

THE

RED 5 DIAMOND

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GOD BLESS ALL VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES

“WE WILL”

Deadline for submission of articles for the next Edition:

April 18, 2022

2020-2021 Society of the Fifth Division Officers – Roster

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- *Maj. Gen. Paul B. Malone (1929-30)
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- *Bob Dudley (2016-2017)
- *Dennis Thompson (2017-2018)
- *Alex Candelaria/Steve Wheat (2018-2019)
- *Hal Roller (2019-2020)
- *Louis Pepi (2020-2021)

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A Message From the President Gary Haverman

Hello again to the wonderful and beautiful people of The Society of the Fifth Division. As I write this message for the February edition of the Red Diamond, it is the week between Christmas and New Year's. I know it's late but I do want to express that I hope you all had a wonderful and Blessed Christmas with your families and friends. It's always great to see our kids and those amazing grandkids. Between Jeanne and myself we now have 13 grandkids with one more on the way. And it is never too late to wish you a very, Happy New Year. I do hope you are able to keep those resolutions you have made. Actually, I want to wish you all a healthy 2022 because then everything else will fall into place.

While I'm on the holiday role, by the time you read this, we will be looking at Valentines Day, so here's wishing you and your valentine the greatest of times.

I have a motorhome parked in front of our home at this time and each day Jeanne and I think of things we will need to pack for our three months stay in Florida. We love our Iowa home but not so much in Jan., Feb., and March. The plan is to leave Jan.9th but before then we are looking at several days of single to subzero temperature. I have always told people I'm the kind of guy that is more comfortable taking clothes off than putting them on. Lol!

I mentioned health before because I was thinking of my wife Jeanne's health and how quickly it left her 3 months ago. Well, here are some updates: She was able to get off of 3 times a day IV's on Nov. 22nd, which was great for both of us. Then things got worse because on November 30th, she suffered a seizure which she described as the most horrific thing she had ever went though. An MRI was taken a few days later and it showed it was scar tissue that had caused it. She is now on anti -seizure meds to prevent that happening again. Her lack of energy might be her most physical challenge at this time, but it's the cognitive ability is what she longs for the most, which includes reading, writing, spelling, and speaking. She took great pride in her motivational speeches she gave and her one- on -one counseling sessions. She felt that was her calling. She is working hard at getting better, but she has a long way to go. It will take time and lots of practice for those things to return, but we are determined it will!

I would like to take this time to invite all of you to The Society of the Fifth Division 101St reunion in Springfield, Mo. Sept. 22nd to the 26th. For those of you who have been attending reunions in the past you will find Springfield to be a wonderful destination. If you have never gone to a Red Diamond reunion before, please start with this one and get hooked on them as I did eight years ago. I don't know about the rest of you, but I get a high rush of camaraderie when I walk in the hospitality room on Thursday night to kick off the reunion. No telling how many stories that will be recalled with old friends. I really enjoy seeing that room full of guys proudly wearing the Red Diamond on their hats and shirts.

I am starting to finalize plans for the upcoming 101st reunion and will be telling you more about it in the future issues of the Red Diamond. So please plan to attend and register early to have more great times with your Red Devils buddies.

Thought you might find this interesting.

Flight 2022 Instructions

Good morning and welcome to Flight 2022. We are prepared to take off into the New Year. Please make sure your Positive Attitude and Gratitude are secured and locked in an upright position. All self-destruct devises, pity, anger, selfishness, pride, and resentments should be turned off at this time. All negativity, hurt, and discouragement should be put away.

Should you lose your Positive Attitude under pressure during this flight, reach up and pull- down prayer. Prayers will automatically be activated by Faith. Once your Faith is activated you can assist other passengers who are of little faith.

There ill be NO BAGGAGE allowed on this flight. God, our Captain has cleared us to take off.

Destination-GREATNESS!

Wishing you a New Year filled with new HOPE, new JOY, and new BEGINNINGS!

Stay Blessed and Welcome to 2022! God Bless you all,

Gary Haverman, National President



A Message from the 1st Vice President Hal Roller

One of My Heroes

Some Thoughts from First Vice President Hal Roller

Among many reasons having our Reunion in Rhode Island last September was so great to me was one of my heroes lived there. No not Lou Pepi, another one of my heroes. His name was Roger Williams and he laid foundational concepts that played a key role in making our nation the world's greatest democracy. But I have to warn you before you read this, it is boring. That is, it is not entertaining: it is sustaining.

Roger Williams lived in Salem, Massachusetts and Rhode Island from 1631 to 1683. Born in London and educated at Pembroke College, Cambridge he became a Puritan. Puritans were those who wanted to purify the Church of England. Under persecution, he took his family and went to British America, the Massachusetts Bay Colony. There he also found persecution because of three principles he taught, wrote and preached about:

Religious freedom

Separation of church and state

Fair dealing with Native Americans

For Roger Williams, religious freedom was the right to hold a differing belief on a specific issue from others within the church while still being a part of the church. This concept of individual freedom dominated the political construction of the United States of America. So much so, that when the new republic produced a constitution in 1787, citizens demanded amendments to the Constitution guaranteeing specific rights. Thus, the Bill of Rights came into being 108 years after the death of Roger Williams.

Today government and religion are assumed separate. Not so throughout the world. One of the reasons we do not understand the Middle East is politics and Islam are the same thing. Civil laws are from the Koran (the Muslim holy book). The religious leaders hold authority over all government positions, even if the country is officially a republic. In Roger Williams' day, Massachusetts' puritan leaders were both religious leaders and civil leaders. Roger Williams said this should not be. The church had no business in civil affairs. Our nation codified this in the Bill of Rights' first amendment.

As a devout Christian, Roger Williams practiced the golden rule- treat others as you would want to be treated. This is evident in his personal dealings with and mediation for Native Americans. For example, twice he surrendered himself as a hostage to the Native Americans to guarantee the safe return of chiefs from a summons to court. He believed the Native Americans had the same rights as the Colonists. As the title of one of Roger Williams' books says: Thy Brother Indian is by Birth as Good. Of One Blood God Made Him, and Thee and All.

What a hero. But there is no indication he saw himself this way. By all contemporary accounts, Roger Williams only sought to live as God wanted.

A Message from our 2nd Vice President Bud Wagner



Second Vice Presidents Message

My wife (Melinda) and I began attending Society of the Fifth Division Reunions approximately 5 years ago. Up until that time I didn't identify as a Veteran and wanted nothing to do with memories of Vietnam. In 2016 I began to experience severe PTSD issues and began to seek out help.

I began to find healing in a variety of ways. Thru counseling, meeting with men I served with in A Company, 1/61, reading Lou Pepi's book, "My Brothers Have My Back", and our 5th Division Reunions.

The Reunions reunited me with my brothers, those who knew what we had experienced in Vietnam. I've had friends ask me what goes on at the Reunions. I've told them we have lots of fun, lots of laughs, see beautiful places, but there's also a healing that takes place. We share our lives together and help each other heal.

It's a privilege for me to serve as your 2nd Vice President. I'm going to need lots of help, but I'm surrounded by the Executive Board who brings experience and wisdom. I'm looking forward to seeing all of you this September in Missouri.

Bud Wagner
2nd Vice President



A Message from our Chaplain

Ron Van Beek

The Jewish Passover

The Passover begins with the Opening Blessing. Our help is in the Name of The Lord. Who has made Heaven and Earth, Who keeps Truth forever.

Why do we do this? For over 3500 years, the Jewish people have been celebrating Passover. From wandering the desert to the time of the prophets, during the Babylonian captivity, to the Roman destruction of the temple in A.D. 70 and from the time of Jesus and his disciples until today. The people of God have always recounted the miracles of Passover.

In the Old Testament the Lord commanded all Jews and foreigners living among them to observe the Passover feast forever. Exodus 12:17. From generation to generation, God wanted his family to remember that it was He alone who had delivered his people from the bondage and made the children of Israel his own family.

Passover is the story of how God created a people for himself through redemption from slavery. It is also the fulfillment of a promise made to Abraham many years before when he said, I will make you into a great nation and through you, every family on earth will be blessed. Genesis 12:2.

What will we be doing. In keeping the Passover, in accordance with Exodus 12: 1-14, some of what we do is biblical and some is tradition, remember that Passover like all the Laws, as well as the sabbaths, are part of the strong spiritual cords that bind the Hebrew community together. Having a basic structure for celebrating the sacred times created a context of unity and agreement through the whole nation of Israel, regardless of where each family might be living. This became especially important during the time after the Temple in Jerusalem was destroyed by the Romans in 70 A.D. The traditional ways of obeying the Lord's commandments to honor his sacred times have safeguarded the continuity and the survival of the faith of the Hebrew people for thousands of years. The traditions themselves are ancient, Jewish rabbis created the religious order for the structure of the Passover feast. Today the tradition observed in much of modern Passover Seder are similar to the ones that were typically observed throughout history. Seder means, as in the order of service. In addition to containing the Biblical account of the Passover, this book also includes prayers, blessing, songs, and commentaries. There have been thousands of different versions created over the centuries. They all have similar key elements, but they each reflect the culture and the practice of the Jews, who celebrated with their regional traditions. So listen, learn, eat, and enjoy, this ancient story, that is new with every telling, because the Lord who led Israel out of Egypt is the Lamb of the Passover.

Getting the leaven out of your house is critical to Passover. Exodus 12:18 - 20. In the first month you are to eat bread made without yeast, from the evening of the 14th day until the evening of the 21st day. For seven days no yeast is to be found in your houses. Nothing made with yeast. Wheresoever you live, you must eat unleavened bread.

Thus a major observation during Passover and the feast of unleavened bread, is the act of removing of all yeast from the house, and fasting from eating anything made with yeast for eight days. The removal of yeast to be a part of this holiday to recall that the Jewish people left Egypt in great haste and did not have time for their bread to rise. Leaven is a symbol of sin and a prideful heart that should always be avoided by God's people. This search for leaven is symbolic of our ongoing desire to remove hidden sins from our lives.

Our father Jacob had 12 sons, but the one that he loves the most was Joseph, the son of his wife Rachel. Joseph became a slave in the house of a very wealthy man but once again a jealous and a wicked person sent him to prison for many years. The presence of the Lord preserve Joseph in prison and he was placed in charge of the very prison that held him captive. In the process of time Joseph interpreted a dream and was released from prison and became the vice Pharaoh of the entire nation of Egypt Pharaoh told Joseph to bring his whole family to live with him in Egypt because of the seven years of famine. Pharaoh gave them their own city and land to live in called Goshen. They lived there for 430 years to the day. But we know a new Pharaoh came who did not remember Joseph and all the good he had done. These Hebrews grew mightily to be a great people. This alarmed Pharaoh and the Egyptians and they enslave them. Each day they were pressed into making bricks and building Pharaoh cities and pyramids. In for more than 400 years and the children of Israel worked and died as slaves in Egypt they cried out to the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob for deliverance. And then one day deliverance came through Moses. Who had been born 80 years earlier. He was a baby sentenced to death, but his mother enticed Pharaoh's daughter to adopt him and raise him in Pharaoh's palace for 40 years. However Moses chose rather to suffer afflictions with God's people than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season. In but at the end of 40 years God meant Moses in a burning bush, and said go back to Pharaoh and to know him to let my people go.

Pharaoh was not impressed with Moses or Aaron or their God, and told them many times that he would never let the people of Israel go free. So with a mighty arm in Ten miraculous signs and wonders, the God of Israel fought against the false gods of Egypt. The Egyptians worshiped the Nile River, so God turned it into blood, they worshiped frogs, so He sent so many frogs that they filled their whole house, they worshiped the sun as a God, so God sent darkness that could be felt. They couldn't even see their hand in front of their faces. The Egyptians worshiped cattle so God sent disease, Lice, hail and flies. Finally, they worshiped Pharaoh as a God. They killed all the first born Hebrew males, and so the final judgment was handed down that all the first born of Egypt would die at midnight. The Lord spoke to Moses to tell all the Egyptians to take a lamb for every house, cook it and eat it that night, and get ready to leave Egypt. But before you close your door for the night take the blood of the Lamb and place it on the door posts and on the Lintels of every house, that worships Jehovah. Why. Because that very night, the angel of death will pass through the entire land of Egypt, and every house without the blood of the lamb on the door, he will kill the firstborn son. No matter what you hear or how terrible the sound, do not open your door. It was a terrible night. Every Egyptian home lost a son that night, including Pharaoh himself. When the sun came up the next morning the sound of weeping and wailing for the dead, was heard all across the land of Egypt. But in Goshen there was only the sound of packing bags to leave this human made prison forever.

As they left their homes for the last time as slaves of Egypt, they were filled with wonder and amazement. In they were amazed at the power and the greatness of their God, and yet they were saddened at the suffering of the people, who worship the gods who were no gods at all. As they walked away from Egypt to the freedom and they could only dream about, someone said they heard Moses cry out with a loud voice. Hear O Israel, the Lord our God is the Lord alone.

Christian Chaplain Easter Message - The Thief's Prayer -

Luke 23:42 - Lord, remember me, when Thou cometh into Thy Kingdom

The regeneration of the thief on the cross, was one of the most astounding instances of God's Sovereignty. Here was not just a man converted in the last hour of his life; but one of the most vile of criminals, who had even been cursing Christ, just a few minutes earlier. Who could have expected that such a wicked man would actually go to Heaven, in a few hours, to live forever with Jesus. But Jesus Himself said it; today you will be with ME in Paradise. It is far past astounding; but it was striking evidence of God's Mysterious and Miraculous Sovereignty, and illustrates the infinite Power of Jesus' Blood, for even the worst of sinners.

Yes, Here was a man, who through his many years of wicked deeds had murdered many and terrorized Israel, as part of a notorious criminal gang, led by Barabas. All of Israel knew of this notorious gang and feared them. Israel was glad to be rid of this gang; and there was gladness, that finally they had been caught. Glad that justice was being done by the Roman court, to end the terror of this gang, inflicted on the common people. But, also Israel's corrupt Christian Pharisee leaders, led by Satan, saw this public execution as an opportunity to end Jesus' influence. They also used the execution of this violent gang, to try to blacken and degrade Jesus' Name and His Work. They did this by substituting and putting Jesus on the middle cross, instead of the gang's leader, the vile Barabas, whom they had demanded Pilate be released, instead of Jesus.

But God overrules all human efforts, and everything works together, according to His Grand Master Blueprint. The thief was saved. And what happened, how did this happen, so unexpectedly, in a split second. The cursing, and the mocking, of the crowd around the cross, had risen to a loud and awful roar. But, suddenly in the middle of his cursing of Jesus, Jesus lifted up His Eyes, and gave the thief one look. It was just one look. It a look that penetrated into the thief's sinful soul, and the light of Truth lit up his soul. Instantly, the thief saw his great sin, and repentance flooded over him. But he also saw with his soul's eyes, the sinlessness of Jesus, His Divine Nature, and His Kingdom, both on earth and in Heaven. How he had to sink away in Wonder and Amazement. Jesus Given, Divine Faith washed over him, and cleansed him in the Blood of Jesus, shed so freely on the Cross, a few feet from him. He was Born Again, and instantly everything changed, everything became new in his life. Now, a new man spoke. Just Listen to what he says now. How everything changed instantly. For a moment, all the crowd's mockery stops in shock. The thief loudly defends Jesus' Righteousness, loudly scolding the hostile crowd and the other cursing thief. Stop, He said with indignation, we deserve to be on this cross; but this man Jesus is innocent, he does not deserve to suffer for one moment for our sins.

A regenerated man always does good works, and this New Born man, for the next 3 hours on the Cross, did some of the greatest good works ever done by any saint. He Praised Jesus; so that anyone who reads Scripture about this Miracle, can Glory in Jesus' saving one of the greatest sinners. The thief was God's Trophy of Free and Sovereign Grace. The last 3 hours of his life, he spend repeating over and over, Lord, Son of David, Remember me. Yes, Only one was saved in the last hour of his life, so that no great sinner will every despair in hopelessness; but only one such sinner saved, so that no one will be presumptuous. The Blood of Jesus Christ, The Son of God, cleanseth from all sin.

T.A.P.S.

1. Jan De Boer died Nov. 15, 2021 Artillery - 1/61
2. Jim Bonner died Feb. 2, 2021 Command Sergeant
Major - D-1/11
3. Isidore Michael Thomas died March 21, 2021 D - 1/11



A Message from the Editor Dave Kocan

Some days to remember in the next couple of months Valentine's Day, President's Day 2/21 Spring 3/20 Easter 4/17 Birthday's? and Anniversary's ? Mark your calendars

I pray that all had a great Christmas and New Year. It is now 2022, a brand new year and I am still walking into banks with a mask on and giving them money. Never in my life did I imagine that someone could start a disease that would last this long. With all the advancements in science and medicine, how come I still have to walk around with a mask.

My personal health issues have improved but I still have a way to go before I am back to 100 per cent. I do pray for all those who are going through the own health problems.

I know that a lot of us are dealing with mental and physical issues. if you need a place to vent, this is the place. We are your brothers, and we have known most of for over 50 years. So if you would like the rest of us to know what is going on so we may say a special prayer for you or someone else let us know. Even if you don't want your name attached we will do it any way you want, but let us help.

2 of my brothers are hurting and need your prayers. Tom Owens after dealing with cancer is now in hospice care. My best friend Ken Magnett is going in for another Agent Orange Cancer operation. 1st they will operate on a hernia and then they will operate on his left kidney. A seven hour operation on Jan.28 and a very long recovery. Please keep these 2 brothers of ours in yor prayers.

On the front cover

David Burnett—Contact Press Images

In the days before “embeds” — this generation’s enforced melding of photographer and military unit — there was a certain sense of freedom we owned as photographers, being able to go directly to where the story was. In Vietnam in the early 1970s, the only real limitation was finding a ride. But nearly until the end of the U.S. war, if a helicopter or truck had a seat available, they would take you along.

We would often “embed” ourselves with a platoon or squad, but it was more of a gentleman’s agreement than any kind of official policy, based in the main on the idea that we, the photographers, were there to tell their story, and they, the soldiers, realized that unlike them, we didn’t have to be there. It was by choice. It created a sense of mutual respect that in many ways is challenged by the new “embed” ethos. That said, it was often a world of anonymous photographers spending time with anonymous soldiers. So while we would talk with the troops about what was happening that day, there were many moments where in the course of making photographs, I would just keep moving along. I usually knew the unit but looking back now, so much I wish I had noted was simply never written down. It was forever a search for a picture, and you never knew, sometimes for weeks, whether you had that picture or not. My film had to make it all the way to New York before it could be processed and edited.

One morning near the end of the unsuccessful Laos invasion of early 1971 (an attempt to cut the Ho Chi Minh trail), I wandered into a group of young soldiers who were tasked with fixing tanks and track vehicles which were regularly being rocketed by North Vietnamese troops just down the road. This soldier and I exchanged pleasantries the way you would in the dusty heat. He went back to work after reading a letter from home, and I moved on to another unit. But for that fraction of a second, in his face, his posture, was all the fatigue and despair of a young soldier who is surely wondering what in the hell he’s doing there, so far from home.

I posted this on Facebook, but since everyone is not on that social media platform, I wanted to put it in the Red Diamond. This is very personal, but I believe it is important to share it with all my Red Devil brothers who were exposed to Agent Orange.

Ho Chi Minh's Agent Orange revenge has hit for the second time – first one was my heart attack from ischemic heart disease in 2013; now it is Prostate Cancer. The purpose of this post is not a “pity party”, but for education.

The normal method of checking on your prostate health is through a Digital Rectal Exam and a Prostate-Specific Antigen (PSA) test. The doctor will conduct the rectal exam and check the size and form of the prostate to determine if it feels normal and if there are any abnormal growths. When PSA test levels are high, it can be due to prostate cancer or other noncancerous conditions.

My PSA readings were always around 1.5+/- . In June 2019 it rose to 2.03 and my doctor noticed a small bump so he referred me to a urologist who found nothing. In June 2020 the PSA was 3.4 and then rose to 4.3 by September. Since the PSA was now over the max of 4.0, my urologist decided to do a biopsy of the prostate. The biopsy takes 12 samples from the prostate using a real-time Ultra Sound in a grid fashion – pathology found nothing.

In July 2021 the PSA was 7.02. My urologist said although the PSA had gone up, it still wasn't extremely high. However, I was concerned not necessarily with the actual number, but with the trend – it was consistently rising. My urologist agreed with my concern and ordered an MRI – this test revealed a small mass that appeared to be cancerous.

My urologist decided to do a Fusion Biopsy – using a computer, overlay the results of the MRI with real-time imaging from an Ultra Sound. Again, they took the 12 samples from the grid, but also took a 13th sample from the exact location of the mass found with the MRI – pathology showed cancer

What is my point here? The only reason I was able to find out I had cancer was being persistent with my doctors. The numbers were not all that high – my urologist told me he had a patient with a PSA over 1000 once. The good news was my primary care physician noticed a change in my prostate and referred me to a specialist. My urologist continued to monitor the situation and was receptive to my concerns that the PSA was rising **EVEN THOUGH THE BIOPSY LAST YEAR WAS NEGATIVE.**

Of true importance here is the fact that both the annual Digital Rectal Exam and PSA tests by my civilian doctors were the indicators that something was wrong. I get two physicals each year – one from my civilian health providers and one from the VA.

In all my years of going to the VA, they have never conducted a Digital Rectal Exam or a PSA test. If I was just counting on the VA for my health, I would end up with Stage 4 cancer instead of finding it early and only having Stage 1 to deal with now.

So, if you are only using the VA, demand both of these tests. That's right – bend over and put your elbows on the table – here the snap of the gloves and the doctor say, “you will feel some slight pressure”; and get the blood drawn for a PSA test of the prostate. These procedures can save your life.

Bob Dudley
C Battery, 5/4 Artillery
Past President

RESULTS OF FINANCIAL REVIEW-SOCIETY OF THE 5TH DIVISION, U.S. ARMY
CALENDAR YEAR JANUARY 1, 2021, TO DECEMBER 31, 2021

Utilizing established review procedures, the Audit Committee of the Society of the 5th Division executed a review of the Society's financial statement and activities for the Calendar Year ending December 31, 2021. The objectives of the review were to determine if proper accountability was maintained over Society funds and if such funds were used to accomplish the Society's objectives.

The Society of the 5th Division was created in 1919 to (1) perpetuate and memorialize the valiant acts and patriotic deeds of the 5th Division; (2) promote fellowship and the interest and welfare of its members; and (3) publish and preserve the history and accomplishments of the 5th Division and the Society. These objectives are achieved through the efforts of Society members, under the leadership of its officers, and annual reunions for members and special guests.

The Society's National Treasurer is responsible for the overall accountability of Society funds. As such, the National Treasurer maintains the Society's checking account, bank statements, vendor invoices, and other accounting records to support and summarize the receipt of income and the disbursement of funds for expenditures. At the end of each calendar year the Treasurer prepares an Account Activity Report reflecting the results of financial operations and the financial condition of the Society. The Audit Committee used these records to perform the review.

The Audit Committee analyzed the accounting records provided by the Treasurer and concluded that the records adequately support income and expenditure amounts reflected on the Account Activity Report. We also concluded that the Account Activity Report accurately reflects the financial condition of the Society of the 5th Division. Additionally, the expenditures incurred during the year appeared reasonable and consistent with Society objectives.

The Committee extends its appreciation to the Society's Treasurer for the timely submission and the thoroughness of the records needed for this review.

Audit Committee Members

Gary J. Barard
John Ginty
Bud Wagner

Report of the Treasurer of the Society of the Fifth Division
Account Activity for FY21 (01/01/21-12/31/21)

RECEIPTS

Secretary - Dues (\$2895) + Donations (\$1215)	4,110.00
QM Sales	2,140.50
2021 Reunion Income	9,571.83
Gain from CDs/MM	44.22
TOTAL	<u>15,866.55</u>

DISBURSEMENTS

Secretary Expenses	(463.00)
QM Expenses	(1,272.64)
Treasurer Expenses	(46.66)
Red Diamond Editor Expenses	(279.62)
IT/Communications Expenses	(749.60)
Donations	(1,275.00)
2021 Reunion Expenses	(4,701.45)
TOTAL	<u>(8,787.97)</u>

RECEIPTS - DISBURSEMENTS for FY21 **7,078.58**

Report of Treasurer - December 31, 2020 (FY20)

Cash in Bank	35,528.53
Value of Ladder CDs	44,989.63
Net Worth	<u>80,518.16</u>

Report of Treasurer - December 31, 2021 (FY21)

Cash in Bank	42,562.89
Value of Ladder CDs/MM	45,033.85
Net Worth	<u>87,596.74</u>

Net Worth Difference for FY21 **7,078.58**

George B. Shoener
National Treasurer
SOFD

5th Mech

Jan. 9, 2022

Hello Brother Service Men;

This maybe a first letter from a SEABEE! Back in 1970 I was sent on a detail to Fire Base Charlie 2 to run a 16S concrete mixer to cover bunkers with grout, and to work with men who were out of the field on stand down. While I was there I stayed with the Flame Thrower Platoon. I can only remember a few of the names, Bob James, Smitty, Chief David, and Jack Ballantic. During that time there was a battle on Hill 162.

I am enclosing some pictures of damage to there APC's, and photos of some of the platoon members.

If anyone would like to contact me with names, contact info. or memories of their own I would love to hear from you.

David Wanmer
2090 Wolf Hollow Rd.
Scotia, NY 12302

Phone 518 376-7367 or 518 399-6186

Sincerely,

David Wanmer









Mr Kocan,

I got your email address off the Society of the Fifth Division website. I happen to be looking around and came across this website. My dad served in this Division in WWII. I have his bronze star and actual certificate that has the Red Diamond on it.

Given he passed away many years ago and most likely that anyone that may have served with him have also passed, not sure what I can accomplish with this email. But, I would be interested in maybe learning more about what it is you all do, and connecting with some of you. I am, and so was my dad, from Illinois. I would love to speak or write with someone that maybe I can share his story with this website. Not that I know much, but I too am and USAF veteran and love to just chat.

I can be reached via the contact info below. Look forward to hearing from you.

James Pickard

Mr.picK@hotmail.com

618-560-4236

Hello...

My husband was with the 5th Mech Infantry (5/4 Arti) in 1968 and 1969 and rode a cannon. I remember he talked about Quang Tri, Da Nang, Ho Chi Min trail and his unit was with a Marine division near the DMZ. He was wounded on January 22, 1969 during the TET offensive and was medivaced to the USS Repose in the Bay of Tonkin. He was sent back to his unit in May and shortly thereafter sent home. He also volunteered on a few humanitarian missions rescuing friendlies from under the noses of the Viet Cong and taking them to safety. The men in his unit bought him his Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart, but he was never awarded same by the US government. It seems all his records while in Viet Nam followed him on a plane after his. It was shot down and all records were lost for many servicemen. In addition, the fire in the states (sorry, but I don't remember where) destroyed more records. Because he ate Agent Orange while in the bush, he developed lung and kidney cancer. Thanks to the VA hospital in West Palm Beach, Florida, he lived for 12 years with the dreaded illness and finally succumbed to it on Sept. 12, 2012. On Sept 11, 2001 (9-11), he received his first chemo infusion watching the attack on the twin towers. So sad.

Curiously, is there anyone left who was in Nam, stationed around the DMZ, during 1968 – 1969. I have some pictures of Sal and his buddies during that time. I looked up his name several years ago and found him listed on The Society of the 5th Infantry Division. What do I do with his uniform?

Regards,

Cheryl Cubeta

3927 SW Whispering Sound Drive

Palm City, FL 3990

(772) 528-7794

chesal@usa.com

Never Forget December 7th 1941.

Today marks the 80th Anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor that led to the United States official entry into World War II. As we reflect on that day let us never forget the generation of patriots that took a stand for freedom and decency.

These great men and women of all walks of life came together to fight against the enemies of humanity and freedom, many never returned home and some even today are still being identified and finally brought to a final resting place after decades of being listed only as unidentifiable remains.

All had lives, loved ones and friends who waited for a homecoming that in many cases never came, yet In spite of all the suffering and loss they remained steadfast to the deep rooted principles that are found in our Declaration of Independence.

“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.”

These are more than just words, this is the glue that binds us together as a Nation and gives us the courage and strength to stand up to tyranny and oppression no matter where or when it raises its ugly head. May we never forget days like December 7th or the countless other dates that have pushed patriots to action and driven us to defend the most precious gift we are blessed to have in the United States of America and that gift is

FREEDOM!

God Bless America and God Bless and protect our Military Order of the Purple Heart. James McCormick
National Commander Military Order of the Purple Heart www.PurpleHeart.org

Military Order of the Purple Heart | 5413 B Backlick, Springfield, VA 22151

Unsubscribe drkocan@verizon.net

Update Profile | About Constant Contact

Sent by communications@purpleheart.org in collaboration with

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Hi,

My name is Charles Hoeltje and my father was in the 5th Infantry Division. I tracked his movements from Ft. Custer to Iceland to England to Northern Ireland and thru France. He was in Hq Btry 382d FA Bn. His name was also Charles Hoeltje.

He was promoted to Master Sergeant and awarded the Bronze Start prior to leaving the service. The only record I can find is a short article which might have appeared in the Diamond Dust paper or possibly Starts and Stripes mentioning that his parents had been notified of his promotion and medal and that he would soon be coming home. My father passed away over 10 years ago. I have tried to get information on his promotions and medals from the Veterans Administration but they tell me that all records were lost in a fire several years ago.

I'm hoping you may know if information of this type is kept anywhere else or if old issues of newspapers like the Diamond Dust that may have mentioned my father's promotion could be located anywhere. Any help would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you

Charles Hoeltje

I can be reached at ccguy1@verizon.net or ccguy1@outlook.com. If you have question or information I can also be reached by phone at 856-313-6484.

from Gary Whitty gwhitty@Bellsouth.net

Thoughts on Thanksgiving 2021

Setting here watching the parade thinking about the morning I hauled forty body bags up to FSB Charlie 2.

Setting down on the pad two very tired troops came over to unload the body bags. One explained that a 122MM rocket had hit a bunker causing it to collapse. There were a number of troops that were watching a movie buried under the dirt and sand bags. Their comrades had been digging all night in hope of finding living beings.

Setting there looking at the row of bodies to be taken back to graves registration I was asked how many I could take. I cringe and say ten knowing bodies would be stacked on bodies. This was not the way I wanted to treat our fallen comrades but we had a job to do.

Setting there waiting for them to be zipped up and loaded up all I could think of is all the doors that would be knocked on back in the States.

Setting here thinking of the fifty parades they didn't get to see. I didn't know the names of any of them but they were all my friends. (I do now see link at end)

Setting here trying to keep the reptilian part my brain from flooding my face with tears.

Setting here being thankful for the fifty thanksgivings that I have had since. If I were in one of those body bags I would not want anyone to agonize over me but to live and enjoy the life I couldn't. I would like to think they would want the same for me. Enjoy life as best as possible.

Sometimes it is hard to do. Sometimes it is hard to get that mouth full of turkey down.

Honoring the 30 soldiers killed in the May 21st, 1971 rocket attack on Fire Support Base C-2 in Quang Tri, Vietnam.

Veterans Health Library

Helping Veterans stay well and well-informed

Dehydration

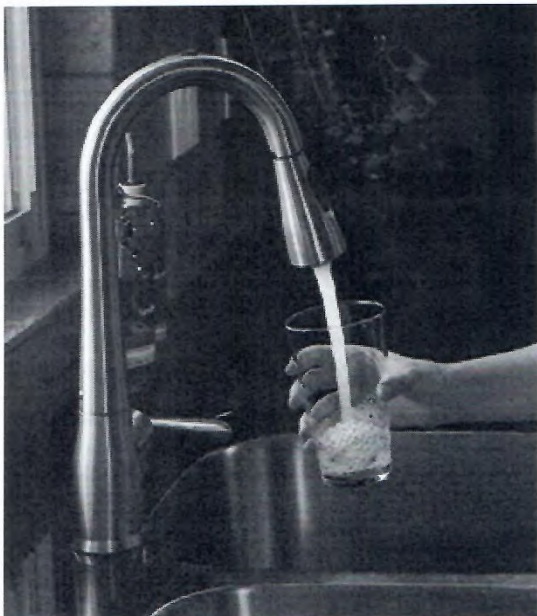
The human body is comprised largely of water. If you lose more fluids than you take in, you can become dehydrated. This means there is not enough fluid in your body for it to function right. Mild dehydration can cause weakness, confusion, or muscle cramps. In severe cases, it can lead to kidney damage, brain damage, and even death. That's why getting treatment right away is crucial.

Risk factors

Anyone can become dehydrated. But babies, children, and older adults are at greatest risk. You are most likely to lose fluids with severe vomiting, diarrhea, or a fever. Exercising or working hard—especially in hot weather—can also cause extra fluid loss. Using certain medicines such as water pills (diuretics) that make you urinate more also can raise your risk, particularly in the hot summer months.

What to do

Drinking liquids is the best way to prevent dehydration. Water is best, but juice or frozen pops can also help. For adults, don't drink liquids that contain caffeine or alcohol to rehydrate. These drinks will cause you to urinate more, increasing your risk for more fluid loss. Your healthcare provider may suggest drinking electrolyte solutions. These put back electrolytes that may be lost along with the fluid.



When to go to the emergency room (ER)

Go to an ER right away for these symptoms:

Adults

- Very dark urine and little or no urine output

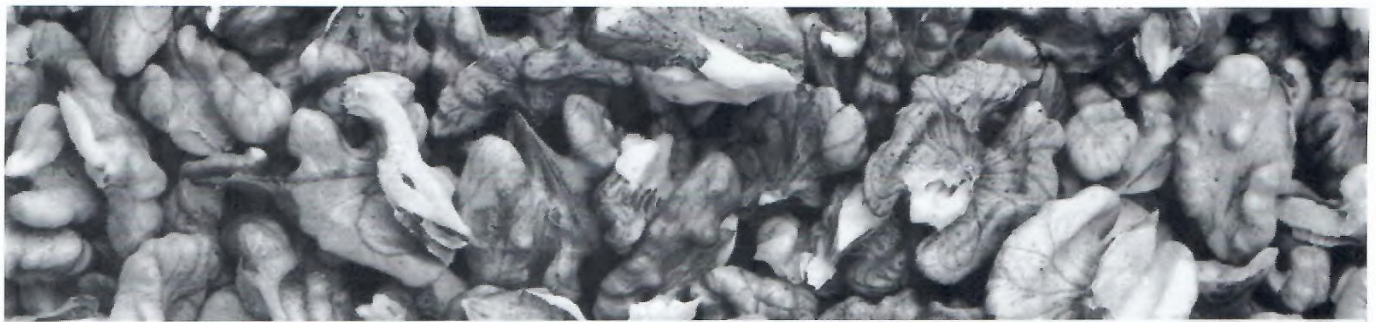
- Dizziness, weakness, confusion, fainting

Children

- Sunken eyes
- For babies, sunken soft spot (fontanelle) on the head
- Little or no urine output (for babies, no wet diaper in 8 hours)
- Very dark urine
- Skin that doesn't bounce back quickly when pinched
- Crying without tears
- Lethargy, decreased activity, or increased sleepiness

What to expect in the ER

Your blood pressure, temperature, and heart rate will be checked. You may have blood or urine tests done. The main treatment for dehydration is fluids. You may be given these to drink. Or you may get them through a vein in your arm. You also may be treated for diarrhea, vomiting, or a high fever.



Walnut Chili Mac

Prep: 10 minutes | Cook: 45 minutes | Total: 55 minutes

Yield: 8 servings | Serving Size: 1 cup

Ingredients

1 tablespoon oil
 ½ cup onion, chopped
 ½ pound lean ground beef
 ¾ cup chopped walnuts
 1½ cups water
 1 cup salsa
 2 Roma tomatoes, diced
 1 (15.5-ounce) can great northern beans, drained and rinsed
 1½ cups whole-wheat elbow macaroni pasta, uncooked
 Optional toppings: Shredded cheese and sliced scallions (green onions)

Directions

1. Heat a large saucepan over medium heat.
2. Add the oil and heat until shimmering.
3. Add the onion, ground beef, and walnuts.
4. Cook for 5 minutes until brown, stirring frequently.
5. Stir in the water, salsa, tomatoes, and beans.
6. Increase the heat to high and bring to a rolling boil.
7. Add the uncooked pasta.
8. Reduce the heat to low and cover the pot with a lid.
9. Simmer over low heat until the pasta is tender, about 25-30 minutes.
10. Serve warm, topped with shredded cheese and scallions if desired.

Recipe Notes

- Use ground turkey or substitute additional beans to make the dish more lean or vegetarian.
- Add additional vegetables such as bell peppers, mushrooms, carrots, etc. to increase fiber and nutrient density of this dish.

Nutrition Facts Per Serving: Calories: 280 | Total Fat: 12.5 g | Saturated Fat: 2 g
 Sodium: 220 mg | Total Carbohydrate: 28 g | Dietary Fiber: 6 g | Protein: 17.5 g

Submitted by Emily Richters, MS, RDN, LDN, Wilkes-Barre VAMC

For more recipes, please visit www.nutrition.va.gov

Tropical Tex-Mex Shrimp Fajitas

Prep: 15 minutes | Cook: 20 minutes | Total: 35 minutes

Yield: 5 servings | Serving Size: 2 tortillas with ~1 cup of the fajita mixture

Ingredients

1 tablespoon cornstarch
2 teaspoons chili powder
1 teaspoon paprika
½ teaspoon onion powder
½ teaspoon garlic powder
¼ teaspoon cayenne
½ teaspoon ground cumin
3 teaspoons oil, divided
1 pound frozen shrimp, peeled and deveined, thawed
2 cups chopped pineapple
1 onion, thinly sliced
1 bell pepper (any color), cut into strips
10 whole-wheat tortillas
Optional toppings: Fresh cilantro, avocado slices, Pico de Gallo, plain Greek yogurt or nonfat sour cream

Directions

1. In a small bowl, mix together the cornstarch, chili powder, paprika, onion powder, garlic powder, cayenne, and cumin.
2. In a separate large bowl, add 1 tablespoon of the seasoning mixture and the shrimp. Mix until coated, then set aside.
3. Heat 1 teaspoon of the oil in a large skillet over high heat.
4. Add the pineapple to the skillet in a single layer. Let the pieces get a little charred before moving them around, then stir and cook again until browned in spots. Transfer to an empty bowl and set aside.
5. Add 1 teaspoon of the oil to the same now-empty skillet.
6. Add the bell peppers. Once the pieces are browned in spots, add the onion and remaining seasoning mixture. Cook, stirring often, until tender. Transfer to the bowl with the pineapple and set aside.
7. Heat the remaining 1 teaspoon of oil in the same skillet.
8. Add the shrimp, spreading them out into a single layer. Cook until they just turn pink, about 3-4 minutes.
9. Add the pineapple, bell peppers, onion back into the skillet with the shrimp.
10. Cook, stirring constantly, until everything is sizzling, about 2 more minutes.
11. Meanwhile, wrap the tortillas in a damp paper towel and microwave until warm, about 30 seconds.
12. Serve ½ cup of the fajita mixture onto the warmed tortillas.
13. Serve warm, topping as desired.

Nutrition Facts Per Serving: Calories: 415 | Total Fat: 7 g | Saturated Fat: 1 g
Sodium: 495 mg | Total Carbohydrate: 60 g | Dietary Fiber: 9 g | Protein: 30 g

Adapted from www.smittenkitchen.com | Submitted by Jessica Long, MS, RDN, CD, Clement J. Zablocki VAMC

For more recipes, please visit www.nutrition.va.gov

NOW HEAR THIS | NEWS YOU CAN USE

VFW Member Receives Silver Star

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOHN KIEFFER



Retired Army Maj. John Kieffer, a life member of VFW Post 4256 in Madeira Beach, Fla., displays the Silver Star he received last year during a ceremony in St. Petersburg, Fla. Kieffer was awarded the medal for his actions as an infantry platoon leader near Khe Sanh, Vietnam, on Aug. 2, 1970.

More than 50 years after his tour of duty in Vietnam, a VFW life member from Florida received a Silver Star for his actions on Aug. 2, 1970. John Kieffer of VFW Post 4256 in Madeira Beach, Fla., received the nation's third-highest combat award last year on Memorial Day in St. Petersburg, Fla.

While leading a rifle platoon from B Co., 1st Bn., 61st Inf., 5th Inf. Div., on Aug. 2, 1970, just east of Khe Sanh and south of the DMZ, 1st Lt. Kieffer volunteered to retrieve an armored vehicle that had been involved in a fight with the North Vietnamese Army. Kieffer's four-man team soon came under a barrage of enemy small-arms, RPG and automatic-weapons fire.

According to Kieffer's Silver Star citation, he "continued to deliver suppressive fire with his personal weapon until his team and the vehicle had successfully egressed to safer ground."

After receiving his medal, Kieffer recalled those who served with him.

"Today, Memorial Day, I want to especially remember the young soldier, Terry Lee Gilpin, a tank crewman who was killed on that tank, along with other crew who were wounded, before it was abandoned in the valley location where it was attacked," Kieffer said.

Kieffer would go on to retire from the Army as a major.



PHOTO BY GLORIA MONTGOMERY

U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell waves to the crowd in August 2004 after then-VFW Commander-in-Chief Ed Banas presented Powell with VFW's *Eisenhower Distinguished Service Award* at VFW's National Convention in Cincinnati. Powell, a VFW life member who served as the nation's first African-American chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Secretary of State, died in October at the age of 84.

Colin Powell: 1937-2021

VFW life member Colin Powell, 84, died Oct. 18 at Walter Reed Medical Center in Bethesda, Md. Powell, who belonged to VFW's Department of Maryland, was the nation's first African-American to hold the positions of chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Secretary of State. According to his family, Powell, who was suffering from multiple myeloma, died of complications related to COVID-19.

Powell, an Army veteran of two tours in Vietnam, received the VFW *Eisenhower Distinguished Service Award* in 2004 at VFW's National Convention in Cincinnati.

After hearing of Powell's passing, VFW Commander-in-Chief Matthew M. "Fritz" Mihelcic called Powell a "trailblazer," saying he was "one of the most influential leaders of U.S. foreign policy over the last 40 years." VFW's Chief also praised Powell's devotion to those he led.

"He cared about service members," Mihelcic said. "He cared about veterans. He cared about our fellow citizens. He was one of our own. On behalf of the entire 1.5 million-member VFW family, our deepest condolences go out to the entire Powell family. We salute this extraordinary man whose life of selfless service is a stalwart example for all of us."

Powell was born on April 5, 1937, in Harlem, N.Y., to Jamaican immigrants and raised in New York's South Bronx. Powell served 35 years in the Army with tours in Vietnam, Korea and Germany.

Appointed chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in 1989 by President George H.W. Bush, Powell oversaw the successful *Operation Just Cause* in Panama later that year, as well as *Operation Desert Storm* in 1991. Powell held the same position under President Bill Clinton until Powell retired from active duty in 1993.

In 2000, President George W. Bush appointed Powell as the nation's first African-American Secretary of State. The Senate unanimously confirmed him on Jan. 20, 2001.

After leaving the Bush Administration in 2005, Powell served on the boards of directors for the Council on Foreign Relations, the Eisenhower Fellowship Program and the Powell Center at the City College of New York.

First Deaths in Vietnam

First Killed in Vietnam

Sept. 26, 1945, **Army Maj. A. Peter Dewey**, U.S. Office of Strategic Services (forerunner of the CIA). Dewey, driving a jeep in Saigon at a time of rising tensions between Vietnam's French occupiers and the communist-led Viet Minh independence movement, was killed by Viet Minh who mistook him for a Frenchman. Dewey is not a casualty of the American war in Vietnam, which officially began 1955 with the creation of Military Assistance Advisory Group-Vietnam. Dewey is not listed on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

First Killed in U.S. War

June 8, 1956, **Air Force Tech Sgt. Richard B. Fitzgibbon Jr.**, MAAG-V. Fitzgibbon had reprimanded a staff sergeant radio operator for his performance on a flight, and that evening in Saigon the staff sergeant got drunk and shot Fitzgibbon with a pistol. This is the earliest death on the Wall. The shooter jumped or fell to his death from a building's balcony.

First Killed by Hostile Fire

July 8, 1959, **Army Maj. Dale R. Buis** and **Master Sgt. Chester M. Ovnand**, MAAG-V. Viet Cong terrorists attacked a mess hall at Bien Hoa, near Saigon, where U.S. advisers, South Vietnamese soldiers and civilians were watching a movie. The VC opened fire through the windows and tossed grenades. Buis and Ovnand were killed in the turmoil.

First Killed in Aircraft Shootdown

March 23, 1961, **crewmembers on an Air Force C-47 Skytrain transport**. The plane was loaded with equipment to determine radio frequencies the communists were using in Laos. Piloted by 1st Lt. Ralph W. Magee, the C-47 carried five other airmen and two Army officers. It was shot down by anti-aircraft guns fired by Pathet Lao communist insurgents. The only survivor was Army Maj. Lawrence R. Bailey, who parachuted out before the crash. He became the first American prisoner of war in the Vietnam conflict. Bailey was released in August 1962.

First Killed in Ground Combat

Dec. 22, 1961, **Spc. 4 James T. "Tom" Davis**, 3rd Radio Research Unit, MAAG-V. Davis was part of a three-truck convoy of radio technicians sent to detect VC radio signals and pinpoint the location of a communist transmitter. Davis, the only American among 10 South Vietnamese soldiers in his truck, was killed when the Viet Cong ambushed the vehicle about 9 miles west of Saigon.

A CONTROVERSIAL QUESTION

A SERIES EXAMINING CONTENTIOUS ISSUES OF THE VIETNAM WAR BY ERIK VILLARD

One of the most enduring yet baseless myths of the Vietnam War alleges that communist prisoners were thrown out of high-flying helicopters to induce others to talk. In my 21 years as a U.S. Army historian, I have never seen credible evidence that such an event occurred or that American military or civilian personnel participated in such practices.

I have examined all relevant material at the National Archives, including the files of the War Crimes Working Group, a Pentagon task force established after the 1968 My Lai massacre of innocent civilians to investigate potential war crimes committed by American personnel. I have also consulted CIA intelligence analysts who served in Southeast Asia and military personnel who conducted top-secret operations in Laos and Cambodia as members of Military Assistance Command, Vietnam's Studies and Observations Group. Stories about prisoners being dropped from helicopters have long circulated in the Vietnam veterans community, yet almost without exception the storyteller says, "I heard that it happened," rather than, "I witnessed it happen." There is little reason to believe the handful of people who claim to have seen it happen.

Killing a prisoner of war in any way is a war crime punishable under the rules of the Uniform Code of Military Justice that applies to all U.S. military personnel. Anyone onboard a helicopter who participated in the act or failed to report it would be complicit in the crime. That liability extends to the ground crew, the air traffic controller and members of the intelligence team who interrogated those prisoners of war.

Trained intelligence agents in Vietnam would not resort to such crude interrogation methods. They relied on extended debriefing sessions in controlled environments where information could be cross-checked. No intelligence analyst I know would

Viet Cong prisoners, captured during a Marine Corps search-and-destroy operation in northern South Vietnam during August 1965, will soon be loaded onto a helicopter. There have been claims that some VC were thrown out of helicopters to frighten others into giving up valuable information.

COBBES VIA GETTY IMAGES

Were VC Prisoners Tossed From Helos?

have supported the "helicopter" technique described in this myth. No member of the MACV intelligence teams that conducted interrogations has ever presented evidence that such a practice occurred.

Even so, it is impossible to prove that no communist prisoner died after an involuntary exit from a helicopter. In a fit of rage, American military personnel may have pushed one or more enemy soldiers to their deaths on helicopter flights back to base, though I have never seen evidence of that.

There is more uncertainty concerning the possible actions of South Vietnamese personnel, who sometimes used interrogation methods that were more extreme and whose military records still reside in locked archives in Vietnam. In one credible story, a Viet Cong female fighter, the daughter of a high-ranking VC official, jumped from a flying helicopter to commit suicide and thus escape the torture she imagined was waiting for her.

In short, the myth of the "helicopter interrogation" technique simply has no basis in fact.

Dr. Erik Villard is a Vietnam War specialist at the U.S. Army Center of Military History at Fort McNair in Washington D.C.



Mr. President and Board Members,

I am attaching a proposed Patriot Battalion Unit Fund donation article for the next Red Diamond (provided the Editor has space) for your review and approval at our Tuesday zoom Board Meeting. The word document contains three pages: page 1 is the article; page 2 is the check presentation photo; page 3 is the thank you note from Cadet Samuel Mason. Thanks very much. Phil Maniscalco

Society 100th Reunion Donation to Patriot Battalion Unit Fund Providence College Army ROTC Program - Color Guard

The Society of the Fifth Division made a donation to the Providence College Patriot Battalion Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) Unit Fund following the Society's 100th reunion held in Warwick, RI in September 2021. The Society's Executive Board approved the donation during its semi-monthly November 2021 zoom video conference board meeting.

The donation was made to recognize the Patriot Battalion Cadets for their outstanding preparation and performance as the Color Guard supporting the 100th reunion of the Society during the Saturday (September 11, 2021) and Sunday (September 12, 2021) evening banquets.

Patriot Battalion is an Army ROTC program located at Providence College, Providence, RI. The program is a world-class leadership development program that seeks to produce outstanding citizens, leaders and officers. The program, led by a cadre of Army Commissioned and Non-Commissioned Officers, oversees the development, training and eventual commissioning of student-cadets from Providence College, Bryant University, Brown University, Rhode Island College, Johnson and Wales University, University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, and the Community College of Rhode Island.

Pictured below is the check presentation on December 6, 2021 to Lieutenant Colonel Tyler Jones, Professor of Military Science and Officer in Charge of the entire program. In photo left to right: cadet Samuel Mason, Phil Maniscalco, cadet William Murray, LTC Jones, cadet Sean Harris, and SFC Aaron Kearns (NCOIC).

Also, pictured below is the thank you note from Cadet Samuel Mason. I was especially grateful for Sam's last paragraph: "Truthfully however, the greatest gift you gave us was the opportunity to come out and meet the men and wives of the 5th Division. Experiences like this offer so much reward and perspective to young Cadets, such as ourselves".

Phil Maniscalco
National Judge Advocate



What can we do to make our reunions better??????

I know that covid has hurt our attendance the past couple of years, but i have also heard that some don't like this and others don't like that. We can't make it perfect, but we can listen to suggestions for new ideas.

Times have changed and so have many of us. What is to be our bedtime is now a lot earlier. And what used to be our wake up is a little later.

So how do we improve and change some of the same things that we have been doing. Well we need input so we can make it better. No matter how small a problem is it will not go away unless you let us know.

Email or text leave your name or not but if you don't say anything nothing will get done.

Thank you for reading this and i know that some of you will let us know

God Bless you all

Food ?? Snacks ?? Drinks ?? Speakers??

Entertainment?? Speeches?? Meetings??

Tours?? More time for each other???

1st Battalion of the 61st Infantry Semi-annual Reunion
At Ft Jackson, South Carolina

Every other year, the battalion Commander of the 1/61 Basic Training Battalion invites members of our Society to graduation of a basic training battalion. This reunion is not just limited to 1/61 veterans, but the invitation is extended to all veterans of the Fifth Infantry Division. The present commanding officer, Lieutenant Colonel Daniel Hayes has extended the invitation to each and every one of us. If you attended last year's Providence Rhode Island Reunion, you would have had the opportunity to meet Dan at the Sunday Formal Banquet. This year, the reunion will be held on April 5th to 8th this Spring. All are invited to attend, but you need to fill out an electronic reservation by clicking on the link below in order to get a head count. Below is a copy of an email sent to me by Major Gary Douse, the battalion XO for registration. As of yet, there is no information on hotel reservations which will be accommodated by a nearby off-post hotel. There is no final information on that yet, but once we've registered electronically, the XO will have our emails to update us on that subject. In the past, the Sargent Major and his cadre have taken us out the first evening to and on-post club for beer, wings and ribs as a get acquainted night. During the next few days, we will tour the training area of the post going to the range, the repelling wall and other training areas. We eat our lunches with the cadre and trainees at the 1/61 mess hall as well as a get together with the staff at the battalion HQ. On the final day, we are introduced and sit front and center in the parade ground grand stands with the friends and family of the trainees during graduation ceremonies. Again, anyone wishing to attend, fill out your reservation on line through the e-Link below at the end of Major Douse's email.

Lou Pepi

Major Douse's email

I would greatly appreciate your help in sharing the updated link below with the veterans of 1st Battalion, 61st Infantry Regiment, for the Roadrunner's Reunion scheduled to be conducted 5-8 April 2022. The veterans can R.S.V.P. through the link, which will enable us to have a digital tracking method.

- The updated link can be reviewed below.
- You have been sent an e-Invitation for the following event
- Roadrunner Reunion Ceremony
- To view your invitation please click the link below.
- If you are unable to click on the link please copy and paste the address into your web browser.

REGISTER HERE: <https://einvitations.afit.edu/inv/anim.cfm?i=624457&k=0463460D7E50>

GARFIELD D. DOUSE

(Gary)MAJ, SC

Executive Officer

1st Battalion, 61st Infantry Regiment

ROADRUNNERS!

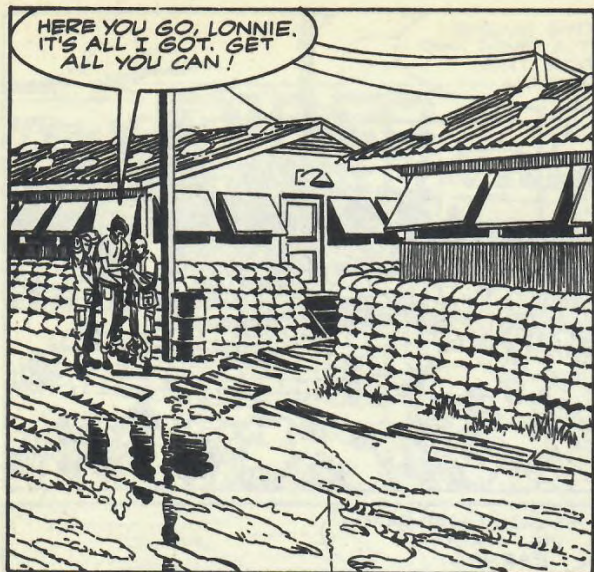
"The Best Lead the Rest"

Office: 803-751-3942

DSN: 312-734-3942

Cell: 580-284-1856

NIPR: garfield.d.douse.mil@mail.mil



HERE YOU GO, LONNIE. IT'S ALL I GOT. GET ALL YOU CAN!



WHY THANK YOU, GENTLEMEN! I BELIEVE THAT THIS WILL BE ENOUGH...



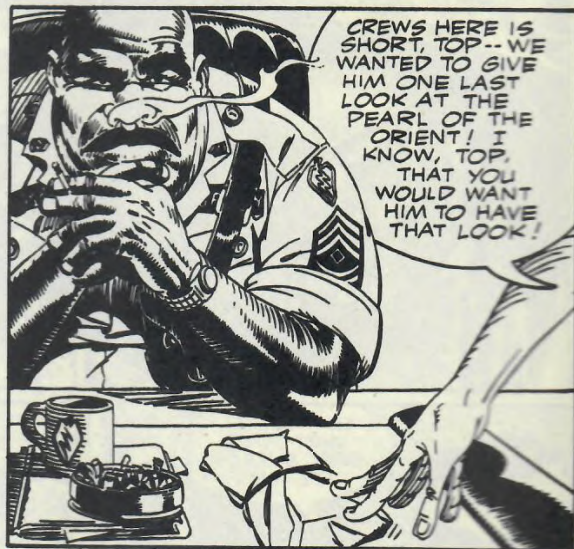
LATER...

THEY WOULDN'T LET ME LEAVE WHEN I WAS AHEAD...

AW, LONNIE. THAT WAS EVERY CENT I HAD!



EVERY CENT THEY HAD, TOO! LET'S GO SEE TOP!

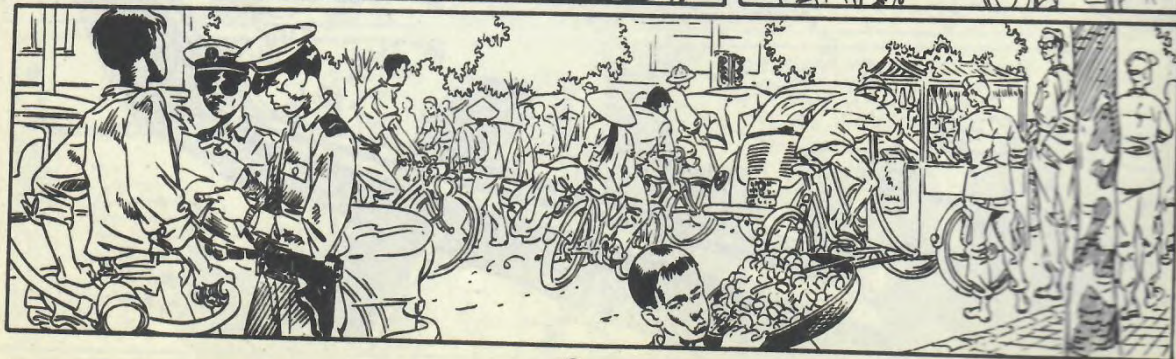
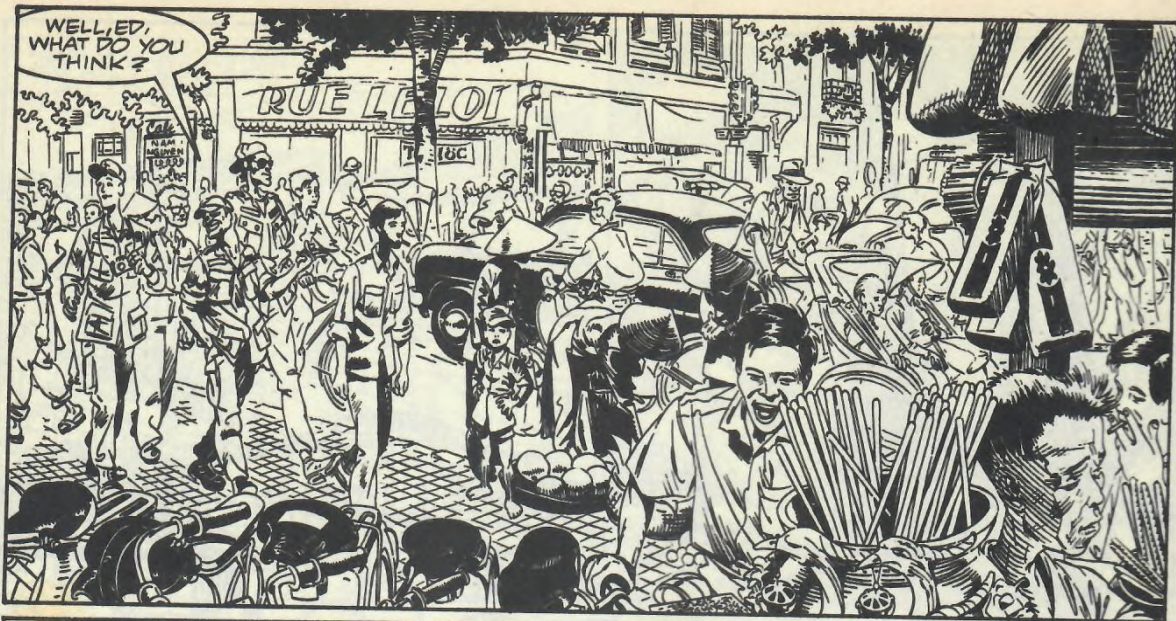


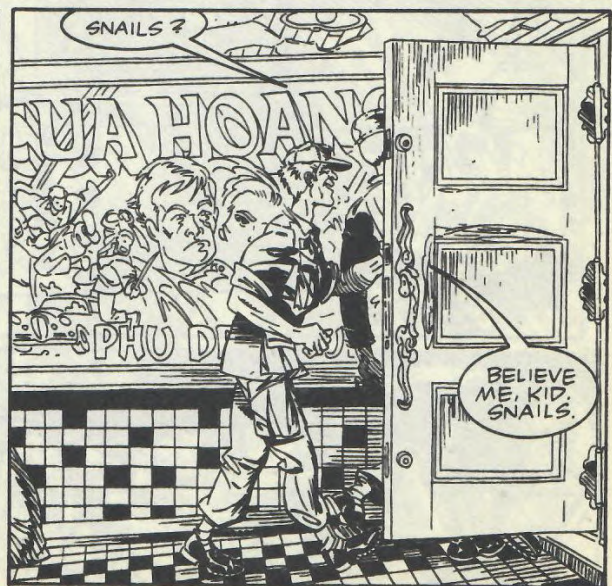
CREWS HERE IS SHORT, TOP--WE WANTED TO GIVE HIM ONE LAST LOOK AT THE PEARL OF THE ORIENT! I KNOW, TOP, THAT YOU WOULD WANT HIM TO HAVE THAT LOOK!

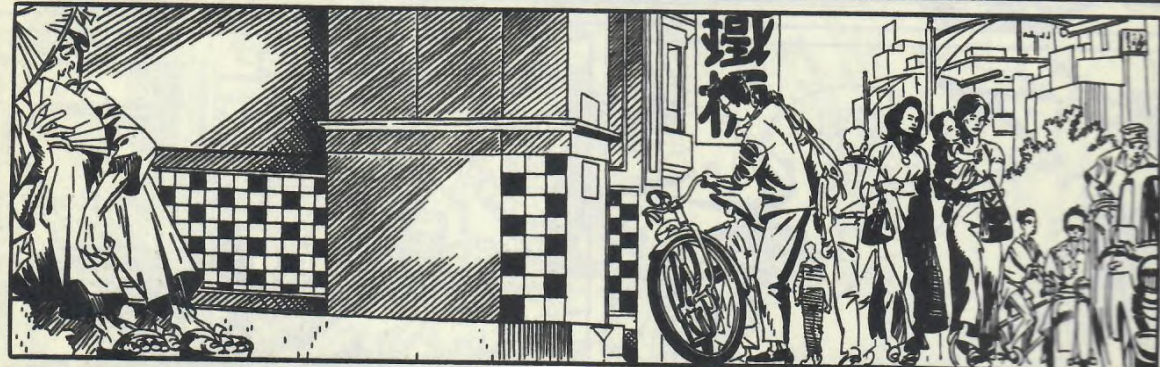


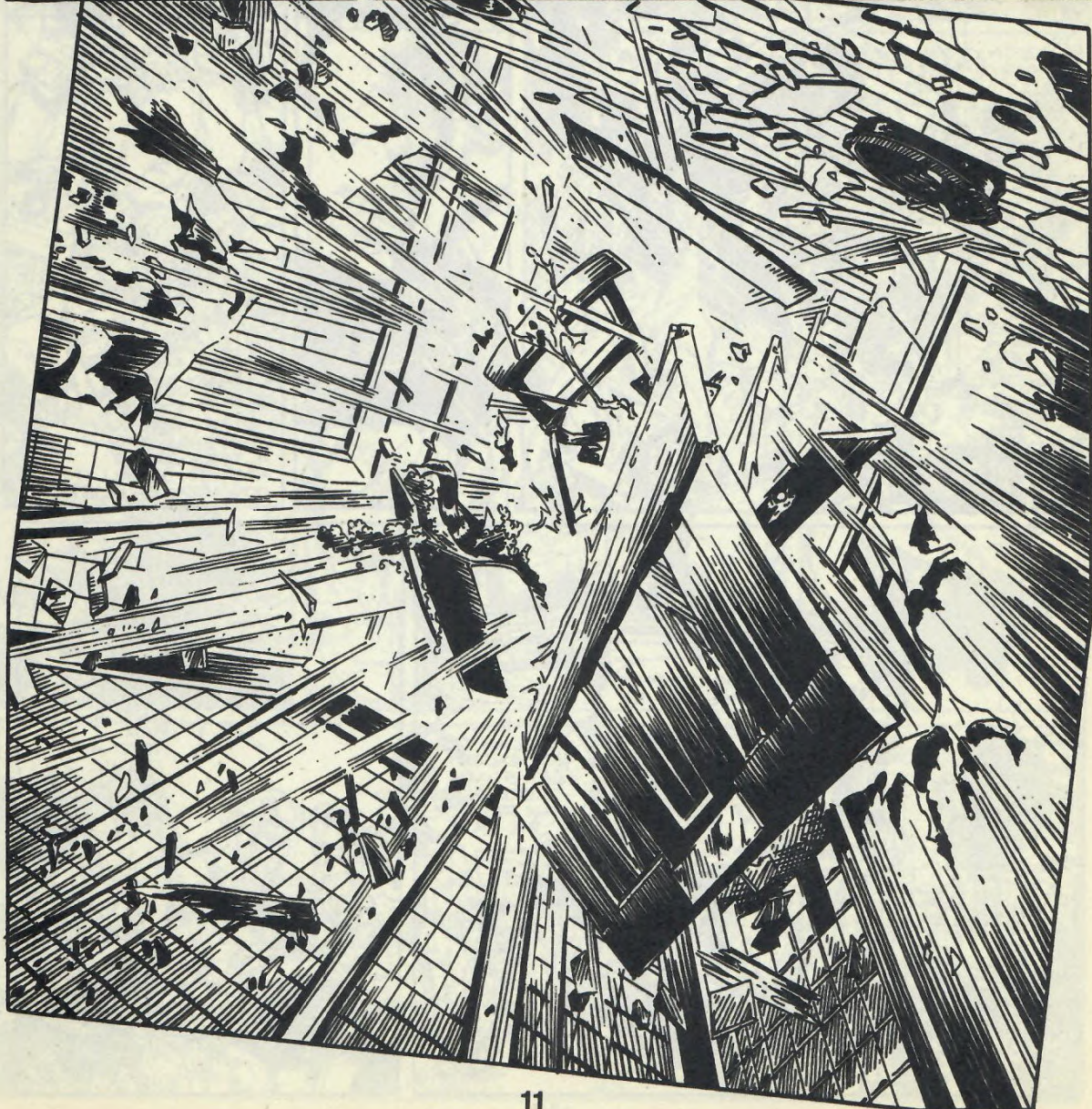
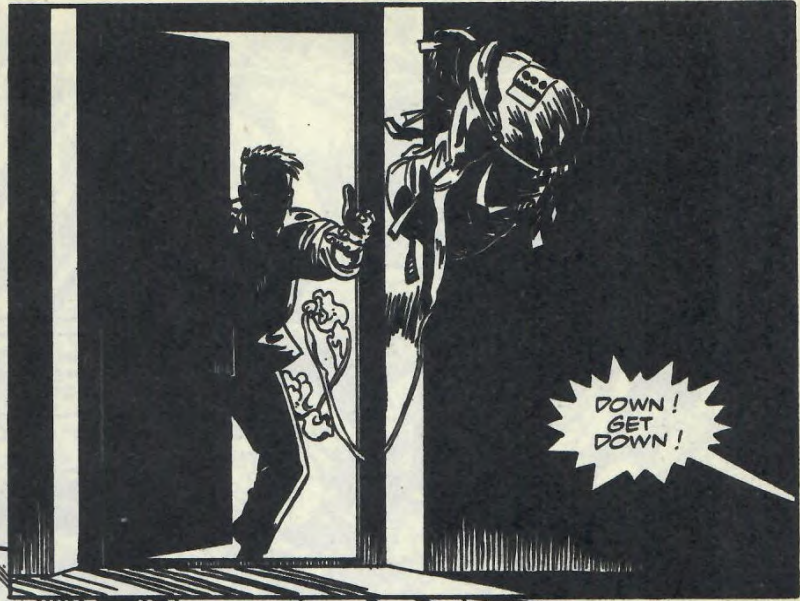
SEE, GUYS, YOU JUST HAVE TO KNOW HOW TO DEAL WITH THE MAN! DIG IT, WE'RE GOING TO...







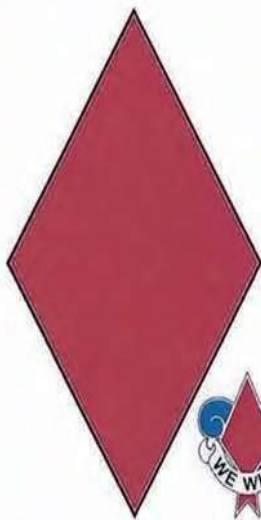




5TH INFANTRY DIVISION COMMEMORATIVE LEGACY BOOK

Good News! The highly-anticipated 5th Infantry Division Commemorative Legacy Book is hot off the press and available for immediate delivery. This exiting new book contains:

5TH INFANTRY DIVISION



COMMEMORATIVE BOOK
1917-2019

- History of the 5th Infantry Division including hundreds of historic photographs from WWI through 1993
- 5th Infantry Division Insignia, Units & Campaigns
- Commanding Generals
- Memorials & Tributes
- The Society of the Fifth Division
- Photographs & Memories
- Hundreds of biographies from 5th Infantry Division veterans, with profile photos
- 9x12-inch, hardbound "coffee-table" book with 136 pages
- Bound in a rich leatherette cover featuring the 5th Infantry Division diamond emblem in red on the front cover

Copies may be purchased for only \$60.00 (plus \$6.50 shipping/handling).

For All Orders Send Check or Money Order to Address Shown Below:

SOCIETY OF THE FIFTH DIVISION, U.S. ARMY

Attn: Quartermaster
4118 E Stanford Street
Springfield, MO 65809

NO CASH ACCEPTED!

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS OR MONEY ORDERS:
PAYABLE TO:

THE SOCIETY OF THE FIFTH DIVISION

For questions please contact Quartermaster:

Dennis Coulter

dwcoulter1@aol.com



QUARTERMASTER REPORT

Following are pictures and descriptions of merchandise that is available for sale from the Quartermaster.

Society of the 5th Division Polo Shirts



Black or White Polo Shirt w/embroidered logo design. Choice of short or long sleeve. Cotton/Polyester (50/50)
 Cotton/Polyester (50/50).
 Specify size: Short Sleeve: M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL - \$40
 Long Sleeve: M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL - \$50
 S & H: 1 shirt - \$7.00 \$2.50 each additional
 Larger orders: Contact the Quartermaster

Society of the 5th Division T-Shirts



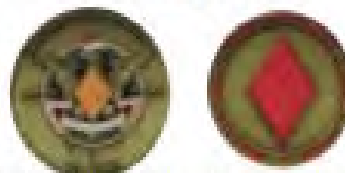
Black or White T-Shirt w/embroidered logo design.
 Choice of Short or Long Sleeve.
 Cotton/Polyester (50/50) Specify size:
 Short Sleeve: M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL - \$25
 Long Sleeve: M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL - \$30
 S & H: 1 shirt - \$7; Each addl. \$2.50
 Larger orders: Contact the Qtr. master



PIN (Hat/Lapel)
 1 Inch Red Diamond,
 Silver finish metal
 Croissant, \$5.00 ea.

Shipping & Handling Add
 \$4.00 for order of 1 to 10 pins
 Contact Quartermaster for larger order

Fifth Infantry Division Challenge Coin



Fifth "Infantry" Division Challenge Coin (front and back shown): \$10.00 ea.
 Antique gold (sandblasted texture) w/epoxy finish; 1 1/2" x 3/4".
 Detail is exquisite. This is the only authorized Challenge Coin issued by the Society of the Fifth Division. \$4.00 S&H

Fifth Division Hats



w/embroidered logo design, adjustable, \$17.00 ea. plus \$6.00 shipping costs.
 Contact Quartermaster for larger orders



Bumper Sticker - "WE WILL" BumperSticker, 1 1/2" x 3", \$1.00 ea. Add \$2.00 for shipping and handling for each order.

Please check pricing carefully for each item ordered, as shipping and handling is not included in some pricing and must be added to order. Contact the Quartermaster for pricing on large orders.

For All Orders Send Check or Money Order to Address Shown

Society of the Fifth Division, U.S. Army


Attn: Quartermaster
 4118 E Stanford Street
 Springfield, MO 65809
 dwcoulter1@aol.com

Be sure shipping address is included and an email address and/or phone number in case we have questions.

Make checks payable to: The Society of the Fifth Division Please check pricing carefully for each item ordered, as shipping and handling is not included in some pricing and must be added to order. Contact the Quartermaster for pricing on large orders.



SOCIETY OF THE FIFTH DIVISION
Scott Murrah - National Secretary
PO Box 62176
Fort Worth, Texas, 76161

Non Profit Org.
 U.S. Postage

 Madison, WI
 Permit No. 406

MEMBERSHIP OR RENEWAL APPLICATION

PLEASE PRINT FULL NAME AND ADDRESS CLEARLY.



“WE WILL”

THE SOCIETY OF THE FIFTH DIVISION
 UNITED STATES ARMY

Having served honorably with the Fifth Infantry Division, I wish to:

- become a member in
- renew my membership in

... the Society of the Fifth Division as:

- a full member
- an Associate Member

and herewith submit my annual dues of \$15.00,

Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

I served in _____

Co, Bty, Trp / Battalion / Regiment / Brigade

- WW-II
- Vietnam
- Panama

Other _____

\$ _____ Gift to the Society.

Make checks payable to: **Society of the Fifth Division**

Send to: Secretary: John Estrada
Society of the Fifth Division
P.O. Box 5764
Oroville, CA 95966-8823

The dues for membership in the Society are \$15.00 for annual membership. Any member wishing to become a LIFE member may do so by paying the following one-time dues: age less than 61, \$150.00; age 61-69, \$75.00; age over 70, \$50.00. All LIFE members are subject to any special assessments declared by the Executive Board or adopted at any meeting.