



# THE BUGLE



October 2024; Vol 33.2

## 5/7 Cavalry Association News

<http://www.cav57.org>

Vietnam 1966 -1971, Iraqi Freedom 2005-2010 & OEF Afghanistan 2012-2013

### President's Report

I know it's been a while since our last newsletter, so I won't make any excuses. It has been a busy summer, folks. For those of you unable to join us at the Reunion in San Antonio back in May, you missed out on a grand time. Everyone seemed to enjoy the Royal Dukes



Band on Thursday night, and our banquet was a rousing success. My old Army friend COL(Ret) Joe Holland was our featured speaker and the Memorial Service was moving and somber, as always. We had a thirteen-year-old bagpiper, and I think he's the best we've ever had! We especially enjoyed the expanding group of Iraqi Freedom Veterans who were able to join us.



**Veterans Day** — The membership attending the Reunion discussed our annual Veterans Day event, much as we did in 2022. Members voted to hold Veterans Day gathering every other year, offset from the year we hold a reunion. This was a very difficult decision for all attending. But we have seen diminishing attendance in Washington, DC for years and we have not fulfilled our contractual obligations for rooms and meals since 2016.



Several of you have told me personally that health and cost are major factors in skipping the Veterans Day event. Going forward, we will have one Association event each year; Veterans Day, in 2025, Reunion in 2026, and so on. I know this will disappoint those who come to DC every year, but I will continue to request we be included in the annual wreath laying ceremony at the Vietnam Veterans' Memorial. If any of you plan to be in town this November, let me know. I will be looking for wreath bearers, and we can all gt together for a dinner while you're in town.



**5<sup>th</sup> Squadron:** The Troopers recently finished a training rotation at the National Training Center at Ft. Irwin, CA. They are currently repairing their equipment and enjoying time with their families before beginning preparation for a deployment to Europe in a few months. Check out their update in this newsletter.



Garry Owen, Cliff

## "Krazy" Karl's Report

### WE HAVE LOST OUR STEAM!

Is the 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion 7th Cavalry Association coming to its end? Allen Patrick said this to me 10 years ago and I thought he was crazy. Today I think he may be correct. Yes, our numbers are dropping off due to our getting older. I don't think we will get much better. I guess the reason for the lack of communication from the Board of Directors and the officers, trustees, etcetera, is we have just become completely burned out. We all stayed in office too long. We the BOD were hoping the squadron guys would jump in. As you can see it just isn't happening. I personally didn't find out that there was no DC hotel for Veterans Day until last weekend. Why this wasn't done before I got no idea. Now I have airline credit. We still need communication.

As I was not at the San Antonio Reunion due to a medical problem, I missed the discussion about the next reunion site, and length of the reunion. With our lower numbers and getting older, I have a couple of ideas:

- Length: Thursday, Friday, Saturday, (check out Sunday AM)
- Time: Either of the last weekends of July 2026.
- Where: Holiday Inn Express, Erlanger, KY. (Cincinnati, OH). We have been there before.

These are my personal suggestions and are no way from the BOD. Hopefully we will all be here for the next newsletter.

Happy Columbus Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, & Happy New Year 2025.

### REMEMBER IT'S YOUR ASSOCIATION

"Krazy" Karl

## Membership VP's Report

There is not much going on at this time with Membership. Time is slowly catching up to the older members of this Association, namely the Vietnam era trooper. Sadly we have had to say good bye to a few more of our friends since reunion. We can cherish the good times that we spent with them mostly as a result of this Association and the gatherings that it generates no matter the size. It helps with the memories and stories we all shared at some point in our association with 5/7. Garry Owen!

On a positive note we have had three young (way younger than me) troopers join the Association since our gathering in San Antonio. They are Troopers Lee Eggeman, Andrew Carter and Sean Lynch. We welcome your participation in all that we do.

In addition I would like to thank Lt. Pete Rose, the Associations liaison with the Active 5/7 at Ft. Stewart, Ga.. Sir, keep up the good work beating the bushes and encouraging membership to the active duty members to our Association. Active duty folks pay no dues to belong. If you have not yet signed up, please do so. You will not regret it. I have not been able to arrange travel to Ft. Stewart since November of 2022 but hope to do so in the near future to speak and encourage you personally to join this fine Association.

Garry Owen,  
Jack Thomas

## Chaplain's Message

"Lest We Forget,

9:11 (AM or PM) when glanced at on a clock or a watch is a subtle reminder to all of us of why and where we are and for whom. We have all noticed that this catches our attention more and more often. Like buying a car and then seeing the same car all over town. As with our new cars, the newness fades and or recognition unless we diligent becomes familiar and old hat and sad to say common. For those younger than 23 years of age, it means even less. It is what happened during Mom-Dad-Uncle-or Grandpa's time. We are plagued with finding ways to remind the latest generations of why the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan took place and of sacrifices made.

Years ago, I had a friend of mine that took on a project of rebuilding from the frame a 1980s Porches 912. No not the 911 but the an actual model of Porches made called a 912. I was intrigued at his skill and mastery of mechanics to basically rebuild a car from ground up that would run. He order parts and tools and fabricated pieces until the car took shape. Almost 8 months went by, and next thing I knew, my friend was driving it to work. He had refurbished (with some parts from a 911) a 912 Porches. The color was tree bark brown and the Porches glimmered under night street lights. Soldiers and civilians and leaders and kids all wanted pictures and rides.

For many of us, 9-12 the day came, but not so for those in the Twin Towers, at the Pentagon, or in the fields of Pennsylvania. Nor those who paid the ultimate price of freedom in years and wars that followed. With the newness and oddity of a refurbished 912 Porches, we need to renew our memories and stories of 9-11 for the latest generations. Lest we forget!"

Mijikai Mason  
Warpaint Shepherd Ancient 2004-2008  
Association Chaplain

## Squadron News

"Apart from the excitement that Hurricane Helene brought, we've been hard at work continuing to prepare for Europe. The Troops have been focusing on vehicle services. We also had two Change of Command ceremonies for Diesel and Tomahawk Troop (formerly known as Dark Horse).

We have a couple exciting events coming up in October including our annual Haunted Headquarters and a Halloween themed Golf Scramble.

In November, 3ID will be holding Marne Week from the 18th-22nd. Main activities will include various sporting events that the units will compete against one another in to see who is the best of the best. On the evening of 19 November, the Division will be conducting its Twilight Tattoo ceremony in honor of its history." Lt. Rose

## Editor's Notes

A shout out to all 5/7 Cav members and especially those who were able to attend the reunion in San Antonio. I apologize for the late timing of this newsletter. Working now on 2026 proposed venues: Colorado Springs, CO, Hot Springs, AR, and Jacksonville, FL.

Many Thanks to Juan Gonzales and Frank Rendon B 67, for arranging for our Memorial ceremony piper, Max Steele. Max, age 14, is a freshman at Texas Military Institute. He started bagpipes at age 11 upon becoming a Corps Cadet at Texas Military Institute in the 6th grade. He one day hopes to attend West Point Academy and become a surgeon.

Send news of mini reunions and other association announcements to [editor@cav57.org](mailto:editor@cav57.org).

# Bullets in My Bottom Drawer” by John Montalbano

Vietnam vet chooses to recall the good and forget the bad in new memoir

“Bullets in My Bottom Drawer” by John Montalbano

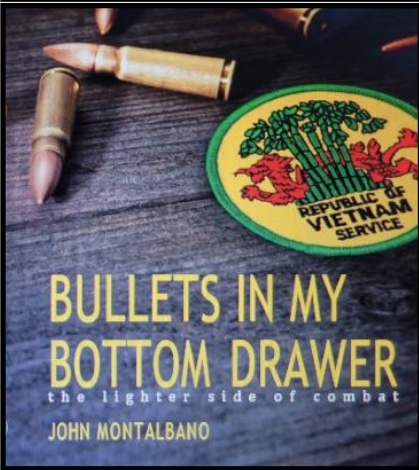
ISBN: 979-8-8229-5085-6

Publication Date: October 1, 2024

*Bullets in My Bottom Drawer* is a compelling anthology of short stories that provides a unique lens into the Vietnam war. The author, a former member of the 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion, 7<sup>th</sup> Cavalry, 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division shares his experiences from 1968, revealing the unexpected humor that often arose during the most dangerous situations. Rarely are the words war and laughter used together, but for Montalbano, in the words of James Bond, “Out of great danger often comes great humor.”

The book draws comparisons to the popular TV series M.A.S.H., recounting the harrowing experiences, misadventures, and ordinary moments that often led to extraordinary events. It offers a firsthand look at the everyday life of a grunt, and how he and the brotherhood of men who served on the frontlines found humor and entertainment in an otherwise bleak existence. It will make you laugh, cry, and above all, appreciate the power of friendship, the resilience of the human spirit, and the ability to find laughter even in the darkest hours.

“Bullets in My Bottom Drawer” is available for purchase online at [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) and [BarnesandNoble.com](https://www.barnesandnoble.com).



## REUNION PHOTOS



# REUNION PHOTOS





# 5th Squadron 7th Cavalry Monthly Newsletter

September 2024



Shout-out to Comanche Troop who got some extra running in during the annual Patriot's Day 5k Run in Savannah. Looking good Comanche!



Dark Horse Troop held their Change of Command ceremony today. Outgoing Commander, CPT Chaikin, will be missed by the Troop and the Squadron and we wish him the best! Congrats to CPT Lund on taking Command!



During Motorpool Monday, we had the pleasure of presenting a coin to one of our upstanding NCOs, SGT Silva, and having a guest speaker from Army Community Services speak on Employment Readiness.



Diesel Troop held its Change of Command ceremony, welcoming in their new Commander, CPT. Wellens. Congrats on the assignment! To CPT. Anderson (Diesels outgoing CO), thank you for all the success you've helped bring to the Squadron!



In honor of 9/11, 1st Platoon-Comanche Troop took time during their litter run to learn about the soldiers of their Troop whose lives were lost in combat. Soldiers spent time honoring the memorial and learning about the legacy they are apart of.



Blackfoot Troop has been busy—AGWASH, demolition training, services, and Soldier ceremonies. Congratulations to CPL Burgess on her recent graduation from BLC and joining to the NCO Corps!



# BATTALION DIRECTORY

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## Dues Paid

Collin	Aldrich	\$10	2030
Paul	Allen	\$30	2034
Elaine	Allen	\$20	2028
Dale	Anderson	\$50	2027
Estaban	Angulo	\$20	2020
Abraham	Ayala	\$20	2031
Larry	Bailey	\$40	2027
Robert	Baldwin	\$20	2027
George	Bank	\$10	2023
Terry	Barger	\$50	2028
Bob	Barnes	\$20	2025
Joseph	Berry	\$20	2026
Donald	Boyd	\$10	2024
Jack	Boyt	\$100	2029
William	Brown	\$100	2034
Alan	Bruns	\$60	2026
Robert	Burg	\$30	2025
Tom	Caldwell	\$40	2029
Larry	Cambell	\$50	2029
Robert	Campbell	\$100	2032
Eddie-Carol	Cargile	\$10	2026
Tomm+H 61y	Clark	\$10	2025
Bobby	Cole	\$50	2028
David	Cook	\$20	2025
Barry	Cooley	\$20	2025
Chris	Cordi	\$20	2024
Tom	Coulson	\$20	2025
Tom	Coulson	\$20	2027
Tim	Curry	\$20	2028
Mike	Dabney	\$20	2025
Mike	Davison	\$10	2024
Calvin	Dunham	\$10	2025
Michael	Eckert	\$20	2040
Maurice	Edmonds	\$10	2036
Frank	Elliott	\$50	2028
Eldon	Erlenbach	\$40	2029
Reinaldo	Espada	\$100	2033
Russell	Failing	\$10	2023
Eugene	Feldkamp	\$50	2027
John	Fleming	\$20	2030
Gerald	Fortuna	\$20	2027
Patrick	Fox	\$30	2025
Phil	Fulkerson	\$60	2029
Joe	Garza	\$10	2024
Charles	Gautcher	\$100	2018
Carey	Gillis	\$20	2025
Juan	Gonzales	\$10	2024
Peter	Grigas	\$10	2024
Donald	Hallquist	\$50	2028

Matthew	Hanna	\$20	2025
Andy	Hernandez	\$20	2026
Mario	Hernandez	\$20	2026
Daniel	Hernandez	\$10	2023
Chris	Hewlett	\$50	2020
Larry	Hilton	\$30	2030
Greg	Hughes	\$30	2026
Jimmy	Johnson	\$50	2028
Tom	Jones	\$60	2029
William	Julian	\$100	2033
Jerome	Knapp	\$20	2025
Glenn	Koonce	\$20	2026
Alan	Krause	\$10	2025
Fred	Kremer	\$50	2033
Vernon	Lasher	\$40	2024
Andrew	Lewis	\$10	2024
Mike	Livengood	\$20	2025
Richard	Loehrl	\$10	2024
Gary	Lumbard	\$20	2025
Chuck	Lynn	\$10	2024
Rudy	Martinez	\$10	2024
Kathy	Maxwell	\$20	2026
Doug	Mc Innes	\$30	2029
Ian	McAlister	\$50	2029
John	Montalbano	\$100	2033
Bill	Moore	\$20	2025
Edward	Murphy	\$30	2025
Dan	Nase	\$10	2025
Paul	Nechanicky	\$50	2027
Craig	Nedball	\$50	2034
Keith	Nelson	\$10	2025
Sheryl	Nunez	\$10	2030
Roger	Orndorff	\$100	2025
Art	Peraza	\$50	2026
Gary	Perry	\$20	2025
Jody	Peterey	\$30	2027
Walt	Putback	\$20	2025
Mike	Rasmussen	\$30	2028
Eddie	Ratcliffe	\$50	2034
Thomas	Rebich	\$30	2024
Chuck	Reese	\$20	2023
Bill	Rowley	\$60	2026
Terry	Sanford	\$20	2025
Ryan	Sateren	\$20	2034
Greg	Schlieve	\$10	2025
Mike	Silvernagel	\$20	2028
Jake	Skrlin	\$50	2026
Danny	Smith	\$60	2028
Tom	Solenberger	\$20	2027
Mike	Sprayberry	\$20	2022

Dues Report Continues on Next Page

# Financial Report by Dick Baker

Our cash balance is \$80,782 compared to \$94,643.46 at the beginning of the year and \$89,951 in November 2023 (last Bugle report). Reduction in cash is attributable to our May 2024 reunion in San Antonio.

We had a successful and enjoyable reunion in San Antonio in May this year. Keeping costs down is a challenge, as we all see in our daily lives. Negotiating future reunion venues and associated costs will be a challenge. If anyone has ideas or suggestions, please email me at Treasurer57Cav@gmail.com

We need to improve our internal communication. Allen Patrick sends out periodic emails, but we need input from you. Recent notifications have primarily been when someone has passed away. Notify Allen, me, your Company Trustees with any info you would like to share. Communication is vital to keeping our Association vibrant and strong.

Garry Owen,

Dick Baker

## Dues Paid Since Last Newsletter - Continued from prior page

Gary	Stai	\$20	2025
Elvin	Stelling	\$20	2025
Judith	Steuer	\$30	2026
Frank	Taylor	\$10	2017
Eber	Teter	\$10	2024
Mike	Tisdale	\$50	2031
Steven	True	\$10	2015
Frank	Vargas	\$20	2026
Albert	Vculek	\$20	2026
Dale	Vincent	\$50	2028
Noa	Walker	\$20	2026
Charlie	Ward	\$20	2025
Robert	Weiss	\$30	2026
Cliff	Wheeler	\$10	2027
Alan	Wilenken	\$10	2025
Argil	Willman	\$20	2026
Robert	Wissman	\$100	2034
Rob	Wolaver	\$20	2027
Glen	Woltman	\$70	2027
Walt	Zimmerman	\$20	2026
Johnny	Zimmerman	\$10	2024

## Donations

Pat	Fox	\$100	\$100
Judith	Steuer	\$20	\$20
Craig	Nedball	\$50	\$50
Mitz Dearborn	Karl Haartz	\$50	\$50
			\$220

## Financial Summary

	YTD
<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>\$94,643</b>
<b>Balance inc reunion \$</b>	<b>\$3,895</b>
-	
Dues Received	\$3,610
Donations	\$220
Interest Earned	\$1,657
Reunion Registrations	\$25,040
Income	\$30,527
-	
Bugle	-\$840
Bereavement	-\$325
Reunion Expenses	-\$41,785
Memorabilia Trailer	-\$1,222
Mail Chimp & Web	-\$217
Expenses	-\$44,389
Balance	\$80,782

Please email dues and reunion checks to the address below.

Dues are \$10 per year.

Checks should be made out to 5/7 Cavalry Association

**Richard Baker**  
Treasurer  
P.O. Box 291  
Bristol, NH

## IN MEMORIAM—MEMBERS THAT HAVE PASSED IN THE LAST 7 YEARS

2016  
 Danny Grinder E 68-69  
 Van C Mandakunis E 69  
 Andrew Hulse D 68  
 William N Dane D 69  
 Arlyn E Wood H 69  
 Danny W Noth B 68  
 Richard Hawksby A 68  
 Randy R Simpson C 70  
 Claude B Jarrett B 67  
 Johnnie L Smith B 67  
 Willie G Middleton B 68  
 Harold Kline B 68  
 Robert J Rivers B 70  
 Willie Wilson H 70

2017  
 Charles Bunton C 66-67  
 Lawrence T Sarginson B 68  
 Gary J Creek C 66  
 Lotis J Horton, Jr C 69  
 Peter G Olsen H 70  
 Dale J Rhodes H 70  
 James L Ledbetter B 69  
 Cecil S Kiser B 69  
 Stephen R Allen B 67  
 David W Greathouse B 69  
 George Myrick B 69  
 William D Chapman C 69  
 William Mintz A 68  
 Leroy Canty A 70  
 Wallace Duggins H 70  
 Larry Reel A 66

2018  
 James S Goemmer B 68  
 Jerry Adkins A 69  
 Terry D Dillon C 68  
 Raymond A Judy B 66  
 Charles K Reber B 66  
 Hugo Lopez H 66  
 Billy E Fisher D 68  
 David W Condron A 70  
 Charles L McQuerry H 67  
 Ron Logterman C 66  
 Alvin Zuber B 66  
 Dennis Baker H 70

2019  
 Larry D Fennern B 69  
 David Baker C 66  
 Marvin R Deckard C 69  
 William L Parsons D 70  
 Peter Ballo C 67  
 Carol D McIntosh C 67  
 David Crowe C 66  
 Richard Gonzales C 66  
 James D Harmon C 66  
 Thomas D Lent C 67  
 Vincent B Mesa C 66  
 George R Clifford D 66  
 Robert C Henzy D 69  
 John Zepeda B 66  
 Larry Vanderveen D 68

2020  
 Melvin M Augustyniak A 69  
 John M Lary B 67  
 Everett E Easterday C 68  
 Michael "Hippie" Shurley D 67  
 Maurice "Moe" Goulet C 66  
 Raymond Barraza C 66  
 Benjamin B Weedman C70  
 Edward R Canady A 66  
 Thomas Blue A 69  
 Harold Baker B 68  
 Walter "Frenchy" Bossuot B 67  
 Kenneth Kuykendall A 68  
 Vardell Nesmith C 67  
 Harold Powell B 68

Pat Malinka A 69  
 George Bazal D 70  
 John Cecere H 66  
 Rnady Boyd C 66

2021  
 Howard Prince B 68  
 Edward Salisbury D 70  
 Caesar Perez C 66  
 Gene Gargile D 68  
 Bill Hussong A 67  
 Steve "Mutt" Shear A 68  
 Edd Lewis A Co 70  
 Royce Vick H 66  
 Henry McDonald C 66  
 Thurman Woods D 68  
 Jerry Dover E 68  
 Andy Westin C 67

2022  
 Daniel Dilloway C 68  
 Rod Henning D 67  
 Albert Tapia C 67  
 Bob Greenwood C 67  
 William Lerch D 04  
 Larry Nunez C Co 66  
 Hank Thomas D Co 67  
 Rudy Kozuh A 70  
 Nicholas Filipak A 66  
 Ric Wetherbee D 67  
 Thurman Woods D 68  
 Burley D Middleton D 69  
 Charlie Talbot A 68

2023  
 Larry Allen C 68  
 Bill Litvjak C 69  
 Truman Hamrick B 66  
 Patrick Dockery C 70  
 Mike Walker A 66  
 Harold Dannewitz C 66  
 Joe Levatino D 66  
 Danny White B 69-70  
 Darrel Lockhart A 69-70  
 Tim Armstrong B 68  
 Charlie Talbott A 68  
 Cornelius Floyd D 67  
 Myron "Mick" Davis D 68  
 Robert Meadowcroft C 66

2024  
 Joe McVeigh C 69  
 Rick Howard D 66  
 Gen John Wickham H 68  
 George Brown A 70  
 Sam Cathcart A 66



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Wilmington, NC 28405

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5th Battalion  
7th Cavalry

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Juan Gonzales, Max Steele, and Ms. Steel