



1st Battalion-20th Infantry
11th LIB ~ Americal Div.
www.charlie1-20.org
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REUNION XI ~ 2016

The **Eleventh Annual Charlie Company Reunion** will be held at the *Hilton Cincinnati Airport* in Florence, KY on June 3 & 4, 2016. The rates will remain the same, \$85 per night, and that rate is good three days before and three days after the reunion. The *Hilton Cincinnati Airport's* phone number is: **1-859-371-4400**. Be sure to tell them you are with the Charlie Company 1-20 Reunion so you won't be charged full rate. The toll free number (1-800-HILTONS) will get you to all Hiltons reservations so you will need to ask them for reservations at the *Hilton Cincinnati Airport* in Florence, KY and then our Charlie Company Reunion. If you have problems with reservations, call (during business hours) the *Hilton* direct and ask for Shona.

The cutoff date is **May 12** for reservations and the unreserved rooms in our contracted block will be offered to the general public on the 13th. Canceling a room without a charge is not a problem if you do so early. Reservations may be made after May 12 if rooms are available.

The first scheduled event will be Friday's **Coffee & Cookie Reception**.

*FROM MIKE FELTES: Our traditional **GOLF** outing at Boone Links GC in Florence is all set for **Saturday**. The management has reserved three tee times for us beginning at 8:12 AM. I will also report back to you soon re costs for 18 holes with a cart plus club rentals. If you plan to rent clubs then I just need to know if you are a righty or lefty.*

So please contact me ASAP so I can put you on the list. Remember also to tell me if you are a golfer or a watcher. My cell is 630.308.2729. My email address is feltesmj@gmail.com.

Thanks to all and I look forward to seeing everyone in just a couple of months. Let's see if anyone's game is sharp enough yet this year to challenge Andy, our last year's champion.

Take care guys and please tell me as soon as possible if you are able to join us.

We are happy to announce a **LADIES BRUNCH** at *Yesterday's Tea Room* has been booked for 10:30 - 11 am **Saturday**, June 4. Susan will send us menu items and cost (tax + gratuity) and we will pass that info on to you later. Remember, this activity just asks that you tell us you want to attend and then later (at the *Hilton* even) your choice of the menu options so she can make sure enough is prepared for our group.

This location is 5 or 6 miles away so the *Hilton* will not be able to run a shuttle for us and keep up their airport runs. I think we can figure out a car pool and make it work just fine.

Saturday night will be our Banquet, Business Meeting, Memorial Toast, Awards and raffle winners.

The price for this year's dinner buffet is \$28.28 per guest, and this is the menu:

DINNER BUFFET
Garden Salad with Assorted Dressing
Oven Roasted Turkey with Gravy
Mashed Potatoes
Country Style Green Beans
Warm Dinner Breads with Butter
Assorted Desserts (include some Sugar Free desserts)
Iced Tea and Ice Water
Starbucks Coffee

CHARLIES' ANGELS



Back Row L to R: Deb Rey, Kathy Craig, Patty Stinnett, Cindy Welegala, Lynn Bottorff, Carol McClaughry, Ruth Wantland, Chris Dove, Peggy Ciula, Betty Hammock, Maggie Daniels, Liz Unterberger, Gladys Olshefski, JoLynda Watts. **Front row L to R:** Teresa Ray, Judy Roehrs, Ursula Yelenovic, Grace Eckels, Kim Fleig, Minerva Adam, and Marsha Benich.

As you can see, ladies are invited to the reunion and we try to keep them smiling!

CONTACT INFORMATION - Contact Mike Stinnett at (mike.stinnett@yahoo.com) 319 Antioch Road, Clarksville, TN 37040, (931) 647-8917 if you need information about our Association (known contacts or you have information about other vets not known to us: for comments about the newsletter, or suggestions for articles).

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| Our Sympathy to the families of: | Albert Hundley, August 27, 2015 |
| | Michael Gleason, April 24, 2016 |

EXTRA CREDIT ~ MS

July 2, 1969 a call came over the radio for Line #500 to come in for a job interview! #500 was yours truly and I didn't believe it. May 8, 1970 was my DEROS and I hadn't been in country for two months yet. According to my diary, someone told me the day before I had a good chance to get a job in the rear. It also "noted" it didn't mean I had a job but it would be good for one day's sham time. I came in to Bronco that afternoon on the resupply chopper and reported to "Top" and he sent me over to S-1. The interview lasted about 15 minutes and my personal appearance must have been impressive! Again noted, "hadn't shaved in 2 weeks" and a proper bath may have been that long too. That may have had something to do with the 15 minutes.

Lifestyle of the rich and famous... I shaved and washed after supper and no flick so I went to sleep about 8:30. "Peaceful except for the Quad 50's once or twice." Slept 10 hours and went to breakfast, another hot meal. Naturally Top said I would have to go back to the field until he heard something. There was more resting time, letter writing and an actual shower before going back on the resupply chopper. We got a lot of sniper rounds a couple of hours later and called ARTY and air strikes (<http://www.1-20infantry.org/3jul69.htm>). We waited in the pines until it got real dark and then moved out to the beach for a quiet night and a real nice moon. I can still picture the pines and beach, as I am sure several of you can.

The first paragraph comes to mind at times while writing this newsletter. Those in 2nd platoon know I did not get the job and I later found out the job with S-1 was writing about KIA's. It is long gone as to the level the job covered but, although the time in country might have been easier, I am not sure that job was one I would covet. However, now I am doing it to an extent.

By the time our fourth reunion came around Leonard "Snake" Harootunian had died and it would be the last reunion for Captain Chuck Seketa and Keith Trace. We have had nine other deaths of those attending the reunions since those first three: Wayne Kelly, Roy Otis, Joe Francomacaro, Don Townsend, Duck Watters, Jerry Groce, Dan Malin, Chris Walker and John Loeb.

Dan would send me names and SSNs to check with the SSDI to see if a person was still alive before he searched some more. Over the years we have found several we knew but it did not seem to hurt as bad as what we experienced with those we had seen at the reunions. Not wanting to attend a reunion reminded me why some of the "older" guys in country did not want to make friends with the new guys...it hurts to lose a friend.

So do you want to keep on going to these reunions and seeing these old guys (myself included) as they are getting close to the end of their mortality index? Many have answered yes... seeing them again and catching up with their lives... work, wife's and children and grandchildren. It is definitely worth the time for many to see these guys again. Dan often said on the phone or at the reunion about getting more to attend, "Don't they know they are not getting any younger?"

However, from experience, Dan and I both have found there are those who do not want to think or relive anything from VN again. That is understandable and everyone at the reunion would agree and not hold that against anyone. It would surprise some of you just how much someone might like to see a buddy again. It might also surprise you at the joy many have found at these reunions. There are tears, hugs.... all those things we would not have been caught doing "when we were young"... and there are many good things too. For you who have never been but you have considered attending or if it has been a while, just remember what Dan said, "We are not getting any younger!"