



INCOMING



www.101namveteran.com

3003 Beason Ct., Abingdon, MD 21009-2723

Spring 2020

From the Desk of our President



President Bill Ramsey

When the news of the corona virus first started filtering out, there really wasn't much change in my lifestyle. Janet and I still went to restaurants, the gym, the pool and all the stores were open for business. Then, almost overnight, everything changed. It would be easy to complain or feel sorry for ourselves, but we are all affected by this crisis. The best we can do is stay safe and support each other as much as possible. My heart and my gratitude go out to the "essential people" who work at risk to themselves.

I suspect that as we approach Memorial Day we will see few, if any of the observances we have seen in past years. For a number of those years, Janet and I have been going to Arlington National Cemetery to participate in a memorial service and wreath laying at the 101st Memorial there. This too has been canceled for this year. Even though our daily lives have changed, we will persevere.

I so look forward to our reunions. Each year, at the end of our time together, I leave feeling a renewed sense of belonging, brotherhood, friendship and most of all, the pride of having served with the 101st Airborne Division during my time in Vietnam. Whenever I go out I am almost always wearing something with the 101st insignia, usually it will be one of our reunion shirts.

Our August reunion will be here before we know it. Please continue to make plans to come. Let's take advantage of every opportunity we have to be together.

Airborne-Air Mobile

Bill



Chaplain's Corner

Chaplain, Wally Morrow

Friends and Comrades;

Judy and I are still in Florida waiting out this Virus. We are well and hope to be heading back to Wisconsin by the end of April. I hope when you receive this newsletter you are all well and as a Nation we will be on our way to recovery.

Yesterday was Palm Sunday for the Christian Faithful. This was the first one that I can remember missing since I came home from Vietnam that was caused by the church not being open. With the beginning of Holy Week I guess it is a good time to reflect back on the last couple of months to what has happened to us personally and as a Nation. For us Vietnam Veterans who have witnessed the carnage of war there isn't too much that can bring us to our knees and ask the Lord, why? We understand the great loss of losing parents, siblings, spouses, children and friends to cancer or old age and accidents. It is natural as believers to question God as to why he has to take these loved ones from us. That's the price we have to pay for being human. We have emotions that at times are very hard to control.

For a Combat Veteran I tried to prepare myself for seeing one of my buddies wounded or worse. When the time came and I saw my friend lose his legs, I was not prepared. I am not ashamed to tell you that I wept like a little baby. I was just short of my 21st birthday and I was a hardcore Parachute Infantryman with the 101st Airborne Division. You don't get anymore hardcore than that. Well hardcore or not I was brought to my knees asking why? It took me awhile to understand that is the price you pay sometimes for being hardcore. You see things and do things that you normally would question in the everyday world. I found out that in 1968, I and my fellow soldiers, weren't living in the Everyday World that those back home were living in. We were living in the world of life and death around every corner.

For those of us who made it home physically unscathed we tried to live a normal everyday life. Some of us have physical scars and some have scars that can't be seen. We live with those every day and with help from family and friends and some professionals we are able to navigate as best we can. We have been through some hard times and if we live long enough we will see more hard times. I don't worry about myself, I've been taking up space for almost 73 years and, but for the grace of God, I should have been gone a long time ago. The Lord must have had other plans for me or I just haven't been worthy of his Heavenly Home.

As Easter approaches I give thanks to our Father who went to the Cross to die for our sins. Christians all around the World are waiting for that day again to say that He has Risen. This crisis that we are forced to endure will make us stronger and more resilient. We as a people, as a country and as a world, will get through this. We may lose family and friends to this insidious health crisis but please remain strong and seek out the Lord's love and guidance.

I am blessed to have several family and friends who are health care workers as I'm sure others out there reading this do also. These courageous people deserve our undying love and gratitude. They are now the ones on the Front Lines trying to push back against this invasion. Lets pray and support them anyway we can. With the help of our Lord and our own strength and endurance we can and will prevail in this fight.

Until next time I ask our Lord to Bless our Troops fighting our many battles and to Bless You and America.

Sincerely,

Wally Morrow - Chaplain



From the Desk of the Secretary

Dave Nesbitt
mdnesbitt@aol.com

Reunion 2020 Update: At this time, we are still operating as if the corona-virus will no longer be with us in August. We hope and pray this pandemic will be gone by then and we will all come together at the brand new Holiday Inn & Suites, located at 2501 Two Bale Lane, Fayetteville, NC 28304. The dates for this event are still August 26-30. We know that many of you are apprehensive because of the corona-virus but you should still contact the hotel to reserve a room. We do anticipate a large turnout, provided the virus is no longer a factor. And, you should know the hotel has a cancellation policy that will allow you to cancel the reservation without any charge, if you do so before 6 PM Eastern Time on the day prior to your original scheduled arrival date.

You can make hotel reservations by visiting our website at www.101namveteran.com and looking under "Upcoming 2020 Reunion" for the direct link to Holiday Inn & Suites. Our **Group Code: AVV** has already been added to that site. If you don't use the link, you may call the hotel at call 910-491-5352, just be sure you tell the person who answers that you are with the 101st Airborne Vietnam Veterans reunion and use the Group Code. A special room rate of \$109.00 is available for all double or king rooms; suites are \$139.00 and the price includes two breakfasts each day. Should you need a handicapped room, please call the hotel directly to ensure you receive what you need. For those flying in, the hotel has a shuttle van. Call the hotel as you deplane and request pick up.

As people register for the reunion, their names and units will be posted on our website at www.101namveteran.com. Please make an effort to pre-register for the reunion as advance registration helps in planning many things we do at the reunion, for example, ordering the reunion shirts, setting up meals and stocking the hospitality room. If you haven't registered already please do so immediately. If, by chance the reunion is postponed or canceled due to the corona-virus, we will refund your reunion fees in full. As a reminder, you are invited to bring your photo albums, DVDs, flash drives and other military items to share with those in attendance. We will have an overhead projector there for anyone to use. We also need door prizes and auction items donated so clean out your closets.

Annual Raffle-Now 2 Weapons: An annual fund raiser is held for the purpose of receiving donations to take care of the month to month expenses of running the organization. This year we are once again raffling a Beretta Nano 9 mm pistol, in fact, it's the same one we had last year. In 2019 the pistol was donated by Ed Barbour, our Membership Chairman and the winning ticket was held by Leon Kubin, one of our members who resides in Texas. Leon decided he didn't need it and donated it back to us. This is a practically new weapon and it needs a good home. Now, in addition to the 9mm Beretta, Ed Barbour wants to donate his personal AR-15 Rifle. We have two great raffle prizes so buy some tickets and encourage your friends and neighbors to participate. Tickets are \$5.00 each; 6 for \$25.00 and 12 tickets for \$50.00 and are available in this issue, see page 8. Your contribution will go a long way in assisting with our monthly expenses. Two separate tickets will be drawn, one for each weapon. The more tickets purchased, the better your odds; you could win both prizes. The winning tickets will be drawn on Saturday, August 29, 2020 at the reunion banquet. You do not have to be present to win. Make multiple copies of the ticket page if you need more. If you've already purchased tickets, you are eligible for both prizes. We appreciate your support!

Election Year: The current slate of officers were elected for a 2-year term at Columbus, GA in 2018. All positions are now open for election. Those elected will serve for 2020-2022. Nominations will be accepted from the floor at the General Membership Business Meeting on Saturday morning, August 29. If you are interested in being on staff consider running for office. You can nominate yourself or any active paid up member. An Absentee Ballot is provided in this issue of INCOMING for those members who cannot attend the reunion but may wish to nominate someone. All write-in nominees must be present at the election. Those who have already indicated a run for office are shown on the absentee ballot on page 4.

Possible Tour of Fort Bragg: Our original plan was to have a tour of Fort Bragg and several museums of interest in the Fayetteville area. If the corona-virus is no longer a threat to us, we may take the tour on Thursday morning, August 27. The reunion committee has been working with Fort Bragg officials and to date we have received limited positive feedback. We must realize the Army has to protect us from our enemies abroad and now they too are dealing with the corona-virus like the rest of the world. If they cannot accommodate us this time, we'll just have to engage in other activities.

Melbourne Florida Event: The Vietnam and All Veterans Reunion scheduled for May 7-10, 2020 has been canceled due to the corona-virus pandemic. Plans for 2021 are already being laid out. The Vietnam Traveling Wall will arrive at Wickham Park on April 11, 2021 and the Reunion will be held April 15-18, 2021. Our lot #130 in Campground C has been reserved. This will be the 33rd year for one of the nation's largest veterans reunions. More information will be provided at a later date.

Guest Speaker: Our scheduled guest speaker for the Saturday evening reunion banquet is Linda Patterson of Los Angeles, CA. Her brother, Joe Artavia, was KIA on March 24, 1968 in Vietnam while serving with A Co. 1/327 Infantry. Linda has written a book titled, *A Dove Among Eagles*, which is available on Amazon. She will be the first ever female guest speaker for our reunion and we look forward to hearing her story.

From the Editor

Brothers,

Putting out this newsletter during what is supposed to be one of the worse weeks in the fight against this terrible Corona virus seems more than a little bizarre. Seeing our friends and neighbors wearing face masks and striving to keep their "social distance" just seems strange and unsettling. Just as our Chaplain did in his post I sincerely hope and pray that both you and your families come through this healthy and happy. I, too, would also like to thank all our doctors, nurses and health care workers and first responders in any and all positions. You are all our real-life "Super Heroes" As did Wally, I pray every day that our country comes through this stronger and more unified. Even with our upcoming election pending soon, it is not a time for partisan squabbles. There will be plenty of time later to assess who did what when. We have to stay unified now more than ever. I know I am sure looking forward to all the celebrations once we can be with each other again.



Earle Prior, Editor

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

James Trusty, *Kara Phan-Abbott, Ku Chin, Geof Scanlon, Leon Kubin and *Malcolm Craig

SICK CALL

Johnnie Lindsey, HHC (Medic) 1/327 (66-67) has been fighting pancreatic cancer and is now undergoing chemotherapy treatments in Texarkana, TX. He was scheduled for surgery recently and we assume he is still fighting to overcome this horrible disease. Please pray for Johnnie and ask the Lord to bless him. Contact him by email at: toplindsey@aol.com.

(CUT HERE AND MAIL TO SECRETARY)

Absentee Ballot for 2020 Elections

If you are a member in good standing, with dues paid up-to-date, you can vote for an announced candidate or write-in a candidate of your own choice. The election will be held at the reunion in Fayetteville, NC during our regular business meeting on Saturday, August 29, 2020. Your membership standing, and that of the candidates, will be checked prior to elections to verify eligibility. Below, circle your choice of those who have announced for an office or write in someone you like. Then fill in bottom of form, sign it and mail it to the Secretary. Do Not complete if you will be at the reunion.

President	Ron Long	Write-in: _____
Vice President.....	Dan O'Toole	Write-in: _____
4-Year Gov.....	Ted Bridges	Write-in: _____
2-Year Gov.....	James Holmes	Write-in: _____
Secretary/Treasurer.....	Available	Write-in: _____
Sgt. At Arms.....	John Marlowe	Write-in: _____
Eagle Chapter Delegate.....	John Walker	Write-in: _____

Print your name as it appears on your membership card: _____

Membership Number: _____ Signature: _____

Mail completed ballot to: 101 Abn. Div. Vietnam Veterans, 3570 Green View Pkwy., Sumter, SC 29150-7066. Ballots must be received by August 15, 2020. Questions should be directed to Dave Nesbitt, Secretary at 803-506-3120. Write-in candidates must be present to be considered for office. If you plan to attend the reunion, do not complete an Absentee Ballot; you may nominate & vote at business meeting on Saturday, August 29, 2020.

TAPS

GLENN ROY NORDIN 72, of Salisbury NC, passed away on Wednesday, March 18, 2020. He was born May 27, 1947 to Roy and Ellen Hemingway Nordin in New Haven, CT. He attended Bangor Theological Seminary after earning a Purple Heart proudly serving as a member of the US Army, C 2/502 Infantry in Vietnam 1969-70. Glenn, who was confined to a wheelchair for many years, was a very nice gentleman. Those who knew him remember his passion for fairness and kindness for others. He worked with Vietnam Veteran Outreach and was proud to have told his story for the Library of Congress, Veterans History Project. He is survived by the love of his life, Patricia Kiely, whom he married in 1973 and retired with to Salisbury, NC and Melbourne Beach, FL. A service is being scheduled for a later date at Arlington National Cemetery.

DONALD A. BAILEY, 74, of Harrisburg, PA passed away on March 9, 2020. He was born in Pittsburgh on July 21, 1945 to Glenn and Anna Cox Bailey. Don is survived by his wife of 29 years, Adrienne and six children, Zachary, Ryan, Anna, Valerie, Ireland and Shannon. During his high school and college years Don was an accomplished athlete participating in wrestling and football at both levels. He played football at the University of Michigan and was the starting right guard when they won the 1965 Rose Bowl. Don did find time at Michigan to earn his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science. And, after his military service, earned his Juris Doctorate in 1976 from Duquesne University School of Law. Don enlisted in the Army in 1967 and subsequently graduated from the Infantry Officer Candidate School (OCS) at Fort Benning, where he was chosen Leadership Graduate by his peers and instructors. Following his graduation from OCS and Airborne Jump School, Don was assigned to the 82nd Airborne, then after brief training at Fort Bragg, he was assigned to the 101st Airborne. He volunteered for service in Vietnam and served 15 months active combat during which time he received three Bronze Stars, two with "V" Device and one for Meritorious Service. He also received two Army Commendation Medals, the Air Medal and the Silver Star for "bravery beyond the call of duty". Don was a lieutenant, serving as Platoon Leader in A Co. 1/502 Infantry in 1968-69. In the years that followed military service, Don served in the US House of Representatives from 1979-1983. At the time, he was the most decorated veteran in the Congress. He was Auditor General of Pennsylvania from 1985-1989. In 2008 Don served as one of the pallbearers for James 'Doc' Feliciano, who was his platoon medic in Vietnam. Doc, a past president of this organization, worked for Don when he was Auditor General of PA. Funeral services were held in Greensburg, PA on March 14, 2020, with military honors. Interment will be held at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.



JOHN JAMES GIANVITTORIO Jr served with A Co. 101st AVN Bde. in Vietnam from 1965-66. His rank was Spec. 4. He joined the 101st Airborne Division Vietnam Veterans organization October 1, 2002. He and his wife Anita attended our 2017 Reunion held in Colorado Springs, CO. John passed away on February 1st, 2018 at home in Havertown, PA after a brief but courageous battle with cancer. (We only learned of this recently) John was born in 1943 in Philadelphia to John and Antionette (Rondolone) Gianvittorio. After serving in Vietnam as a decorated crew chief, he returned home and married Anita (Arnao) in 1970. He worked as a tool and die engineer and shop manager for over 40 years with Lasko in West Chester and retired with many accolades in July of 2016. He was active in leadership of his son's Boy Scout troop as well as volunteering with Face to Face in a local soup kitchen. He is survived by Anita, his loving wife of 47 years, as well as daughter Joy Gianvittorio MD (Richard McClelland) of Virginia Beach, VA; son John P Gianvittorio PhD (April) of Severna Park, MD; sister Jane Famiglio (George) of Sarasota, FL; and six grandchildren. There will be a memorial Mass at Sacred Heart Church in Manoa in the spring.



EDWARD HELMS joined the organization in August 2009. He served with B 1/502 infantry in Vietnam from October 70-71. Ed passed away Friday, Oct. 19, 2018, in Jacksonville, TX. He was born Jan. 26, 1948, in Shreveport, Louisiana, to the late Samuel and Catherine (Hunt) Helm. Ed was known and loved by everybody and made sure that many children over the years had Christmas gifts. He was a member of People's Church in Jacksonville and retired from Trane in Tyler after many years of service. He was preceded in death by a brother, William K. Helm. Left to cherish his memory are his brothers, Gary Helm and Glen Helm, and many nieces, nephews and cousins. Rather than customary condolences, memorials may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project at www.woundedwarriorproject.org/donate.



Mike Santure, Past President of this organization (2014-2016), lost his mother on March 1, 2020. **LOLA MAE (COUSIN) SANTURE** was born November 24, 1925, in Erie, Michigan. After graduating from Monroe High School, Lola would marry Roger L. Santure and they would be blessed with three children. The family would make their home on the family farm in Erie. Lola would often say "I've moved three times, but never left the farm," because their houses were built on the same farm but in different areas. Lola Mae Santure, age 94, of Erie passed away March 1, 2020, at her home. In addition to her parents her passing was preceded by her husband, Roger L. Santure; a son: Bradley; and a sister: Helen Kozlowski. Lola leaves a son: Michael (Sheila) Santure; a daughter: Cynthia (Richard) Baum; four grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.



Please keep all of them and their families in your thoughts and prayers.



**101st Airborne Division Vietnam Veterans
26th Annual Reunion
Fort Bragg/Fayetteville, NC
August 26-30, 2020**



Reunion Registration Form

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ MI: _____

Guest(s) Names: 1. _____ 2. _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____ Alt. or Cell Number: _____

Email Address: _____ Unit in Vietnam: _____

Emergency Contact Name/Phone: _____ How many will attend *Ladies Luncheon*? _____

Each *101st Veteran Registrant* gets a FREE Polo Shirt w/ Collar & Pocket, Size: Sm - Med - Lg - XL - XXL - 3XL - 4XL (Circle One)

Number Registering _____ X \$80.00 per person Amount Enclosed: _____

Late registration fee is being waived due to the corona-virus pandemic. Send check or money order only.

Make all checks/money orders payable to: 101st Airborne Division Vietnam Veterans

NO REFUNDS ALLOWED AFTER July 31, 2020

Mail completed form and payment to:

101st Airborne Division Vietnam Veterans, 3570 Green View Pkwy., Sumter, SC 29150-7066

Our Saturday evening banquet meal this year will be a plated dinner with three options, please indicate your selection and that of your guest(s) by writing number 1, 2 or 3 in the appropriate block below. If you have special diet needs please so indicate by note with your registration or email the secretary at mdnesbitt@aol.com no later than August 1, 2020.

Registrant's Selection _____ Guest Selection _____ Add'l Guest Selection _____ Add'l Guest Selection _____

(Each person please select one meal option)

1. Beef: Marinated Slow Roasted London Broil Served with Red Roasted Potatoes & Grilled Green Beans.
2. Chicken Cordon Bleu: Chicken stuffed with Ham & Swiss Cheese served with Red Roasted Potatoes & Grilled Green Beans.
3. Vegetarian Lasagna: Freshly Made Pasta layered between a Vegetable Medley & Cream Sauce.

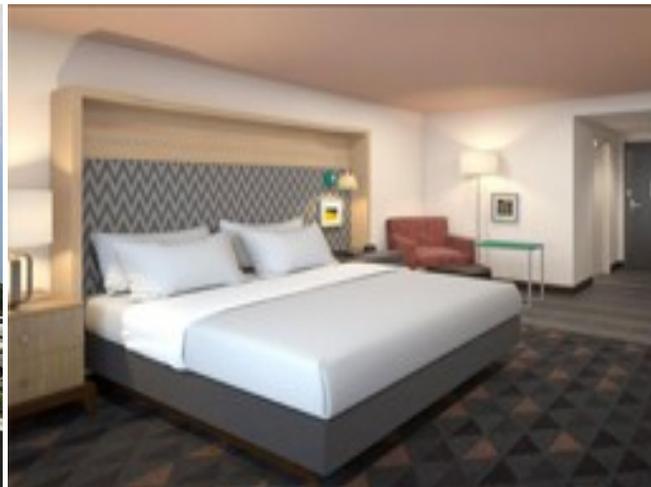
*Banquet Dinners will be served with House Salad and a choice of dressings, Fresh Hot Rolls and Butter,
Two Alternating Desserts, either Chocolate Layered Cake or Key Lime Pie w/Water, Iced Tea or Coffee.*

Registration fee includes the hospitality room with free refreshments the entire weekend, the Friday evening Pizza party and Auction, a **reunion shirt for 101st veterans**; admission to the awards ceremony and banquet meal on Saturday evening. If you need additional copies of this registration form for your guests please feel free to make as many copies as you need. Those not pre-registering will be allowed to pay upon arrival at the reunion registration desk in Fayetteville, NC.

Please note that we need you to register as soon as possible if you wish to have a reunion shirt as these must be ordered well in advance of the reunion; **without early registration you may not receive a shirt.** In the past some have requested extra shirts. If you wish to order extras we need to know how many and the sizes now. Each standard size shirt will cost \$18 per shirt. There is a charge of \$20 for shirts size 3X and those 4X will be \$22. If we are requested to mail these shirts to you, add \$7.00 per shirt for S&H. Payment for extra shirts must be received before they can be ordered. **All shirts are men sizes only.**

To order extra shirts, state how many: _____ and show Size: _____ Amount \$ _____ submitted for extra shirts.

101st Airborne Division Vietnam Veterans 26th ANNUAL REUNIONAUGUST 26-30, 2020 Fort Bragg/Fayetteville, NC**



Our reunion this year will be held in Fayetteville, NC during the period of August 26-30, 2020. This is a brand new hotel. This site was selected due to its proximity to Fort Bragg where some of our members became troopers in the 82nd Airborne when they came back to the world after their tour in Vietnam with the 101st.

Our host hotel for this event is the Holiday Inn & Suites, located at 2501 Two Bale Lane, Fayetteville, NC 28304. The Fayetteville Regional Airport is just 14 miles away and hotel shuttle service is being provided, but it's not equipped to transport wheelchair bound persons. For transportation to the hotel call the front desk at 910-491-5352. You can make reservations at that same number, or you may register online by going to our website: www.101namveteran.com. Once you are there, open the Holiday Inn & Suites Link and select your room. The **Group Code: AVV** should already be inserted. If for any reason that site is down or does not show the rooms and rates we are advertising, you may have to call the hotel direct and if a problem arises, call Dave Nesbitt at 803-506-3120. Rooms are available with 2 queen size beds or with king beds, either is \$109 plus tax; suites are \$139 plus tax; these rates are available 8/24 thru 9/1. You may also call the International Reservation Desk at 877-859-5095. If you call and speak to a reservation clerk be sure to tell them you are with the 101st Airborne Division Vietnam Veterans (**Group Code: AVV**) for our special rate and two free breakfasts each day. We expect a large crowd this year for the Fort Bragg event and the hotel only has 110 rooms. We encourage you to make reservations soon. Please stay at the reunion hotel as the cost of our hospitality and banquet rooms are based on the number of hotel guest rooms that are reserved under the organization's room block. **The cut-off date to reserve a room at our special rate is August 10, 2020.** After that date, the hotel will release any unreserved rooms for general sale.

If you need a special handicapped room, please call the hotel and reserve your room now. If you don't get what you need, call Dave Nesbitt at 803-506-3120 and he will contact hotel officials for you. If you need special transportation due to disabilities, let him know about that need also.

At this time the reunion committee is still working out the details of our activities during the reunion. Events for this reunion will begin on Thursday morning, August 27. We are trying to arrange for bus transportation for those who wish to take a group tour of Fort Bragg and the National Infantry Museum. We've already been told that we can't use the jump tower (we're still working to change that) but, as an alternative there is an indoor skydiving facility not far from the hotel. There are many other attractions located in the city; go online to: www.visitfayetteville.com.

As is always the case, the Reunion Registration and the Hotel Registration are two separate items so be sure you register early for both. There is a Reunion Registration Form in this newsletter on page 6 that should be completed and returned to the 101st Secretary with your registration fee as soon as possible. If you encounter any problems reserving your room or have questions about the schedule, contact Dave Nesbitt, Secretary at 803-506-3120.

***We look forward to seeing everyone at the reunion, please register
and reserve your room early!! Thanks.***



2020 Annual Fund Raiser - 2 Weapons Available



Each year we have one fund raiser to help defray the expenses of running the organization. This year we are *again* raffling the Beretta Nano 9mm semi-automatic pistol and an AR-15. This is the second time around for the Beretta; last year's winner, Leon Kubin, has graciously donated the Beretta back to us. The AR-15 is a gift to the organization from Ed 'Doc' Barbour's collection. Now you have a chance to win two fine weapons. Buy lots of tickets now!!!

Tickets: The price of 1 ticket is \$5.00, 6 tickets are \$25.00 and 12 tickets are \$50.00. Desire more tickets? Simply make copies of those shown on this page. Once you have the desired number of tickets and have inserted your name, address and phone number, please forward them with your check or money order made payable to: *101st Airborne Division Vietnam Veterans*, at 3570 Green View Pkwy., Sumter, SC 29150. The winning tickets will be drawn at our reunion banquet in Fayetteville, NC on August 29, 2020. A separate ticket will be drawn for each weapon. If you are the winner, we will call you. **You do not have to be present to win!!**

**Legal transfer of these weapons will be required through a licensed gun dealer with a background check and in compliance with all state and federal laws.*



Name (First, MI, Last):

Street Address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Phone Number:



Name (First, MI, Last):

Street Address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Phone Number:



Name (First, MI, Last):

Street Address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Phone Number:



Name (First, MI, Last):

Street Address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Phone Number:



Name (First, MI, Last):

Street Address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Phone Number:



Name (First, MI, Last):

Street Address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Phone Number:

ODDS & ENDS

News of Interest to 101st Vietnam Veterans



CORRECTIONS

In the Fall 2019 edition of *Incoming* we were wrong on page 4 when we reported that Charles Allen's email address was: callen101@verizon.com. It should have been: callen101@verizon.net.

On page 5 of that edition, we incorrectly identified two members of the 1/327 Infantry. The correct order, L to R, is **Johnnie Lindsey, Willie Woods and Paul Cousins**.



Some may remember **Bob Eppers** from our 2018 reunion at Columbus/Ft. Benning, he was our photographer at that event. (**Editor's Note:** *I'm hoping Bob can attend this year as I'm sure he would do a much better job than I did this past year*). Bob is an excellent photographer and he now has a way to show us some of his best work.

Check out Bob's website at www.3kilophotography.com. In addition to sharing some truly beautiful photographs on the site, his "About Bob Eppers" page gives us a pretty good look into his life and how it has led to his current passion for photography. It has a lot to say about him and his adventures including his time in the military. After jump school he was sent to the 1/502nd in Vietnam from May 68 to May 69.

50 Years Ago – 1970 (Week of May 17-23)

U.S. and South Vietnamese offensive operations across South Vietnam were ordered halted for 24 hours, but 35,000 allied troops pushed ahead with drives inside Cambodia. The cease-fire declared by the Saigon government went into effect at noon in observance of the anniversary of Buddha's birthday. But allied forces in Cambodia were not affected and neither were artillery bases in Vietnam supporting the operations in Cambodia. Remember days like this?



The Feliciano Children

Many of you will remember **James 'Doc' Feliciano (A Co. 1/502)**, who was our president in 2003-04, and his wife, Bernie, as we called her. You may recall that when Doc was still with us, they adopted 5 children, Jeffrey, Alexis, Jonah, James and Ruthie. Believe it or not, they are all grown and some now have families of their own. We lost Doc to cancer on March 30, 2008. Bernie now has a new family, the children in this photo, 3 boys and 3 girls. They are Jacob, John, Jude, Zoey, Emily and Molly. These children are surely blessed to be in the care of an angel like Bernie! They are now residing in Dave Nesbitt's hometown and we wanted everyone to have their address so you might contact them at some point. They are at 2850 Windmill Drive, Sumter, SC 29150. Bernie also informed us that Ruthie, the youngest of the original children, is now married and has 3 children, two boys and a girl. They are also moving back to Sumter. We welcome them back!!

Ed Barbour, past president and now serving as our Membership Chairman, recently went down to St. Croix, one of the US Virgin Islands in the Caribbean Sea, on a Disaster Relief Mission. He told us all about how tough it was rebuilding homes that had been destroyed in a hurricane that hit the island over two years ago. He says the people down there move at a slower pace than in the USA and that's the reason they are still trying to rebuild. Ed's main objective was to help replace a steel corrugated roof on a large house. He said it was rough on his back and that he felt tired at the end of the day. Then he sent us a photo, seen here on the right. As you can see, he is being refreshed after a hard day at work doing 12 oz. curls at the local bar. We're beginning to wonder just how much he accomplished on this two week trip to the island.



More Odds & Ends

Trump says VA won't collect debts, will extend benefits deadlines amid coronavirus outbreak

(Military Times) President Donald Trump said he will direct the Department of Veterans Affairs to postpone all debt collections and extend deadlines for benefits applications where possible in an effort to lessen the financial impact of the ongoing coronavirus pandemic on veterans and their families.

The pledge came at his daily press conference Thursday (April 8) about the ongoing federal response to the fast-spreading illness, which has already infected at least 640,000 Americans and killed more than 31,000 others.

“We're making every effort to provide relief to our great veterans,” Trump said. “We take very good care of our veterans.”

Trump said he has instructed VA Secretary Robert Wilkie to use “any authority at his disposal” to deal with the benefits and collections issues. VA officials did not provide any immediate comment on the White House decision.

Numerous lawmakers have been pushing for the move for days, calling it a necessary step to protect already anxious and suffering veterans. On Tuesday, Senate Veteran's Affairs Committee Chairman Jerry Moran, R-Kan., and ranking member Jon Tester, D-Mont., petitioned Wilkie to grant waivers for a host of benefits filing deadlines.

“The Department of Veterans Affairs has broad authority to waive many required deadlines under the law and we believe the current crisis warrants liberal provision of such waivers,” the pair wrote in a letter to the secretary.

Under current VA rules, veterans or veterans service organizations typically face tight deadlines for disability benefits applications to protest decisions or appeal rulings.



Many thanks to Kara for sending us this great pic from last year's reunion in Clarksville of the great looking, lean, mean men of Alpha Co. 1/502.



101st Airborne Division Vietnam Veterans Membership Application & Renewal Form

New Member/Associate (check here) Member/Associate Renewal (check here) Current Member 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 16013 Blooming Rd.,
Chesterfield, VA 23832-1538. 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 friend-
ships.

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

Where to Send Correspondence

Membership applications, renewals, and change of address should be forwarded to: 101st Airborne Division Vietnam Veterans, 16013 Blooming Rd., Chesterfield, VA 23832-1538. Questions? Contact Ed Barbour at (804) 745-4065 or by email at: barboure101@gmail.com.

For general correspondence contact Dave Nesbitt, 3570 Green View Pkwy., Sumter SC 29150-7066.
Phone (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: Mike Sellers, Quartermaster, 101st Airborne Division Vietnam Veterans, 722 Minnie Hall Rd., Autryville, NC 28318. You can reach Mike by email at: mjsell09@yahoo.com or by phone at (910) 366-1426. Note that 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.101namvet.com) should be sent to our webmaster Rod Green at: RKgreen1502@gmail.com.

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, 16013 Blooming Rd., Chesterfield, VA 23832-1538 or by email to: barboure101@gmail.com.

101st Airborne Division Vietnam Veterans
3570 Green View Pkwy.
Sumter, SC 29150-7066

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US POSTAGE PAID
Sumter, SC
Permit #3

Address Service Requested



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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.