

If you'd like to join the Old Goats and attend



2-2024

22nd Infantry Regiment Society

Deeds Not Words



Regulars by God



April 2024



President's
Corner
April 2024
Mark S.
Woempner



the change of command, please contact Dave Thomas (David.n.thomas@gmail.com).

If you like to join the Old Goats on our trip to Ft Polk, please contact Mark Woempner (mark.Woempner@gmail.com).



Team,

This year is also our Nashville, TN Reunion 22-25 August! We have been in close coordination with the POC at the Double Tree and Col Joe Dichario has an update for you in this Newsletter.



We as you prepare your taxes, we need to have you also print and fill out your Reunion Registration form / check and send it to Martin Oelklaus (Snail Mail: PO Box 3258 Independence, MO 64055-8258, Scan, and email: moelklaus@aol.com and use PayPal).

Gaylord Springs golf course will be our venue for this year's 22nd Infantry Tournament on Thursday (22 August)!

Carrie and I did a Recon of the Nashville site the first week in December 2023 and downtown Nashville was totally awesome

I am looking forward to seeing each and every one of you at the Reunion. Our hotel is located a couple of blocks from the Nashville Downtown strip of awesome bars and honky-tonk saloons with great music, barbecue, and happenings of the city of Nashville!! To make a reservation at the Double Tree (22nd Infantry party central), call the reservation desk at 800-222-8733, Group name 22nd Infantry Regiment Society 2024 Reunion, Group Code: 92R. I need everyone that plans to attend please get your reservations in ASAP!!



The Triple Deuce will be having a Battalion change of command on 4 June 2024 and JRTC rotation (our visit is: 17-20 May).

Mark and Carrie in Downtown Nashville 3 December 2023

On some other notes: We will anoint a new treasurer at our August Reunion, Lovie

Moran has volunteered and been approved by the Society's executive committee to replace Martin Oelklaus. We still need some volunteers to help Martin and I organize for the August Nashville reunion. Please email either myself or Martin directly at moelklaus@aol.com.

Our 22nd Infantry Webpage is several months behind on updates as Brent McNally is fully engaged with his work and family and is looking for some help posting and updating our web site. Please email me (mark.woempner@gmail.com) or Brent McNally (bremcnal@aol.com or Brent.I.McNally@gmail.com)

I think that gets everyone up to date from January. I want to thank all of you for your service to this amazing country! Freedom is not Free, it is paid for with the blood of the current generation holding the baton to keep this country free. As always, I want to thank my heroes, the Vietnam warriors that made it so that when I returned from war the folks in the airport thanked me for my service – without you, my life experience would be much different.

“Deeds Not Words”!!

Herman E. Anders, Jr.

A 22nd Infantry soldier killed in action at the battle of Fire Support Base Gold in Vietnam. Herman Emil Anders Jr. was born in New York on December 30, 1944, the son of **Herman and Bernice Anders**.

Anders was drafted into the Army on December 13, 1965, at Fort Dix, New Jersey. He received his Basic Training with Company A 3rd Battalion 22nd Infantry 4th Infantry Division at Fort Lewis, Washington, and his Advanced Individual Training with Company B 3rd Battalion 22nd Infantry at Fort Lewis.

Anders deployed to Vietnam as an 11B10 Infantryman assigned to Company B 3/22 Infantry 4th Infantry Division on September

24, 1966. He was single and his religion was indicated as Roman Catholic. He was promoted to Specialist 4th Class on March 1, 1967.

Anders was killed in action at the Battle of Fire Support Base Gold, also known as the Battle of Suoi Tre, on March 21, 1967. The firebase was in the process of being constructed when it was attacked by the 272nd Viet Cong Regiment.

Approximately 2500 Viet Cong soldiers were thrown against the base in successive human wave attacks, in an attempt to annihilate the approximately 450 American defenders at the base.

The fight lasted for nearly five hours. Communist casualties totaled 647 killed, the highest total for a single day battle in the entire war.

The United States Army's Center of Military History records that American casualties for the engagement came to 36 killed and 190 wounded.

Anders was originally listed as Missing In Action on March 21, 1967. On March 28, 1967 his status was changed to Killed In Action.



Herman E. Anders Jr. is buried in Sylvan Lawn Cemetery, Greene, Chenango County, New York. In addition to the Bronze Star Medal for Valor, the Purple Heart, and the Republic of Vietnam Military Merit Medal (the South Vietnamese equivalent of the Silver Star), he was also awarded the State of New York Conspicuous Service Cross (medal #14088).

He and his unit were awarded a Presidential Unit Citation for their part in the battle of Fire Support Base Gold.

His name is engraved on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Washington, D.C. on Panel 16E Line 127.

On February 27, 2023 the Assembly of the State of New York, in Bill Number A4924, designated the bridge on State Highway 79, crossing the Chenango River at the town of Greene, County of Chenango, as the "SP4 Herman Emil Anders, Jr. Memorial Bridge".

Michael Belis
DMOR
C 1/22 Infantry 1970-71

2024 Scholarships

We are now accepting applications for the 2024 Scholarship. Requirements for scholarship:

A. Served with the 22nd Infantry Regiment.

B. Be a direct relation (son, daughter, or grandchild of person that served with 22nd Infantry Regiment. (To include legally adoptive child)

C. Be an active member of the 22nd Infantry Regiment Society, with five (5) years of current active membership. Deceased must have had five (5) of active membership.

Applications should be received by July 31, 2024

If you would like a scholarship application or have questions, please contact **Skip Fahel** at efq2231@gmail.com

Colonel Michael V. Church

Colonel Michael V. Church passed away at the age of 75, on November 23, 2023, and was buried in Alabama National Cemetery, Montevallo, Shelby County, Alabama. He was born on November 3, 1948, at Fort Benning,

Georgia, to a career Infantry officer. He attended Clemson University where he was an ROTC Distinguished Military Graduate with a degree in History and Economics.



He was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant in the US Army on August 8, 1970, and retired as a Colonel on August 31, 2000. As a Lieutenant Colonel, Mike Church commanded 4th Battalion 22nd Infantry from 1988-1990.

4th Battalion 22nd Infantry was activated at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii in November 1986 and assigned to the 25th Infantry Division. It was stationed in Hawaii during its existence and deployed on training missions to the Philippines, Thailand, and the Republic of Korea in the 1980's and 1990's. The Battalion deployed to Haiti in a peace keeping mission in 1994-1995 where it earned the Humanitarian Medal. It was relieved of its assignment to the 25th Infantry Division and in-activated at Schofield Barracks in July 1995.

Following military retirement, Colonel Church pursued Holy Orders in the Anglican Church, Anglican Province of Christ the King. He was ordained a deacon in 2010 and as a priest in 2011. Father Mike was the rector of St. Thomas Aquinas Anglican Church in Montgomery until his death. He loved the outdoors (hunting and fishing), singing, writing music, and playing his guitars. He is survived by his wife, two sons, and two grandsons.

Byrne Sherwood, who commanded 2nd Battalion 22nd Infantry at Fort Drum 1988-1990, remembered Colonel Church with the following:

"Mike and I were lieutenants together in the 82d Airborne Division at the beginning of our

careers. Later, we were students together at staff college in Norfolk, VA. and, as Lieutenant Colonels, we each commanded a battalion of the 22d Infantry Regiment. He was a good soldier, a good guy and he will be missed."

D-Day

A few years ago, Loïc Parent and I visited a museum in Northern France run by an acquaintance. He told us he had something that might interest us historically speaking... He was absolutely right! Among many other items, he had a testimonial from a soldier of the 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment recounting his landing on Utah Beach... exceptional !

Through this story (spread over several Newsletters), you will accompany PFC Brice W. Rhyne (1) (HQ/1st Bn) during the first hours of D-DAY, with historical details [...], photos and more. Good reading !



Utah Beach (Tare Green) / H-Hour 6 a.m.
Our boat landed 9 : 30 a.m. (H+3 ½) by my watch.



Our first sight of what we thought to be French Coast turned out to be only an island – it was land, however, and caused quite a bit of speculation. Map proved it to be isle ! [This is probably the Iles Saint-Marcouf (2)]. Saw hundreds of fighters, and heard the constant rumble of bombers going over, far out of sight, up so high – our LCI halted temporarily. [According to a top-secret document dated May 16, 1944, the HQ of the 1st Battalion was spread out over several LCIs, accompanied by other companies including "Co D". Indeed, in the next Newsletter it is stated that some members of the HQ were in an LCVP with men from Company D. It is therefore highly likely that PFC Rhyne was on LCI 319 (3) or 321 (4).] – the fighters laid down a smoke-screen covering the five miles distance between us and the Normandy Beach – Naval guns opened up after the bombers made their run – what a rumble those bombs made – first we'd heard so close up !!



When smoke cleared away could see the real French Coast and all the activity

there – Naval guns started sounding off – battleships and cruisers – Navy jockeyed our wave of LCI's into position. Could see first wave headed for shore in LCVP's by thousands, loaded to hilt with men, bobbing along like ants in dozens of lines – discharging their cargo – crawling away from shore and heading back – A huge troop-transport to our left was hit by Jerry fire and was listing far to one side – shells landed all around our own LCI. Was on « poop-deck » with [Paul A.] Carnes with 610 radio sweating' out message from Lt Couillou¹, liaison officer between paratroopers and 3rd Bn, for 1st Bn, to relay message that

paratroopers had or had not knocked out 6 big coastal guns on hill overlooking our beach at Saint-Martin-de-Varreville – really sweatin !!



News came that the second wave (us) would also go in in LCVP's (original orders called for us to land in LCI's) due to shallow shore and under-water obstacles – were glad too for small boats made small targets !! Higgins boats (LCVP's) were pulling alongside our LCI – message from Lt **Robert G. Couillou** had not come in on 610 radio yet, and Carnes and myself were in a sweat over whether to wait for message or order to take radio apart and prepare to load.



While men were climbing over side into LCVP's that Glorious message came, I decoded it (paratroopers had destroyed the 6 coastal guns). *[On June 6, the men of the 101st Airborne Division marched towards this battery, which they were to destroy. On arriving at the area, they found that the battery had already been destroyed (notably by a bombardment at the end of May 44).*

After securing the northern sector (around Foucarville), Lieutenant-Colonel Cassidy (1/502) sent out a radio message at 08:15 a.m. announcing that the Saint-Martin-de-Varreville battery (5) had been destroyed and no longer presented any danger^{2]}. We tore the connecting plus apart and scampered down from poop deck – Navy men helped each of us put the two parts on pack boards and on our backs, along with our packs, belts, rifle etc. Just did make our boat – last two men to get on – some strain taking off the radio, sliding it down to someone in the LCVP, climbing thru the railing, even with the aid of the Navy men.

Then we were off for the shore, after a final « Good Luck » from all aboard the LCI. Going in we didn't have sense enough to be scared, even though Jerry was dropping shells all over the space around us and between us and the beach – just pointed at the high explosions in the water and the near hits on the small LCVP's like kids watching fireworks, yelled « look at that one » etc. One shell hit right beside an LCVP which was returning from shore – so close that boat just went right around the rim of the hole it made in the water – didn't harm either of the two Navy men crew – only about 25 yards from us at the time !!

Historical research is even more rewarding and enjoyable when you can exchange information with good people. That's why I'd like to extend my warmest thanks to Michael Belis for his invaluable help over the years in my research into the 22nd Infantry Regiment.

To be continued...

Julien Woestyn
Vice-President 22nd Infantry Regiment
France, Deeds Not Words

Tough Ruck 2024

Team 2/22 Infantry starting the carb loading for our hike tomorrow [April 14, 2024] to remember the fallen. Looking forward to honoring our friends and comrades. Cheers!



Triple Deuce attendees were : **Kevin Brown** (and Dez), **Bruce Kosmicki**, **Matt Primrose** (and **Caroline**), **Brandon Desrochers** (and **Sydney**), **Christopher Romero** (and **Claudia** who Rucked), **Chris Martinez**, **Jesse Castro** (bad ankle, couldn't ruck, so girlfriend **Jasmine Pineda** rucked in his place), **James Burnett**, **John Janora** (did not Ruck), **Lawrence Shipman**, **Steven Helton** (along with **Father Gregory McGaughey** and brother in law **Alex Cole** who both Rucked), **Travis Niles**, **Jason Steeves** (honorary Triple Deuce - Matt met him on 2017 ruck, 1-87 alum but he's been with us ever since and has been critical at fundraising and coordinating all of us)



The ladies set up an "Energy Station" at mile 9 (On the way out) and mile 16 (On the way Back), same location

On the left is why we walk, on the right, the reason we walk as little as possible the next week.



CALFEX

Warriors from the 2nd Battalion 22nd Infantry participating in a combined arms live fire exercise



known as CALFEX. This exercise provides a unique opportunity to validate combat arms effectiveness and the ability to thrive and operate in austere environments.

Taps

Daniel E. Tindol, of Dothan, Al passed away on January 14, 2024. Daniel served with A Company, 2nd Battalion, 22nd Infantry, 10th Mountain Division in 2007-2008 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Ben T. Cook, Jr, of Ochlocknee, GA , passed away on February 13, 2024. Ben serve with the 1st Platoon, Bravo Company, 2nd Battalion, 22nd Infantry, 25th Infantry Division in Vietnam, 1967-68.

Joe Massey, of Moody, TX, passed away on March 7, 2024. Joe served with B Company, 2nd Battalion, 22nd Infantry, 25th Infantry Division, Vietnam 1967-68.

Lest You Forget—What the 22nd Infantry Regiment Did for You:

1. Gave you the opportunity to serve your country in a proud and prestigious national unit.
2. Gave you buddies who stuck by you
3. and hardship.
4. Gave you good reason to harbor a personal feeling of high accomplishment and pride.
5. Gave you treasured lifetime friends markedly improving the quality of your life.

MG (Ret) John F. Ruggles
Former Honorary Colonel of the Regime

Reunion schedule of Events:

We are still building some of the external to the hotel events “to do” list, so this will grow over time. I’m working with two current era guys who have stepped up to assist.

You will see “Options” for the Nissan Stadium tour and the Double-decker bus tour – as we get closer, those dates and exact times will solidify; for both, we are too far out to lock them in, although we’re in contact with the event hosts/PoCs.

Joe Dichairo, DMOR

DATE	Start Time	Stop Time	Function	Notes
Tuesday 20 August	0900	1700	Set up and Hotel, Activities Coordination	*We are currently working on a number of events for attendees to enjoy; dates will firm up by July-early August
Wednesday 21 August	0900	1700	Registration	Hotel lobby area
Thursday 22 August	0900	1700	Registration	Hotel lobby area
	TBD	UTC	Hospitality Room	Doubletree Ballroom
	0700	0730	Golf preparation (We are looking at either a Thursday or Friday golf event)	Depart 0730
	0900	1400	Golf	TBD
	0900	1800	Free time – we are developing a host of local events to attend/view/visit	Local Nashville area
	1900	2000	Hemingway Turkey [Hen?]	Doubletree Ballroom
Friday 23 August	0900	1700	Registration	Hotel Lobby area
	TBD	UTC	Hospitality Room	Doubletree Ballroom
	1100	1400	Nissan Stadium Tour – Option 1 (Cost estimate per person: \$60.00)	Nissan Stadium (within walking distance of hotel; transportation provided for those requiring it)
	1200	1400	Double decker Bus Tour of Nashville – Option 1 (Cost estimate per person: \$50.00)	Rolling, open bus tour of Nashville
	0900	1700	Free time – we are developing a host of local events to attend/view/visit	Local Nashville area
	1800/1900	2200/2300	Buffet Dinner (ORA, DMOR, HMOR presentations)	Doubletree Ballroom

	2200/2300	UTC	Free time – we are developing a host of local events to attend/view/visit	Local Nashville area
Saturday 24 August	0900	1000	22 nd Infantry Regiment Society meeting; business meetings	Doubletree Ballroom
	TBD	UTC	Hospitality Room	Doubletree Ballroom
	0900	1000	Ladies Breakfast	Doubletree
	0900	1700	Free time – we are developing a host of local events to attend/view/visit	Local Nashville area
	1100	1400	Nissan Stadium Tour – Option 2 (Cost estimate per person: \$60.00)	Nissan Stadium (within walking distance of hotel; transportation provided for those requiring it)

	1200	1400	Double decker Bus Tour of Nashville – Option 2 (Cost estimate per person: \$50.00)	Rolling, open bus tour of Nashville
	1830	2200	22 nd Infantry Regiment Society Banquet	Doubletree Ballroom
Sunday 25 August	0830	0900	Memorial Service & prepare for departure	Doubletree Ballroom

22ND INFANTRY REGIMENT SOCIETY
2024 Registration Form
DoubleTree by Hilton, Nashville Downtown
August 20-25, 2024

Name: _____ Phone: _____
 Address: _____ City: _____
 State: ____ Zip: _____ E-Mail: _____

I served with the 22nd Infantry Regiment in: ____ Company, ____ Battalion, ____ Div
 Dates served: _____
 I served in support of the 22nd Infantry Regiment: Unit: _____
 Dates served: _____
 I did not serve/support the 22nd Infantry

Reunion Registration [Information for Name tags] [No charge for registration]

First Name	Last Name	City/State
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Friday Buffet: Number _____, Cost: \$60.00.	Total Buffet: \$ _____
Saturday Ladies Program: _____, Cost: \$10.00	Ladies: \$ _____
Saturday Banquet:	
Vegetarian Number: _____ Cost: \$34.00	Total: \$ _____
Airline Chicken Number: _____ Cost: \$45.00	Total: \$ _____
Grilled Pork Loin Number: _____ Cost: \$48.00	Total: \$ _____
Seared Salmon Number: _____ Cost: \$56.00	Total: \$ _____
Pan-Seared Filet Mignon Number: _____ Cost: \$77.00	Total: \$ _____
	Total Banquet: \$ _____

Optional Donation to offset Reunion Cost [Hospitality Room] \$ _____

Optional Donation to Scholarship Fund \$ _____

Purchase of Raffle Tickets: \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00 Number: _____ \$ _____

Total amount enclosed: Registration must be received by Aug 10, 2024. \$ _____

Send PDF & Check to: 22 Infantry Regiment Society
 C/O Martin Oelklaus
 Post Office Box 3258
 Independence, Mo 64055-8258

Send PayPal Payment to: 2nnd infantry Regiment Society
 At: Moelklaus@aol.com
 Upon completion, please email your 2023
 Reunion Registration PDF to: moelklaus@aol.com

Send Zelle Payments to: 22nd Infantry Regiment Society
 At: 816-805-0845
 Upon completion, please email your 2024
 Reunion Registration PDF to: moelklaus@aol.com

Send Venmo Payments to: 22nd Infantry Regiment Society
 At: 816-805-0845
 Upon completion, please email your 2024
 Reunion Registration PDF to: moelklaus@aol.com

Will Join Mark playing golf
 on Thursday. Yes _____



Denim Long Sleeve Shirts
\$43.00 sizes Small to XL
\$47.00 sizes XXL & XXXL

Shipping
\$12.00

Other colors of shirts are available. Add \$5.00 to above prices. See instructions on order form to place special orders

Royal Blue Short Sleeve Polo Shirt with pocket.
\$32.00 sizes Small to XL
\$36.00 sizes XXL & XXXL



All Hats:
\$20.00 one size fits all

SHIPPING

One hat: \$6.00 Two hats or One Polo Shirt: \$6.50
One hat and one shirt or Polo shirt: \$8.00
Two Shirts: \$12.00
Denim Long Sleeve Shirt: \$12.00
One hat and one Denim shirt \$13.00
Add \$5.00 for each additional item



Monument T-Shirt: \$19.00 sizes small to XL
\$22.00 XXL & XXXL

"All prices are Suggested Donations."

Make checks payable to: 22nd Infantry Regiment Society

Send orders to: Jim May
P.O. Box 665
Norridgewock, ME 04957
Phone: 207-634-3355. E-mail: jlmay@tds.net

If I'm out of something, I'll let you know when to expect it. If you'd like something special, let me know

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ E-mail: _____

Order Form

Item 1: _____ size _____ Item 2: _____ size: _____

Item 3: _____ size _____ Item 4: _____ size: _____

Other items: _____

Total Shipping Charges: _____ Total Cost: _____