



“REUNION” “2005”



SPONSORED by the 7TH BN 15TH FIELD ARTILLERY

**AUGUST 18-21 2005
MIDDLEBURG HEIGHTS, OH.**

“It’s never too early to plan to meet your buddy!”

THE “HIGHLANDER” NEWS



**9343 W. Capitol Drive
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
53222-1534**

**OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE
7/15TH ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION**

**FIRST
CLASS
MAIL**

**RETURN
SERVICE
REQUESTED**



The
HIGHLANDER



7/15TH INDIANHEADS - VIETNAM



FIRST FIELD FORCES - VIETNAM - "First for Freedom"
41st ARTILLERY GROUP / 52nd ARTILLERY GROUP - "Big Guns are Ready"
7TH BN, 15TH FIELD ARTILLERY - "You Yell, We Shell Like Hell"
PHU CAT - AN KHE - PLEIKU - BONG SON - VIETNAM 1967 - 1971

VOLUME - 14 NUMBER - 2 "The Highlander Newsletter"

9343 W. Capitol Drive, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53222-1534

Assoc. Founder: 1991, Former Editor & Web Master	ROBERT M. DONNAN	HHB/B-Btry. 1971
Newsletter Editor:	LUIS CANTU	1-580-536-9418 LVCANTU@aol.com C-Btry. 1971
Group Leader:	DAVE HOLDORF	1-414-464-2939 hidavo@earthlink.net C-Btry. 68/69
Assoc. Historian:	DAN GILLOTTI	1-440-934-1750 firstcav68@adelphia.net HHB 66/68
2005 Reunion Host:	DAN GILLOTTI	1-440-934-1750 firstcav68@adelphia.net HHB 66/68
New Web Master:	FRANK BAKER	1-845-336-2777 frbaker3@hvc.rr.com A-Btry. 67-68
Address Changes:	NORM BARNES	1-928-472-9107 nlb75@npgcable.com HHB 67/68
Treasurer & PX:	MIKE DONLEY	1-414-464-3041 cruzn71@aol.com C-Btry. 67-68
Assoc. Contact:	NORM FORSYTHE	1-931-647-2408 nnforsythe@charter.net HHB 67/68

"WELCOME HOME" ...to the new members of the association! The Highlander is published through efforts of Editor Luis Cantu and our association leaders listed above.

ALL Vets are urged to participate by submitting letters/articles/photos for the news. You can also send "Davo" copies of old orders with names to search. This is YOUR newsletter, submit or voice your opinion on subjects you wish to have published.

Please Up-date your address changes ASAP! Once your forwarding address service expires, you're lost! The time it takes to find you can be used to find missing comrades.

We ask a \$12 per year dues, preferred in January so we can plan our missions. All dues go toward newsletters to all, Vet searching, office supplies, and our Great Website located at <http://www.landscaper.net> No salaries are paid to our all volunteer leadership.

Current member lists, and other lists are available upon request through "Davo" at hidavo@earthlink.net 1-414-464-2939 . New members are published in each issue.

Website information: History, Photos, Articles, Vet Benefits, and a Guestbook.

Best Wishes, Luis & the Assoc. Leadership



“INCOMMING”! New Members - 20 April 2004

By Davo

“Up-Date” Your Addresses ASAP!



“Bring a Buddy”! Pack your Duffel, and Do the Shuffle to Reunion 2005 !!!

New Dates/Location: August 18 to 21, 2005 Middleburg Heights, Ohio

7/15TH FIELD ARTILLERY NEW MEMBERS:

Carroll, Douglas L. 70-71 Svc-Btry. Sp-4 Pers. Clerk Idaho dojucarr@msn.com Nampa ID?
 Caudill, Steven 2-5/71 HHB/C?, 6/14FA Sp-4 RTO 6819 Shelley Ct., Indianapolis IN 46219
 Changala, Brian 3/70-71 B-Btry. Sp-4 13A 27240 Sunset Ave., Perris CA. 92571
 Drudy, Timothy 4-11/71 C-Btry. Sp-4 Signal/Repr 2204 S. walnut St., Muncie IN 47302
 Jones, J.C. 1-12/69 A/HHB SSG 94B/Mess Sgt. 10219 Gulf Meadow, Huston TX. 77075
 Houston, Ken 3/69-5/70 C-Btry. Sp-4 13A 1018 Trebing Ln., Upper Marlboro MD 20774
 Lutz, Earl L. 4/67-68 HHB Sgt. Commo Chief PO Box 1338 or 240 Zenith Dr., Jackson WY. 83001
 Matheson, Tommy 67-6/68 HHB 36K 14820 S. Summertree Ln., Olathe KS. 66062
 Motzko, Alfred 3/70-5/71 B-Btry. Sp-4 13A/Drvr 1871 13th St SW, Akron OH 44314
 O’Brien, Daniel 4-12/71 HHB Sp4 13A/FDC Maps “Obie” 12106 Deerhorn Dr., Cincinnati
 Ohman, Melvin (Father of KIA 2LT Gary A. HHB 69) 4021 Nevada Ave. N, Minneapolis, MN. 55427
 Rolfsen, Tom 7/70-5/71? C-Btry. Sgt-5 RTO 30 Clay St, Cincinnati OH 45217
 Semuniak, William 1-12/70 HHB Sp-4 TRO 2899 E. Wallings Rd., Broadview Heights OH 44147
 Shurmon, Verner R. 11/69-7/70 Svc-Btry. Cpt/CO tshurman@yahoo.com Granbury TX?
 Snyder, Don 12/69-70 A-Btry. 1LT FDC 4660 Wenham Park, Columbus OH 43230
 Stanley, Archie 1-5/71 HHB 2LT BN Staff 11425 Peach Ridge Rd., Athens OH. 45701
 Timm, Roger W. 10/66-7/67 HHB Sp-4 Survey & 8/26th Target Acq. 917 N. Timber Rd., Belleplaine KS. 67013
 Torreyson, James K. 11/67-6/68 A-Btry. 1LT FO/AO/XO/BC 3195 Arden Rd. NW, Atlanta, GA. 30305
 Van Dyne, Danny 7/70-8/71 A-Btry. Sp-4 13A 150 Westfield Ave., Hamilton OH 45013

7/15TH FA DECEASED: “May Our Comrades Rest in Eternal Peace”

Jerry M. Austin 71 Svc-Btry. Sp-4 13A 21 Nov. 49 - 16 Apr. 04 Columbus OH. Exact Death Index Match
 Edward C. Berdich 69-70 C-Btry. Sp-4 13A 11 Feb. 48 - 20 July 01 Pennsylvania Exact Death Index Match
 James W. Bernard 7/69-9/70 C-btry. Sp-5/Cook 4 Oct. 42 - 11 Sept. 94 Philadelphia, PA. Exact Death Index Match
 Henry C. Carter 6/68-69 HHB CW-4 711A Ast/Adj. 13 Apr. 20 - 25 Sept. 03 (MN) Ocklawaha, FL. Exact Death Index Match
 Joseph W. Detyens 68-2/69 LTC HHB BN Cmdr. 28 July 04 Charleston NC. Via Daughter Ann.
 David W. Ferebee Jr. 2/29-4/15/68 LTC HHB BN Cmdr. 14 May 28 - 8 Oct. 82 Orig. NC, VA via Son
 Forrest H. Dillon 69-70 HHB WO-1 BN/Maint. 6 Aug. 26 - Sept. 79 Wirtz, VA. Exact Death Index Match
 William (Tom) Emacio 69-70 HHB Maj. S-3 1 Sept. 35 - 7 June 97 Couer D’ Alene, ID. Exact Death Index Match
 Damon D. Farrow 11/69-11/70 C-Btry. Pfc. 13A 23 Aug. 50 - Jan. 01 Albuquerque, NM. Exact Death Index Match
 Harmon U. Goss 3/67-68 B-Btry. Pfc. 13A 15 May 42 - Aug. 76 (MS) Greenville, MS. Exact Obituary Match
 Gary W. Hope 8/69-8/70 HHB 2LT/1193/Survey 22 Nov. 43 - 19 July 94 Houston, TX. Exact Death Index Match
 James E. Jensen 69-70 C-Btry. Sp-4 13A 8 Dec. 47 - 7 Dec. 93 Illinois Exact Death Index Match
 Robert G. Long 69-70 C-Btry. Sp-4 13A 10 July 48 - July 78 Mullen, NE. Exact Death Index Match.
 Avery E. Morrison 67-68 HHB SSG/Mess-Chief 23 Dec. 24 - 3 Mar. 04 Columbia SC. Exact Death Index Match
 Scott E. Pangus 67-68 B-Btry. Pfc. 13A 30 Sept. 48 - July 1988 (MI) Mesa, AZ. Exact Name/Svc. # Match
 Karlheinz Peter 67-68 HHB Cpt. S-1 29 July 38 - 2 Nov. 02 Orig. IL., Warren, NJ. Prior Member, Via: Son
 Michael R. Russell 1969 C-Btry. Sp-4 13A 11 Jan. 50 - 25 Oct. 02 Oregon Exact Death Index Match
 Ronald W. Scobee 69-70 A-Btry. E-4 Ammo 4 - Aug. - 04 Hayward CA. Via: Wife Jane
 Jack P. Tomcak 2/69-70 C-Btry. Pfc. 13A 4 Oct. 49 - 9 Jan. 04 (CT) Hartford, CT. Exact Death Index Match
 John T. Trapold 1/69-1/70 HHB Cpt. BN Chaplin 24 Nov. 27 - 24 Nov. 97 (PA) Woodbine, NJ. Exact Death Index Match
 John W. Tucker 9/69-10/70 C-Btry. Sp-4 63C/Mechanic 20 Dec. 48 - 6 June 97 Winchester, TN. Exact Death Index Match
 Laurie E. Wilson 5/68-8/69 C-Btry. Cpl-4 13A 1 June 04 Linden AL. Via: Rich Pennell & Obituary (Survived: Wife Vonda)

6/15TH FIELD ARTILLERY NEW MEMBERS:

Jack F. Bales 60-62 B-Btry. Sp-4 FDC/13A Korea 7th DIV. 30512 Birchwood, Westland MI. 48186



**“INCOMING Continued”.....
New Members and Address Changes
REUNION 2005 Up-Date**



NOTICE: Please check your address info and provide any apartment numbers, phone, or e-mails missed !!!

NOTICE: Due to increasing number of Vets and address chg.'s, ONLY the last (2) newsletters prior to reunions will be re-mailed. Others returned as “Forward Address” labeled, will be recorded and changed for the next newsletter. KEEP US POSTED!!!Davo

KIA C-Btry. Earl Thomas Pearson: The family is found in IL.! Contacts: Friend Austin F. Wicks: PO Box 901497, Palmdale CA. 93590-1497 661-400-5768 Sister Denice, & Mother Ester: Cousin Sharon Nelson: shanel42058@aol.com 1-708-345-4120 “Davo” 1-414-464-2939 hidavo@earthlink.net

Sick Call: Best Wishes to Norm Barnes for a great outcome on chemo/radiation treatments.

Congratulations!: To 7/15th FA Unit Historian Dan Gillotti on his recent retirement 24 Sept. 04!

**Notice: Want to stay informed on the latest up-dates for Veteran Benefits? Sign up for these E-mail bulletins:
http://post_119_gulfport_ms.tripod.com/roa1.html http://www.va.org/opa/pressrel/opalist_listserv.cfm**

REUNION 2005 HAS BEEN MOVED TO MIDDLEBURG HEIGHTS, OHIO !!!!

Reunion Name: 15th Field Artillery Association

Due to the activation of the 2/15th FA to Iraq, the “Reunion” location and dates have been changed. We may consider Ft. Drum again in the future, upon their return from Iraq.

NEW DATES: Thursday AUGUST 18th thru Sunday AUGUST 21st, 2005.

HOTEL: Quality Inn & Suites 7230 Engle Rd., Middleburg Heights, OH. 44130-3427

**ROOMS: Single/Dbl Occupancy \$65 +tx RESERVATIONS: 1-440-243-4040 by CUTOFF DATE: July 28, 2005
After July 28, rooms are NOT guaranteed available., The hotel will take reservations if rooms are available, but at higher prices. Rooms must be guaranteed by credit card. “Make your reservations early.”!!!**

ATTRITION CLAUSE: To get good rates, we had to for the first time, sign an attrition clause. This means we MUST fill 40 rooms per night for Thru, Fri, & Sat. We MUST also have 100-125 attending our Friday dinner & Saturday evening banquet! We do expect to meet these requirements as per our prior reunions. However, we ask you to make plans as far in advance as possible so we can make any arrangements/changes needed.

ADGENDA: “Thursday” is a free day. “Friday” is usually tour day, we’re looking at the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and a possible lake cruise. An Assoc. business meeting, memorial service, photo shoot Fri or Sat.

“Saturday” early: probably free, the evening is our huge banquet & fund-raising raffle. Sunday free, check-out.

HOSPITALITY ROOM: Open various hours ea. day/eve, free beverages, food, PX sales, personal photo album and military history displays, lots of stories and comradeship.

MEET YOUR OLD BUDDY: It’s never too early to start planning to meet an old friend at the reunion, We have access to info on many Vets, those found and those that were still looking for. Contact “Davo” Holdorf for search info hidavo@earthlink.net or 1-414-464-2939.

REUNION 2005.... BE THERE !!!!

2nd Bn, 15th FAR in Iraq again and they need our support. By Dan Gillotti

Our brothers in the 2nd Bn, 15th FA returned from Iraq on 14 February 2004. But they are back in Iraq again along with the 2nd Brigade Combat Team from the 10th Infantry Division (Mountain). They're attached to the 1st Cavalry Division in support of their efforts to combat terrorism and help bring democracy to that war torn country. In future newsletters we'll let you know what types of missions they're involved with on a daily basis. But I can tell you that direct Artillery Support is only about 20% of their mission. Their other missions are non-traditional for Field Artillery units and they're definitely in "Harm's Way" every day. I called and talked with LTC Mike Albaneze in Iraq and he'll be providing us with updates and hopefully some pictures periodically. Those are our guys over there and they need our moral support and our prayers. The Christmas Holiday season is just around the corner and we're asking for each one of you to think about your time in the service and what it was like to be thousands of miles from home during the holidays. We're asking you to please send cards with a short note about who you are, your affiliation with the 15th FA Regiment, and your wishes for their safe return. Or whatever words come to your mind for these young men. I still remember the small package that I received in Vietnam that was simply addressed to "Dear Soldier" with some small gifts, cookies, candy and a card thanking me for my service. I get a tear in my eye just thinking about that gesture of concern, respect, and love from a fellow American. I also think about all of the cards that Bob Donnan was responsible for sending to the 2nd Bn, 15th FA when they were in Iraq last year. He contacted some folks in his local school and the children made their own cards that were mailed to our guys in Iraq. They really appreciated receiving those cards and most of them were posted on a display board at "Durham Hall" at Ft Drum when they returned in February. Thanks again to Bob for his support. Please send cards, letters and/or small packages with whatever comfort items you can think of to the address listed below. Comfort items could be playing cards, paperback books, candy, canned fruits, toilet articles, chewing gum, battery powered personal fans, etc. **I leave you with these words "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."** I thank all of you in advance for your support and I pray the Lord will bless you and our troops and keep them safe.

Allons (Lets GO!) Dan Gillotti

Send mail to:

Adjutant (Holiday Support)

2-15 FAR

2/10 Mtn Div

APO AE 09303



VETERAN ADMINISTRATION CLAIMS
Disability & Compensation
Medical and Personal Records
Information, Red Tape and Short-Cuts
What's Required of YOU !!



What's Compensable? ANY injury to you during your service time, NOT just in Vietnam! If an old injury is bothering you, file a claim. It's much easier to win a claim IF the injury is noted on your medical records. Don't have your medical records?...you should have them!

Medical Records & Personal 201 File: Send to the National Archives: National Personnel Records Center, Military Personnel Records, 9700 Page Ave., St. Louis MO. 63132-5100. Include a copy of your DD-214 Discharge and use a Standard Form 180 available from any service org. or Internet at http://www.archives.gov/research_room/vetrecs/ Your medical records may be at a local VA now.

Filing a Claim: It's best to have a County Veteran Service Officer (usually found in the whites pages phone book under government offices) or various Veteran organizations to file for you. DON'T do this yourself! A Service Officer should know the CFR Title 38 Book of VA Claims and what code and percentage to file for. Don't belong to a Vet organization, join one. CFR Title 38 can be purchased at Gov't Bookstores or http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/waisidx_99/38cfr4_99.html

Burdon of Proof: Although the VA does now have to help you locate records, it's up to you to provide as much info as possible. Along with your service records, provide any past doctor visits info.

PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder): This type of claim is a "Mental Wound" and requires more than average proof from you. A "Stressor Medal" (Purple Heart, Silver or Bronze Star) awarded to you usually opens the door to a better chance of compensation. The VA assumes a Vet that received this type of award seen MORE than the "average stress" than those without. This alone separates the normal from most stressed experiences in a war zone.

NO Stressor Medal: Those without a stress medal have to prove they experienced more than the average Joe. "Witness Letters", copies of "After Action" and "Officer's Daily Log" reports that show enemy action at the time and location can help show you witnessed stress in service. The Internet provides a vast amount of info as to enemy action and locations, as well as our web site. There are Vets that have no Stressor Medal that have won claims, they just require much more proof and documentation. Vet Org's that have best results for PTSD claims are: best to worst: Mil. Order of the Purple Heart, Disabled American Veterans, Amer. Legion, VFW, Vietnam Veterans of America.

Stressor Letter: ALL Vets who file for PTSD are required to write a stressor letter. Your letter must explain all stressor experiences you had and how each one effected you and changed your life from the time before you entered a war zone. Spouses, children, comrades, and friends can write letters.

Good Web Sites on PTSD: Read ALL info prior to filing! NO Computer? Have someone show you!
<http://www.giftfromwithin.org/html/partners> <http://www.giftfromwithin/html/nowrong>
<http://tpromo.com/usvi/ptsd2.htm> <http://www.tpromo.com/ptsd3.htm>
<http://www.kfvn.com/ptsd/tableofcontents.htm> Read all...and see chapter 13 and example letters.
http://grunt.space.swri.edu/patience/ptsdfaq_ray.htm

Disability Percentages: You want to file for the highest percentage from the get-go. Multiple percentages added to prior percentages do NOT add up as you may think! A 50% added to a 50% equals 75%, rounded off to 80%! This involves the way the VA considers a disability. A Vet with a 50% disability is considered to be able to perform 50% of the jobs in the job market. A 100% disabled Vet is UN-Employable! Claims, if won, are paid back to the date filed.

COMMENTS FROM THE EDITOR

HOPEULLY YOU WILL GET THIS NEWSLETTER, BEFORE THE ELECTION ON NOVEMBER 2, 2004.

I ENCOURAGE ALL OF YOU TO VOTE ON THAT DAY. REGARDLESS OF WHO YOUR PARTY IS – PLEASE VOTE.

THE GENERALS CANNOT WIN THE WAR WITH OUT THE NON-COMMISSIONER OFFICERS AND THE NCO'S CANNOT WIN IT WITH OUT THE LOWER RANKING ENLISTED PERSONNEL. SO LET US NOT FORGET TO KEEP IN MIND THE ELECTION OF SENATORS AND THE REPRESENTATIVES. WITHOUT THEM, THE PRESIDENT CANNOT DO ANYTHING THING, EXCEPT SIGN OR VETO LEGISLATION.

HOPEFULLY ALL OF US HAVE STUDIED THE ISSUES THAT CONCERN US- THE SENIORS, OUR CHILDREN AND OF COURSE THE VETERANS.

Luis Cantu

Opt out of receiving Newsletter by Mail

Would you like to save the organization some money by canceling your mailed newsletter and be notified two weeks in advance when the Newsletter is available on the web? Just email Luis and Dave and tell them “Opt me out of the Mailed Newsletter.” The Newsletter on the Web has more beauty as you can see it in color.

7/15TH FIELD ARTILLERY "DUES" & "PX" SALES COUPON

The Assoc. asks a \$12 per year donation for Vet Searches, Website, Newsletters & Office Expenses. "NO" salaries are paid to our ALL Volunteer Leadership! Checks are made to: 7TH BN 15TH ARTY ORG.

Mail form to our Treasurer:

Mike Donley

4207 W. Reichert Place, Milwaukee, WI. 53209-3947 1-414-464-3041 cruzn71@aol.com

—————Clip Here or Copy—————

Name: _____ Mid: _____ Last: _____

Addy: _____ City: _____

St: _____ Zip: _____

15FA: mo/yr-mo/yr _____ BN: _____ Btry: _____ Rank: _____

MOS/Job _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

() : \$12 DUES () : \$? Additional Donation () : Relatives of Deceased FREE!

"PX ITEMS": () : \$12 15TH FA Patch () : \$15 Baseball Cap () : \$6 Original Unit Crest

() : \$4 Lapel/Tie-Tack Unit Crest () : \$10 Bumper Sticker () : \$6 Combat Arty. Badge Pin

() : \$15 Set of (3): 1/2-Inch Gold Unit Numbers, You Receive #'s 1 & 5, then Circle Your BN:
1, 2, 5, 6, 7.

() : \$27 "Special" Baseball Cap w/# Pins View Items: <http://www.landscaper.net> under "PX"

All prices for PX Items include shipping boxes, handling and postage. If needed, print an order form from website.

() : I 've Found & Enclosed old orders/rosters with names to Search!

THANKS for the AMMO! ..Mike & Davo

Would you like to meet your Vietnam buddies of 30 years ago?
You can at the 2005 Reunion
(You can see these pictures in color and better on Web Newsletter)

