

1st Battalion-20th Infantry 11th LIB ~ Americal Div. www.charlie1-20.org March 31, 2009 Volume II, Issue 4

2009 REUNION

The fourth annual Charlie Company Reunion will again be held at the Hilton Cincinnati Airport on the weekend of June 12-13. The address is 7373 Turfway Road, Florence, KY 41042; phone number is 859-371-4400. Be sure to mention you're with the Charlie Company Reunion when making reservations.

We have a block of 30 rooms reserved for the dates and the rate of \$89 a night will be good three days before and three days after the reunion. The Hilton will honor this rate if we have more than 30 reservations as long as space is available. At the cut-off date, June 5, the Hilton will release any unreserved rooms for general sale. Any reservation received after the cut-off date will be accepted on a space and rate available basis.

We will keep our last reunion's agenda: antique mall, golf, ladies brunch, meals Friday and Saturday evenings at the Hilton, refreshments and memorabilia in the hospitality room and a business meeting. There will be more about the agenda in the next newsletter.

CHECKLIST FOR REUNION ATTENDEES

Please make sure you've taken care of the following items before June 5 if you are planning on attending the reunion.

MEALS: The Hilton is giving us a special meal rate that includes tax and gratuity for our meals

together Friday and Saturday night. We have to send them a final count a week before our reunion and prepay the total amount for all meals. If you plan to eat with us, please send a check or money order before June 5 (payable to Charlie Company 1-20) for \$20 per meal per person to Mike Stinnett (see Contact Information). These meals are, of course, optional and can be for one night only.

NAME BADGES: The NKYCVB is again providing name badges for our reunion that includes a first name and nickname (if applicable). However, if this will be your first reunion (including wife, child, etc.), we will submit the names from our reservation list that may not have a wife or child's first name. So please let us know. If last year's badge was good, do nothing; we'll submit the same names.

HATS & T-SHIRTS: We will again have hats and t-shirts for sell at the reunion. Let Dan know if you need a hat (\$16) and let Mike know if you need a t-shirt (\$12). Be sure to include the size of the shirt. Examples can be spotted in our newsletters and a better picture is posted on the web site. We do not order many extras and have quickly sold out so please place the orders before the reunion to be sure one is available.

GOLF: Bud Vincent and Mike Feltes will need to know if you would like to join them for a round of golf Saturday morning.

LADIES BRUNCH: We currently have made tentative reservations for eight at Yesterday's

Café and Tea Room for a Saturday brunch at noon. We need to know how many want to attend so we can give them an actual count around the first of June.

The only item that needs to be prepaid is the meals. We just need a count for the Antique Mall, Tea Room, golf, and hat & t-shirts (size too). You can now register online with the Hilton and also fill out your intentions for each event at our web site <charlie1-20.org/events>.

REGIONAL REFRESHMENTS

One of the perks we've gotten from the Hilton is being able to bring our own food and drinks into our hospitality room. A fun and easy way to stock the hospitality room has been to ask folks to bring a few samples of refreshments made near where they live. If you want to help, bring something to represent the "homeland" and don't feel like you have to provide enough for everyone. A sampling has been plenty these past years thanks to the generosity of participants.

A PLEA for the WIVES Pat Bingham

Ladies, if you and your husband have not been to one of the Charlie Co. Reunions, you don't know what you are missing! My first reunion was in 2007 and to be honest, I wasn't really thrilled about attending. I tried my best to get my husband, Mike, to attend by himself. Thank goodness, he didn't! It was such an enlightening time for me and the other wives were terrific.

I also want to ask you to encourage your husbands to attend. These reunions have been wonderful for our husbands. I can assure you they all leave a little better for attending. Many of the wives talked about having to strongly encourage their husbands to attend and not one of them was sorry they did. One wife told me her husband had had nightmares several times each week ever since leaving Vietnam. However, in the years since his first reunion, he has had one or two nightmares - total! Not all our husbands have had such a drastic reaction but they have all had positive results from their attendance. It is a healing experience for them!

We look forward to seeing you at the reunion with your husband. Rest assured you will be made to feel welcome. We are going to the Tea Room once again this year and you'll love it! We had such a good time on our visit last year and the food was great too! Please join us in Florence, Kentucky - you'll be glad you did!!!

Our Sympathy to... the family of John Barrows ('68) who passed away June 11, 2008 and to Joe ('68) & Vangie Grimes in the loss of their daughter, Veronica (45) who passed away January 26, 2009.

ANDY'S LIST Andy Brower

Andy Brower was 2^{nd} platoon RTO and moved up to HHQ with Lt. Ronan "Gomer". At our last reunion he showed us a notebook he'd kept from Vietnam that has names and line numbers.

I think this is everyone in Charlie Company around Oct/Nov 1969 (probably October 18-22, or November 6-13, or November 27 to December based on other records).

By the time I wrote several pages in the book I must have been running out of time because I skipped first names *(most have been added by comparing them with other lists)*. I did a new list every couple of days. I had to account for each person every day and call it in to the rear to let them know who was in or out of the field. If some one was wounded, KIA or going on R&R I had to call that into the "rear". Likewise they would inform me if someone was inbound to the company so all were accounted for *(124 total)*.

C P (9)

Capt Donavan, James 001 Lt Ronan, Terrance 566 Lt O'Donnell FO Sybyl, John FORTO Black, Charles Medic Brower, Andy 520? Jordan, Keith 492 Hartman, Rod 513 Bue, Tim FORTO

FIRST PLATOON (32)

LT Bray, Gary 584 Sgt Knowles, Eddy 484 Fordice, Stephen - Stub 523 Gariepy Medic **First Squad** Eddy, John 011 Goodman, Larry 003 Ostendorf, Jim 593 Hemphill, Frank 015 Bunch, Ron 568 Smith, John 575 McCormick, Larry 591 O'Dowd, Pat 555 Gonzales, Willie 027 Brown, Dave 472

Second Squad

Nunes, Tony 535 Schumacher, Bob 551 Ames, Leroy 572 DeBoer, George 557 Lewis, George 019 Watt, Delton 014 Knepp, Mark 025 Groom, Leonard 032

Third Squad

Adams, Roy 504 Moore, Tom 567 Embree, Ron 005 Williams, Don 597 Young, Frank 585 Adkins, Mike 502 Curry, Max 017 Wade, Boyd 016 Armstrong, Sherman 013 Hammock, Felix 033

SECOND PLATOON (33)

Lt Vinson, James 012 Sgt Hill, Frank 009 Doc Bell, James Medic Cuila, Bryan 545

First Squad

Yancey, Robert 474 Sherwood, Philip 553 Henderson, Willie 531 Francomacaro, Joseph 599 Fleming, Andrew 023 Henley, Gideon 519 Harris, Ned 030 Second Squad Harootunian, Leonard 321 Read, Wally 547? Stephens, James 547? Vincent, Elwood 578 Taylor, James 579 Badger, Larry 540 Jardine, Arnie 028 Bell, Wallace 486 Third Squad Trace, Robert Keith 044 Selvage, Jaush 594 Brockington, Will 570 Malin, Daniel 037 Dunn, James 045 Nims, Bruce 560 Hutchinson, Nathaniel 530 Dubose, Jimmie 038 Weapons Rasmussen, Wavne 590 Yelenovic, Mirko 549 Stinnett, Michael 500 Brown, Charlie 004 Watters, David 496 Hanson, Erick 571

THIRD PLATOON (35)

Lt Boney, Jack 008 SGT Dela Cruz, Angel 248 Doan, Charles 018 **First Squad** Groce, Jerry 479 McCord, James 586 Valenti, Michael 533 Finley, Wiley 512 Galgon, Anthony 598 Koole, Lawrence 556 Merica, James 592 Syhanousky, George) 538 Lindsey, Larry 039 Lienhard, Loren 036 McHenry, Larry 538 Second Squad Smith (?) 577 Wysoki, Paul 475 Evon /Ervin?) 539 Rov. John 589 Mallory, David 034 Gilbow, John 541 Puglia, Anthony 550 Schubert, Alan 576 Bennett, James 517 SGT Barkley, William 010 Third Squad SGT Cook, Grady 031 Dunbar, Russell 499 Kuba, Michael 554 Rhine, Harry 552 Edwards, Carl 002 Townsend, Donald 581 Sanders, James 587 Smallwood, Jeffrey 035 Monroe, John 029 Phillips, Robert 536 Meservey, Stephen 559

81MM Mortars (15)

Lt Ching (Chang), Keith SSGT Patton, Donald 022 SSgt Moore, John 024 Harper, Glen 518

First Squad

Beauchamp, Wayne 561 Buell, Michael 542 Widell, Ronald 583 Amos, Patrick 041 Miller, Ronald 043

Second Squad

Balcarczyh, James 544 Donaghy, William 465 Hendrickson, Charles 457 Gaines, Bennie 588 Thompson, (?) 582 Yother, Dennis 042 Thanks Andy, for this contribution. You often hear "I don't know which platoon or squad I was in" when talking with other vets so this may help some of you. If you are not on the list but recognize your squad, please let us know even if it was before or after this time. Do you have other names you remember besides your own or have a nickname or maybe know who was squad leader? It might be interesting to work on this list at the reunion and publish the update.

DUES

Our \$20 dues cover the time period of June 1 to May 31. This money is primarily used to print and mail the newsletters, pay for some reunion expenses and a few other minor expenses that occur during the year. A yearly financial report will be given at the reunion.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Do you have comments about the newsletter? Need information about our contacts or do you have information about other vets not on our list? Contact Dan Malin at (danielmalin@hotmail.com) --- 4136 Kenyon Avenue, Lorain, OH 44053 (440) 242-7664 or Mike Stinnett at (mike.stinnett@yahoo.com) or ---319 Antioch Road, Clarksville, TN 37040 (931) 647-8917. The website continues to be updated. We have new photo albums, links to maps and to daily reports, and all previous newsletters and reunion reports.