

# THE CASTLE NEWSLETTER



Issue 20

July 2012

## Heraldic Times



(Coat of Arms)



(Insignia)

### Shield:

Gules, a conventionalized castle of Ehrenbreitstein with ramp or on mount proper, bedruised by a bendlet argent bearing two ribbons of the field and azure with seventeen mullets of the last. A sinister canton bendy of eight ermine and of the field.

### Crest:

On a wreath of the colors, or and gules, a mount argent garnished vert, bearing a linden leaf proper charged with a fleur-de-lis argent.

### Motto:

In Time of Peace Prepare for War.

### Symbolism:

The field of the shield is red, the artillery color. The principal charge is the castle of Ehrenbreitstein bedruised by a bendlet carrying the American colors and seventeen stars, to signify the occupation of the castle by the 17th Field Artillery. The canton alludes to the arms of the 8th Field Artillery from which men were transferred to organize the 17th Field Artillery. The crest commemorates the two most noteworthy battle incidents. The White Mountain is for Blanc Mont. The leaf is taken from Verte Feuille Farm, on of the positions occupied by the regiment in the Soissons offensive; the linden leaf was chosen as being very common in that region. The fleur-de-lis is from the arms of Soissons.

### DISTINCTIVE INSIGNIA

The distinctive insignia is the shield of the coat of arms.

### **President Comments:**

By: Norman R. Jones

[AnKhe2nd17FA68rj@aol.com](mailto:AnKhe2nd17FA68rj@aol.com)

It seems that my very good friend Larry Miller and I have been playing musical chairs as Association President. Shortly after my term as the Association President started, my wife and I reveived the bad news that our daughter had breast cancer. I resigned to be supportive of her and my wife during this very trying time. Vallory is now a cancer survivor and is doing well with her life. Larry stepped forward at that time and assumed the position of Association President. I thank him very much for doing so with his contributions to the 17th Artillery.

Larry and his wife then went on vacation to Florida. It was there that he received the bad news that he had cancer, I then returned to the position of President. I Have talked to Larry and his wife a couple times. His spirits are high along with a good attitude. He says he is going to attend the reunion in Branson. Lets all put Larry, his wife and family in our prayer chain, continue praying for them. Your prayers and medical treatment along with his high spirits will make Larry a cancer survivor.

It is approximately three months until the association's annual reunion in Branson MO. It will be held from October 24-27 at the Westgate Branson Woods Resort. A reunion reminder is part of this newsletter. If you haven't made plans or reservations to attend, now is the time to do so. I know there are those who have thought about attending, but have put it off for various reasons. I encourage those of you who have put off attending to think about it again. Aging and time doesn't stand still. It's time

to bond again with your buddies that served with you or with those veterans that have shared that common experience. Lets make this a record turnout. There is plenty to see and do for all age groups, so load up your loved ones, children, grand children, friends and significant others and head to Branson.

I thank all members of the scholarship committee for their work on this year's grants; Scholarship Chairman, Richard A. Smith; Voting members; Larry Lovejoy, James E. Will, Larry Hightower. Again, this year the association has awarded three scholarship grants for a total of \$3,500. Since 2004, the association has awarded a total of 23 scholarship grants for a total of \$25,000 to the children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren of the veterans and active duty soldiers who have served or who are now serving with the regiment. The number and amounts for each scholarship grant for 2013 will be announced after our general membership meeting on October 27, 2012.

### **The 17<sup>th</sup> Artillery Regiment Associations 2011 Scholarship winners**

#### **First Place Scholarship winner for \$1,500.00**



Rebecca M. Schaeve from Milwaukee, Wisconsin  
Daughter of Donald Schaeve

Donald served with SCV/HHB 2/17/FA from April 1989-February 1992 at Fort Sill, Saudi Arabia and Iraq (Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm)

#### **Second Place Scholarship winner for \$1,000.00**



Alexandra L. Fouts from Suwanee, Georgia  
Grand Daughter of Neal P. Fouts

Neal served with SVC/2/17/FA in Vietnam from December 1967-April 1968, then A/3/17/FA in Germany from January 1969-July 1969

#### **Third Place Scholarship winner for \$1,000.00**



Jessica N. Bono From East Hampton, New York  
Grand Daughter of Albert M. Ryan

Bert Served with SVC/2/17/FA in Vietnam from January 1968-September 1968

#### **Treasurers Report**

The Reunion in Branson is less than four months away and will be my last one as Treasurer. I will hand over the books to Bruce Latour's capable hands at that time.

It has been my privilege to serve as Treasurer since the founding of the Association in 1999. During this time I have had the pleasure of meeting Veterans of the 17<sup>th</sup> Artillery Regiment from World War II to the current conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. Most of all I've enjoyed reuniting with Battery mates and others of 2/17<sup>th</sup> FA Battalion that I served with in Vietnam.

Since the founding of the Association, the Reunions have given me the opportunity to visit many places I might not have gone to, places I have read about or seen on TV but have been many miles from California. I have enjoyed the Reunions in Washington D. C. the most, visiting the Wall, Veterans Day Ceremonies, the many Museums, Monuments, the many Civil War Battlefields in the surrounding area, and of course the Harley-Davidson Factory In York, Pa. I hope we will continue to hold Reunions in D. C. in the future during Veterans Day.

As usual, I would like to Thank all of you that have given so generously over the years to the Scholarship Fund, You know who you are. To date we have given a total of \$25,000 in Scholarships. I do love signing those Scholarship checks.

As of July 1, 2012 we have \$7,172.29 in the General Fund, \$12,490.18 in the Scholarship Fund, for a total of \$19,662.47 in the Association Bank Account.

Rich Siebe  
Treasurer

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

It's that time again! Time for repeated TV ads for every political seat from national to local government. The time when all different slogans will appear and then finally November will arrive.

It's good that we have a democracy where we can freely vote for our leaders. This democracy even dwindles down to local civic organizations like the American Legion, Sertoma, Lion's Club and even our own 17th! (Just to name a few and give you the idea.)

But did you know this also applies *spiritually*? Christ is the head of the body. *Romans 12:4 "Just as each of us has one body with many members and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ, we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others."*

If you break your right hand and you're right handed, you'll see the left hand is okay but it has to take up the slack for the right one. If you know someone sick or home bound, help them "take up the slack and become one body."

Our condolences go out to Rich Siebe on the death of his father and to our secretary Jack Picciolo upon the passing of his brother Ray. Please continue to keep the following in your prayers as well: Webster Cole-recovering from a stroke; Bruno Kalkowski; Charles Lankford-Neck surgery; Paul Fusco's family is enduring some health problems; Penny Schaefer (wife of George Schaefer) in a nursing home with fluid on lungs; John Melasecca-recovering from a heart attack; Larry Miller has now formally started chemo and seems to be in good spirits! Also continue to remember Vallory Jones( Norm's daughter) breast cancer and Norm also who just had surgery on his nose for a deviated septum. I'd also like to ask everyone to remember my step-father Capt. Russ Bray (Ret. USMC)

He has been in a nursing home now two years since having triple by-pass and a stroke right after the surgery.

Last but surely not least continue to pray for our troops. They haven't forgotten about us nor will we forget about them!

God Bless and may He continue to bless America!

Richard A. Smith-Chaplain [rsmith3024@nc.rr.com](mailto:rsmith3024@nc.rr.com)



## 17th Artillery Regiment Association Life Members (New)

The following named 17th Artillery veterans has become Life Members of the 17th Artillery Regiment Association, since the January 2012 newsletter.

\*136 Curtis A. Collier Jr., S2 and Battery Commander, Battery C, 2nd Battalion, 17th Artillery, 1967-1968

\*137 LTC Mark P. Krieger Jr., Assistant S3 and Battery Commander Battery C, 2nd Battalion, 17th Field Artillery, 2nd Infantry Division, February 2000 to May 2001; and Battalion Commander, 1st Battalion, 17th Field Artillery Regiment, August 2011 to present.

\*138 Raul A. Garibay, 1st Battalion, 17th Artillery, 1959-1960

\*139 Ralph Melcher, Battalion Commander, 1st Battalion, 17th Artillery, 1967-1968

The following named 17th Artillery veterans have paid their 2012 annual dues.

\*Charles E. Morrison Jr.

James R. Will

Norman Barton

James Deno

Henry Dudek

Victor A. Robinson

David Zell

John Strapac

Marvin Rogers

Donald I. Schaeve Jr.

Buddy Armstrong

Thomas W. Ward

Gail Fasse

Ronald D. Lewis

Walter Cropper

Paul I. Miyake

Gerald Irwin

David Keenan

Philip Smith

James Kasaback

Roger Wolfen

Ray Comeaux

Raymond Eyanson

James O. Massie

Roger Nadeau

Jerry Luker

Terry Earnst

- Associate Member

## Additions to Veterans Roster:

The following named veterans have been added to the association veteran's roster since January 2012

\*Joe Chapman, Battery C, 2nd Battalion, 17th Artillery, April 1967 to the end of March 1968

\*Gail E. Fasse, Battery B, 17th Field Artillery Battalion, served most of his time in the Fire Direction Center as Chief Computer, May 1951 to June 1952.

\*Francisco F. Garcia II, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 2nd Battalion, 17th Artillery, Computer, Battalion Fire Direction Center, 1967-1968

\*Mark P. Krieger Jr., Assistant S3 and Battery Commander Battery C, 2nd Battalion, 17th Field Artillery, 2nd Infantry Division, February 2000 to May 2001 and Battalion Commander, 1st Battalion, 17th Field Artillery Regiment, August 2011 to present.

\*Ronald D. Lewis, Battery A, 3rd Battalion, 17th Field Artillery, April 1968 to October 1969

\*James O. Massie, Battery C, 3rd Battalion, 17th Field Artillery, August 1968 to February 1970.

## Notification of Deaths:

The association has been informed of the deaths of the following 17th Field Artillery Regiment veterans: "Our condolences to their family members".

\*Don Ballard, 1st Battalion, 17th Field Artillery, Camp McIntyre, South Korea, 1967-1968

\*Sergeant Major (Ret) Juan Bautista Cordero, 2nd Battalion, 17th Artillery, Vietnam-Dates Unknown

\*Command Sergeant Major (RET) Rowland E. Williams (85 years old) who served as a First Sergeant with the 1st Battalion, 17th Artillery in South Korea 1962-1963.

## The 2nd Battalion's First Deployment to Afghanistan



**March 30, 2012. The 2nd Battalion, 17th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division in formation at Joint Base Lewis-McCord, Washington, for the brigade's deployment ceremony and casing of colors before the brigade's deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.**

The 2nd Battalion, 17th Field Artillery Regiment deployed last April for their first tour to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The battalion has previously deployed twice to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The battalion's first deployment to Iraq was from South Korea, in August 2004, and the second deployment was from Fort Carson, Colorado in October 2006.

Both the 1st and 3rd Battalions of the regiment had previously deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom

The 1st Battalion, 17th Field Artillery Regiment deployed in August 2010 to help support the NATO efforts to train Afghan forces. The battalion's mission was to train and advise the Afghanistan National Security Forces, the battalion conducted their 21 missions at 16 different locations. The 1st Battalion returned from their first deployment to Afghanistan in July 2011.

The 3rd Battalion, 17th Field Artillery Regiment, 5th Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division deployed, in July 2009, supporting the combat missions of the brigade in and around the southern city of Kandahar, Afghanistan. The 3rd Battalion returned from their tour in Afghanistan in July 2010, just prior to the battalion's inactivation on 9 September 2010.



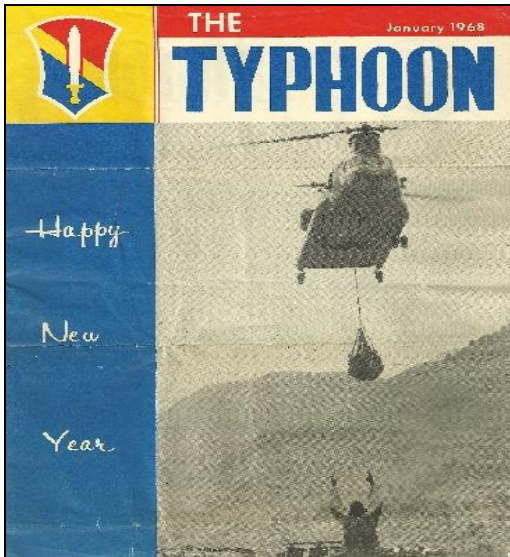
**May 12, 2012: Uncasing of 2nd Battalion, 17th Field Artillery Regiment's Colors at FOB Frontenac, Afghanistan**



**June 20, 2012-Combat Outpost Little Blue, Afghanistan, Soldiers of the 2nd Platoon, Battery B, 2nd Battalion, 17th Field Artillery Regiment fires in support of an Afghan led operation in Shah Wali Kot District, Afghanistan**

## REPRINT OF AN ARTICLE FROM "THE TYPHOON", JANUARY 1968

The Typhoon was a monthly magazine published by 1st Field Forces Vietnam (IFFV).



### 2/17TH ARTILLERY "THE PERSUADERS"

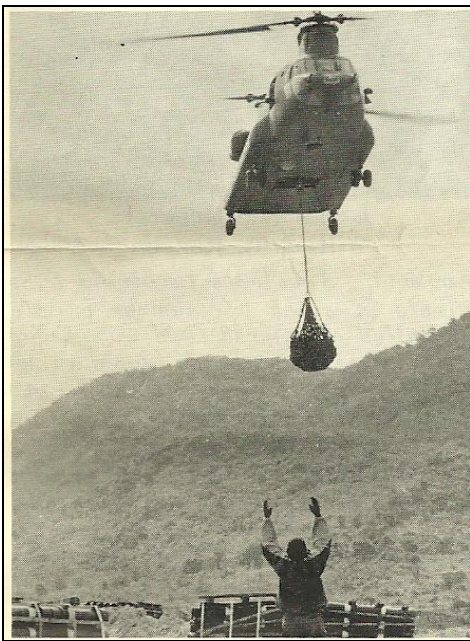
#### A Unique Unit Scores Several Combat First.

Story by MAJ H. Garrett

Photos by SP4 T. H. Decker

Scattered throughout II Corps Tactical Zone, a rain of steel descends day and night as the 2d Battalion, 17th Artillery; "Persuaders" search out and destroy the Viet Cong.

Attached to the 41st Artillery Group, the Persuaders are unique in their organization and possess a wealth of experience at pounding the enemy ranks with their artillery might.

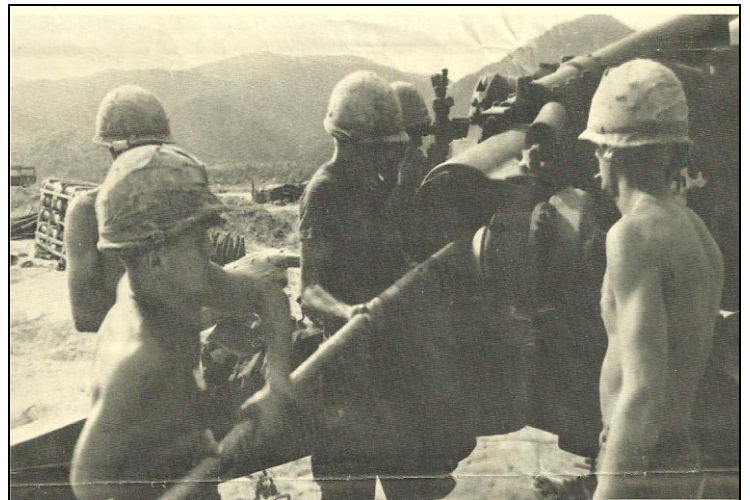


*A member of the Persuaders directs a CH-47 "Chinook" bringing supplies to its vital Vinh Thanh Valley firebase.*

Since the arrival of the 105-millimeter howitzer battalion September 5, 1965, from Fort Sill, Okla., the artillerymen earned the Presidential Unit Citation for their support of the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile). In Pleiku province; and received campaign streamers for participation in the Vietnam Defense (March 1964-December 1965, Vietnam Counteroffensive (December 1965- June 1966), and the Vietnam Counteroffensive, Phase II (July 1966 – May 1967).

The battalion's baptism of fire came after six days in-country when "Bravo" Battery fired the first round in support of the 1st Cav. Div. (AM). The Persuaders support of the "Sky troopers" operations was the first provided by a division-type artillery unit in Vietnam.

During "Operation Phu Ly Bridge," a five day operation north of Phu Cat in the central coastal region, the Persuaders hurried 1,300 rounds into the Viet Cong territory in support of the 22d Division, Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN), thereby adding to their record another first among U.S. artillery units; reinforcing Vietnamese artillerymen.

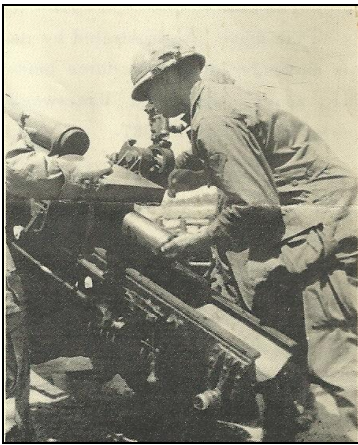


*A 155-millimeter round is rammed into the barrel as the man in the background (second from left) prepares to add the charge.*

In November 1965, near the Cambodian border, the Persuaders set still another first during the "Ia Drang Valley Campaign" by providing direct fire support to ARVN airborne brigade. In this operation six members of the battalion received the Vietnamese Cross for Gallantry.

The Persuaders tactical area of responsibility is approximately half the size of Connecticut. Working with the battalion are forward observers from the 1st Battalion, 77th Artillery; jeep mounted searchlights of "Bravo" Battery, 29th Artillery; counter-mortar radar units; and the Army's only air to ground artillery unit, the 2d Battalion (ARA), 20th Artillery.

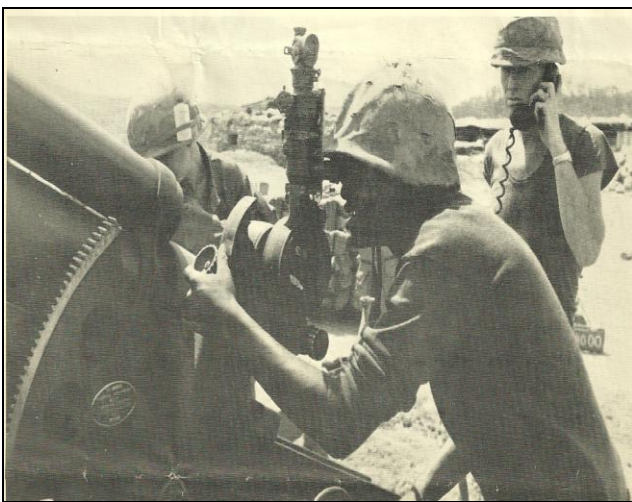
The 105-millimeter howitzer employed by the battalion is a combat proven weapon of many capabilities. Its versatility has made the weapon one of the most used and dependable weapons in the Army's arsenal.



*Crewman of C Battery slams a 105mm round into the chamber. Howitzers of the Persuaders fire high explosive rounds, smoke camouflage shells and flares. On past occasions the guns have been leveled to fire point blank into enemy's rank.*

The battalion's firepower was increased in November 1966 with the addition of "Delta" Battery, a provisional 155-millimeter howitzer battery. The battery has been constantly on the move, as illustrated by its six moves, rotating from three landing zones, during a three-week period in the fall of 1967.

The air mobility of the Persuaders has caught the enemy unaware. The Viet Cong knows about this mobility and fears it.



*A gunner of Battery C adjusts the sights of a 105mm howitzer, while crew chief receives firing data from the fire direction center.*

This unique battalion has pumped out more than 600,000 rounds of jagged, razor-edged steel and high explosive throughout the coastal regions and central highlands of Vietnam.

The flexibility of the Persuaders allows them to conduct extensive training in addition to their operational missions. Currently the battalion is participating in the Sky troopers' replacement training program. Firing demonstrations are conducted daily for the trainees, illustrating the types of artillery fire available and how

each is used. Upon completion of the training program, every man, officer and enlisted, knows how to call in effective fire support.

Also, the Persuaders operate a training school for forward observers in conjunction with the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), 173d Airborne Brigade, and 41st Artillery Group.

No mission is too demanding for the Persuaders. Day or night, rain or shine, their guns are poised to render support to anyone who calls for their service.



*With a quick pull on the lanyard, another high explosive projectile is sent on its way by Battery D, the world's only all airmobile artillery unit.*

## The Wall

By: Patrick Camunes

**There are so many things that are written about the Vietnam Memorial Wall, but never anything of being "on the other side." I was inspired by the picture "Reflections" that I use as wallpaper on my PC and a recent story, "Autumn Wall."**

### FROM THE OTHER SIDE

**At first there was no place for us to go until someone put up that Black Granite Wall. Now, everyday and night, my Brothers and Sisters wait to see the many people from places afar file in front of this wall. Many stopping briefly and many for hours and some that come on a regular basis. It was hard at first, not that it's gotten any easier, but it seems that many of the attitudes towards that war that we were involved in have changed. I can only pray that the ones on the other side have learned something and more Walls like this one needn't be built.**

**Several members of my unit and many that I did not recognize have called me to the Wall by touching my name that is engraved upon it. The tears aren't necessary but are hard even for me to hold back. Don't feel guilty for not being with me,**

my Brothers. This was my destiny as it is yours, to be on that side of the Wall.

Touch the Wall, my Brothers, so that we can share in the memories that we had. I have learned to put the bad memories aside and remember only the pleasant times that we had together. Tell our other Brothers out there to come and visit me, not to say "Goodbye," but to say "Hello" and be together again, even for a short time and to ease that pain of loss that we all share.

Today, an irresistible and loving call comes from the Wall. As I approach I can see an elderly lady and as I get closer I recognize her...it's Momma! As much as I have looked forward to this day, I have also regretted it because I didn't know what reaction I would have.

Next to her, I suddenly see my wife and immediately think how hard it must have been for her to come to this place and my mind floods with the pleasant memories of 30 years past. There's a young man in a military uniform standing with his arm around her. My God! It's...it has to be my son. Look at him trying to be the man without a tear in his eye. I yearn to tell him how proud I am, seeing him standing tall, straight and proud in his uniform.

Momma comes closer and touches the Wall and I feel the soft and gentle touch I had not felt in so many years. Dad had crossed to this side of the Wall and through our touch, I try to convey to her that Dad is doing fine and is no longer suffering or feeling pain. I see my wife's courage building as she sees Momma touch the Wall and she approaches and lays her hand on my waiting hand. All the emotions, feelings and memories of three decades past flash between our touch and I tell her that it's all right. Carry on with your life and don't worry about me. I can see as I look into her eyes that she hears and understands me and a big burden has been lifted from her.

I watch as they lay flowers and other memories of my past: my lucky charm that was taken from me and sent to her by my CO, a tattered and worn teddy bear that I can barely remember having as I grew up as a child and several medals that I had earned and were presented to my wife. One of them is the Combat Infantry Badge that I am very proud of and I notice that my son is also wearing this medal. I had earned mine in the jungles of Vietnam and he probably earned his in the deserts of Iraq.

I can tell that they are preparing to leave and I try to take a mental picture of them together, because I don't know when I will see them again.

I wouldn't blame them if they were not to return and can only thank them that I was not forgotten. My wife and Momma near the Wall for one final touch and so many years of indecision, fear and sorrow are let go. As they turn to leave I feel my tears that had not flowed for so many years form as if dew drops on the other side of the Wall.

They slowly move away with only a glance over their shoulders. My son suddenly stops and slowly returns. He stands straight and proud in front of me and snaps a salute. Something makes him move to the Wall and he puts his hand upon the Wall and touches my tears that had formed on the face of the Wall and I can tell that he senses my presence there and the pride and the love that I have for him. He falls to his knees and the tears flow from his eyes and I try my best to reassure him that it's all right and the tears do not make him any less of a man.

As he moves back wiping the tears from his eyes, he silently mouths "God bless you, Dad." "God bless you, Son. We will meet someday but meanwhile, go on your way. There is no hurry. There is no hurry at all."

As I see them walk off in the distance, I yell out to them, everyone there today, as loud as I can, "THANKS FOR REMEMBERING!" And as others on this side of the Wall join in, I notice that the US flag that so proudly flies in front of us everyday, is flapping and standing proudly straight out in the wind today.



## VIETNAM (KIA) PHOTOGRAPHS:

One of the goals of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Education Center is to have pictures of all who died in Vietnam and are listed on the Vietnam Memorial Wall in Washington D .C.. The following is a list of men assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 17th Artillery whose pictures are needed. If anyone has a picture of those listed below, please furnish them to the association president, web master or historian. Listed are the ranks, names, home towns of record, date of birth, and battery they were assigned to.

**PFC Larry Wayne Barrett** Redkey, IN; 09/16/1947; Btry C

**WO Peter Claus Behrens** Newburg, MO; 11/28/1944; HHB

**PFC William Cutshaw** Greeneville, TN; 04/19/1946; Btry B

**SP4 Fred Richard Glover** Bartow, FL; 07/09/1946; Btry C

SP4 Gilbert De La Pena Pinedale, CA; 07/04/1942; Btry C  
 MSG Robert Joseph Gritte Miford, MA; 11/25/1929; HHB  
 PFC Michael Ayr Lowery San Francisco, CA; 03/25/1946; Btry D  
 SGT Francis Bernard Madden Jr. Newark, NJ; 06/25/1932; HHB  
 CWO Kermit Leslie Matthews Pittsburgh, PA; 05/18/1938; HHB  
 SP4 Danny Joe Richardson Covington, OH; 03/26/1948; Btry C  
 CPL Edgar Lee Simmons Pine Bluff, AR; 03/18/1946; Btry C  
 PFC Thomas Peter Visker Warden, WA; 03/22/1947; Btry C  
 SP4 Kem L. Wallace El Paso, TX; 09/28/1947; HHB

**To receive "The Castle" by email:**

To help defray the rising cost of postage and printing of the association's newsletter. Sign up to receive the "The Castle" by email. Your computer will need the "Microsoft Word" program.

To receive the electronic newsletter, notify the association's secretary: Jack Picciolo at: [pursfive@comcast.net](mailto:pursfive@comcast.net) with your current email address and receive the newsletter first.

We will continue to mail the newsletter to anyone who does not have Internet access or a program to open Microsoft Word program



**VIETNAM WAR 50th ANNIVERSARY  
 COMMEMORATION**

DOD has been authorized to conduct the program to commemorative the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War. For all of the details visit the web site at: <http://www.vietnamwar50th.com> IAW Public Law 110-181 SEC. 598, the 2008 National Defense Authorization Act authorized the Secretary of Defense to conduct a program to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War and in conducting the commemorative program, the secretary shall coordinate, support, and facilitate other programs and activities of the Federal Government, State and local governments, and other persons and organizations in commemorative of the Vietnam War. All Vietnam veterans are encouraged to visit the above web site to see the commemorative events in their area.

**Association Officers 2012**

- Norman R. Jones-----President
- Vacant-----1st Vice President\*
- Vacant-----2nd Vice President\*
- John (Jack) Picciolo -----Secretary\*
- Richard (Rich) Siebe -----Treasurer
- H. Bruce Latour \_\_\_\_\_Treasurer Elect
- Thomas Kurtz-----Past President
- Richard Smith-----Chaplain
- John (Jack) Picciolo -----Historian
- Jackie (Jack) M. Stroud- ----Quartermaster
- Edward (Ed) Hitchner -----Webmaster
- Richard Smith-----2012 Scholarship Chairman

\*Offices up for election at the 2012 reunion to be held in October.

**The Castle newsletter is published in the interest of the members and veterans of the 17th Artillery Regiment Association and has been approved by the board of directors.**

/s/Norman R. Jones  
 Association President



## **REUNION REMINDER**

### **17<sup>th</sup> Artillery Regiment Association's Fourteenth Annual Reunion Branson, Missouri October 24-27, 2012**

The 2012 reunion of the 17th Artillery Regiment Association will be held at Branson, Missouri from Wednesday, October 24, 2012 to Saturday 27, 2012. The reunion will be held at Westgate Branson Woods Resort, 2201 Roark Valley Road, Branson, Missouri 65616. Reservation can be made by calling **1-877-502-7058, Tell them you are with the 17th Artillery Regiment Association, (Code 14-455)**. Room rates are \$59.00 per day, plus tax (11.6%). Rates are good three days prior to the reunion and three days after. These rates are for rooms with 2 queen beds, upgrades are available at a different rate. Reservations must be made by September 24, 2012 to receive the cited room rates. Reservations made after September 24, 2012 will be accepted on a space and rate available basis only. Sign in time is 4 PM and sign out time is by 10 AM. The Resort will include two breakfast vouchers, per room night; additional vouchers will be available in the breakfast room for \$5.00 each. Parking is free. If you make a room reservation and have to cancel, the cancellation must be made prior to 4:00 PM the day before date of arrival to avoid being charged for one (1) night's room and tax. The website for the Resort is: [www.wgbransonWoods.com](http://www.wgbransonWoods.com)

Please come and bring your spouse, family members and friends to tour Branson. We would like for all to bring their photo albums, snapshots and slides to share with everyone. If you have 35mm slides or 8mm film you will have to furnish your own projector. If you have your pictures on a CD or USB drive the association has a digital projector and computer that will be available to show them.

There will be plenty of time to get reacquainted with old brothers in arms and friends that you may have served with or you even may make some new friends. The association's quartermaster will have the gear items at the reunion. Please bring an item to auction off, for the auction that follows the banquet. The money raised from association's auction will be placed in the general and scholarship fund. So now is the time to make your plans to attend and make your Resort reservation. Please send in your registration slip and fee. **The registration will cover the Welcome Reception, Hospitality Room and the Banquet meal.** Please send the registration slip and fee to the treasurer, to arrive NLT September 24, 2012.

Tentative Itinerary: (The hospitality room will be open (Noon Tuesday October 23, 2012)

Wednesday, October 24, 2012 – Veterans, family and friends arrive and sign into the Resort. Then check into the hospitality room, sign the guest book, pick up your nametags, then visit your friendly quartermaster and purchase your association gear. We have plenty, it will make his job easier in that he will not have to cart it all back to Ohio. At 7:00 PM there will be a meet and greet in the hospitality room with **Hot and Cold Hors d'oeuvres.**

Thursday, October 25, 2012 – Hospitality room opens at 8 AM. Tour Branson. **Cook out will be at 6PM**  
(I smell Texas Sausage!)

Friday, October 26, 2012 – Hospitality room opens at 8 AM. Tour the sites in and around Branson.

Saturday, October 27, 2012 – 9 AM to 10 AM General membership meeting in the hospitality room.  
Noon (12 O'clock) – 3 PM Annual banquet (Casual dress). The fundraiser live auction will follow the banquet.

POC:

Norman R. Jones

(512) 705-8891

AnKhe2nd17FA68rj@aol.com

17th Artillery Regiment Association's Registration Slip  
2012 Reunion- October 24-27, 2012

Please use the Registration Slip below

The association's registration fee will cover the welcome reception; cook out, banquet and for providing the drinks and snacks in the hospitality room. Please make your check or money order payable to: 17th Artillery Regiment Association.

Mail to the association's treasurer: Rich Siebe  
3060 64<sup>th</sup> Street  
Sacramento, CA 95820

CUT OR TEAR AND MAIL THE FOLLOWING TO OUR TREASURER.  
(With your check or money order to arrive NLT *August 31, 2012*)

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NAME:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print)

Battery: \_\_\_\_\_ Battalion \_\_\_\_\_ Dates Served (From \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_)

Name (s) of Spouse, Relatives, and friends attending:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Nametags will be printed from the names submitted)

Address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration fee: \$35.00 per person - X- Number Attending \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Donations toward the hospitality room and cook out will be accepted: ----- \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

To become a member, life member or to renew your membership with the  
17th Artillery Regiment Association  
 Please disregard if you are already a member for the year 2012 or a life member.

Complete the form below, and mail it with your check or money order (Payable to 17th Artillery Regiment Association). Mail to: Rich Siebe (Association Treasurer) 3060 64th Street, Sacramento, CA 95820. Upon receipt of your 2012 dues or renewal, a membership card will be mailed to you. Life members will be mailed their numbered 17th Artillery Regiment Association Life Membership Coin. Members will be given the USER ID and PASSWORD to access the on-line veteran's roster located on the association's web site. ([www.17thartilleryregiment.org](http://www.17thartilleryregiment.org)). User ID and Password will be sent to you by U. S. Mail. User ID and Password are changed January 1 of each year.

Join or renew now: 2012 Membership Dues is \$20.00 (January - December).

Life membership fees: Through age 30---\$245.00 31-40---\$235.00 41-50---\$215.00  
 51-60---\$195.00 61-70---\$165.00 71-80---\$125.00 81 plus---\$85.00

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ MI: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX or Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 I served with the 17th Artillery From (yr): \_\_\_\_\_ to (yr): \_\_\_\_\_

Please check those that apply: <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Field Artillery/Battalion/Group/Regiment (Prior to 1958) <input type="checkbox"/> 1st Battalion, 17th Field Artillery (1958 - Present) <input type="checkbox"/> 2nd Battalion, 17th Field Artillery (1958 - 2008) (2010 -Present) <input type="checkbox"/> 3rd Battalion, 17th Field Artillery (1958 - 1995) (2007-2010) <input type="checkbox"/> 4th Battalion, 17th Field Artillery (1959 - 1995) <input type="checkbox"/> 5th Battalion, 17th Field Artillery (1959 - 1995) <input type="checkbox"/> 6th Battalion, 17th Field Artillery (1959 - 1995) <input type="checkbox"/> 7th Battalion, 17th Field Artillery (1960 - 1972) <input type="checkbox"/> 8th Battalion, 17th Field Artillery (1967 - 1971) <input type="checkbox"/> ACTIVE DUTY: If you are on active duty check here.	Battery or Batteries: _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____
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NOTE: Please enclose a copy of your DD Form 214 with your application (Mail a COPY , do not send the original). If you have previously mailed a copy of your DD Form 214 to the association, there is no need to send another copy). ACTIVE DUTY may not have a DD Form 214 yet.

Rich Siebe:  
 3060 64th Street  
 Sacramento, CA 95820  
 Email address is: R47S89SP@aol.com



**Jack Picciolo**  
1122 South Lincoln Street  
Lockport, IL 60441-3654

Secretary  
17th Artillery  
Regiment Association

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*Battalion Color Guard 7th Battalion, 17th Artillery, 2nd Infantry Division during a Battalion Review, Camp Kensington, South Korea, December 20, 1969. The 7th Battalion, 17th Artillery was inactivated on September 13, 1972.*

**17th Artillery Regiment Association Newsletter  
“THE CASTLE”**