



1st Battalion-20th Infantry
 11th LIB ~ Americal Div.
www.charlie1-20.org
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REUNION VIII~ 2013

The Eighth Annual Charlie Company Reunion will held at the *Hilton Cincinnati Airport* in Florence, KY on June 7 & 8. Reservations may be made directly with the Hotel room reservation department by calling the hotel at 1-859-371-4400. In doing so, request the group rate for Group "Charlie Company 1st Battalion- 20th Infantry." Room rates will again be \$85 per night plus tax and will be paid by individuals. We were given a new cutoff date, May 20, along with more rooms added to our block of rooms. Reservations will continue to be accepted and the Hilton will honor reservations made as long as space is available so don't think it's too late to attend. You can make your reservations and later cancel, if necessary, at no cost to you providing you meet their notification deadline.

Friday's Activities

Cookies and Coffee Reception furnished by the Hilton will begin at 2 p.m.

BB Riverboats "Christian Moerlein Beer & BBQ Dinner Cruise" will be from 7:30 – 10 p.m. featuring tasting of Christian Moerlein beer samples and a buffet featuring brisket, chicken and pulled pork, music by local band and a member of Christian Moerlein team directing tasting and talking about history of brewery. The group rate is \$50 per person. Tentative reservations have been made for 40 people but the final number will be established May 31. It may not be too late to join the 38 who have already signed up ... be sure to let me know before May 31st.

Saturday's Activities

Golf Chairman, Mike Feltes, reported he had made arrangements with our friends at *Boone Links G.C.* in Florence, KY to have 5 foursomes reserved for us starting off at approximately 8:30 a.m. Saturday morning. Denny Oberman, in the pro shop, assured Mike they look forward to seeing us again and they will take good care

of us, as usual. The cost for 18 holes and cart this year will be \$42.00 per man.

Sixteen have already sent word they'd like to play but not all meant a game of golf. If you want to join this crew Saturday morning as a player or a heckler, please let us know. Mike claims you'll be glad you did! The coveted olive drab green jacket will again be up for grabs to the winner!

The ladies **noon brunch** at *Yesterday's Café & Tea Room* has been reserved. The cost and menu options will be announced later.

Our closing **Banquet Buffet** will be held 6:30 p.m. Saturday night with the cost of the meal at \$27 per person. This price does include tax, tip and much convenience. This payment will need to be made by May 31. Send checks to Mike Stinnett, 319 Antioch Road, Clarksville, TN 37040 and make it payable to Charlie 1-20 or Mike Stinnett. Call if you have any questions (931) 647-8917. We will conclude the reunion Saturday night with a Business Meeting, Memorial Toast, Awards, and Group Pictures.

One of our perks with the Hilton is a free

Hospitality Room and it will be open a 9 a.m. Thursday and at 7 a.m. Friday and Saturday and 8 a.m. Sunday. You don't have to stay at the Hilton but if you want to see someone you will have to come here! We will have a registration desk with name badges to hand out along with a local map and brochures of attractions and a few other items. The name badges will have each persons name, nickname, platoon and time in country (ladies will have a badge too with name/nickname). If you have received a name badge before you do not have to resubmit unless there has been a change. You will need to send this info at least two weeks before the reunion to get them printed. You will receive an email request soon asking for this information and to verify the data before submitting it to NKYCVB.

There are three other things that will be in the Hospitality Room other than a registration desk and people sitting around talking! We are allowed to bring our on refreshments into the room and Charlie Company funds will provide several basic items. However, what makes these refreshment tables so special is that we have asked individuals to bring food or drink that is made in your region... town, state or whatever,

1) Regional Refreshments as we've called them. These have been not only a way of adding to the tables but also expanding our enjoyment (and waistlines, if we are not careful) of the refreshments. You are not required to bring something but, if you do, don't think you have to feed everyone. The other thing in the Hospitality Room will be our **2) Memorabilia**, items such as Vietnam photo albums and other items from our time in country. You'll enjoy looking through these during our time at the Hilton. And finally, **3) FREE SHIRTS** but you must be present to win! We are giving away our new light blue polo with the CIB logo embroidery to all vets and a Charlie's Angels polo to the ladies who did not get one last year. The shirts have been ordered and received. If you sent a size it should be there, the rest of you should hope the

guestimation works this year!

Go to our web site for a link to Hilton Cincinnati Airport site, a link to a map with directions to the Hilton, or for area attractions in the Northern Kentucky area.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Do you have comments about the newsletter or 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) 319 Antioch Road, Clarksville, TN 37040 (931) 647-8917. **Please be sure to let us know a change of address** including email. REMINDER: Dues are still \$20 a year. Money received from dues is applied to newsletter expenses. We are currently mailing over 200 newsletters of each issue.

OUR SYMPATHY to the family of Joseph "Jersey" Francomacaro. Joe *passed away peacefully, on Tuesday March 26, 2013 after a long and very courageous battle with cancer. He will be greatly missed by his large, loving family and many friends all who have admired and are inspired by his faith in God, his courage, strength, determination and often times, his humor as he faced so many trials during his long fight. Joe's fighting spirit led him on to be able to spend his final days at home surrounded by his family with his faithful pets by his side.*

For those of you who knew Joe, the previous paragraph from his obituary is so appropriate. Sometimes when Dan Malin first finds someone, I do a second call and by that time they have "calmed" down enough to talk more and accept being found. Some, however, are like Joe who was still so excited! He'd told both Dan and me he'd really been thinking about Charlie Company and wishing he could find some and

within a week he had heard from two of us! Joe loved the reunions as you can tell by his last *Caring Bridge* post: ... *the chemo is no longer working for me and they're talking hospice. Well looks like this might be my last ambush and I might not be seeing you all at this year's reunion but you know me I'm going to dig my heels in and give it my best try because I really*

want to see all you guys an gals again. I'm not going to give up without a fight, but as we all know I'm not the one who makes the decision when the good Lord comes to call on me I'll be ready to go in his loving arms! Love you all and thanks for all your prayers keep them coming! Please continue to keep Debbie and the family in your thoughts and prayers.

	
<p>Jersey on LZ Liz</p>	<p>Debbie & Joe on riverboat dinner cruise at last year's reunion.</p>

2012 Awards

Andy Adam won the prestigious olive green jacket for the lowest round of golf. The safety committee did not have any awards to present but several of the golfers and hecklers were also awarded treasures! Milt Houghton received a prize for the vet travelling the farthest to the reunion, 2181 miles while Mike Bingham won the prize for the shortest distance, 142 miles. Past winners are not eligible for repeat prizes. Mike Stinnett received a US flag that has been flown over the US Capitol.

In 2009 Mary Ann Kinch donated a quilt which began a raffle tradition ever since. The raffle donations last year were from Ronnie Ray, the ROCK; Ursula & "Vic" Mike Yelenovic, candle gift packs; Mike Bingham, blanket and shadow box; Al Blosser, Vietnam book; Andrew Adam,

Woodford Reserve: Bev & Tony Nunes, Anti-stress package; and John & Lynn Bottorff, *Mary Kay* (Miracle set, Pampered Hands, Bath & Body). This has been both a great fundraiser and fun raiser! Thanks for your contributions and participation.

Military Order of the Purple Heart

Creating the new MOPH section of our web site has shown us a need. Two of the first eight names posted were not listed on 1-20's web site's Daily Reports. Obviously, their orders, DD-214 or scanned copy of the PH award is plenty of proof they were wounded but it would be good to also have their names listed on the Daily Reports. In fact, with the orders that have been sent, we are seeing others that are not mentioned in in the reports although evidenced supports they were wounded on a particular day.

If you were awarded a Purple Heart please check with 1-20's Daily Report to make sure your name is on the page with the date of your wound(s) and let me know if it isn't on there. You don't have to agree to getting added to the Purple Heart list on the web site but the 1-20

Memorial Day

Monday, May 27 is Memorial Day. You might visit our Memories section of the website and read again our Casualty List. As you scroll on down the page you will see *Sykes' Regulars Reporter link*. Thanks to David Craig we now have 21 newsletters instead of five! These begin with Volume 1, No. 10, November 12, 1969 and end with Volume 3, No. 1, January 29, 1971. We do not have all the issues and would add some more if you have a copy or two to donate.

web master will be glad to correct these if I can give him evidence. Chuck Seketa and his crew have spent many research hours and have done a great job compiling this much information about our battalion's actions in Vietnam. We have gotten some of the data corrected and would like to make these records as accurate as possible.

Also included with this section are two Americal Booklets. David also sent a copy of *Americal, January, 1970* and Ronnie Ray has let us borrow a booklet entitled *Americal Division*. You will enjoy looking through these booklets and reading these newsletters and perhaps acquiring knowledge you may have missed over the years such as "*Lt. Vincent's thought for the day: a stone without a purpose is merely a rock.*"