



INCOMING



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2919 Cousino Rd. Erie, MI 48133-9714

Fall 2018

From the Desk of our President

What a great reunion we had at Ft. Benning-Columbus, Georgia, August 23-26 this year! It was our most well attended reunion ever, with almost 200 people. The tour of Ft. Benning and the Infantry Museum were well orchestrated. The special treat of jumping from the 34 foot tower was a thrill for this old paratrooper. It really isn't possible to name all those who made our reunion so successful but all of them are on the top of the "thank you" list.

Each year that I attend our reunion I am struck by the incredible warmth and friendship that occurs there. When I was a first time attendee, I felt as welcome as anyone there. I believe our first timers this year felt the same way.

We have already started our planning for the 2019 reunion. As things progress and we are able to select a venue and dates, we will get the information to you so that you may start to make plans to attend. Our organization works so well because of our common bond and the dedication of our members.

Veterans Day is almost here. Janet and I live within sixty miles of Washington, DC and try to attend both Veterans Day and Memorial Day there each year. For Veterans Day there is a program at The Wall followed by the placing of wreaths at The Wall. A wreath from the 101st Airborne is represented there. Later, there is a wreath ceremony at the 101st Airborne Monument at Arlington National Cemetery. The program and ceremony will be held on Sunday, November 11, 2018. If any of you would care to attend this year or at any time in the future please let me know and I will help you make the arrangements.

I am honored to have been chosen as your President for the next two years. I promise to give the 101st Airborne Division Vietnam Veterans Organization my best efforts during my tenure. Please feel free to contact me with any comments or suggestions. My contact information is located in this newsletter.

This will be the last newsletter before the holidays of Thanksgiving, Christmas and the New Year. If you are like me, you will always think of where you were and what you were doing while "in country" during these holidays. But these are better days. Let's rejoice that we are with family and friends during the holidays this year, and let me say BEST WISHES.

Faithfully yours,

Bill Ramsey

President



Bill Ramsey 101 MP Co. 1967-68



From the Desk of the Secretary

Dave Nesbitt
mdnesbitt@aol.com

Reunion Report: From all indications, we had a very successful 24th Annual Reunion this year at Fort Benning/Columbus, GA. As reported by our new President on page 1 of this edition, we had nearly 200 in attendance, by far, our largest reunion ever. My sincere thanks to all who worked on the front lines and behind the scenes to make this a fun time for everyone. I would name all who worked so hard for us but for sure I would miss someone and I wouldn't want to do that. I think those in attendance know who you are and they all appreciate what you did, as do I.

Our by-laws mandate that we hold elections every other year. Elections were held at the Saturday morning business meeting. Many of those who served previously were re-elected. Bill Ramsey was elected as our new President; Ron Long is the new Vice President; Ted Bridges is the 4-Year Governor; James Holmes is 2-Year Governor; John Marlowe continues as Sgt. at Arms and John Walker remains as the Eagle Chapter Delegate. I was re-elected Secretary-Treasurer after failing to find anyone to accept either position. All of the appointed positions remained the same as before with Wally Morrow as Chaplain; Bruce Roshong, Quartermaster; Rod Green, Webmaster; Mike Santure, Newsletter Editor and Charles Allen as Historian. Our immediate Past President, Ed Barbour, has been appointed Membership Chairman and he will be the main contact for any membership issues, to include sending out reminders when it's time for you to send in your dues. I want to thank those who served the past two years and congratulate those who were elected or appointed this time to serve for 2018-2020.

The question has been asked of me several times already, "Where is the next reunion going to be held?" We have received several proposals to date but no firm decision has been made. As soon as the Reunion Committee checks out the places suggested and makes a recommendation, the Board of Governors will make the final determination. At that point, we will notify all by way of the newsletter, our website and the Facebook page. We are anxious to get this matter settled so we hope it won't be long until we have information for you.

Raffle Winners: My sincere thank you to all who participated in the raffle this year. You may not have won a prize this time but your contribution goes a long way in helping with our monthly expenses. We did draw tickets for the four prizes that were announced. First prize, the Shadow Box from Medals of America, went to Dennis Braun of Bel Air, MD. Second prize was a set of 5 Gold Coins, this was won by Bart Thompson of Flagstaff, AZ. Third prize, a single Gold Coin went to John Walker of Madison, MS and Fourth Prize, another Gold Coin, went to Leon Kubin of Ennis, TX. I'm pleased to report that each winner is a member of the organization. Congratulations gentlemen!!

Photographer: A special thank you goes out to Bob Eppers who took group and single photos at the reunion. We saw that Bob was walking around with a nice camera and shortly thereafter, he "volunteered" to be our photographer. We are grateful to him, and several others, who provided us with some of the photos in this newsletter. The photos taken by Bob have been posted on our website. Just look under Past Reunions-2018 and you should see a large selection. These can be copied for your personal use.

Airborne Jumpers: I was impressed by the number of jumpers we had at Fort Benning. It was a real treat for many of those in attendance to be able to jump from the 34' tower. Quite frankly, I didn't really think the Army would allow so many old people to take the plunge but it happened. There were at least 40, maybe more, who jumped. I think our oldest participant was 85 years old. Then there were the youngsters, some of our children and grandchildren took the dive too. It was a great experience for everyone. Thank God nobody was killed!! After all that exercise, we all marched into the Airborne Dining Facility for a big lunch.

Welcome New Members: Thanks to all those who joined the organization at the reunion, and before. Many heard about the reunion through several veteran's magazines or on Facebook and some joined before we arrived in Georgia. We are delighted to have you and hope to see you at the next reunion. Please feel free to voice your opinion or make suggestions.

Guest Speaker: LTC (Ret) John Hay was a young lieutenant when he assumed command of Recon Platoon, 1/502 Infantry in Vietnam. As our guest speaker at the Saturday evening banquet in Columbus, he recalled some of his days there. He spoke of his return visit to Vietnam and of how friendly the Vietnamese people were toward him. He said he was amazed at the country. He told of the opportunity he had to visit places where he'd served in the past, what he saw and what he remembered. He gave an excellent speech on the things remembered, things that happened while he was that young lieutenant. He spoke of the men that served with him, how brave and dedicated they were to each other and to our country. He stated that he dearly loved the 101st Airborne and was 100% committed. From what we know of LTC Hay, his men had a mutual respect for him, some of them that served with him were at the reunion; they remembered too!!

Happy Holidays: This will be the final newsletter for 2018; our next issue will be out after the first of the year. With that in mind, I want to encourage all to get out to VOTE on November 6, the country needs you!! And, don't forget that November 11 is our traditional Veterans Day; try to attend a ceremony somewhere. Then, it's Thanksgiving later in November. December brings Christmas. What a wonderful time of year. Please remember the reason for the season. Be safe; hope to see you next year!!

ODDS & ENDS

News of Interest to 101st Vietnam Veterans



We had a few reunion shirts left and these are for sale to anyone who wants one. The numbers and sizes are limited so contact me soon if interested. The price is \$15.00 per shirt and \$6.00 shipping. Email or call me at your convenience; mdnesbitt@aol.com or call 803-506-3120.

I want to compliment our auctioneer for the excellent job he did in auctioning off numerous items that were donated to the organization. You know he is dedicated to his work when he sells the shirt off his back. Someone made an offer for his shirt and he obliged, to the highest bidder of course. Through Mike's efforts, \$3,445.00 was raised. Thanks, for your excellent fund raising and fun-raising as well.

I also wanted to let everyone know that with the guidance of Judy Morrow, her team collected \$1,000 for the 50/50 drawing. Seems her best customer was her husband, Wally Morrow, who bought \$120 worth of tickets. Not surprisingly, Wally won the 50/50 when his ticket was pulled (by someone other than his wife). He, being the fine gentleman he is, agreed to donate all the winnings back if he could get his \$120 back. That was readily agreed to and the organization made \$880.

I want to thank all who contacted me with concerns related to Hurricane Florence that hit the two Carolinas. I live 100 miles from the coastal areas that had much damage, mostly flooding. That had a serious impact on many who are still suffering. We were fortunate in my area, not much damage at all. We had some strong wind and plenty of rain but nothing like predicted. I appreciate so many checking on me; thank you! **Dave Nesbitt**

Nicolas Gaines contacted us regarding his dad, **Alvin Charles Gaines**, who died January 4, 2014 at age 64. Alvin, who may have gone by the name of Chuck, served in Vietnam with A Co. 1/502 Infantry, probably sometime between 1968-70. Nicolas says his dad often talked of going to a reunion but to his knowledge he never did. Chuck was from Albert Lea, Minnesota; he was buried there with military honors. Nicolas would like to hear from anyone who remembers his dad. He can be contacted by email at: gaines.nicolas@gmail.com. *Editors Note:* Our Secretary, Dave Nesbitt, served in this same unit in Vietnam and was able to furnish Nicolas with copies of orders and company rosters with his dad's name listed among others he served with. An invitation for Nicolas to consider joining the organization as an Associate Member was extended.



We heard from **David W. Mayenschein** (A Co. 1/502) in September. He sent us some photos of himself and one of Lt. Richard Pershing (KIA 2-17-68). We'll try to post the other photos on our Facebook account and on the website. The photo to the left shows, left to right, David Mayenschein, Karl Cochran and Dan Grundy. David thought that he and his buddy Karl Cochran may have been the only two survivors from his squad until he heard about our organization. He has most recently talked to several men from A 1/502 and he looks forward to meeting with some of them. He did say that had he known about our reunion in Columbus, GA he would have attended; it's a good bet he will attend next year. He did become a new member. Anyone wishing to contact David can reach him by email at: marilynmayen@hotmail.com or by phone at: (715) 669-3169. His nickname in Vietnam was "May West". We thank Tony Mabb for sending David our way.

(ODDS & ENDS Continued on next page)

(ODDS & ENDS Continued from previous page)

Several months before our reunion, Dave Nesbitt was contacted by a lady who was born in Vietnam. She met several members of the 101st during the war and she asked for permission to come and speak to our group. Following is a copy of her speech, delivered Saturday, 8-25-18:

Hello everyone, my name is Kara. I hope my accent doesn't take away from what I'm about to say. I'm really very grateful to be here with you all. I want to start by saying thank you to each and every one of the Vietnam Veterans in this room for all of your courage, your endurance, and your sacrifice on your tour of duty in Vietnam. I'm glad you made it home safely and I'm very sorry for your friends and family who may not have made it home safely.

In addition to thanking you, my other purpose here is to share one of my biggest regrets with you. I am Vietnamese and was in Vietnam until 1969, while many of you were there. My regret is that I was not able to help any of you in the way you helped me and my family. I wish I could go back in time and have shown some support to you in some way, whether that be through cooking meals for your troops, tending to your wounds, or helping you feel more welcome in a foreign country. And, for that reason, I feel I owe you a debt of gratitude for the rest of my life.

I want to thank Mr. Dave Nesbitt for giving me an opportunity to be here with you all on this special occasion to share my feelings. Otherwise, carrying this regret around with me would have haunted me to my grave.

I recently watched The Vietnam War documentary by Ken Burns and cried many tears getting a closer look at what you all endured. It pains me so deeply inside to know what you went through on the soil where I was born, to keep people like me and my family safe. To show my appreciation to you all and those who have fallen, I have wanted to, and will do everything I can to contribute to the 101st Vietnam Veterans Organization.

I have greatly enjoyed speaking with many of you the last couple of days and meeting your spouses and partners. Everyone has been so warm and welcoming to me. From the bottom of my heart, I truly love you all, as well as your wives, partners, and other family members for your kindness. God bless you all!

Kara

FROM THE EDITOR

Hi Guys,

Let me start off by apologizing. This issue was a nightmare. I had it ready for the printer 3 times when something else would come in and I would have to rearrange all the pages to make it fit. This is my 4th try! The unit photos this year were company size instead of battalion which made many more pictures to try to fit in. We had a photographer this year; after the pictures were posted on the website I found that there were nine unit pictures taken before I got there with my camera. Hopefully they may go in a future issue. **SORRY!**

I find that the longer you do something the more lax you become. The unit pictures are one example. Another example is TAPS. I was at the 2/502 reunion in early August. I was talking to one of our members and mentioned the passing of Thurston Mosley. He said he hadn't heard of it. I was positive it was in the *INCOMING*. When I got home I checked back issues and he was right, I had forgotten it. That's inexcusable!

When I started as editor with the Fall 2013 issue it was fun and I checked and double checked my work. Lately it has become a chore and I think I am getting sloppy. Because of this I have informed the Board of Governors that this will be my last issue. It's been fun and I will see you at the next reunion.

So long,

Mike

Fort Polk presents A Salute to Veterans

November 8, 2018 at 10 a.m.

at the 1st Battalion, 5th Aviation Regiment Hangar
All veterans are invited to come and be honored



A special tribute to
Vietnam Veterans will offer them
the welcome home they never got.

Rally point for Vietnam Vets is the Bayou Theater
Meet at 8:30 a.m. Buses will transport you to the ceremony
For more information call (337) 531-1392





158 AHB Stephen Tapia



D 2/502 INF Ed Reulbach, Carl Morris



B 2/501 INF John Marlowe



C 2/502 INF
Mike Santure



101st MP CO
Bill Ramsey



101st MEDICS
Johnny Walker Ben Miles Ed Barbour



2/320 ARTY
Ed Garcia, Robert Mumblow, Dick Weiss



A 1/327 INF
Eddie Hollingsworth



C 1/501 INF
Bruce Roshong



D 1/502 Jack Justice Ted Bridges,
Tim Sandberg, Ron Long, Dan O'Toole,
and Peter Smith



E 1/502 Ben Miles, Ted Bridges, Ralph Kuhen,
John Hay, Geof Scanlon



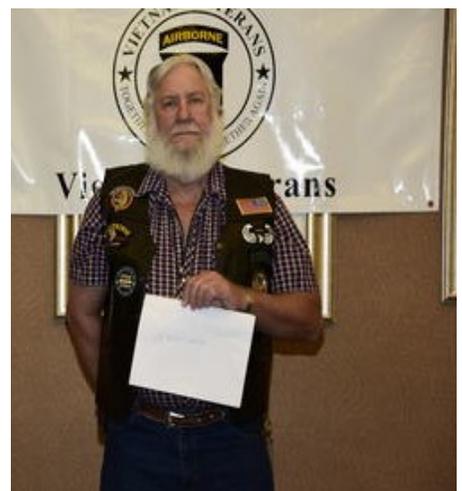
D 1/506 Tony Dooley, Earle Prior



D 2/506 Richard Thorne, Michael Guenette, Johnny Walker,
James Roach, Greg Gandy



B 1/502 Don Legg, John Stillman, Wayne Dugger, John Hay,
Don Murnock and Harlie Treat



HHC 1/506 Clifton Shepherd



A 1/502

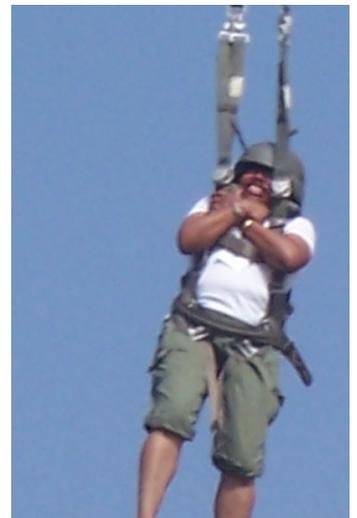
STANDING: James Holmes, Dave Nesbitt, Paul Console, John Sorge, Mike Sellers, Billy Whitesell, Hector Colon-Rios, Wally Morrow, Tom Barrett, Gerald Laird, Ted Bridges, Freddy Baker, Michael Donovan, Phillip Cawthon, Randy Nicholson, Charles Cole, Charles Allen

KNEELING: Jon Fuller, Bill Lux, Fred Ramirez, Ed Barbour, Malcolm Craig, Rod Green



OUR LOVELY LADIES

VISITING THE 34 FT. TOWERS





OUTSIDE THE INFANTRY MUSEUM



PRESENTING THE COLORS



INSTALLING OUR NEW OFFICERS

SICK CALL

Past president Rod Green and his wife Helen were at the reunion. Since returning home we have heard from Rod: Helen is doing well and has only six chemo treatments rather than eight. She will finish treatments on October 19 versus November 30. Thanks to everyone for the cards and prayers.

TAPS



Thurston Mosley Jan. 13, 1938 - March 7, 2018

It is with great sadness that we report the death of our past national Secretary/Treasurer, Thurston Mosley on March 7, 2018. He joined the organization in 2009 and almost immediately volunteered to serve in any capacity where he was needed. When Charles Allen was elected president at our 2010 reunion at Oak Grove, KY, he chose Thurston to be the next Newsletter Editor and Membership Chairman. Then, a few months later, following the resignation of our Secretary/Treasurer, President Allen appointed Thurston for the office of Secretary. And, with the recommendation of the president, and approval of the Board of Governors, he was elected Treasurer. He took on quite a load for the organization and served us well until late 2012 when his health became a factor, forcing him to resign all positions. He tried to attend our annual reunions after that with his last one being in 2014 at Charleston, SC. His sudden death due to a brain aneurysm came as a shock to all.

Thurston entered the US Army in 1957 at the age of 19. He served 19 years with a tour in Vietnam with D Co. 1/506 Infantry in 1970-71. He was wounded in action on March 31, 1971 and was subsequently medically retired in 1976 with the rank of SFC E-7.

Following his retirement from the Army, Thurston was involved with several organizations to include the Military Order of the Purple Heart, the Shriner's, the American Legion and the Disabled American Veterans of which he became State Commander in Alabama for the period of 1997-98.

Thurston is survived by his wife, Rochelle McClure Mosley, whom he married on May 5, 1990. Additionally, he is survived by daughters Renee' Stokes and Diane Howell, a son Wade Mosley, a brother Dewey Mosley and five grandchildren and five great grandchildren. Anyone wishing to send condolences should use the home address: 14706 Niagara Ct., Foley, AL 36535-2383. In lieu of flowers, Rochelle requested that donations be made in Thurston's memory to Canine Companions for Independence, 8150 Clarcona Ocoee Rd., Orlando, FL 32818. May he rest in peace.

Mail was returned from David Bishop of Melbourne, FL marked "Deceased". A check with FindAGrave.com found that **David Paul Bishop** died on January 9, 2018. He was 73 years old. David served in Vietnam with HQ, 1st Brigade in 1965-66. He joined the organization at the Melbourne Reunion in 2015. He and his friend Mike Myer attended our reunion in Colorado Springs last year and they left there to tour the west before returning to Florida. We spoke to his brother Bill in Ann Arbor, MI and he said David was survived by two grown children and a sister. David attended Jim Mathews' funeral in 2016 as one of our 101st representatives. Now he and Jim are resting together in the Cape Canaveral National Cemetery in Mims, FL. May they rest in peace.

BOOSTERS

Members and non-members who donate to help defray mailing costs etc. Names will stay in 1 issue (an * indicates an additional donation in that time frame).

(Any amount accepted: Mail to 3570 Green View Pkwy, Sumter, SC 29150)

*Malcolm Craig, Leon Kubin, John Sorge, Kenneth Johnson, Timothy Milkie, and the United Way Fund. *FYI United Way donated \$341.92 through the payroll deduction program; the names of donors were not given this time. United Way donated the same amount back in May 2018. Thanks to all of our supporters!!*



101st Airborne Division Vietnam Veterans Membership Application & Renewal Form

New Member check here Renewal card # _____ New Associate check here Associate Renew card# _____

Name: _____ Spouse's Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Zip Code: _____ Phone: () _____ Email: _____

Highest Rank Held in Vietnam: _____ DOB: _____ Call Sign or Nickname: _____

Applicants for new membership please attach documents to establish your service with 101st in Vietnam, e.g., DD-214, orders, manifests, etc. & forward to address below with \$200 for 11 yrs, \$60 for 3yrs. or \$25 for 1 yr.

Company: _____ Battalion: _____ Regiment: _____ From: _____ To: _____

Company: _____ Battalion: _____ Regiment: _____ From: _____ To: _____

Send with check or money order payable to: 101st Abn. Div. Vietnam Veterans at 9008 Amberhill Loop, N. Chesterfield, VA 23236. Should you have questions, call Ed Barbour at (804) 745-4065.

Release of Information

I do I do not Authorize the release of my address, phone number or e-mail address to others from the 101st Airborne Division who may be trying to locate me for the purpose of renewing old friendships.

Date: _____ Signature: _____ Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Where to Send Correspondence

Membership applications, renewals, and change of address should be forwarded to: 101st Airborne Division Vietnam Veterans, 9008 Amberhill Loop, N. Chesterfield, VA 23236 Questions? Contact Ed Barbour at (804) 745-4065 or by email at: edbarbour1@gmail.com.

For general correspondence contact Dave Nesbitt, 3570 Green View Pkwy.; Sumter SC 29150-7066 (803) 506-3120 or by email at: mdnesbitt@aol.com.

Check your mailing label on this copy of *Incoming*. The number next to your name in parentheses is your membership number. The number next to that is your dues expiration date. It's time to renew now if your date has expired. If you detect any discrepancy, email or call Ed Barbour. If your address is different from that shown on the label, please notify us of any corrections

Quartermaster Sales orders should be sent to: Bruce Roshong, Quartermaster 101st Airborne Division Vietnam Veterans, 5796 Summit View Dr; Brooksville, FL 34601-6576. You can reach Bruce by email at: broshong@tampabay.rr.com or by phone at (352) 796-1723. Note all sales items are on the webpage at: www.101namveteran.com. Due to space limitations we can no longer publish the entire list in the newsletter. Order forms are available online.

Items or inquiries for the website (www.101namveteran.com) should be sent to our webmaster Rod Green at: RandHGreen@sio.midco.net.

Moving? Please don't forget to send in your change of address so you won't miss the next issue of the newsletter. Let us know as soon as possible as the US Postal Service charges us for each newsletter returned. Send all address changes to: 101st Airborne Division Vietnam Veterans, 9008 Amberhill Loop, N. Chesterfield VA 23236.

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2018-2020 Officers

President

Bill Ramsey
Jarrettsville, MD
(410) 404-7045
wlr Ramsey2005@gmail.com

Vice President

Ron Long
Torrance, CA
(310) 977-4253
ronlong71@msn.com

Sec/Treas-Membership

Dave Nesbitt
Sumter, SC
(803) 506-3120
mdnesbitt@aol.com

4 Year Governor

Ted Bridges
Pensacola, FL
(850) 426-8416
tedbridges66@gmail.com

2 Year Governor

James Holmes
Fayetteville, GA
(678) 770-1914
jaja1501@bellsouth.net

Sgt-At-Arms

John Marlowe
Miami, FL
(305) 394-1241
paratrooperjohn@aol.com

Chaplain

Wally Morrow
Appleton, WI
(920) 954-0692
101egla1502@new.rr.com

Webmaster

Rodney Green
Sioux Falls, SD
(605) 360-1240
RandHGreen@sio.midco.net

Eagle Chap. Delegate

John Walker
Madison, MS
(601) 856-7830
wjohnt@bellsouth.net

Quartermaster

Bruce Roshong
Brooksville, FL
(352) 796-1723
broshong@tampabay.rr.com

Newsletter Editor

Mike Santure
Erie, MI
(734) 243-1645
michael.santure@yahoo.com

**101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION
VIETNAM VETERANS**

3570 Green View Pkwy.
Sumter SC 29150-7066
E-mail: mdnesbitt@aol.com



Incoming is the official publication of the 101st Airborne Division Vietnam Veterans Organization. It is published periodically for members, associates and supporters of the organization. Any contributions or suggestions for this newsletter should be directed to the address above. We welcome your comments.

Any information you wish to place in future editions of *Incoming* should be forwarded timely as we do have deadlines. Information not published during the month it is received may appear in a future edition.

Any correspondence addressing matters other than those intended for the newsletter should be sent directly to the president or the secretary/treasurer for official response.

The opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the organization or its officers.