



**KEEP
CALM
AND
CALL FOR
ARTILLERY**

Spring 2026 News and Announcements

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It has been a few months since I last published a newsletter. This last

move off the vineyard in Sutherlin took a lot out of me and Tricia but we are finally settling into a pattern of watching golf balls fly past our home on the 18th fairway of the Oregon Golf Course in Woodburn Oregon. We've had a few days of spring but back to cool Northwest days again. I have yet to go out and take a swing at a golf ball (it has been 14 years since I hit a ball even with a 9 iron). Hopefully, I will get out there soon.

In March, Tricia and I traveled to Colorado Springs and along with John and Carol Harris, attended the Divarty Saint Barbara's Ball at the Antlers Hotel. Another great evening of fun with the active duty artillerymen and women of the 4th Infantry Division. On Friday, we attended a Soui Tre memorial event at 2-77 FA. Both activities were filled with soldiers asking about our combat experiences in Vietnam. It never fails to amaze me how interested these young soldiers are in our war and what it was like for us at the time.

We have a number of activities coming up over the next several months but we have lost one of our founders of the Redlegs Chapter this past week.

Ray Harton, of Crestview, Florida, passed away on April 8, 2026. Ray, along with John Kaye, were instrumental in forming our first Redlegs Chapter many years ago. A link to his life's story is (<https://www.whitehurstpowellfuneralhome.com/obituary/Raymond-Harton>). I will also post on the website soon a little more about Ray. But Ray went to Vietnam with the 6-29 FA in 1966 and served as the S-2 and LNO (1-8 IN). He retired from active duty as a LTC. Let me know if you have anything I can add to his service bio for the website. I do know Ray was a bulldog when it cam to making contact with 6-29 veterans using his source of rosters and management of our Battalion roster that I still refer to on a regular basis.

As a Chapter, without objection, we will be sending flowers to Ray's family for the service and visitation on April 16, 2016. Let me know if you want us to do something else in lieu of flowers.

National Reunion and Chapter Meeting. August 3-7, 2016 at the Isle Casino Hotel in Bettendorf, Iowa. We tried real hard to find a location more centrally located in the USA but this was the best result. Here is a link to make your reservation (<https://www.events.afr-reg.com/e/4ID2026>). You can also use the link to see others as they make their reservations to attend. Information on how to reserve your

hotel room at the special 4th ID Association rate is included.

We will add a few Redlegs activities to the week as we get closer to the event but as it stands right now, we will conduct a formal Chapter meeting on Wednesday, August 5, 2026 at 5pm and then lets try to have dinner together somewhere in or near the hotel at 7pm that same evening. Having never been to Bettendorf I have no idea what to expect for the area. Give me you thoughts.

IVY Week at Fort Carson. On the heels of our National Reunion in Iowa, the 4th Infantry Division is organizing another IVY Week celebration the week of 31 August 2026 at Fort Carson. The Redlegs Chapter, as well as other 4th ID Veterans are invited to join in the celebration and watch the soldiers participate in activities. It would have been nice for the celebration to occur in may or June but military training made that impossible. Who does the US Army think they are, anyway!

But we have reserved a few rooms (at the Candlewood Suite Hotel on Fort Carson) for anyone that is interested in attending the event with John Harris and me. If you are interested contact either one of us as soon as you can. We had a great week with DIVARTY at IVY Week when we had our Redlegs Chapter Reunion in June 2024. It was an enlightening week to say the least and I know I will never forget the experiences and friendships we developed and shared with active duty artillerymen of the 4th Infantry Division. Lets do it again!

Veterans Week 2026 at Branson, MO. What a great time we had last November in Branson. Its continuing to be a great laid back and fun time to visit and meet other veterans. We have made arrangements at the Hotel Grand Victoria again this November. The Redlegs Chapter will again host the Hospitality Room for the 4th Infantry (IVY) Division National Association from November 9-11, 2026. We have 20 rooms set aside at a special rate and the hotel staff attempts to keep us all together on the same floor as the hospitality suite on a first come basis. I encourage you to make your reservations now as the hotel fills up quickly. Call the hotel at 417-336-2935. Make sure to mention you are with the 4th Infantry Division Association for the special rate with Breakfast included. Special hotel rate rate is available from November 8-12.

Redlegs Coins. We need to reorder our Redlegs Chapter Challenge Coins. They are a great way to advertise our chapter and national

association. There is a coin for each Field Artillery Regiment in the Division since Vietnam. Of course some regiments are no longer active with the 4th ID (42d, 16th, and 20th) but the 29th and 77th are still supporting the Division as well as the 12th Regiment and 4th Divarty. Every time we have the opportunity to visit with the active duty artillery men and women its nice to share a coin and promote our association. To that end, without any objections, we need to reorder coins to cover the active duty regiments (12th FA, 29th FA, 77th FA and Divarty). Let me know if you object but while it would have been nice to wait until our August Chapter Meeting, with IVY Week at the end of August, waiting will not work. We will only order the minimum amount required from our vendor.

Take care and stay safe, I expect to see you all soon in Iowa. But until then,

Steadfast and Loyal,

Paul Bonsky

Steadfast and Loyal
Paul Bonsky



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