

RIVER CURRENTS



**Special
Reunion
Issue!**

A PUBLICATION OF
THE MOBILE RIVERINE FORCE ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 12, NUMBER 3
FALL 2003

FROM THE GALLEY

ALBERT MOORE, MRFA PRESIDENT

Folks what a great reunion we just had! There are so many people I want to thank that I don't know where to start. First, I want to thank you, the members and your guests who attended the reunion. Without you the reunion would not have been the success it was and your support is and was most appreciated. We have received many comments on the reunion, we've posted some of them in the newsletter, as well as photos. Again, thanks goes out to you, the members. You did good, darn good.

The Pig Roast was great and it was enjoyed by all. I want to send a special thank you to Dean Ayres of the 709th Maint, Co. Dean did a great job and the food was delicious BRAVO ZULU Dean. Bob Pries and Paul Kasper and Bob's crew out of the 2nd/47th did an excellent job with the mini museum. We had nothing but great comments on the museum. Some have asked about the trailer and who's idea it was. Folks Board Member Richard Corrick approached me a year or two back on an idea for a traveling MRF & 9th Infantry Division Trailer. At the time we were busy with the CCB. But since the CCB is being taken care of by the capable hands of two old retired BMs, Charles Campbell and Everett Jones as well as a great working party. I thought it was time to run with Rich's trailer idea. I approached the Officers and Board members and a vote was taken to go for it. If you didn't get to see the trailer at the reunion there are photos later in this newsletter. It's a great tribute to our fallen Army and Navy brothers. We need to thank Dave Argabright and others of the 2nd/60th who put so much time and effort (and their own finances) doing the name researches for the Army names. I want to thank Ralph Fries for doing the same for the Navy. But most all, thanks goes out to Rich Corrick.

Gunner Chet Stanley and his crew did a great job with the registrations with the help of a few board members and a couple of nice ladies from the convention bureau. Well done Gunner Man. As most of you

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

MRFAs Last River Rat

**Captain Edmond C. Caviness II,
to Retire from Navy**

Captain Caviness was commissioned in 1978 an Ensign in the United States Navy under the Limited Duty Officer Program and transferred to the USS MIDWAY (CV 41) where he served as the Ship's Bos'n. In 1980 he was assigned as Operations/Port Services/Harbor Movements Officer with Commander, Fleet Activities, Yokosuka, Japan. In September 1982, Captain Caviness was assigned as First Lieutenant on board USS WHITE PLAINS (AFS 4).

As a student, he then earned a Bachelor of Science Degree from San Diego State University in 1987 in Business Management under the College Degree Completion Program. In 1988, Captain Caviness was assigned as First Lieutenant on board the USS JUNEAU (LPD 10). In April 1991, Captain Caviness took command of the Naval Brig/Correctional Custody Unit, Philadelphia, Pa. During this tour, he studied Business Administration earning a Master in Science Degree from Central Michigan University in January 1993. Captain Caviness next assignment was on the staff of Commander, Naval Surface Group, Pacific Northwest (formally Commander, Combat Logistics Group ONE) as the Assistant Chief of Staff for Training and Readiness. In 1996, Captain Caviness was assigned as the Waterfront Operations Officer for Naval Station, San Diego, followed by Regional Port Operations Officer for Commander, Navy Region Southwest. From October 1999 to May 2002, he was assigned to Fleet Training Center, San Diego as Executive Officer. Assuming command in May 2002, Captain Caviness is currently serving as Commanding Officer Fleet Training Center, San Diego. And lives with his wife Hiroko Caviness in Chula Vista, CA.

Captain Caviness has been awarded the Meritorious Service Medal (3 awards), Navy



Commendation Medal (3 awards), Navy Achievement Medal (2 awards), Combat Action Ribbon, Presidential Unit Citation (2 awards), Navy Unit Commendation (7 awards), Meritorious Unit Commendation (7 awards), Vietnamese Gallantry Cross as well as various additional unit and service awards.

Captain Caviness served onboard The USS Vernon Cty, LST-1161 as a SN through QM2 in support of the MRF-TF of CTF-116/117 from November 1965 to August 1969. Advanced in rank to QM1 in 1969. Captain Caviness is one of the last of the River Rats of Vietnam. It's not often you see or hear of an enlisted man making Captain in the Navy. We wish the Captain nothing but the best and smooth sailing during his retirement years. Captain Caviness will retire September 13th, 2003 as Commanding Officer Fleet Training Center San Diego, CA. You may contact Captain Caviness C/O 527 Paseo Burga Chula Vista, CA. 91910. 619-556-8328 maden@cox.net Captain Caviness a Big Bravo Zulu to you. You did good and you have made all us old "River Rats" Army and Navy Proud.

—Albert Moore
President, Mobile Riverine Force Association

Reunion photos inside!

Inshore Undersea Warfare Groups

Harbor Defense

While Market Time's (TF-115) primary responsibility was to patrol the coastal waters and cut off enemy supplies it also had the responsibility for harbor defense at the five main ports of South Vietnam, in 1964 Viet Cong swimmers attached explosives to the USS Core a US aircraft transport in Saigon and sank the ship at her berth. Realizing the need for better protection from such attacks the Navy came up with the concept of South East Asia Semi-Permanent Harbor protection (SEASHARP).

SEASHARP evolved into a formalized security structure made up of three components. Each harbor site was selected for a base of operations and maintenance facility. The base of operations facility housed the personnel needed to provide logistics and support for the patrol units. In addition this site also contained the Harbor Entrance Central Post (HECP) which functioned as a Command post which was equipped with radios, radar, and a plot of all the ships in the harbor. From the HECP patrol boats were controlled and vectored to suspicious targets entering the harbor.

The second component of SEASHARP was the Harbor Patrol Element made up of the patrol boats and their crews who kept the harbor under constant patrol and monitored the vast array of small craft which plied the harbors. These HPE boats normally carried their own radar and were armed with machine guns and

variety of small arms for use by the crew. A wide variety of boat types were employed by the HPE including Boston Whalers, and picket boats but the backbone of the HPE was the LCPL Mark XI, a thirty six foot long utility boat. The final component was the Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Team which was responsible for making inspections of ships hulls and anchorage sites.

Later on SEASHARP was redesignated Inshore Undersea Warfare Group (IUWG). There were five of these units operating in Vietnam. IUWG-1 Vung Tau, IUWG-2 Cam Rahn Bay, IUWG-3 Qui Nhon, IUWG-4 Nha Trang, IUWG-5 Vung RO, at its peak these units never operated with more than 500 people. With the creation in 1967 the IUWG over the bulk of harbor defense in the five ports where they were stationed. However, harbor defense was separated from port security which was the responsibility of the Army. The division of the duties between the these two services was arrived at by a simple means. As long as a ships was not tied up to a pier IUWG detachments were responsible for its security. Once the ships went alongside a pier, the Army took over se-

curity. The only exception to this division of responsibility was at the port of Danang where the Navy carried out both task.

The IUWG units remained in Vietnam until 1971 when they were pulled out as a part of the American withdrawal program. The VC



were never able to mount an effective sabotage campaign against the various anchorage's under IUWG protection, some damage was done by the enemy, but it was of a minor nature and the VC never accomplished anything of significance. In 1971 the IUWG units were turned over to the Vietnamese Navy who were able to keep the harbors safe until the fall of the Vietnam Government.

Ambush Killing Zone

By Frank Humphreys

You could tell by looking at the young men of the Anti-Tank Platoon, Co. E, 3/39 that they were ready for their regular morning road-clearing mission on this sunny and hot March 10, 1968. Led by SFC Harner, their platoon sergeant, they checked their vehicles and weapons as they prepared to clear the roads leading out of Rach Kien. SFC Harner would be leading them this morning, since I just finished my tour as night OD and needed to get some sleep.

There were only two choices out of Rach Kien: heading north on TL18 to Binh Chanh, or heading east on Rd. 261 to Can Giouc. We varied the routine as much as we could so the VC wouldn't know exactly where we were heading first, but the truth is a patient enemy only had to wait anywhere along those two routes for us to show up at about the same time every day.

As my men headed out, I made my way to the makeshift BOQ toward the west end of the camp and flopped down on my bunk. Within minutes, as I was dozing off almost to sleep, my conscious mind sprang back into action at the sounds of a ferocious firefight not too far away. I'd only been in Rach Kien with the platoon about three weeks, but it sounded as if the firing was near or at a small RF-PF compound on 261, a klick or two east of TL18. But

even as I was convincing myself that that was what it was and getting ready to doze off again, a young enlisted man from TOC rushed up to my bunk and yelled that my platoon was getting ambushed!

Grabbing my weapon and pulling my uniform on as I ran for the TOC, I immediately started feeling guilty for not being there with my men – and very apprehensive about what they encountered. 3/39 CO LTC Tony DeLuca and S-3 Major Pete Booras briefed me at the TOC that the platoon had serious casualties with multiple KIA and WIA. I was given command of the reaction force consisting of a company-plus of Infantrymen and as many medical personnel as were available. We loaded onto deuce-and-a-half (2-1/2 ton) trucks that had been wheeled up to the TOC, and we raced to the ambush site that was only a couple of minutes away.

The ambush, the first time the platoon had been hit by anything other than an occasional sniper, had been as quick as it had been deadly. In fewer than two minutes, five of the 16 men of the Anti-Tank Platoon had been KIA and another six WIA seriously enough to be medically evacuated. The wounded also included our Tiger Scout who had a hand and lower portion of one of his arms blown off in the attack. All five KIA were on the lead vehicle, a 3/4-ton

truck outfitted with a pedestal-mounted 50-cal. machine gun. Those killed were SSG John Hooker, CPL Richard March, CPL John Murphy, SP4 Charles Hairston, and PFC Richard Westberg. SFC Harner was the most seriously wounded with at least four bullet and/or shrapnel wounds.

I had the men secure the area and search the Vietnamese dwellings from which the ambush had been sprung. We found a lot of spent cartridges, but that was about it. Tensions among the men in the relief force were running high; every man in the battalion knew all of us in the Anti-Tank Platoon, and they wanted some measure of revenge. I ordered a second Tiger Scout to tell everyone living in these dwellings to grab what they could and get out quickly. Once all civilians were clear, I had the men burn every building to the ground. A few animals (pigs, dogs, chickens, etc.) were also casualties.

Up to that day, despite my repeated requests for additional personnel, the 16 men of the Anti-Tank Platoon always left Rach Kien at roughly the same time every morning to travel roughly the same routes every day. The official 3/39 Battalion logs show that as of March 11, 1968, the Anti-Tank Platoon left Rach Kien with at least one or two Infantry squads accompanying in a separate vehicle. You may contact Frank c/o 4946 Monroe St. Columbia Heights, MN 55421; 763-572-0394; a_vietnam_vet@yahoo.com. Frank served as a 1st/Lt E/CO 3rd/39th 1967-68

TAPS *Those gone, but not forgotten...*

RMC Ret Howard A. McQuone passed away in 1989 from a service connected disability. Howard served on the USS Colleton APB-36 1968-69. You may contact the family c/o Ellen McQuone, 710 Branding Iron Tr., Granbury, TX 76049; phone 817-279-7761; or e-mail elmac81@hotmail.com.

Member **Larry Howe** passed away August, 31, 2002. Larry served in MinDiv-112 in 1970-71. You may contact the family c/o Sandra Howe Mefferd, 1346 Brothers Lane, Elizabeth City, NC 27909; or by Emailing Whitespot143@inteliport.com.

Member **Tom Swanick** passed away June 25, 2003 due to Agent Orange. Tom served as a GMG3 on the USS White River LSMR-536 1965-68. You may contact the family c/o Thomas M. Swanick, 129 Flagstone Dr., Nashua, NH 03063; 603-594-3290; tswanick@msn.com.



Jesse R. McGuire SMC USN Ret. passed away 10-9-98. Jesse served on the USS Benewah APB-35 1968-69. You may contact the family c/o David McGuire, 15161 Elkhart St., Goshen, IN 46528; or Email drmcguir@bnin.net.

Member **Ken Brasseaux** has passed away (date unavailable). Ken served in IUWG-1-2 Cam Rahn Bay 6/66 & 12/67. Contact: 116 Hulin Road, Broussard, LA 70518; 318-839-1551.

Member **Ted Arbogast GMGC USN (Ret.)** passed away August 4th 2003 from a stroke. Ted served on CCB-111-1 1/67-1/68. Our deepest sympathies to his wife, Diana and family. You may contact them at P.O. Box 58, Slater, MO 65349; 660-784-2303. *Note: From Gunner Stanley ... Ted Arbogast was a leader of men who took care of his men and was an excellent sailor in all regards, and it was a honor to have served with him on CCB-111-1. May he rest in peace.*

Veterans Day 2003 - Gathering in Minnesota

The Mobile Riverine Force Association and 9th Infantry Division will hold its gathering for Veterans Day at the Days Inn located directly across from the Mall of America (1901 Killebrew Drive, Bloomington, Minnesota) November 6-9, 2003. Wreaths will be placed at the 9th Infantry Division and Mobile Riverine Force Memorials at Fort Snelling National Cemetery.

The Days Inn is just minutes away from the Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport with complimentary shuttle service to both the Airport and Mall of America. The Days Inn has ample free parking for those who drive or stay in their RVs. You may make your reservations by calling 1-800-558-5051. Be sure to mention you're making your reservations under the Mobile Riverine Force Association and give the dates of the gathering. The Days Inn

is handicap accessible. If you live in the area and just want to visit, please feel free to stop in and visit with your brothers and sisters of the Association. You won't regret it!

Room rates:

\$69.00 per night for a room w/ queen size bed
\$79.00 per night for a room w/ 2 double beds.

The Mobile Riverine Force Association will have a hospitality room. There is no dress code or registration fee for the gathering. If you plan on attending, please send your name, unit, guest's name, city, and state info to Charlie or Georgina Ardinger (info below). This will assist us in who will be attending and also so we can have a name tag prepared.

For more information on the gathering, please contact:

Charlie and Georgie Ardinger

1857 County Rd. A14
Decorah, IA 52101
1-563-735-5924
E-mail: georgie@rconnect.com

Veterans Day 2003 - Washington, D.C.

The MRFA and 9th Infantry Division will be placing wreaths at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. on Veterans Day, Tuesday, November 11, 2003. We will be gathering at the steps of the Lincoln Memorial at 8:30 A.M. on the 11th, and proceed to the Wall at 9:00 A.M.

We have blocked 25 rooms at the Quality Hotel & Suites in Arlington, Virginia for November 8th - 12th. Room rates vary from \$89.00 (plus tax) per night (there 20 rooms available at this rate) to \$105.00 (plus tax) per

night (there are five rooms available at this rate). For reservations call 1-888-987-2555 or 1-703-247-1006 and refer to our group code "MRFA3." Reservations under this code must be made before the cut off date of October 17, 2003, so call early. The Quality Hotel & Suites is located at 1200 North Courthouse Road, Arlington, VA 22201 There will be no registration fee or dress code for this event. If this is your first trip to Washington, we suggest comfortable shoes because there are lots of sights to see by walking. For more information you may contact Board Member Bob (Doc) Pries at 9702 Friar Tuck Drive, West Chester, OH 45069. Phone: 1-513-755-1223 or email: rpries@cinci.rr.com.

In Memory Of:

This section is for the members who wish to sponsor the MRFA by placing a notice in memory of one of their fallen comrades. In some cases the name of the sponsor will precede the name of the person who was KIA or who has passed on since Vietnam.

Jack Benedick for C/CO/4th/47th 66-68 C/CO/3rd/60th 69 E/CO/3rd/60th Inf KIA 4-7-68
James J. Byrnes for members of the Junk Force, Dung Island
James Roselli for Mark Schoenberger B/CO/3rd/39th Inf.
Capt. Peveril Blundell, USN Ret. For Paul Wolfgang, RivAstSqd-13
Paul De Nicola B/3/60 for Alex Radisa PCFs 55-19 Lt/JG Robert B. Conaty XO RivDiv-131 69-69 For Paul Wolfgang RivAstSqd-13,
David R. Lynn For Howard Burns (QM2) Robert Bouchet (SM2) Herman Miller (GM3)
8-11-68 IUWG - 1- Unit 3
Bob Sutton For Lt/Jg James F. Rost KIA 11/17/1969
Frank T. Buck SKCS Ret For Son ENFN Frank H. Buck KIA-12/28/67 T-92-10
Lanny Snyder For David "Doc" Hearne T-92-6
Chet "Gunner" Stanley for Jerry Pappy Ashcraft (cox'sn) CCB-111-1
John Philp For LTC William B. Cronin KIA April 27, 1967 CO 2/47th
John Philp For Colonel Arthur D. Moreland USA Ret. 2/47th 4/67-12/67
Fred Gottwald For Sgt. Walter J. Garstkiewicz C/CO/3/60 & C/CO/6/31st KIA-1-9-1970.
Gene Cooper for Steve Brichford FT2-68/69 / Jerry Roleofs 67-68 USS White River LSMR-536
Al & Sara Moore for Mac Moore 1989-2003 (MRFA) First Dog.....
Bill Brennan For Tom Swanick GMG3 USS White River LSMR-536
MRFA Member for Bob Hope *Thanks For the memories*
From members of the 47th/Inf and RivRon-11
In Memory of SFC Claude Onley 3rd/47th,
and William H. Little RivRon-11

Get Well Wishes:

Paul Bessler has been in and out of the VA hospital for neck surgery. Paul served on the USS Benewah APB-35 1969-70. You may contact Paul c/o P.O. Box 582, Delavan, IL 61734; 309-244-9055; sunnyfly@mtco.net

Barney Shirey has been under the weather and not doing well he has been in the VA hospital with complications from Agent Orange. Barney served on the USS Harnett Cty LST-821 1969-70. You may contact Barney c/o 7646 Western Oaks Ln., Houston, TX 77040; 713-934-7045; periodotone@yahoo.com.

Member **Ken Kalish** has suffered multiple strokes and is not doing well. Contact him c/o 1614 118th Ln., Coon Rapids, MN 55448; 763-862-1642 kkalish763@comcast.net. Ken served in RivSec 523 (PBR's) 67-69.

Member **David Nowacki** underwent surgery for prostate cancer July, 30th, but is now home doing well. David served on Tango-111-5 (66-68) You may contact him c/o 110 Crestview Ln., Morganton, NC 28655; 828-438-0283; DJNSAN@aol.com.

REUNION 2003 ~ WEEKEND HIGHLIGHTS

From the Galley

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

know Gunner Stanley is a retired Master Chief and he was running the registration like a military project, but it was all in good fun and jest. Sometimes you just can't get the military out of folks. Gunner is one of a kind, as is his daughter Christy. Thanks Gunner Man.



Thanks goes out to Bob & Nancy VanDruff for another fine job with the products table and all the volunteers who assisted. Bob and Sandy Weiss, Alice Moore, Rita Green, Bob and Linda Pawlicki, Linda Toney.

Of course Thelma, even without her side kick Louise, did an excellent job with the raffles. She somehow enlisted the help of Debbie Hayman. I thought two was enough! From now on I'll have three in our raffle crew. I'm not sure what we can name them now. Charles Ardinger and Georgie Ardinger as always did an excellent job too. I'm sure each of you have met Charlie. Georgie was the lady



with a River Rat Vest on, always moving fast, earning her the nickname Fast Eddie. Last of all the Memorial service. Though I was not there it was, from all reports, done superbly by Chaplains Johnson and Westling. All in all everything by all accounts went great and we're looking forward to an even better reunion in 2005. Some of you may know the reunion was cut short for me because of a illness in the family, Sara was unable to attend and I was only there for a couple days and had to leave early. Everything was in good hands. So let's plan on a good economy in the future and plan on getting together again in 2005.



Albert





(L-R) Georgie Ardinger, Jennifer Heese, President Al Moore, Michele Shingshang.



A big thanks to our raffle team!



REUNION 2003 – A GREAT TIME WAS HAD BY ALL!



Thanks to MRFA members Ron and Judy Wallace, Bob Stumpf and Tom Schneider for their help at registration.



Another big thanks goes out to two wonderful ladies from the Convention Bureau, Kathryn Dupps and Ann Franxmenn for all their help with incoming guests!



Chet "Gunner" Stanley makes presentations to the wives of our fallen brothers.

(Above left) Wanda Burke for Robert Lee Hamilton B Co., 2nd/60th;

(Above right) Kathryn Goudeock, widow of Sgt. Forrest Goudeock E Co., 3rd/60th.

(Right) Diane Teter and Richard Marsh, Jr. receive flag for Cpl. Richard Marsh, E Co., 3rd/39th.



A SPECIAL THANKS...

A special thanks goes out to the entire MRFA membership. Again the 9th Infantry and the Navy came together as a team and pulled us through the last night of the reunion.

The Army emptied all their hospital-ity rooms of beer and pop and brought it upstairs to donate for the dance while a beer run was made.

Proving once again that we have the best Association anywhere.

— Gunner Stan



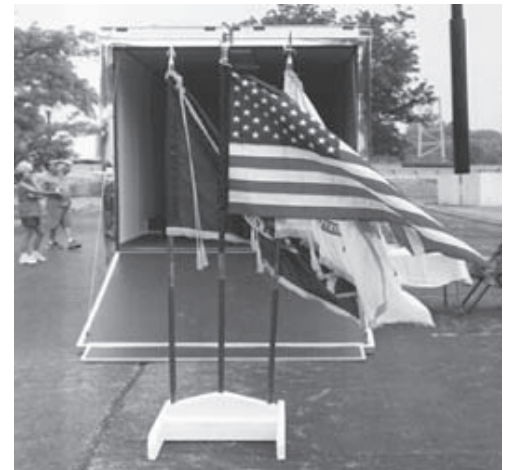


ATTENTION:

If anyone has the blue raffle ticket 322833, you won the handmade quilt. If no one claims it, the quilt will be raffled off at the next reunion.

—Charlie Ardinger, MRFA Treasurer

1857 County Rd. A14, Decorah, IA 52101, 1-563-735-5924, georgie@rconnect.com



THANKS TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS, OUR REUNIONS ARE ALWAYS THE BEST!

OUR MEMORIAL TRAILER IS A GREAT SUCCESS!

The Officers and Board Members of the MRFA would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the folks who made contributions to our Memorial Fund. We think it's a great way to honor our fallen comrades.

Charles E. & Georgia Ardinger, Treasurer
MRFA, RivRon-15

Richard T. Coogan 15th Eng (SONID)

Brian J. Mahoney, USS Sphinx ARL-24

Albert B. & Sara Moore, President MRFA,
USS Benewah APB-35

Jimmy Toney, Board Member, E/CO 3rd/60th

Ralph Tresser, USS Benewah APB-35

Ken Sundburg, HHC 5th/60th

Sam Crawford, USS Satyr ARL-23

???? Donor

Roy Moseman 4th/47th VP MRFA

Dale (Doc) Jones 4th/47th Board Member

Davil Lull 2nd/47th

Ralph J. Fries Riv/Sec 543-535 Board Member

Mike Harris, RivRon-15, Board Member

Gunner Larry Ethridge ARL-30 Board

Member

Al Cady USS Benewah APB-35

Bill Wulff Co/B/3rd/47th

Rebecca Hancock *In memory of Amy J.*

Gilbert and Kristin Wagner

Nieces of John J. Read USS Colleton

APB-36

George Frank Humphrey E/CO 3rd/39th Board
Member

Paul Eastman RivRon-13

Vic Unruh RivRon-15

Charlie Taylor 5th/60th

John Boling IUWG

Harry Schoenian C/CO/4th/47th Board Member

Erol Tuzcu A/Co/3rd/60th

Erol Tuzcu (US Teuss, Inc.)

George (Duke) Marthenze Board Member

Tom Schneider 1st/11th Arty, Board Member

George C. Lang (MOH) A/CO/3rd/47th

Bob Martin USS Benewah APB-35

Clarence Cooper RivSec 511 (PBR's)

Lt/Gen Bill Fulton 9thInDiv

Bob Stumpf 3rd/60th Board Member

William Tamboer T-151-9

Jim Steffes COS-12-13 Board Member

Chris Knabe M-92-1

Lucien Hinkle 3rd/60th 9thInDiv

Stephen Luft B/CO/4th 47th 9thInDiv

Richard Corrick R-112-1 MRFA Board of
Directors

Don Jackson IUWG-1-1 Vung Tau

L Peraza Casanova D/CO3rd/60th 9thInDiv

Gery Benedetti, Tango-112-2 / Tango 112-6

From members of the 47th/Inf and

RivRon-11

In Memory of SFC Claude Onley 3rd/

47th, and William H. Little RivRon-11

Maj/Gen Lucien Bolduc US Army Ret. 3rd/47th

Bob & Nancy VanDruff RivRon-9

Richard (Doc) Nelson & Stella Nelson

Charles & Cynthia Moran RivRon-9

Northern Kentucky Convention Vistors

Bureau

Want to help? If you'd like to make a donation to our memorial trailer, please make checks payable to MRFA and send to: **Charlie Ardinger**, 1857 County Rd. A14, Decorah, IA 52101.



With very special thanks to Avenger Corp., (19875 M-205, Edwardsburg, MI 49122) and Creative Vinyl Signs (54951 M51 North, Dowagiac, MI) for all their contribution and efforts in making our memorial something we are all very proud of.





2nd Battalion, 39th Infantry

The following information was taken from the book **Vietnam Order of Battle**. We thought our membership would find these facts of interest.

Albert



Arrived in Vietnam:	3 January, 1967
Departed Vietnam:	3 August, 1969
Previous Station:	Fort Riley, KS
Authorized Strength:	818

The 2nd Battalion, 39th Infantry ("AAA-O") served with the 9th Infantry Division.

Location	Service	Major Command
Bear Cat	Jan. 67 – Feb. 68	1st Brigade, 9th Inf. Div.
Bear Cat / Dong Tam	March 68 – June 68	1st Brigade, 9th Inf. Div.
Bear Cat / Tan An	July 68	1st Brigade, 9th Inf. Div.
Tan An	Aug. 68 – Nov. 68	1st Brigade, 9th Inf. Div.
Dong Tam / Cai Lay	Dec. 68 – March –69	1st Brigade, 9th Inf. Div.
Dong Tam	April. 69	1st Brigade, 9th Inf. Div.
Dong Tam / Cai Lay	May 69 – Aug. 69	1st Brigade, 9th Inf. Div.

Vietnam Memories

Among my prominent Nam memories is the night we took a company of Army recon guy's about 6 clicks down river from Ben Luc an insertion, we got into a hell of a fire fight on the way out and on the way back, with no casualties. When we got back to Ben Luc, a guy from one of the Tangos fell in between two ammo pontoons and drowned. We recovered his body three days later, not far from where he went in. I've never forgotten the irony of this guy surviving two firefights and then dying from an accident. A couple of months later, we lost two VNN sailors who fell off the fantail of Tangos while taking a leak. They both drowned. Most of the VNN sailors were draftees from Saigon, and couldn't swim.

—Bill Kahn 1689 W Maverick Ln.,
Williams, AZ 86046; Email
W_kahn@msn.com

We lost one overboard with a good ending. "Eisenlord" was on T-152-6. We were transiting back to Dong Tam from the east. A few clicks before arriving Eisenlord fell overboard. Of course no one realized it for awhile. A search was initiated that evening and revealed nothing. The next morning here comes Eisenlord being ferried up to Dong Tam by friendlies in a sampan. What a joy! The Commodore later presented the family with some goodies that probably made it seem like they'd won the lottery. Good ending in to a possible disaster.

—Mike Harris T-152-6

I remember the incident very well it was kind of funny to see him coming upriver in a sampan and how he got overboard is beyond me.

—Richard Turner BM1 USN Ret. T-152-13

A Place for Friends

The Drawbridge has become more to me than a meeting place for our reunions. Over the years, it has become a place where friendships have been renewed, where people have come together after over 30 years. It is where we have shed tears of sorrow and tears of laughter. We are creating new memories every re-union and a wonderful history. We have had many people attend the Drawbridge and have had guests such as Gold Star Moms and Wives at the re-unions to not only remember the fallen but to also celebrate their lives.

I believe most of us are very happy with the amenities, location and quite honestly, the cost of staying in other major cities would be way out of range. The Drawbridge has the ability to serve us, house us and make our stays very comfortable. The hospitality suites are well suited to our needs. They have never placed minimum monetary demands for attendance as most other major convention centers do. The Drawbridge staff has always been professional, courteous, and very importantly cooperative whenever they have been approached regarding things as pig roasts and the like. We actually took over the entry way of London Hall to have a slide show. I do not know of any other place that would allow us such freedom.

We have been very fortunate to have had a place that can handle the number of people that attend our re-unions and at the same time be geographically accessible whether you fly or drive.

—Bob Stumpf, MRFA Secretary

Return to Rach Soi

In late October 1968 River Assault Squadrons 13 and 15 penetrated deep into the U Minh Forest region of Kien Giang and Chuong Thien Provinces. We were met with fierce resistance from Viet Cong and North Vietnamese troops. Word was that the U Minh was a refuge for our enemy. It was obvious he did not want us searching him out in his sanctuary. We took heavy casualties during our lengthy operation, but we also inflicted heavy damage upon the enemy.

When the major operation was complete my boat, T-152-1, and T-152-10 were cut to TF 116 from TF 117 to the small Vietnamese Naval Base at Rach Soi. I can see now that our purpose was to run interdiction patrols for the new Operation SEALORDS campaign. The goal was to cut off enemy infiltration from Cambodia. We soon found out that an ASPB and two PBRs were already at Rach Soi when we arrived. The ASPB left soon after our Tango boats settled in.

We would be operating on "Charlie Canal". Earlier our 30 plus riverine assault craft had experienced heavy combat in this particular canal. It was an desolate stretch of water that ran from Rach Gia to Long Xuyen. The canal was straight as an arrow since it had been hand dug by the Chinese and Vietnamese centuries before.

Our Tango boats operated on alternate nights on Charlie Canal. A PBR or two would accompany us. We would leave the little Viet-

namese base in the late afternoon and return in the early morning hours. No Vietnamese Navy personnel ever operated with us during our 10 week stay. We had no goal on our nightly outings other than to draw fire. No troops accompanied us and we had no "air cover".

Finally one night our dreaded fear began to unfold. Our boat was on patrol when we accidentally backed into the opposite riverbank. We quickly realized that one drive shaft was bent. As we accelerated the entire boat vibrated uncontrollably. We cut that engine out and began limping back the 8 kilometers on our other engine. Fortunately we made it back to the base



without the enemy taking advantage of us.

After arriving the crew of Tango 10 informed us that they had a hole in their fuel tank. They wanted to know if we could go out that night in their place. We told them about our bent shaft. They plugged the hole with a chunk of wood, fueled up and headed out.

My crew was enjoying a game of cards when all hell broke loose on the radios. Tango 10 and the PBR's were engaged in a fierce firefight. It was late in the evening and pitch black out. I can still recall the panicked screams coming over our radio. You could hear gunfire

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

MRFA Catalog Products

Name _____
 Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ Email _____

New shirt designs feature fully embroidered logos. All shirts are \$22.50 each (includes S/H) Please indicate quantity and size in space provided.

Combat Action Ribbon (Tan) (Qty: _____ / Sz: _____) **River Assault Force** (Ash) (Qty: _____ / Sz: _____)
 9th Inf. Div. Vietnam (Dk. Blue) (Qty: _____ / Sz: _____) **MRFA Army & Navy** (Ash) (Qty: _____ / Sz: _____)
 Combat Infantry Badge (Ash) (Qty: _____ / Sz: _____)
 Boats **ASPB** **Tango** **Monitor** (Ash) (Qty: _____ / Sz: _____)
 (# of Shirts: _____)
 x \$22.50 each = \$ _____



New hat designs feature fully embroidered logos. All hats are \$21.50 each (includes S/H) Please indicate quantity in the space provided.

MRFA (Dark Blue) (Qty: _____) Purple Heart Hats (White) 9th Div. (Qty: _____) MRFA (Qty: _____)
 Combat Medic (Black) (Qty: _____) Boat Hats (Off White with Blue Bill)
 CIB Hat (White) (Qty: _____) Monitor (Qty: _____) Tango (Qty: _____) ASPB (Qty: _____)
 9th Inf Div. (Dark Blue) (Qty: _____)
 (# of Hats: _____)
 x \$21.50 each = \$ _____



MRFA Poster *In Full Color* (Qty: _____ x \$27.50 each = \$ _____)

Patches MRFA (Qty: _____) 9th Infantry (Qty: _____) TF-117 (Qty: _____)
 Specify: River Rat (Qty: _____) (Qty: _____ x \$4.00 each = \$ _____)

MRFA Bumper Sticker *Full Color Vinyl Decal* (Qty: _____ x \$4.00 each = \$ _____)

Hat Pin MRFA 9th Infantry Pin (# of Pins: _____ x \$3.00 each = \$ _____)

MRFA Video "Force Afloat" (Qty: _____ x \$27.50 each = \$ _____)

"Ambush" *Limited edition print by Bill McGrath.* (Qty: _____ x \$150.00 each = \$ _____)

Personalized MRFA Coffee Mug *Specify items of your choice*
 MRFA Member's Name (maximum of 16 characters/spaces) Rank (max. 4 characters/spaces)
 Command in Vietnam (maximum 20 characters)

Specify insignia for reverse side of the mug: Army Navy USMC USCG Purple Heart
 (Qty: _____ x \$30.00 each = \$ _____)

MRFA or 9th Infantry Division SATIN OR DENIM Jackets *All Jackets Are Embroidered with MRFA or 9th Infantry Division Logo.* Satin Jackets are available in: *Black, Silver, Royal Blue or White.*

Available combinations: Black jacket w/white or gold collar/cuffs. *Specify:* Jacket Color: _____
 Silver jacket w/black or white collar/cuffs. Blue jacket w/white or gold collar/cuffs
 White jacket w/solid colors only. Collar/Cuffs: _____

Nylon Jacket Embroidered Back Only S-XXXL **135.00**
 Nylon Jacket (Embroidered Front & Back)
 (Name on right front, unit on left front) S-XXXL **155.00**
 Quilted (Embroidered Back Only) S-XXXL **145.00**
 Quilted (Embroidered Front & Back) S-XXXL **165.00** (Qty: _____ x \$ _____ each = \$ _____)

Denim Jackets do not receive color choice, and tend to run larger than other styles!

GRAND TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Make check or money order out to the MRFA. Send to: MRFA, 2906 Starlite Dr., Topeka, KS 66605. You can contact products Chairman Bob VanDruff by calling 1-785-267-1526 or email bvdmrfa@networksplus.net.

Note: *Due to the increase in postage over the last few years we have had to go up on our S/H there has also been an increase in cost from our product suppliers so we have had to go up on the products as well. This is the first increase of any kind the MRFA has had since our beginning in 1992.* Albert Moore, MRFA President



MOBILE RIVERINE FORCE ASSOCIATION

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Charlie Ardinger

1857 CO Rd. A-14, Decorah, IA 52101

New Member Renewal Donation
 Sponsor
 CHANGE OF ADDRESS - Note Below!

NAME: _____

STREET: _____

CITY: _____

STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

PHONE: () _____

E-MAIL: _____

Dates Served in Unit (mm/yr - mm/yr) _____

WWII Korea Vietnam

Army Member: Unit (Division, Brigade, Battalion, Company, Platoon): _____

Navy Member: Ship, Boat Hull Nos. or NavDet: _____

Associate Member

Membership Rates:

1 Yr. \$10.00 3 Years \$27.50

Donation: \$ _____

To become a member, mail your check or money order (payable to MRFA) to: **Charlie Ardinger, MRFA Membership Chairman**, 1857 CO Rd. A14, Decorah, IA 52101-7448.

Please Note: This form may be used for New Memberships, Renewals and Changes of Address. Be sure to check the appropriate box.

Angel Fire

Angel Fire, New Mexico, Vietnam Veterans Memorial and Visitors Center. The center is open at 9am, seven days per week, and the chapel is open 24 hours daily.

You can reach them by phone at 505-377-6900, or visit them online at www.angelfirememorial.com.

Member **Phil Ferrara** who served as ComRivDiv-151 1968-69, highly recommends the center.

Angel Fire can be reached easily by road from Taos or Santa Fe. President Regan declared Angel Fire as a National Landmark.

For more information you may contact Phil by E-mail at Pferara65@aol.com.

CCB Working Party

If you live in the San Diego area and would like to assist in the restoration of CCB-18 by being an MRFA volunteer (on the Working Party), Army or Navy, contact either: Charles Campbell at 677 G Street, SP#1, Chula Vista, CA 91910 (619-427-6835; ccicec@aol.com) or Everett Jones, 1947 Gotham St., Chula Vista, CA 91913 (619-421-3721; oneerj@pacbel.net).

ATTENTION:
YOUR MEMBERSHIP EXPIRATION DATE is now printed on the front of your issue of River Currents.

Rach Soi

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

when the radio receiver was keyed. It was total chaos and we could do nothing to help them.

One PBR kept calling for Tango 10. There was no answer for a long time. The gunfire persisted. The next contact with Tango 10 revealed that almost everyone onboard had been wounded or killed. Later our investigation revealed that she had taken four RPG's.

A frantic call went out for a medevac chopper. Who was dead? How badly were the others wounded? We only heard fragments of the developing situation as it unfolded. Finally word came that Barry Barber was the KIA.

Tango 10's crew escorted her back to our location. After midnight she rounded the bend and we helped tie her up to the concrete abutment. We were all humbled by the carnage. That night I don't think any of us got much sleep. We could all smell the scent of blood, cordite and death.

Then next morning it was our unwritten duty to police Tango 10. The amount of .50 caliber shell casings testified to the fact that Barry had put up a fight before being mortally wounded. It was impossible to clean the boat thoroughly. Hours later we finally had done the best we could. Tears flowed freely as we gave our "last rites" to our friend. A group of young 19 and 20 year old sailors honoring another lost crewmate.

It was April 1994 when my plane touched down at Tan Son Nhut airport. I was on another mission. This time to return to Rach Soi once again. I had lost a portion of my youth 25 years earlier and knew that I had to journey back. I carried a couple of photos of children from the small village where we tied up every other day while awaiting the PBR's to join us for night patrol.

I hired a former SVN PBR sailor as a guide and also had a driver. Our first stop was the old Dong Tam base. The communists will not let anyone on their bases so I took some photos and video from the coastal town we got a motel decided to travel the 5 clicks to Rach Soi the next morning.

We drove to Rach Gia after spending the second night in Can Tho. It was eerie transiting down the road beside "Charlie Canal". When we reached the coastal town we got a motel decided to travel the 5 clicks to Rach Soi the next morning.

My guide had also spent time at the Rach Soi base during his time on PBR's so we drove right to the small front gate. I walked back in time as I entered base. It all looked just like when I left it in early January 1969. After shooting video and stills we started to depart when I noticed a communist soldier in a hootch. He saw me at the same time and came running at me saying "No picture...no picture!" My guide convinced him that I was a Soviet boat builder who just wanted a few photos of the Vietnamese fishing boats. The communist fell for it.

From there we went to a dock area and negotiated a price for a sampan. As we moved up the river all I could do was go by memory.

Each turn took us closer to the village. It was as though I was in a time warp. After about 8 clicks we pulled up to the exact place where we used to tie up at the village.

People came from all over. I had to tell myself that the "kids" I was seeing weren't the kids that we used to entertain. Those kids were now 35-40 years old. As the people surrounded me I was given a small stool to sit on. An old lady sat down right in front of me and held my hands the entire time. During my conversation I had my guide tell them that I had given an ornamental candy can to a lady back in 1968 who was good to us. To my surprise the old lady sitting in front of me was the one. She was now 80 and excitedly told me that she'd taken the can out back and buried her valuables in it when the communists took over in '75. Unfortunately she'd never found it again. I was amazed. It was as if she knew that it was me all along.

I showed the 2 photos and a buzz came over the crowd. Several kids ran off and came back with 2 sisters that were in my photo. They were 6 and 10 back in 1968 so you do the math. I was thrilled to see them again. Another lady about 40 came back with a polaroid photo that we took of her 25 years earlier.

I walked up Charlie Canal looking at the houses and talking to the people. An older man walked right up to me and smiled. I recognized him and we simply "knew that we knew". It was refreshing to be back where I had so many bittersweet memories. In 1999 I returned to the village once again. This time I donated 2 photos albums with scores of "kid photos" from 1968. The Vietnamese are very ancestral so they truly enjoyed the images from so long ago. I'd like to journey back again one day.

—Mike Harris served in RivRon-15 Tango-152-1 68-69. You can contact Mike c/o 2196 N 14th St. Coos Bay, OR 97420; 541-267-4755 e-mail mekong152@charter.net

"It is not the critic who counts; nor the man who points out how the strong man stumbled, or where the doer of deeds could have done better. The credit belong to the man who is actually in the arena; whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs and comes short again and again. Who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions, and spends himself in a worthy cause. Who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement; and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly. So that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory or defeat."

—Theodore Roosevelt, "The Man in the Arena"

Advertising in River Currents

We're starting to receive many requests from the membership to place advertisements in *River Currents*. Books, Medals, Patches, Watches, Boat Models, etc. Also everyone wants a photo of their product posted. We're unable to do this for space reasons. From now on the only thing that will be published will be the name of the product and phone number or postal address, or an email address. If you, the member received this service in any other publication there would be a cost involved.

- **McGrogan's Military Patches ... 208-762-4481**
macpatch@earthlink.net
- **Ships Histories ... 1-800 732-9333**
- **Indochina & Vietnam Tours ... 1-360-570-2096**
indochinatours@olywa.net
- **Military Watches: MRFA & 9th Inf ... 541-863-3144 ... seaweed@sorcom.com ...**
www.chiefsquarters.com

- **Boat Models: All Brown Water Boat Models**
George & Sharon Johnson, 2222 Ash Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89101 •
sharonjohnson@aol.com
- **Books: www.mrfa.org**
- **Military Plaques 800-516-9510 ... E-Mail**
YourAwards@aol.com
- **Supplier of Challenge Coins & Military Key Fobs ... Fgubala@aol.com ... 716-873-4821**

The only products that will be featured with photos and such are products that are currently sold by the MRFA.

The MRFA products help and assist with keeping the MRFA up and running. There's patch, book and tour info on the web site www.mrfa.org; or you may contact Mike Harris if you want a book or item posted on the site. Please note that Mike makes the final decision on what will be posted on the site. Email him at: mekong152@charter.net.

Reunions...

PLEASE NOTE: Reunion notices are placed as a courtesy to MRFA members. Posting of notices for non-members will be billed at \$25.00 per announcement, per issue. We're sorry for any inconvenience this may cause to any of you, but our membership must come first. Thanks for your understanding.

NAVY MSO ASSOCIATION

Crews Reunion Oct-10-12,2003
Drawbridge Estates — Ft Mitchell, KY.
POC Larry Fugh 7209 Lismre Ct., Orlando, FL 32835; 407-292-2394; flafoo@aol.com.

9THINFDIV 39TH CAV PLT. ACV

Ben Luc Vietnam - Summer 2004 in Williamsburg, VA POC: Jack Kavanaugh 902-535-2228; jackkavanaugh@hotmail.com

Please note that Tim, our new editor, has not been feeling well recently. If you would like to place an Notice please send it to Albert Moore, 106 Belleview Dr., Conover, NC 28613; or email mrfa@charter.net. This is only temporary until Tim gets back on his feet.

SPONSORS

MARSHALL ADAMS D/CO/3RD/47TH 9TH/INF/DIV
 LT. MARK ALEXANDER COMRIVDIV-132
 GEORGE "BOATS" AMADOR, USS KRISHNA ARL-38
 THOMAS ANATHAN USS BENEWAH APB-35
 DAVID L. ANDERSON S/3 HHQ 4TH/47TH 1967-68
 CHARLES & GEORGINA ARDINGER
 JOHN ARMSTRONG HHC 3RD/47TH INF. 9TH INF/DIV
 CHRISTIAN F. BACHOFER JR. COMRIVDIV-92
 DON BARNES USS CLARION RIVER LSMR409
 COL PAUL BARNES US ARMY RET. HHC B/CO/3RD/39TH
 JACK BENEDICK C CO., 4TH/47TH
 DAN S. BIEN CO/E/5TH/60TH INF (LRRP)
 RALPH & TERRI BIGELOW RIVRON-13
 BOB BLAIR USS CLARION RIVER LSMR-536
 CSM NICK BLAZEK 2ND/BDE 1967
 CAPT. PEVERIL BLUNDELL, USN (RET.), COMRIVRON-13 (68-69)
 MAJ/GEN BLACKIE BOLDJUC, 3RD/47TH, 9TH INF. DIV.
 BOB BRADFORD B/CO/3RD/60TH INF 68-69
 THOMAS BRADY B/CO/4TH/47TH 9TH/INF/DIV
 ANTHONY BRAND JR. MSB DET ALPH 66-67
 DONALD BRATH HHC 3RD/47TH 68-69
 EDWARD BRENNAN E/CO.3RD.60TH 9TH/INF/DIV
 BMC JAMES A. BROWN USN RET. B/C T-131-2 68-69
 CPT KENNETH L. BROWN A/CO/3RD/60TH
 MGEN WALTER J. BRYDE JR. USA RET.
 WANDA BURKE ASSOCIATE MEMBER MRFA
 AL CADY (COMM OFFICER) USS BENEWAH APB-35
 VICTOR H. CAMPBELL USS BENEWAH APB-35 TF-117
 DAVID W. CARGILL HHC 9TH/INF DIV (C/CSS)
 CRAIG L. CHAMPION, D CO., 3RD/60TH
 GRAIG "DOC" CHAPMAN 3RD/47TH INF
 DONN E. CHRISTENSEN C/CO/3RD/60TH
 GEORGE CLANCY JR. NSA DANANG
 CDR. CHARLES W. CLARK, JR. USN RET. CO USS
 MONMOUTH CTY - LST 1032 (2/66-3/67)
 DANIEL COE USS KRISHNA, ARL-38 TF-117
 RANDALL G. COOK, USS MONMOUTH CTY. (LST)
 ORVILLE (COOKIE) DALEY USS ASKARI ARL-30
 RALPH DEAN USS NUECES APB-40
 CDR. D.A. DESIDERIO USCG (RET.) USCGC
 PONTCHARTRAIN
 DANIEL S. DODD, PHC (RET.) COMRIVFLOT-ONE

ROBERT DURRETT T-112-7
 CPT. SIMON DUFAULT NAEMT AMBULANCE
 WILLIAM J. DUGGAN RAS-13-M-131-2
 PAUL EASTHAM TANGO-132-11
 S/S LEON B. EDMISTON B/CO/3RD/60TH 68-69
 RICHARD EHRLER, E CO., 50TH ABN, 9TH DIV.
 CAPTAIN JAMES D. ELDRIDGE USN RET. COS RIVDIV-91
 CHRISTOPHER EMERSON A-112-4
 EDITH ETHRIDGE ASSOCIATE MEMBER
 LARRY (GUNS) ETHRIDGE USS ASKARI ARL-30
 CDR. KIRK FERGUSON, USN (RET.)
 TERRANCE FETTERS HHC/3RD/47TH INF.
 BILL "BOATS" FISCHER TF-116 PBR'S MY THO..
 DEAN FITZ AND CAROL CAMPBELL
 LT. GEN. WILLIAM B. FULTON, USA RET. 9TH INF. DIV.
 TONY GARVEY, C/CO, 4TH/47TH
 BILL GERAGHTY USS WHITE RIVER LSMR-536
 MERVIN W. GREEN LTC USA RET. B/CO/3RD/60TH 68-69
 TONY GREENE / LYONSO (MARTY) MARTINEZ, B/CO, 4TH/39TH
 FRANK GUBALA 3RD/47TH 9THINFDIV
 CHARLES GUREY, CW03, USN (RET.), USS WHITE RIVER (LSMR-636)
 LTC NOAH E. HALFACRE 6TH/31ST 9TH/INF/DIV.
 PAUL T. HALL SFC USA RET.
 OLIVER G. HALLE COSDIV 11 PCF-70
 REBECCA HANCOCK, ASSOCIATE MEMBER
 WILBERT HANNAH, USS WHITE RIVER LSMR-536
 MIKE HARRIS, IUWG-1-3, QUI NHON
 BERNARD HARMON NSA/SAIGON APL-55
 BILLY HARMAN, T-132-2
 WILLIAM A. HARMAN, TANGO-132-2
 MIKE HARRIS IUWG-1-CAM RAHN BAY
 JOHN HARRISON, C CO., 3RD/47TH
 LCDR. JOHN JACK' HERRMANN, USN (RET.) RIVDIV-92
 JOE HILLIARD, TANGO -15-48
 ALAN HODGKINSON A/CO/3RD/60TH
 COMMANDER G. GIBSON HUBBS USN RET. NSA DANANG
 LT. GEN. PATRICK HUGHES, USA, RET. 9TH INF. DIV.
 ALAN G. HYDE 9TH SIGNAL 9TH/INF/DIV 66-67
 DON JACKSON IUWG-1-1 VJUNG TAU
 BRAD JENKINS 3RD/34TH ARTY / 2ND/47TH (MECH)
 DUANE JOHNSON 15TH COMBAT ENGINEERS
 EVERETT JONES, BMC (RET.), C-151-4/C-152-5 (69-70)
 FRANK B. JONES, RIVRON-15 (T-48)
 JAMES JORGENSON, 4TH/47TH
 KENT KEASLER, USS KRISHNA ARL-38

MILTON KEENE A/CO/3RD/60TH 9TH/INF/DIV
 FRANK & LINDA KEIM
 CHRIS KNABE, MONITOR -92-1
 GEN. WILLIAM A. KNOWLTON, USA RET., 9TH INF. DIV.
 MAURICE KOCK RIVDIV 531 PBR-101
 GEORGE C. LANG, A CO., 4TH/47TH, 9TH INF. DIV. MOH
 RAY "BOATS" LANG, USN (RET.) M-112-1
 BOBBY D. LITTLE D/CO3RD/60TH (9TH INF/DIV
 KEN LOCKE, USS WHITE RIVER (LSMR-536)
 ADMIRAL JOSPEH T. LOPEZ, USN RET., RIVDIV-153
 ERICK LUOMA USN SEAL RET. IUWG-EOD-LSMR-536
 DAVE LYNN IUWG-1
 BOB MARBURGER 2ND-60TH INFANTRY
 DAVID P. MARION TF-115
 JIM MEEUWENBERG IUWG-1-2 CAM RAHN BAY
 RONALD L. McABEE M-92-1
 BRUCE MCIVER TANGO-131-7 RAID 72
 PHIL F. McLAUGHLIN, USS BLANCO CTY., LST-344, LST-836
 "MAC" THOMAS L. McEMORE, 1-112-7, 1967
 LARRY MESSMER IUWG-1UNIT 2-LCPL-45
 WALTER G. MEYER USS BENEWAH APB-35
 GERALD & LINDA MILLER, USS VERNON CTY. (LST-1161)
 JOHN & LINDA MILLER ENG (DV) USN RET. A-91-3 (67)
 WILLIAM M. MILLER, M-92-1 (67-68)
 ALBERT & SARA MOORE
 JOE MOORE USS COLLETON APB-36
 RUSSELL & ALICE MOORE
 CHARLES & CYNTHIAMORAN (BMCS) RIV/DIV/91-595
 ROY & LYNN MOSEMAN
 CW3 JAMES T. NATIVIDAD, USA (RET.) HQ-3RD/60TH
 RICHARD (DOC) NELSON & STELLA NELSON RIVRON-15
 BOB NICHOLS B/CO 3RD/60TH RIVERINE INFANTRY
 NORTHERN KENTUCKY CONVENTION VISTORS
 BREAU
 JAMES L. NOYES LTC USA RET. 3RD/34TH ARTY
 GEORGE R. O'CONNELL USS TERRELL CTY. LST-1157
 ROSS FRANCIS O'DOWD T-92-7 / T-131-4
 JOHN OXLEY RECON/E CO/3RD/47TH 1967
 CAPT. JERRY PAPE, USN (RET.), COMRIVFLOT ONE
 TERRY R. PETERS USS WHITE RIVER LSMR-536
 COL. PETE PETERSEN, USA (RET.) CDR. 3RD/60TH
 CHUNG C. PHAM (SVN) ARL-23
 LTC NATHAN PLOTKIN USA RET. HQ/2ND/BDE 9TH INF. DIV
 RUDOLPH PRIES JR. M-111-1

KENNETH S. RAY, GMCM, USN (RET.) USS VERNON CTY. (LST-1161)
 DON & MARIO ROBBINS USS BENEWAH APB-35
 LAWRENCE ROSE (CRIP) 9THINFDIV
 G. PHILLIP ROSSMAN III 3RD/47TH 9TH/INF/DIV
 TOM SANBORN A/CO/4TH/47TH INFANTRY
 THOMAS J. DOC SANKO HMCS USN RET USS BENEWAH APB-35
 NORMAN SAUNDERS, B CO., 3RD/39TH INF.
 ELBERT W. SAWLEY, JR., USS MAAUNA LOA, AE-8
 JOHN SCHLEICHER IUWG-1
 JERRY (DOC) SCHUEBEL B/CO/3RD/60TH
 JERRY J. SHEARER 2NB/PLT/C/CO/3RD/60TH
 DONALD J. SHELTON, LSMR-536
 WILLIAM E. SINCLAIR, USS WHITE RIVER (LSMR-536)
 BR. GEN. DOUGLAS SMITH, 2ND/49TH, 9TH INF. DIV.
 GLENN I. SMITH B/3 4TH/39TH 9TH/INF/DIV
 LANNY R. SNYDER TANGO-92-6
 FRANK & MABEL SPRINGER
 FRANK SPRINGER TANGO-131-9
 JIM STEFFES, COSDIV 12-13
 ALAN STRICKLAND, A CO., 2ND/47TH INF.
 TERRY STULL, A/CO, 3RD/47TH
 JOHN P. STURGILL, USS COLLETON (APB-36)
 BOB SUTTON M-92-2 / Z-92-11 / R-92-1 RIVRON-13 STAFF
 WILLIAM TAMBOER, TANGO-151-9
 COL. CLYDE J. TATE, USA (RET.) S-3, 2ND BDE.
 VICE ADMIRAL EMITT TIDD, USN RET., COMNAVFORV
 ROBERT P. TILLANDER USS SPHINX ARL-24 (68-69)
 JIM TONEY, E CO., 3RD/60TH INFANTRY
 EROL TUZCO, A CO., 3RD/60TH, 68-69
 ROGER VALENTINE, CST USN RET., USS ASKARI ARL-30
 PETER W. VAN DER NAILLEN USS CLAIRON RIVER LSMR409
 BOB & NANCY VANDRUFF
 BOB VARGAS 2ND/60TH INF.
 RICKY VICE GMDG1 RET. T-131-7
 GARY T. WEISZ ALPHA-91-4
 COMMODORE WADE C. WELLS, USN RET., COMRIVFLOT-ONE
 CHARLES G. WESTCOTT BMCN RET. RIVDIV'111-112-151 67-69GRANT D. WIEMER, HHC 3RD/60TH
 BRUCE & ROCHELLE WIENER C/CO/3RD/47TH INF
 GEORGE WILFONG, USA (RET.), A CO., 4TH/39TH 9TH INF. DIV. (VN)
 GARY WINGER USS SPHINXARL-23
 BOB WITMER, USS KRISHNA ARL-38
 L.T. WRIGHT D/3RD/60TH / C/2ND/47TH
 ROBERT ZIMMER USS MERCER APB-39 68-69

Webmaster Mike Harris has posted more great info on our web site: www.mrfa.org. We now have 9th Infantry Division and MRF Medal of Honor Recipients and all 9th Division KIA list, as well as more great stuff. Mike has worked hard to make this what we consider the best site on the web. You can reach him at mekong152@charter.net. Thanks for all your hard work!

MRFA Web Site

Our expressed thanks to those who have become MRFA sponsors! It's never too late to get on board as a sponsor, so we continue to seek and welcome those who wish to defray the cost of producing in the MRFA helps to defray the past had to be absorbed by the printers. Sponsorships last for a period of one year, with your name and information appearing in four issues. Send your \$25.00 payment to: Charlie Ardinger, 1857 CO RD A14, Decorah IA 52101

MRFA Sponsors

NON-PROFIT
 US POSTAGE
 PAID
 MARSHFIELD, MA
 PERMIT NO. 51

