with the space on their server to host our website at no cost to us, with little or no interference on the information and articles we post. If you have Internet service and haven't been there, it is worth the trip. So, what are you waiting for, visit us today and sign the guestbook.

WATCHES

We used all of the proceeds generated by the watch sale to help fund the scholarship fund. Now that the commitment to the scholarship fund is complete, we have decided to continue the watch sale because of the great response we got from you. Included in this Gazette is an order form for the watches so if you missed the opportunity to order one before you still have another chance. Watches are \$30.00 each, including shipping and handling and can be ordered in men's or ladies styles in the event you want to order a matching watch for the significant other in your life. This is a great way to show your pride for your unit or former unit and support the Association at the same time.

WATCH ORDER FORM



PERSONALIZED 2/17TH CAVALRY WATCHES

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

BAND: LEATHER /METAL LINKS STYLE: MENS / WOMANS

(Please circle band and style preference)

INSCRIPTION AT 2:00 o'clock _____

REMEMBER SPACE IS LIMITED

(ex. "Banshee 14", "Blues", "Scouts", "B 2/17" "HHT 2/17" "Saber 6" "E 2/17" "A/C #", Track # etc.)

INSCRIPTION AT 8:00 o'clock _____

REMEMBER SPACE IS LIMITED

(ex. "FC-1956", "RVN-69/70", "DS/DS 1991", "Iraq 2003" or any similar combinations)

PRICE: \$30.00 ea. INC. S&H MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO B 2/17 CAV ASSN.

**SEND TO: JAMES MATTHEWS
6743 MADISON AVE
WEST MIFFLIN, PA 15122**

OTHER TIME PIECES ARE AVAILABLE

QUESTIONS? CALL 412-466-3557 OR EMAIL: jhmatthews1@verizon.net

WITH DEEPEST SYMPATHY

We would like to inform you of the passing of Dietmar Schneider. Dietmar passed away on February 14, 2006. Dietmar was assigned to B Packet 2/17th Cav at Ft. Hood, TX in 1968 and deployed with the new troop to Vietnam in 1969, where he served with the “blues” for 18 months. Anyone wishing to visit the funeral home website and post a message of condolences to his family the address is:

www.daleymurphywisch.com

Once you reach the website, click on the visitation tab. From there scroll down until you find Dietmar’s name. Click on his name to open his obituary page where you have an option to leave a message.

REUNION INFORMATION

We realize that some of you would like to attend the reunions that we sponsor, but would like to stay at another location because you may get a better rate at a different hotel. That is ok with us, but we would like you to consider that when we sign a contract with a host hotel, we are promising them a certain number of guests that will be staying at the hotel.

This has a direct relationship on the amount we are charged for a hospitality room and any other services that we may need from the hotel staff. The more rooms our attendees use, the less our overall bill is when the reunion is over. In addition, the more rooms our attendees use, the more comp rooms we are awarded and can actually be of great benefit to you.

Any comp rooms that we are awarded will not be given to the officers, which usually occurs in many other organizations that sponsor reunions. Instead, any comp rooms we are entitled to will be raffled off at the dinner / meeting. That means that if you come to the reunion and stay with at the hotel, you stay may be free. If you stay with us, it may cost you nothing for the room.

You will also notice that we have planned this year’s reunion to take place during the week instead of over a weekend. Even though we were quoted great rates for our previous reunions through The Reunion Network, we have been informed that, especially in resort areas, we may get even better room rates if we were to switch our reunion to weekdays instead of weekends. We are always trying to save you money when you attend our reunions and we hope you keep that in mind by staying with us in the designated hotel. Besides, the money you save by staying elsewhere, will probably get burned up in gas running back and forth between hotels.



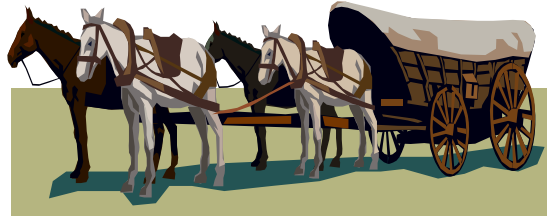
WITH DEEPEST SYMPATHY

We have also been informed of the passing of Franklin Dewayne Burdine. Frank was a cobra crewchief who was assigned to the newly formed B Packet 2/17th Cav. Regt. at Gray Army Airfield in 1968 and was deployed to Vietnam with the new troop in March of 1969.

When Frank came to our Shelbina, MO reunion in 1997 everyone was amazed that Frank never aged a bit over the past twenty-five years. He looked as youthful as he did at Ft. Hood and Camp Eagle.

Frank passed away on November 4, 2005, just after attending our 2005 reunion in Las Vegas. He still appeared youthful and in good health and learning of his passing came as a surprise to all of us. Our deepest sympathies go out to surviving family members. He will be sadly missed.

COLORADO SPRING, COLORADO - 2006 REUNION



WHEN: *SEPTEMBER 19 – 22, 2006*

[illegible]

WHERE: *THE ACADEMY HOTEL*

8110 North Academy Boulevard

Colorado Springs, Colorado 80920

[illegible]

Reservations: 1-800-766-8524

[illegible]

COSTS: \$ 69.00 + TAX PER NIGHT

INCLUDES UP TO TWO FREE BREAKFAST BUFFET EACH ROOM

Group rates good 3 days prior to and 3 days after the reunion dates

[illegible]

GROUP RATE CUT OFF DATE: AUGUST 19, 2006

[illegible]

CHECK IN TIME: 4:00 PM

[illegible]

FREE AIRPORT SHUTTLE TO/FROM AIRPORT

[illegible]

**MORE INFORMATION WILL BE SENT TO YOU FROM US AND THE
COLORADO SPRINGS CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU UPON
RECEIPT OF YOUR REGISTRATION FORM.**

2006 REUNION REGISTRATION FORM

B Troop 2/17 Cavalry 2006 Reunion Registration Form
Colorado Springs, Colorado

September 19 – 22, 2006 (Tuesday - Friday)

The Academy Hotel
8110 North Academy Boulevard
Colorado Springs, CO 80920
Reservations 1-800-766-8524

\$69.00 per night (includes full breakfast buffet or each night).

To guarantee rates and availability, all reservations must be made by cut off date August 19, 2006.

We are changing days of the week to help keep cost down. There will be plenty to do and see and we will keep you advised of your options.

REGISTRATION FEES

Member	100.00 (Includes gift and dinner)	_____
Guest	100.00 (Includes gift and dinner)	_____
Guest	75.00 (Includes dinner NO GIFT)	_____
Total Amount Enclosed		_____

Gifts this year are baseball style jackets embroidered. We need your jacket size and sizes of each guest's jacket you are ordering.

My size _____ My guest size _____

Mail Checks to B Troop 2/17 Cavalry Association

SEND CHECKS AND REGISTRATION FORM TO:

**RANDY KUNKLEMAN
2395 N. CONANT ROAD
ELIDA, OH 45807**

Additional jackets can be ordered if desired. If you have any questions please contact Jim Matthews @ 412-466-3557 or jhmatthews1@verizon.net.